



October 27-November 1, 2026

Annapolis, Maryland, USA

Organizing Authority: Annapolis Yacht Club (AYC) and
the International J/70 Class Association (IJ70CA)

<http://www.annapolisyc.com/racing/regattas>

NOTICE OF RACE

- *This North American Championship is a qualifier, per J/70 Class criteria, for the 2027 World Championship*
- *The notation '[NP]' in a rule of the notice of race (NoR) [or sailing instructions (SIs)] means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1.*
- *All times are US Eastern time. All fees are in US dollars.*

1 RULES

- 1.1 This event will be governed by the rules as defined in the current Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
- 1.2 [DP] World Sailing's current Equipment Rules of Sailing [World Sailing - Equipment Rules of Sailing](#)
- 1.3 The International J/70 Class Association Class Rules (CR) including Part III, Sections I.3 (Outside Assistance); I.4 (Corinthian Division); I.5 (One-Pro Division); I.10 (Mixed Plus Division); and I.12 (Young Crew Division) will apply.
- 1.4 [NP] The current IJ70CA Regatta Regulations (J70ORR) will apply <https://j70ica.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/J70-Regatta-Regulations-2023.01.pdf>
- 1.5 [NP] The current IJ70 CA Organizing Authority Guidelines (J70OA) will apply [J70 OA Guidelines 2021.01.20](#)
- 1.6 [DP] The IJ70CA Equipment Regulations (J70ER) will apply [J70 Equipment Regulations 2023.01](#)
- 1.7 US Sailing Prescriptions will apply. See Appendix A
- 1.8 If there is a conflict between languages, the English text will take precedence.
- 1.9 Vakaros Atlas 2 RaceSense is required equipment. Each boat shall provide a working Atlas 2 at Registration for configuration with RaceSense. A set of instructions for the use of this electronic device will be posted on the official notice board (ONB).
- 1.10 Rule 60.4 (a) (2) is changed as follows: "(2) if it alleges a breach of a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 and is from a boat that was not involved in, and did not see, the incident, or"

2 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 [NP] The Sailing Instructions (SIs) will be posted on the ONB on the event website on or about October 17, 2026.

3 COMMUNICATION

- 3.1 The official notice board is electronic and will be located at <https://www.yachtscoring.com/emenu/50576>
- 3.2 [DP] All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communicating on domestic and international VHF channels.
- 3.3 On the water, the race committee intends to make courtesy broadcasts to competitors on VHF radio. The specific channel will be stated in the SIs.

3.4 [DP] While racing, from the first warning signal until the end of the last race of the day, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

3.5 Unofficial announcements will be made on WhatsApp. Link will be sent out to competitors.

4 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

4.1 This event is open to boats of the J/70 class which conform to the J70CR.

4.2 Eligible boats may enter by completing the online entry form at:
<https://www.yachtscoring.com/emenu/50576> and paying the required fees.

4.3 A boat will not be considered entered in the event until the boat entry information is completed online, all crew members have been identified online, and all entry fees have been paid by 1700 on October 17, 2026.

4.4 Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the OA and will be subject to a fee of \$200. No entries will be accepted after October 21, 2026.

4.5 Boats that have entered and withdrawn in writing by 1700 on October 17, 2026 will receive a refund of their entry fee less a processing fee of \$200. Boats withdrawing after this date will not receive a refund.

4.6 Boats from Russia or Belarus are not eligible to participate. See IJ70CA Policy Statement of March 22, 2022, found at <https://j70ica.org/rules/>

4.7 A boat will be eligible to race, only when all items in NOR 4.3 and equipment inspection have been successfully completed.

5 FEES

5.1 For all boats, the entry fee is \$1,200 and includes:

- (a) Equipment inspection as directed by the IJ70CA
- (b) In the water dockage from completion of the practice race through November 2, 2026.
- (c) Four championship race days plus a scheduled practice race/practice starts.
- (d) Awards and prizes.
- (e) Charging privileges at Annapolis YC.

5.2 Boats are required to be docked in their assigned spots at Annapolis YC by 1700, October 28, 2026 for:

- (a) Launch and haul out
- (b) On-site or off-site trailer storage from Saturday, October 24 – Monday, November 2, 2026 – fee TBD

5.3 Social events are included for skippers and up to 3 crew members. Additional social passes will be available prior to the event.

