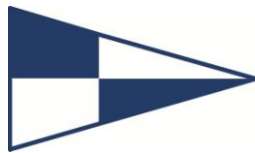

HOOK Race 2026



RACINE YACHT CLUB



Sailing Instructions

The 43rd Running of the HOOK Race

Racine to Menominee, MI

July 18, 2026

Presented by Racine Yacht Club

With many thanks to our major sponsors:



RACINE YACHT CLUB
2026 HOOK RACE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

- 1.1 The HOOK Race will be governed by the rules as defined by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the Notice of Race, and the HOOK Race Sailing Instructions.
- 1.2 Rule 52 shall be modified to allow Single/Double Handed boats to use an Auto Pilot during the race.

2. NOTICE TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1 Notice to competitors will be posted on the Official Hook Race Notice Board located at the Racine Yacht Club and on the Official Hook Race Notice Board at Menominee Municipal Marina. In conjunction with these notice boards, virtual notices will be sent to each vessel's registered email address.

3. CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1 Changes in the Sailing Instructions will be posted before 0730 on Saturday, July 18, 2026.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagpole in front of the RYC Clubhouse.
- 4.2 When flag "AP" is displayed ashore, "1 minute" is replaced with "not less than 75 minutes" in Race Signals AP.

5. DIVISION FLAGS

- 5.1 Division flags will be the flags designated in Sailing Instruction 9.4. A division flag will be included in the skipper's packet issued by the Race Committee at registration. Each boat shall display her division flag from the backstay before checking in, and for at least thirty minutes immediately before and after finishing.

6. STARTING AREA

- 6.1 The starting area will be set in an area that lies at 100 degrees and approximately 0.5 nautical miles from the Racine Harbor Entrance.

7. COURSE

- 7.1 The course of this race is from the starting line, as described in Sailing Instruction 8 of these instructions, to the entrance to the Port des Morts Passage, which is 154 nm at 014 degrees, leaving Port des Morts Passage Outer Shoal Buoy 1 (Light List 21320) to Port (Green lateral buoy at 45°13.967N 86°55.483W)
- 7.2 Leave Pilot Island Light Fl (2) W 6s (Light List 21325) to STARBOARD.
- 7.3 Leave Waverly Shoal Buoy #5 Fl G 2.5s Bell (Light List 21335) to PORT.
- 7.4 Leave Plum Island to STARBOARD.
- 7.5 Leave Buoy #1 Fl G 4s Bell (Light List 21890) off Chambers Island to Port.
- 7.6 If a mark is missing or out of position, a boat shall round a virtual mark at the coordinates as if the mark were present.

8. STARTING LINE

- 8.1 The Starting Line will be between an RYC signal boat displaying an Orange Flag and an RYC pin end boat displaying an orange flag. WARNING: The signal boat may trail a buoy astern in an effort to maintain a safety area.

9. THE START

- 9.1 The scheduled time of the warning signal for the Cruising Division is 0830 CDT on Saturday, July 18, 2026. The Race Committee will make courtesy calls on VHF channel 69.
- 9.2 The scheduled time of the warning signal for the Single/Double Handed Division is 0840 CDT.
- 9.3 Following the start of the Single/Double Handed Divisions there will be a five (5) minute interval between each division's Start and the succeeding division's warning signal with the first PHRF division warning signal being at 0905.
- 9.4 The division flags assigned to each class and scheduled starting times are as follows. The scheduled starting times assume that the warning signal for the first division occurs at its scheduled time.

SCHEDULED STARTING TIMES

Time	Division	Division Flag
0835	Cruising	Lime Green
0845	Single/Double Handed	Light Blue
0910	PHRF 5	Blue
0920	PHRF 4	Orange
0930	PHRF 3	Plumb
0940	PHRF 2	Purple
0950	PHRF 1	Yellow

- 9.5 Check-in, all participating boats MUST check-in with the check-in boat. Radio check-in is NOT permitted. The check-in boat will be located approx. 0.25 nautical miles from the Racine Harbor mouth at 090 degrees. Check-in boat will display signal flag L (Lima). In the event of inclement weather, the check-in boat may be stationed inside the Racine Harbor entrance.
- 9.6 All vessels must display reflective number boards with a minimum of 12" high lettering on the starboard aft quarter to the check-in boat and until 15 minutes after her start.

10. RECALLS

- 10.1 Individual Recalls - The Race Committee, as a courtesy, may attempt to hail the sail number of each boat on the course side of the starting line at her starting signal on VHF channel 69 and/or by loud hailer or voice. Failure of the Race Committee to provide a courtesy hail, the timeliness of such a hail, or the failure of a boat to hear such a hail is not a basis for redress. This changes RRS 62.1 (a).
- 10.2 A boat making a premature start and not restarting shall have 30 minutes added to her elapsed time, provided she is less than one minute early. Boats prematurely starting more than one minute early will be considered as not starting.
- 10.3 A General Recall will not be called for the Cruising Fleet.
- 10.4 In the event of a General Recall for the Single/Double Handed division, one restart will be attempted; any subsequent General Recall will result in the division going to the end of the starting rotation.
- 10.5 In the event of a General Recall for PHRF sections, the section recalled will go to the end of the starting rotation

11. TRACKING

- 11.1 Each boat shall carry a YB Tracking© position transponder (Race Tracker) as provided by the HOOK organizing authority. The Person-In-Charge shall ensure that the transponder is installed according to supplied instructions and make every effort to ensure that the transponder is functional for the duration of the race.
- 11.2 The Person-in-Charge is responsible for returning the transponder to the Race Committee after the race. Turn in instructions will be provided in the skipper bag at time of registration.
- 11.3 Failure to return the Race Tracker as per Race Tracker agreement shall result in a \$1,000 charge that the competitor agrees to pay.

