

J/88 NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP

September 29 – October 4, 2026

American Yacht Club, Rye, NY

Organizing Authority (OA): American Yacht Club (AYC)
and the J/88 Class Association (USA)



SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The notation '[NP]' in a rule means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1.

1 RULES

- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS).
- 1.2 The J/88 Class Association Constitution and the J/88 Class Rules available at <https://j88class.org/> shall apply.
- 1.3 J/88 Class Rule 6.2 (crew weight limit) shall apply.
- 1.4 RRS Appendix T and US Sailing Prescription Appendix V, will apply.
- 1.5 RRS 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 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 Any changes to the Sailing Instructions will be posted no later than 0930 on the day they will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 1900 on the day before it will take effect.

3 COMMUNICATIONS

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board available at https://www.yachtscoring.com/notice_board_summary/50612.
- 3.2 On the water, the race committee intends to make courtesy broadcasts to competitors via VHF channel 71.
- 3.3 Failure of the race committee to make any VHF broadcasts, the timing thereof or a competitor to hear any broadcast shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.4(b).
- 3.4 [DP] No communications, data, vocal or visual signaling of any kind, or tactical placement from a support boat is permitted after the race boat departs the dock until after the race boat retires for the day or after finishing the last race of the day.
- 3.5 [DP] All support boats must remain out of the way of race committee boats and boats with a Press flag at all rounding marks, and start and finish lines, except when rendering assistance to a boat in danger at the request of the boat or at the request of the race committee. Support boats must fly their flag from leaving the dock until the last boat finishes for the day.
- 3.6 [DP] From the first warning signal until the end of the last race of the day, except in an emergency or to report a protest or withdrawal, a boat shall make neither voice nor data transmissions and shall receive neither voice nor data communication that is not available to all boats.

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the American Yacht Club main flagpole and shall be announced on VHF channel 71
- 4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 90 minutes' in the race signal AP.

5 SCHEDULE

Tue. September 29	1000 - 1700	Measurement – Junior AYC Clubhouse (JAYC House)
	1400 - 1700	Onsite Registration, Weigh-In – JAYC House
Wed. September 30	1000 - 1700	Onsite Registration, Weigh-In, and Measurement – JAYC House
	1300	Practice Racing
	1700	Competitors Meeting and Social

Thu. October 1	1100 Following Racing	First Warning Signal After Racing Social
Fri. October 2	1100 Following Racing 1830	First Warning Signal After Racing Social J/88 Class Dinner
Sat. October 3	1100 Following Racing	First Warning Signal After Racing Social
Sun. October 4	1100 1600 Following Racing and any Protest Hearings	First Warning Signal No Warning Signal after this time Awards Party and Trophy Presentation

6 RACING AREA

- 6.1 The racing will be conducted on Long Island Sound approximately mid-Sound, east of Milton Point, Rye, New York.
- 6.2 The approximate position of the starting area will be announced approximately 30 minutes prior to the first warning signal on their VHF 71.

7 COURSES

- 7.1 The diagrams in SI Appendix A show the courses, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.
- 7.2 The leeward mark will be a gate. In the event one of the gate marks is missing the remaining gate mark shall be rounded to port.
- 7.3 The race committee signal vessel will display the magnetic bearing and range, in tenths of nautical miles (15 is 1.5 nautical miles) from the signal boat to the windward mark, and the course number.
- 7.4 Sample course board and configurations for courses (labels may not be displayed):

Course	Class	Range	Bearing
4	1	1	2
4	2	5	3
4	3		0
3	4		

- 7.5 On October 3 and 4, the courses will be part of the American Yacht Club Fall Series Windward/Leeward Racing course.

8 MARKS

- 8.1 Marks will be inflatable marks as follows:

Original Mark(s)	Starting Mark	Finishing Mark	Alternate Change Mark(s)	Offset Mark (1a)
Orange	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Orange or Red

- 8.2 If robotic inflatable marks are used, routine movement of robotic marks will not be grounds for redress. This includes marks returning to station after having been pushed away by a boat or competitor. RRS 31 still applies.

9 THE START

- 9.1 Races will be started according to Appendix B RACESENSE.
- 9.2 At or before the warning signal a Numeral Pennant Two will be displayed until the starting signal.
- 9.3 A boat that does not start within five minutes after her starting signal, will be scored DNS without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1.

10 CHANGING THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 10.1 To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will either (i) move the original mark(s) or the finishing line to a new

position, or (ii) if signal flag Q is displayed under signal flag C, the race committee will lay an Alternate Change Mark(s) as defined in SI 8.1. This changes RRS Race Signals. When the mark being changed is Mark 1 (the windward mark), if the race committee does not set a new Offset Mark 1a, Offset Mark 1a will no longer be a mark of the course.