6 CREW LIMITATIONS

6.1 In accordance with RRS 79 World Sailing Categorization Code will apply.

6.2 To be considered as a Corinthian team or a One-Pro team, proof of valid and current World Sailing Group 1 Categorizations per J70CR I.4 (Corinthian Division) and J70CR I.5 (One-Pro Division) shall be provided for all crew at the time of registration. All categorizations must be valid for the duration of the event.

6.3 To be considered as a Mixed-Plus team, the crew shall consist of four (4) or more persons and contain no more than two (2) males over eighteen (18) years of age per J70CR I.10 (Mixed-Plus Division).

6.4 To be considered as a Young Crew team, the entire crew, including the owner/driver, shall provide proof that no crew member is over 25 years of age as of the date of registration per J70CR I.12 (Young Crew Division).

6.5 A representative of the World Sailing Categorization Authority may be present during check-in and may perform spot checks before or during the event.

7 ADVERTISING

- 7.1 [DP] Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organizing authority.
- 7.2 [DP] Advertising shall only be displayed in accordance with World Sailing Regulation 20

8 SCHEDULE

- 8.1 **All boats shall race as one (1) fleet.**
- 8.2 Ten races are scheduled. A maximum of three races may be sailed in one day, except at the discretion of the race committee, four races may be sailed to maintain the schedule.
- 8.3 Daily schedule is as follows:

Day	Date	Time	Activity
Saturday	Oct 24	1000-1700	Boats may arrive at the AYC Sailing Center
Sunday	Oct 25	1000-1700	Boats may arrive at the AYC Sailing Center
Monday	Oct 26	1000-1700	Boats may arrive at the AYC Sailing Center
Tuesday	Oct 27	0900 – 1800	Registration and inspection
Wednesday	Oct 28	0900 – 1300 1300 1330 1830 1900	Registration and inspection [DP] Registration closes; all boats, sails, and equipment must be inspected and boats must be afloat Practice race/starts Competitors Briefing Opening Ceremony
Thursday	Oct 29	0830 1100 After racing	Morning competitors briefing First warning signal - subsequent race(s) to start ASAP Post Race Refreshments at AYC
Friday	Oct 30	0830 1100 After racing	Morning competitors briefing First warning signal - subsequent race(s) to start ASAP Post Race Refreshments at AYC
Saturday	Oct 31	0830 1100 After racing	Morning competitors briefing First warning signal - subsequent race(s) to start ASAP Post Race Refreshments at AYC
Sunday	Nov 1	0830 1100 1430 ASAP After Racing	Morning competitors briefing First warning signal - subsequent race(s) to start No warning signal shall be given after this time Awards ceremony at AYC Sailing Center Haul and De-rig

9 REGISTRATION

- 9.1 All skippers and crew members must register with the OA during the times specified.
- 9.2 No later than the close of Onsite Registration, all skippers and crew shall:
- (a) Be listed on the online entry list
 - (b) Be members in good standing of the J/70 Class Association per J70CR C.3.1 (c).
 - (c) Confirm online waivers are signed by all crew members.
 - (d) Crew members under 18 years old during the event, must have a signed parent/guardian Declaration.

- (e) Provide a copy of a valid and current J/70 Manufacturer's Declaration (J70MD). Boats arriving at the event without a valid J70MD must make advanced arrangements to obtain one with the OA; a fee will apply for this service.
- (f) Present for inspection sails that have been certified by an official measurer or by a manufacturer licensed under World Sailing In-House Certification. See J70CR G.2. Sails presented without certification may be certified on site by advance arrangements with the OA; a fee will apply for this service.
- (g) Complete all required equipment inspection items as directed by the OA and IJ70CA pursuant to the J70CR C.4 and C.5.
- (h) Provide valid and current written evidence of the insurance as required by this NoR.

10 EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

- 10.1 [DP] Boats and sails may be inspected during the times specified.
- 10.2 [DP] Each boat must complete and turn in a self-compliance form to the OA during Registration.
- 10.3 [NP] Bow numbers (and any sponsor stickers) may be assigned and supplied by the OA during Registration. These will be affixed to each boat by the OA. Each boat shall retain the bow numbers on both sides of the hull throughout the event.
- 10.4 [DP] RRS 78.1 will be in effect from the completion of the boat's launch until the end of the event.
- 10.5 During the event, all boats, sails and equipment will be subject to additional inspections at any time.