12. THE FINISH

- 12.1 The finish line is between an Orange Flag on the Northeast corner corner of the Menominee Marina breakwall and a Yellow buoy (Coordinates: N45 06.615', W87 36.040') that may have a flashing Yellow LED Light at night. ***Leave the Finish buoy to PORT as you cross the Finish Line.***
- 12.2 When one (1) mile from the finish, each boat is required to alert the HOOK Race Committee of her approach to the finish line by calling on VHF channel 69 and giving her sail number. Continue hailing until acknowledged.
- 12.3 Reflective number boards with a minimum of 12" high lettering must be displayed starboard aft prior to crossing the finish line and for 15 minutes after finishing.
- 12.4 Boats are to self-illuminate their reflective number boards after dark when crossing the finish line.
- 12.5 **After finishing**, each boat shall contact the Race Committee on VHF channel 69 and give the boat's name and sail number. Following a boats finish, they shall proceed to their designated slip assignment. (Docking assignments will be provided in the skipper bag with a map of the harbor.).
- 12.6 Note: It is mandatory for each boat to record her own finish time and, if possible, the boats immediately ahead and astern in any condition utilizing the electronic HOOK Finish Report.
- 12.7 **Check-in After Finishing** Within 1 hour of finishing, each boat shall complete the Post Race Check-in Sheet and electronically submit it to Hook Race Committee via RYC Hook Website.

13. PROTESTS

- 13.1 Protests shall be filed with the Race Committee within one (1) hour of the finish of the protesting boat.
- 13.2 Protest forms may be:
 - a. Hand delivered to the Race Committee Headquarters/Finish vehicle on the break wall.
 - b. Emailed to the race committee at hookregistration@racineyachtclub.org.
 - i. A picture or scan of a handwritten protest form will also be accepted.
- 13.3 All means of submission are subject to the one hour time limit. A handwritten protest form including diagram may be required if a protest hearing is convened.
- 13.4 A withdrawing boat intending to file a protest shall notify the Race Committee of her intent to protest when reporting her withdrawal. Protest by a boat that has withdrawn from the race shall be delivered to the Race Committee within 3 hours of arrival at safe harbor.
- 13.5 Failure to comply with the HOOK Race Safety Requirements or a breach of Sailing Instruction 11.1, 14.1 or 17.2 will not be grounds for protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a).
- 13.6 Protests and/or requests for redress will be heard at Race Committee Headquarters/Finish vehicle commencing at time(s) posted on the Official Notice Board on Monday, July 20th.

14. INSPECTION

- 14.1 Boats may be selected at random for inspection after finishing.

15. TIME LIMIT

- 15.1 The time limit for all boats is 54 hours from the time of the PHRF 1 start. All boats finishing after the 54-hour limit will be scored as DNF. This changes RRS 35.
- 15.2 **Boats Retiring from The Race**
 - a. Any boat withdrawing from the race MUST complete the online withdrawal form as soon as safety allows on the RYC Hook website.

16. SCORING

- 16.1 Each boat's handicap shall be based on its MWPHRF Distance Handicap.
- 16.2 Each boat shall be ranked by corrected time in section and division. The lowest corrected time wins.
- 16.3 Time allowances shall be based on time on distance, expressed in nautical miles.
- 16.4 The handicap distance for scoring purposes shall be 189 nautical miles.
- 16.5 Boats racing as One Design must have a valid 2026 MWPHRF certificate.

17. PRIZES

- 17.1 Overall prizes will be awarded as follows:

HOOK Line Honors	To the first PHRF boat to finish.
HOOK Trophy	To the PHRF boat with best corrected time.
HOOK Overall Flags	To the top 5 PHRF boats with best corrected time.
Lake Michigan HOOK Trophy	To the RYC PHRF boat with best corrected time.

17.2 Division prizes will be given to boats in each division according to the following schedule:

Flags

All Divisions	3 flags
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Trophies

1 - 3 boats	1 trophy
4 - 6 boats	2 trophies
7 or more boats	3 trophies

17.3 An additional award will also be presented for Line Honors and First Overall.

17.4 Flags and trophy awards will be presented at the Rum Party on the patio at Murrays Irish Pub and Grill at 5:00 PM Monday July 20th.

Scan or click the below QR codes for direct access to each of the 2026 HOOK resources.



HOOK Finish Report



HOOK Withdrawal Report



Scratch Sheet



YB Tracking



Protest Form



Results



HOOK Agenda



Getting Back from the HOOK



North Sails Weather Brief