- 10.2 The race committee may change the course by up to five (5) degrees in bearing and/or 0.2 nm in length without a signal. This changes RRS 33.

11 THE FINISH

- 11.1 Races will be finished according to Appendix B RACESENSE.

12 TIME LIMIT

- 12.1 The Time limit for the first boat to sail the course and finish will be 90 minutes.
- 12.2 The Finishing Window, the time for boats to finish after the first boat sails the course, is 30 minutes. Boats still racing but failing to sail the course within the Finishing Window, and not subsequently retiring, penalized or given redress, will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF) without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, A4, and A5.

13 HEARING REQUESTS

- 13.1 The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the race committee signal vessel docks. The docking time and protest time limit will be posted on the official notice board.
- 13.2 At any time after an incident, up to and including immediately after finishing, a boat intending to protest another boat shall notify the race committee on VHF 71 of its intent to lodge a protest and provide the sail number of the protesting boat and the sail number of the boat it intends to protest. This is added to RRS 60.2.
- 13.3 Protests must be filed by completing the electronic protest form available at <https://sailing.americanyc.org/protest>.
- 13.4 Notice of hearings will be posted on the official notice board as soon as possible after the protest time limit has expired to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the protest room, located off the foyer of the American Yacht Club clubhouse beginning at the time posted.
- 13.5 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".
- 13.6 A boat scored DNF will be scored points equal to the number of boats in her class that sailed the course and finished within the time limit plus two points, but the score will not exceed the number of entries plus 1 point. This changes RRS A5.2.

14 SCORING

- 14.1 Three races are required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 14.2 When fewer than six races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores. When six, or more races have been completed, a boat's score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score. This changes RRS Appendix A.
- 14.3 The maximum number of races for the regatta is twelve (12).

15 SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 15.1 Prior to the first warning signal each day, boats shall sail past the stern of the race committee signal boat, on starboard tack, hail her sail number and be acknowledged by the race committee.
- 15.2 [DP] A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity via VHF 71.

16 GREEN REGATTA

In an effort to promote sustainability and reduce the amount of waste in Long Island Sound, competitors are encouraged to utilize reusable water bottles and avoid the use of any single-use plastics.

17 HAUL OUT RESTRICTIONS

- 17.1 Except in an emergency, a boat shall not be hauled out during the regatta except with written permission of the race committee after consultation with the class representative.
- 17.2 All boats shall be in the water by 1600 on Tuesday, September 29 and shall remain in the water through the end of the regatta.

18 RISK STATEMENT

- 18.1 RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' By participating in this event and any related activity sponsored, undertaken, administered, managed, or allowed to be conducted by American Yacht Club, the owner, helmsman and each crew member agree, understand and accept, for themselves and their respective successors, assigns, representatives, administrators, executors, agents, heirs or any person acting or purporting to act on their behalf ("Releasors") that sailing is an inherently dangerous and unpredictable activity due to multiple factors that cannot be anticipated or predicted with certainty, including but not limited to weather, equipment failure or malfunction, and the actions of others on or

off the water, injury, sickness and disease (including communicable diseases such as Covid-19). Releasors also agree, understand and accept that sailing presents inherent risks of serious bodily injury (including permanent disability, paralysis, and death, whether by drowning or otherwise, sickness and disease (including communicable diseases), property damage and other economic loss. Accordingly, and in consideration for being permitted to enter into and participate in this or any other sailing event sponsored, undertaken, administered, managed or allowed to be conducted by American Yacht Club, Releasors forever release and waive, to the fullest extent allowed by law, any and all claims, actions, accounts, causes of action and choses in action, whether in law, equity or admiralty, that Releasors now have, may have had or may come to have, against American Yacht Club, including its officers, directors, trustees, members, employees, agents, volunteers, staff, committees, and anyone acting on its behalf ("Releasees"), for anything arising out of or relating to Releasors' participation in such sailing events (including contracting communicable diseases such as Covid-19). Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, and without in any way limiting or lessening the effect or breadth of the foregoing release and waiver, and solely for the avoidance of doubt and clarification, Releasors agree, acknowledge and understand that this release and waiver applies to any and all claims of any kind at all against Releasees arising out of or relating to injuries, deaths, sickness and disease (including communicable diseases such as Covid-19), damage to vessels or damage to personal property sustained during or as a result of any and all sailing events sponsored, undertaken, administered, managed or allowed to be conducted by American Yacht Club.

19 INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be adequately insured with current, valid third-party liability insurance that is appropriate taking into account the value of the boats racing and the type of racing.