11 VENUE

- 11.1 The event venue will be the Annapolis Yacht Club Sailing Center, 510 Severn Ave, Annapolis, MD 21403.
- 11.2 The racing area is the Chesapeake Bay off the mouth of the Severn River as shown in NoR Appendix B.

12 THE COURSES

- 12.1 Courses will be windward/leeward courses. See J70RR Appendix A attached.

13 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 13.1 An International Jury (IJ) will be appointed in accordance with RRS Appendix N and J70OA 2.4.2. Decisions of the IJ will be final as provided in RRS 70.3.
- 13.2 The IJ may impose suitable penalties, other than disqualification, for violations of RRS non-part 2 rules. This does not apply to breaches of RRS 2, 28 or 31.
- 13.3 The IJ may impose suitable penalties, other than disqualification, for violations of Class Rules, including the J70CR and J70ER. In no case shall the penalty for such a violation be less than a ten percent (10%) scoring penalty calculated pursuant to RRS 44.3(c). However, for a violation of CR C3.2, the penalty shall be a DNE for all races sailed. This changes RRS 64
- 13.4 RRS Appendix P (Special Procedures for Rule 42) may apply, as amended by the SI
- 13.5 RRS Appendix T (Arbitration) may apply
- 13.6 The One-Turn and the Two-Turns Penalty in RRS 44 are replaced with a One-Turn Penalty unless a rule of Part 2 was broken while in the zone around a mark other than a starting mark, in which case a Two-Turns Penalty applies.
- 13.7 Penalties while in the zone of the windward mark or on the offset leg shall be delayed and taken at the first reasonable opportunity on the downwind leg after clearing the zone of the offset mark. This change is added to RRS 44.2.

14 SCORING

- 14.1 Scoring will as per the J/70 Regatta Regulations (J70RR).

- 14.2 Three (3) races must be completed to constitute a championship.
- 14.2 When fewer than five (5) races have been completed, a boat's score will be the total of her race scores. When five (5) or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

15 BERTHING

- 15.1 [DP] Boats shall be kept in their assigned places at Annapolis YC berths, as directed by the OA when either afloat or ashore.
- 15.2 [DP] The use of dehumidifiers or electric fans of any type is prohibited

16 HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS

- 16.1 [DP] All competing boats shall be afloat by the close of Registration.
- 16.2 [DP] Competing boats shall not be hauled out and shall not remove their rudders from the time they are launched following their inspection until the end of the event except with, and according to, the terms of prior written permission of the event Technical Committee.

17 [DP] DIVING EQUIPMENT AND PLASTIC POOLS

- 17.1 Underwater breathing apparatus and plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used around competing boats from the end of the event check-in period until the end of the event.

18 RISK STATEMENT

- 18.1 RRS 3 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue *racing* is hers alone.' Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:
- i. They are aware of the inherent element of risk involved in the sport and accept responsibility for the exposure of themselves, their crew and their boat to such inherent risk whilst taking part in the event;
 - ii. They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their property whether afloat or ashore;
 - iii. They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;
 - iv. Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
 - v. The provision of a race management team, patrol boats and other officials and volunteers by the event organizer does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
 - vi. The provision of a patrol boat is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances;
 - vii. It is their responsibility to familiarize themselves with any risks specific to this venue or this event drawn to their attention in any rules and information produced for the venue or event and to attend any competitors briefing held for the event.
 - viii. The fact that race officials may conduct inspections of a boat does not reduce the responsibilities of each competitor set out in this Notice of Race.

19 INSURANCE

- 19.1 Each competing boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum coverage of \$300,000.00 US per event or the equivalent. A copy of insurance company documents establishing such coverage, current through the end of the event, shall be supplied as part of online registration.

20 PRIZES

- 20.1 The awards ceremony will be held at AYC on Sunday, November 1, after racing.

- 20.2 The J/70 Class North American Championship Perpetual Trophy will be awarded to the overall winner from a North American country.
- 20.3 A Perpetual Trophy for the J/70 Corinthian Class North American Championship will be awarded to the top Corinthian Team.
- 20.4 A Perpetual Trophy for the Top Female skipper will be awarded.
- 20.5 Trophies will be awarded in the Open, One-Pro, Corinthian, Mixed Plus and Young Crew Divisions depending on the number of entries.
- 20.6 Additional trophies may be awarded at the discretion of the OA.

