

BUZZELLI Nacra 15 North Americans

Youth Worlds Qualifier 2026

October 10-12, 2026 | Sarasota, Florida

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Organizing Authority: Sarasota Youth Sailing

Venue Host: Sarasota Sailing Squadron

All times are US Eastern Time

1 RULES

- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028 (RRS).
- 1.2 The International Nacra 15 Class Rules and the Notice of Race (NoR) apply.
- 1.3 RRS 60.1 is changed to add: "However, a boat shall not protest another boat for an alleged breach of a class rule other than class equipment measurement rules."
- 1.4 Sails shall have a full sail number and national letters in accordance with the Nacra 15 Class Rules. Display of country flags is not required.
- 1.5 If there is a conflict between languages, the English text takes precedence.
- 1.6 RRS 60.4(a)(2) is changed as stated in the NoR: "(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 SAFETY

- 2.1 Each competitor shall wear a USCG-approved life jacket, in good condition, that is 100% dependent on foam for flotation and the appropriate size for the sailor, at all times while on the water except briefly while changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment per RRS 40.1 and 40.2(c).
- 2.2 The PFD must be worn outside all clothing except that a thin shirt or bib may be worn over it to prevent snagging.
- 2.3 Private drones are prohibited. Drones may be authorized by the OA for its purposes.
- 2.4 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

3 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1 Any change to the SIs will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the close of the morning competitors' meeting on the day it takes effect, except that a change to the schedule of races will be posted no later than the protest time limit or 2000, whichever is later, on the day before it takes effect.

4 COMMUNICATION

- 4.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board at Sarasota Youth Sailing; its exact location will be provided at check-in. The SIs will be available on the event website no later than October 5, 2026, and a paper copy will be posted on the official notice board.
- 4.2 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.
- 4.3 The race office and Protest Desk are located at the SYS office.
- 4.4 Questions for the race committee and requests for change of crew or equipment for the OA shall be submitted in writing to the Protest Desk. Answers will be provided in writing and posted on the official notice board.

5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed near the SYS office.

5.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, "1 minute" is replaced with "not less than 60 minutes" in Race Signals AP.

5.3 On practice and race days, boats shall not leave the SYS beach unless flag D is displayed with one sound signal. The warning signal will not be made before the scheduled time or less than 60 minutes after flag D is displayed.

6 SCHEDULE OF RACES

Date	Time	Item
Friday, October 9	0900	Sailors begin to arrive
	1500-1700	Early team check-in
Saturday, October 10	0900	Report at Sarasota Youth Sailing
	0915	Competitors' briefing
	1100	first warning signal
	1600	No warning signal after this time
Sunday, October 11	0900	Report at Sarasota Youth Sailing
	0915	Competitors' briefing
	1100	first warning signal
	1600	No warning signal after this time
Monday, October 12	0900	Report at Sarasota Youth Sailing
	0915	Competitors' briefing
	1100	first warning signal
	1300	No warning signal after this time

6.1 Up to 12 races are planned: up to five on Saturday, up to five on Sunday, and no more than two on Monday. No warning signal will be made after 1300 on Monday, October 12.

7 CLASS FLAG

7.1 The Nacra 15 class flag is a white flag with blue Nacra insignia.

8 RACING AREA

8.1 All races will be sailed on Sarasota Bay. The race committee will describe the racing area at the morning competitors' briefing.

8.2 All Nacra 15 boats shall launch and return from the SYS beach on City Island. Visiting coach boats shall launch and return from Ken Thompson Boat Ramp.

9 COURSES

9.1 Addendum A shows the courses, the mark rounding order and the side on which each mark is to be left.

9.2 No later than the display of the starting line flag, the race committee signal vessel will display the course to be sailed.

9.3 If only one 2s/2p mark is present, the remaining mark shall be left to port.

10 MARKS

Mark	Description
Windward Mark	Orange inflatable tet

Mark	Description
offset mark	Orange ball type mark
Gate marks	Yellow inflatable tets
Starting mark	Red inflatable tet
Finishing mark	Orange inflatable mark

11 THE START

11.1 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the race committee signal vessel and a starting mark.

11.2 To alert boats that a race will begin soon, the orange line flag on the signal vessel will be displayed with one sound signal at least five minutes before the warning signal.

11.3 A boat that does not start within four minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.

12 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

12.1 To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will move the original mark to its new location, move the finishing line or move the leeward gate using the original marks.