20 FURTHER INFORMATION

20.1 For further information please contact:

Event Chair: Rob Fear (robert.w.fear@gmail.com)

J/88 Class Representative: Justin Scagnelli (jscagnelli707@gmail.com)

AYC Harbor Captain Bud Puterbaugh (bputerbaugh@americanyc.org).

Regatta Website: <https://www.yachtscoring.com/emenu/50612>

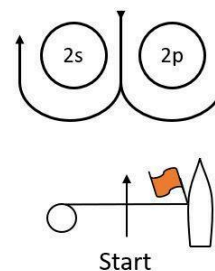
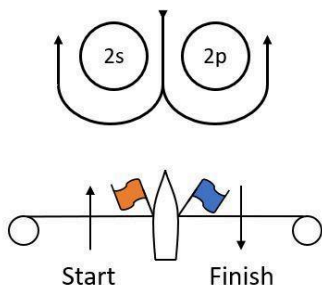
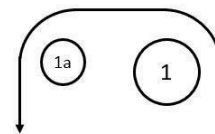
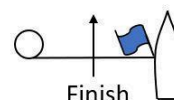
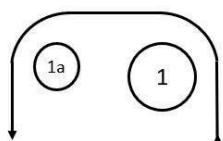
Appendix A Course Diagrams

***For races when mark 1 has been changed in accordance with RRS 33, mark 1a may no longer be a mark of the course in accordance with SI 10.1.**

****The blue flag and the Finishing Mark may be on either side of the race committee signal vessel.**

Course	Order of Marks
2	Start, 1, 1a*, Finish**
4	Start, 1, 1a*, 2p/2s, 1, 1a*, Finish**
6	Start, 1, 1a*, 2p/2s, 1, 1a*, 2p/2s, 1, 1a* Finish**

Course	Order of Marks
3	Start, 1, 1a*, 2p/2s, Finish
5	Start, 1, 1a*, 2p/2s, 1, 1a, 2p/2s, Finish
7	Start, 1, 1a*, 2p/2s, 1, 1a*, 2p/2s, 1, 1a*, 2p/2s, Finish



Appendix B RACESENSE

Rules and Instructions for Using the Vakaros RaceSense System

- B.1 Each boat shall have a working Vakaros Atlas 2 / Atlas Edge configured for RaceSense at check-in. Boats without a configured Atlas 2 / Atlas Edge may have one provided by the OA, for applicable fees. Competitors must present their Atlas device upon check-in for the regatta for software and registration purposes and confirm that it is mounted in an approved location. This might include visual inspection off the water or on the water.
- B.2 The Vakaros RaceSense system will be used by the race committee and the relevant information will be available to all boats.
- B.3 Competitors shall take all reasonable measures to keep the Atlas 2 / Atlas Edge safe and operational and promptly notify the race committee on the water or ashore of any device issues.
- B.4 RRS 26 is changed. The countdown to the start on the Atlas 2 / Atlas Edge from RaceSense will be the official time. Signal flags may be used for information purposes only.
- B.5 The starting line is between a staff displaying an orange flag on each of the race committee signal vessel at the starboard end, and the Vakaros unit on the port end Starting Mark.
- B.6 The visual identification of boats infringing RRS 29 and RRS 30 by the race committee is replaced with electronic identification through the Vakaros RaceSense system, modifying RRS 29.1, 30.1, 30.2, 30.3, and 30.4. In the event a start needs to be recalled, for fairness or safety reasons, the race committee will display signal flag N with three sounds and the race will be abandoned.
- B.7 Any failure of the Atlas 2 / Atlas Edge, RaceSense system, or communication systems will not constitute grounds to request redress by a boat or the Protest Committee. This changes RRS 41(c), 61.1(a), 61.1(c).
- B.8 If the race committee vessel displays signal flag O with a sound signal before the warning signal of a race, B.4 to B.6 inclusive will not apply to that race. Instead, the race will be started using RRS 26.
- B.9 The finishing line is between a staff displaying a blue flag on the race committee signal vessel and the Vakaros unit on the nearby Finishing Mark.
- B.10 If the race committee vessel displays signal flag O when a boat is finishing a race, B.9 will not apply to that race, in which case the finishing line is between a staff displaying a blue flag on the signal vessel, and the course side of the nearby Finishing Mark.
- B.11 If the race committee vessel displays signal flag R with a sound signal before the warning signal of a race, Competitors shall restart their Vakaros Atlas 2 / Atlas Edge unit by switching it off, waiting 10 seconds and then switching it back on to reconnect to the RaceSense network. Signal flag R will remain displayed for a minimum of 2 minutes and will be removed with the next warning signal.
- B.12 If firmware updates to Atlas 2 / Atlas Edge devices are required between scheduled race days, notice will be sent to all boats via email and/or posted to the official notice board.