

2026 Freedom 250
July 25, 2026
Chagrin Lagoons Yacht Club, Eastlake, Ohio

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

- 1.1. The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) for 2025 – 2028 and the PHRF-LE class rules, except as any of these are changed by these Sailing Instructions.
- 1.2. The following prescriptions of the US Sailing will not apply: 63.1(b)
- 1.3. 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”.
- 1.4. In the event of a conflict between the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions, the Sailing Instructions shall apply. This changes RRS 63.5(c).
- 1.5. Attention of all participants is called to RRS 1.2 (Life Saving Equipment and Personal Flotation Devices) and RRS 3 (DECISION TO RACE). Every Yacht that participates does so at its own risk.
- 1.6. “Class” in these Sailing Instructions is defined as the class or the division within a rating system to which a boat is assigned on the scratch sheet. (examples: JAM A, JAM B)
- 1.7. PHRF-LE class rules shall apply. All assigned ratings are valid for this regatta only, may not be protested, and are not grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.1(a), 78.1, and 78.2, and changes US Sailing Prescriptions to 63.5(d).

2. ENTRIES

- 2.1. Eligible boats may enter by completing registration and paying the required fee(s) with the Chagrin Lagoons Yacht Club on the Yacht scoring website at <https://yachtscoring.com/emenu/50892> .
- 2.2. PHRF-LE 2026 handicaps will be used.
- 2.3. Any boat without a valid PHRF-LE certificate **may** be assigned a temporary rating by the Race Committee, whose decision is final.
- 2.4. The Race Committee, whose decision is final, shall determine eligibility and placement of yachts in classes. A class must have a minimum of 3 boats.

3. NOTICE TO COMPETITORS

- 3.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on Yacht Scoring at <https://yachtscoring.com/emenu/50892> .

3.2. Any late changes to the Sailing Instructions will be communicated by radio on channel 71 before the race.

3.3. Mandatory skippers' meetings will be held at 09:30 Saturday July 25. The meeting will be held on the water via Marine VHF radio, channel 71. Pertinent information will be communicated at the skippers' meetings, including the course(s) to be sailed.

3.4. The "scratch sheet" showing the class splits will be posted after 2000 hrs. July 24 on Yacht Scoring at <https://yachtscoring.com/emenu/50892> .

4. **SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

4.1. There will be no shore signals.

5. **SCHEDULE FOR THE FREEDOM RACE**

5.1. One race, Saturday July 25. First warning 9:55.

6. **RACING AREA**

6.1. The race area will be on Lake Erie north of MHYC and CLYC. Refer to the Course Card Addendum to these sailing instructions.

7. **MARKS**

7.1. MHYC marks S, A, B, D, E are designated MS, MA, MB, MC, MD, ME and CLYC marks B, C, M are designated CB, CC, CM per the Course Card Addendum to these sailing instructions. The CLYC marks are PVC cylinders. The Mentor Marks are orange 36" balls.

8. **COURSES**

8.1. The courses that may be sailed are listed in the Course Card Addendum to these sailing instructions. The course(s) that are to be sailed will be communicated via channel 71 beginning at the 09:30 Skipper's meeting.

9. **THE START**

9.1. The starting area will be outside Mentor Harbor Yachting Club with the start line established by the Mentor Harbor "S" mark, and the west wall of the Mentor Harbor entrance. Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area and of all boats whose warning signal has been made. The starting area is defined as the area 200 feet in all directions from the starting line.

9.2. The starting sequence is anticipated to be the JAM divisions in "reverse" order, the Spinnaker divisions in "reverse" order and the Cruising class. Example: Jam B, Jam A, Spin B, Spin A, and Cruising. All competitors must monitor channel 71.

9.3. The race will be started using sound signals and communications on VHF channel 71. This changes RRS 26. Sound signals will be made at the warning (5 minutes), Preparatory (4 minutes), at one minute, and at the start. A three-blast wakeup may precede the first warning

by approximately one minute. The start signal will be the warning signal for the next class (rolling starts). Any change to the starting sequence will be communicated via channel 71. A change to the starting sequence will only affect not-started classes.

10. RECALLS

10.1. There will be no Individual recall. Competitors are expected to start properly.

10.2. General recalls shall be communicated via channel 71.

11. CHANGE OF COURSE AFTER THE START

11.1. There will be no course changes after the start.

12. SHORTENING COURSE

12.1. There will be no shortening of the course(s).

13. THE FINISH

13.1. The finish line will be between Mentor Harbor "S" mark (MS on the Course Diagrams) and the red day marker on the west wall of the Mentor Harbor entrance.

13.2. Upon finish you must promptly text 440-567-1725 your boat name and GPS finish time corrected to official (EDT) time.

13.3. Boats which retire from the race for any reason, MUST report their action as soon as possible to the Race Committee. This report may be made by phone or text at 440-567-1725.

14. TIME LIMIT

14.1. The time limit for the race is 5 hours.

15. PROTESTS

15.1. Boats intending to protest shall report as soon as practical, after finishing to the race committee by telephone to 440-567-1725 or 440-278-9031

15.2. Protest committee may impose penalties less than disqualification at their discretion.

15.3. Protests shall be written.

15.4. The protest time limit is one hour after the last boat to finish the last race of the day.

15.5. Protests will be heard in approximately the order of receipt and will start approximately 30 minutes after the filing period ends, or sooner if all parties are available.

16. SCORING

16.1. The Low Point Scoring System, RRS A4 will apply.

17. PENALTIES

17.1. RRS Rule 44.1 is changed so that a Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by a One-Turn Penalty.

18. RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

18.1. VHF Channel 71 shall be used as the official radio channel.

18.2. All boats shall have an operating marine VHF radio and monitor channel 71 whenever possible.

18.3. A boat shall neither make nor receive radio or other electronic transmissions, including cell phone calls or texts etc. not available to all boats (except in an emergency).

18.4. Any communications between race committee personnel or committee boats which may be overheard by competitors shall not be grounds for redress or protest.

19. AWARDS

19.1. Awards for the race will be presented on Saturday July 25, after the race.

19.2. Awards will be presented to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finishers for each of the Spin, JAM, Cruising Canvas Classes.

20. INSURANCE

20.1. Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum coverage of \$300,000 per incident or the equivalent.