



THISTLE CLASS ASSOCIATION 2026 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

July 25-July 31, 2026

Eugene Yacht Club

Eugene, Oregon

NOTICE OF RACE

Notice of Race Amendment #1. See 5.3. Amended 4/10/26.

Notice of Race Amendment #2. See 12.2. Amended 7/16/26.

Organizing Authority: The 2026 Thistle National Championship Regatta is organized by the Thistle Class Association (TCA) in conjunction with the Eugene Yacht Club (EYC). The National Race Committee (NRC) is the Organizing Authority (OA) for the National Championship Regatta.

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 regatta is governed by the rules as defined in the *Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 1.2 The US Sailing prescription to RRS 63.1 will not apply.
- 1.3 RRS 60.1 (a) is changed to add: Boats failing to display required advertising may not be protested by another boat.
- 1.4 The Thistle Class Bylaws shall apply except as changed in the Notice of Race.
- 1.5 Other racing rules may be changed. These changes will appear in full in the Sailing Instructions.
- 1.6 Alcohol consumption by persons under 21 years of age, the use of illegal substances and the abuse of prescription-only drugs shall be considered "misconduct" for the purposes of RRS 69.
- 1.7 [NP] It is each skipper's responsibility to ensure they and their crew adhere to all state and county health regulations.

2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Sailing Instructions will be posted to the Notice Board on Clubspot at <https://theclubspot.com/regatta/VP4PtPlzgJ/#notice-board> no later than Friday July 24, 2026 at 1200 hrs. In order to conduct a more green regatta, printed paper copies of the SI's will only be available upon request.

3. RADIO COMMUNICATION

The RC may transmit via VHF radio information concerning safety, OCS boats, and general information to assist in the management of the event. Except in an emergency, a boat that is racing shall not make or receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

4. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1 The regatta is open to all Thistle skippers who are youth, active, or family TCA members in good standing and have sailed the required qualifying event(s) to be eligible to compete in Thistle Class Nationals, as outlined in the Bylaws of the TCA. A boat competing in this event must be registered with the class and have a valid measurement certificate. Skippers may race a borrowed or chartered Thistle as long as the boat is registered with the class.
- 4.2 No competitor may be paid to sail in this event, and private coaching is not allowed in this event, as per TCA Bylaw Article X, Section 3.
- 4.3 Eligible boats may enter by completing online registration and paying regatta fees by July 20th. No entry will be accepted after July 20th without written permission from the Regatta Chair and National Race Committee and complying with NoR 5.1.
- 4.4 Online registration can be found on Clubspot at <https://theclubspot.com/regatta/VP4PtPlzgJ>
- 4.5 Competitors must complete on-site check-in and the measurement process during times specified in the schedule; any extension requires written permission from the Regatta Chairman and National Race Committee.

5. FEES

- 5.1 **Early Registration Fees: \$550** inclusive of TCA Trophy Fee and Friday awards dinner for a crew of 3, for registrations completed and paid before June 31, 2026. **Regular registration fees: \$625 from July 1 until July 20 (close of registration).**
- 5.2 Registration fees are fully refundable (less any credit card transaction fees) until May 30, and partially refundable (less 20%) until June 30. No refunds after June 20.
- 5.3 Skippers ~~26 years old~~ under 26 (U26) may apply for a registration fee refund and may also submit their Vakaros rental unit receipts for reimbursement by contacting 3rd VP of Growth and Promotions, Wheeler Sutton at wheelersutton@gmail.com. Applications should be sent in no later than July 2 and must include a birthdate. Please indicate whether you are sailing the National Championship, Junior Nationals, or both. Details of reimbursement will be available upon application.
- 5.4 Food packages will be available for purchase after March 1 at the Clubspot page for the event <https://theclubspot.com/regatta/VP4PtPlzgJ>. Kids under 12 will have a reduced price for meal plans.
- 5.5 Additional awards banquet tickets may be made available after July 15th if extra seats are available.
- 5.6 This regatta will utilize Vakaros Race Sense. All boats are required to use a Vakaros Atlas 2/Atlas Edge unit.
 - 5.6.1 Vakaros Atlas 2/Atlas Edge unit is available for a Regatta rental fee of \$175 for the device. Skippers who own their device will not have to pay the rental fee. All fees will be paid directly to Vakaros and not included in registration fees.

6. ADVERTISING

[NP] Boats may be required to display advertising which will be supplied by the Organizing Authority (OA).

7. FLEET CONFIGURATION

7.1 The fleet configuration will be decided by the National Race Committee in conjunction with the Principal Race Officer and Eugene YC designated race officer, as directed by the Thistle Class Association Bylaw 9.1.

8. SCHEDULE

8.1 Check-in and Measurement

DATE	TIME
Saturday, July 25	0900-1600
Sunday, July 26	0900-1600

8.2 **Women's and Juniors National Championships:** Sunday, July 26 – see separate NOR

8.3 Planned National Championship Race Series

DATE	RACE(s)	FIRST WARNING
Monday, July 27	Practice Starts	12:30
	Races 1 & 2	13:00
Tuesday, July 28	Races 3 & 4	13:00
Wednesday, July 29	Races 5 & 6	13:00
Thursday, July 30	Races 7 & 8	13:00
Friday, July 31	Race 9 No Race to begin after	13:00 14:30

8.4 The RC in conjunction with the NRC chair, may adjust the race schedule to suit weather conditions.

8.5 On the last scheduled day of racing, no warning signal will be made after 14:30.

8.6 Social Schedule

DATE	TIME	EVENT	
Friday, July 24	1200 to 1700	Check in Certification/Measurement	
Saturday, July 25	0900 to 1700	Check-in Certification/Measurement	