21 SUPPORT PERSON VESSELS

- 21.1 Support person vessels (SPVs) are responsible for making their own launching, recovery, and berthing arrangements in Annapolis. AYC will be able to accommodate some SPVs for which there maybe a dockage fee.
- 21.2 [DP] SPVs and operators must register with the OA during Registration.
- 21.3 [DP] Only registered SPVs that prominently display identification provided by the OA will be allowed in the racing area. There will be a refundable deposit of \$100 USD required for each identification flag, payable on-site during registration.
- 21.4 [DP] SPVs and operators shall comply at all times with any support vessel regulations as published on the event website.
- 21.5 [DP] Support boat operators shall hold valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum coverage of \$300,000 USD per incident or the equivalent.
- 21.6 [DP] All SPVs shall carry and monitor a working VHF radio capable of receiving normal domestic and international channels. SPV operators' attention is drawn to RRS 37.
- 21.7 The conduct of registered support boats, all other support boats, and support persons will be governed by the SIs. Competitors are reminded that J70CR I.3 (Outside Assistance) will be in effect

22 MEDIA RIGHTS

- 22.1 By participating in this event, competitors automatically grant to the IJ70CA, the OA, and the event sponsors the right, in perpetuity, to make, use, and show, at their discretion, any photography, audio and video recordings, and other reproductions of them made at the venue or on the water from the time of their arrival at the venue, until their final departure, without compensation.

23 FURTHER INFORMATION

Annapolis YC Harborside Director

Linda Ambrose	410-858-4964	lambrose@anapolisyc.org
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Event Chair

Allan Terhune	732-644-1051	allan@melges.com
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IJ70 Class Executive

Christopher Howell	440-796-3100	howell@j70classoffice.com
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Technical Committee

Mark Foster	361-816-9801	mfoster1053@gmail.com
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NOR Appendix A – US Sailing Prescriptions that apply for this event

Only US Sailing Prescriptions to Preamble to Part 5, RRS 61.4 RRS 65.1, 76.1 and 88.2 will apply and are stated in full below.

Add to RRS 61.4

US Sailing prescribes that no fees shall be charged for protests or requests for redress.

Add to RRS 65.1:

US Sailing prescribes that

(a) A boat that retires from a race or accepts a penalty does not, by that action alone, admit liability for monetary damages.

(b) A protest committee shall find facts and make decisions only in compliance with the rules. No protest committee or US Sailing appeal authority shall adjudicate any claim for monetary damages. Such a claim is subject to the jurisdiction of the courts

(c) A basic purpose of the rules is to prevent contact between boats. By participating in an event governed by the rules, a boat agrees that responsibility for monetary damages arising from any breach of the rules shall be based on fault as determined by application of the rules, and that she shall not be governed by the legal doctrine of 'assumption of risk' for monetary damages resulting from contact with other boats.

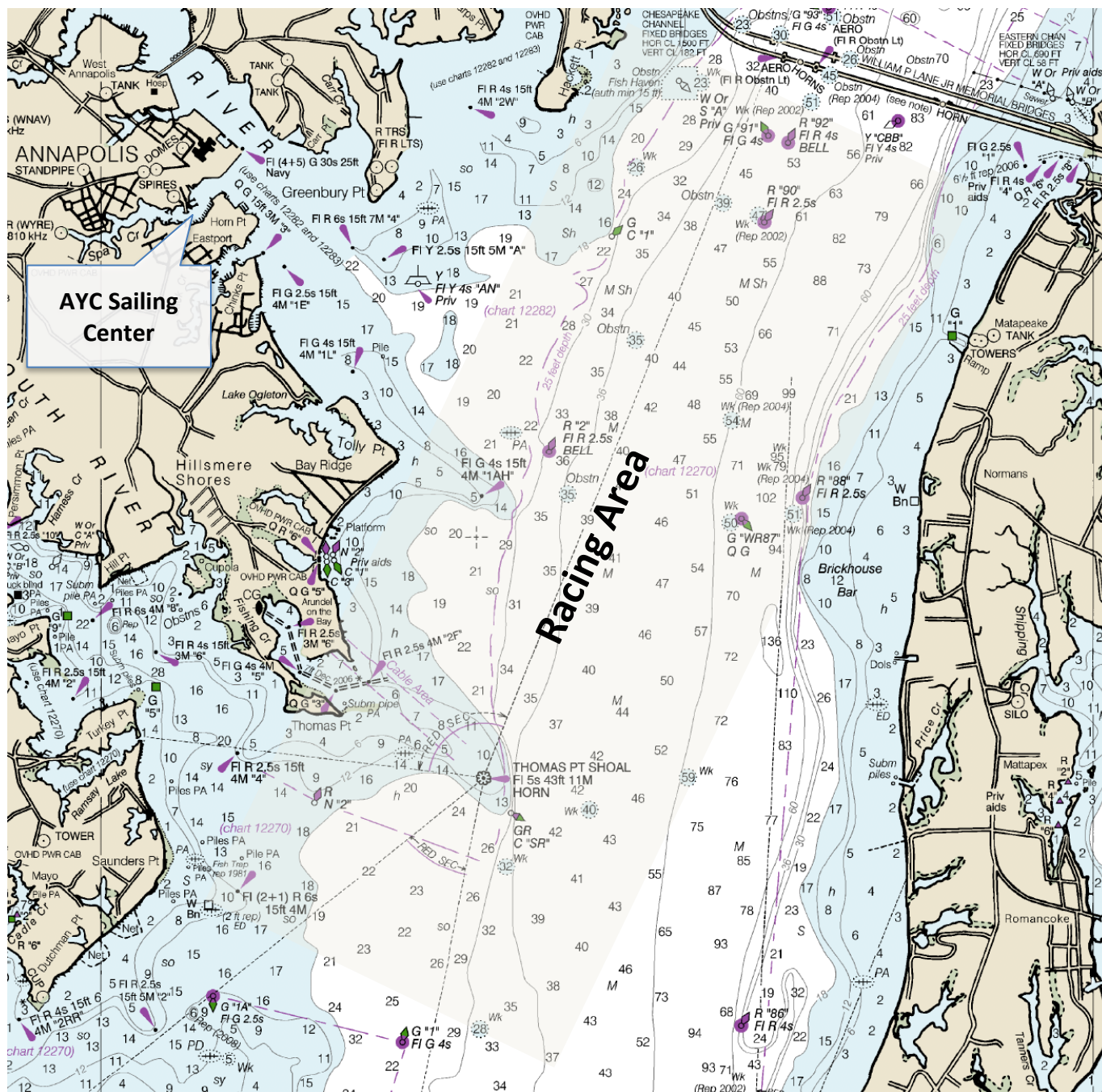
Add to RRS 76.1:

US Sailing prescribes that an organizing authority or race committee shall not reject or cancel the entry of a boat or exclude a competitor eligible under the notice of race and sailing instructions for an arbitrary or capricious reason or for reason of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or age. However, an organizing authority or race committee may exclude a competitor who is a citizen of, or holds a World Sailing ID as an MNA member of, a country listed on the US Sailing website under 'Exclusion' at ussailing.org/rules. _

Add to RRS 88.2:

US Sailing prescribes that the notice of race or sailing instructions may change or delete any prescriptions except: this prescription, Appendix R, the prescription to the preamble to Part 5, and the prescriptions to rules 65.1, 70.3(b) and 76.1.

NOR Appendix B - Racing Area

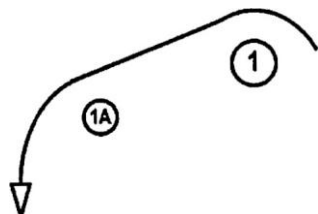


J70RR APPENDIX A

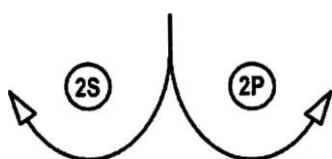
COURSE

COURSE "W" - WINDWARD/LEEWARD

1 - 1A - 2S/2P - 1 - 1A - FINISH



WIND DIRECTION



OR



Course W is to be used for racing with one fleet. Fleets of 60 or more boats may use a mid-boat line as shown in the diagram. Starting marks may be marks or boats.

For Continental and World Championships, the RC shall use two finish boats, one at each end of the line. For other events, the use of two finish boats is optional.