Sunday, July 26	0800 to 0900	Continental Breakfast Check-in continued	
	0900 to 1200	Certification/Measurement	
	1100	Women's/Juniors Competitor's Meeting	
	1100 to 1500	Women's/Juniors Regatta	
	1800	Keg opens	
	1830	Opening Ceremony Women's/Juniors Awards Competitors meeting	
	1900	Dinner	
Monday, July 27	0800 to 0930	Breakfast + Lunch-ish Snacks	
	1000	Competitor's Briefing	
	1300	Warning Signal Race 1 & 2	
	45 minutes post race	Post Race Roundtable	
	1800	Keg opens	
	1900	Dinner	
		Live music	

Tuesday, July 28	0800 to 0930	Breakfast + Lunch-ish Snacks	
	1000	Competitor's Briefing	
	1300	Warning Signal Race 3 & 4	
	45 minutes post race	Post Race Roundtable	
	1800	Keg opens	
	1900	Dinner Trivia night	
Wednesday, July 29	0800 to 0930	Breakfast + Lunch-ish Snacks	
	1000	Competitor's Briefing	
	1300	Warning Signal Race 5 & 6	
	45 minutes post race	Post Race Roundtable	
		NO KEG Dinner Out	

Thursday, July 30	0800 to 0930	Breakfast + Lunch-ish Snacks	
	1000	Competitor's Briefing	
	1300	Warning Signal Race 7 & 8	
	45 minutes post race	Post Race Roundtable	
	18:00	Keg opens	
	19:00	Dinner	
	20:00	Auction/Raffle	
Friday, July 31	0800 to 0930	Breakfast + Lunch-ish Snacks	
	1000 to 1015	Competitor's Briefing	
	1015	Chair updates on tonight's banquet	
	1300	Warning Signal Race 9	
	1800 to 1900	Pre-Banquet Social time	
	1900	Dinner and Awards Banquet @ Deep Woods Event Center	

9. MEASUREMENT

- 9.1 Each boat shall have a valid measurement certificate.
- 9.2 Boat, equipment, and sails will be measured, inspected, and may be spot-checked as specified in the TCA rules, RRS or the Sailing Instructions. Specific items to be measured will be found on the measurement forms posted at <https://theclubspot.com/regatta/VP4PtPlzgJ>
- 9.3 All boats shall bring their Vakaros device to Registration as specified in the Addendum RS posted on the Official Notice Board.

9.5 ELECTRONIC RACE MANAGEMENT: [ADDENDUM RS – RaceSense RRS changes](#) will be in effect.

10. VENUE

- 10.1 The Regatta will be held at:

Eugene Yacht Club
26126 Bangs Road
Junction City, OR 97448

- 10.2 Races will be sailed on Fern Ridge Reservoir approximately 1 nautical mile (NM) south east of EYC.
- 10.3 Housing: Tent and RV/van camping is allowed on EYC property in the designated area(s). Local hotel information is available on the regatta website.

10.5 REGATTA COMMUNICATIONS

Official notices will be posted to the Notice Board on Clubspot. When notices are posted a message will be sent to the Thistle Nationals 2026 WhatsApp group. WhatsApp will also be used to communicate with competitors throughout the event.

Scan this QR code or click the link to join the WhatsApp group -- https://chat.whatsapp.com/CpOkgyZwGOMGfYy8qUfqr8?mode=qi_t



Thistle Nationals 2026
WhatsApp group



11. THE COURSES

The courses will be in accordance with the TCA Bylaws, Article XIV, Section 11.

12. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 12.1 A boat that takes a penalty or retires under RRS 44 shall sign the acknowledgement form posted in the vicinity of the regatta desk within the protest time limit.
- 12.2 The right of appeal from a protest committee decision is denied as provided in RRS70.3(b) for the Qualifying Series only. Competitors may appeal decisions of the protest committee in both the Championship and

~~President's Series.~~ In accordance with rule 70.3(b), decisions of the protest committee are final. US Sailing's permission has been granted. If the requirements shown on <https://www.ussailing.org/competition/rules-officiating/appeals/no-appeal-rule-70-3-procedures/> are not met, the decisions of the protest committee may be appealed.

US Sailing's permission is limited to the Qualifying Series. Competitors may appeal decisions of the Protest Committee in the Championship Series.

13. SCORING

The regatta shall be scored in accordance with TCA Bylaw XIV paragraph 15.

14. SUPPORT BOATS

- 14.1 Support Boats shall be registered and marked with an OA supplied identifier.
- 14.2 Due to limited open berthing spaces, anyone planning on bringing an additional boat of any kind to the event must contact the Regatta Chairman to make arrangements for use of hoists and slips.

15. DRY MOORAGE AREA

Dry sail spaces will be assigned for all competitors and be available beginning 1200 Friday, July 24, 2026 For arrival before July 24, please contact the Regatta Chairman to make arrangements.

16. RISK STATEMENT

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 each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform, and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes. Each competitor shall be required to sign a waiver for loss, damage, or injury to persons or property incurred in connection with the Regatta that occurs as a result of a competitor's actions.

17. INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum value of \$100,000 USD. The skipper or boat owner shall provide proof of liability insurance by July 20, 2026. This insurance document can be uploaded to the event page on Clubspot at <https://theclubspot.com/regatta/VP4PtPlzgJ>.

18. AWARDS

- 18.1 The National Championship and "Louis Carron Perpetual Trophy" will be awarded to the winning boat in the Championship Division.
- 18.2 Other awards will be made at the discretion of the Organizing Authority.

19. FURTHER INFORMATION

For any questions or further information, please contact:

Marty Parisien, Regatta Chair at ThistleNationals@gmail.com
Joy Martin, TCA National Race Committee (NRC) Chair at Thistlejoy85@gmail.com
Matt Bounds, Principal Race Officer at mbounds@comcast.net