12.2 During a race, the race committee may adjust the course up to 10 degrees in bearing or 0.1 nautical mile in length without signaling a change. This changes RRS 33.

13 THE FINISH

13.1 The finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on the finish line vessel and the finishing mark.

14 PENALTY SYSTEM

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

15 TIME LIMITS

Race time limit	Mark 1 time limit	Finishing window
60 minutes	20 minutes	15 minutes

15.1 If no boat has passed mark 1 within the Mark 1 time limit, the race shall be abandoned.

15.2 Boats still racing that fail to finish within the finishing window after the first boat starts, sails the course and finishes, and that do not subsequently retire, receive a penalty or receive redress, will be scored DNF without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, A5.1 and A5.2.

15.3 RRS A5.3 applies and is changed by adding: "However, in the case of a DNF, the boat shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats that started, sailed the course and finished within the finishing window."

16 HEARING REQUESTS

16.1 Hearing request, scoring inquiry and penalty acceptance forms will be available at the Protest Desk at the SYS office. Hearing requests shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit.

16.2 The protest time limit is 45 minutes after the race committee signal vessel docks. The race committee will post this time limit on the official notice board.

16.3 If a scoring inquiry is filed within the protest time limit, a request for redress arising from that inquiry will be considered timely. This changes RRS 61.2(b).

16.4 Notices of protests by the race committee or protest committee will be posted to inform boats under RRS 60.2(d).

16.5 As soon as practicable after a protest or request for redress has been filed, the protest committee will post a notice of the schedule and location of hearings, identifying the parties and named witnesses.

17 SCORING

17.1 A boat's series score will be the total of her race scores, excluding her worst score after five races have been completed, subject to RRS 90.3(b). This changes RRS A2.1.

17.2 Three races are required to be completed to constitute a series.

18 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT [DP]

18.1 Substitution of competitors, or repair or replacement of hulls, sails or equipment, is not allowed without prior written approval of the OA. Any approval remains subject to the class rules and the Youth Worlds eligibility and selection requirements.

19 COACH SPECTATOR AND SUPPORT VESSELS [DP] [NP]

19.1 Private coaches and spectator vessels are permitted. They shall comply with Attachments B and C.

19.2 Visiting coach boats shall launch and return from Ken Thompson Boat Ramp.

20 RISK AND DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

20.1 Sailing is an activity that has an inherent risk of damage and injury. Competitors participate entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3, Decision to Race. The liability and release provisions in NoR section 16 apply.

20.2 Competitors shall accept full responsibility for their actions during any activity related to the event, from arrival at the venue until departure at the conclusion of the event.

21 PROCEDURES FOR US SAILING SELECTION COMPETITIONS

21.1 US Sailing Regulation 12.03, US Sailing Selection Competitions, will be in effect for this Nacra 15 event. The procedures and rule changes in NoR section 3 apply, including the following:

- (a) The US Sailing prescriptions in the preamble to Part 5, Section B and RRS 63.1(b) apply.
- (b) The right of appeal will not be denied under the applicable exceptions in RRS 70.3. An expedited appeal process will balance competitors' need for certainty about future berths with sufficient time to prepare arguments and evidence. Appeals shall be sent no later than 24 hours after the protest time limit on the last day, 24 hours after receiving the written decision being appealed, or 24 hours after the decision not to reopen the hearing, whichever is latest. This changes RRS R1.1(a), as stated in the NoR.

(c) A hearing held after the event and after sailors and officials have left the venue will be scheduled as soon as possible, with deference to competitors' preferences and circumstances. Parties may attend telephonically or by video as appropriate, provided all participants can see, hear and speak to each other.

21.2 The changes to RRS 63.6(b) and RRS 63.7 in NoR 3.2 apply. In RRS 63.6(b), "seven days" is changed to "24 hours" and "promptly" to "within 24 hours". The NoR restriction on reopening after an appeal has been sent also applies.

21.3 The expedited appeals system in RRS R8 will be used. See <https://www.ussailing.org/competition/rules-officiating/appeals/#expedited-appeals>.

22 YOUTH WORLDS TEAM SELECTION

22.1 Competitors wishing to be selected must meet the US Sailing and World Sailing eligibility criteria specified in NoR 6.1: <https://www.ussailing.org/olympics/selection/>.

22.2 As stated in NoR 6.2, the highest placing eligible boat (helm and crew) will be selected by US Sailing's International Selection Committee to compete in the 2026 Youth Sailing World Championships in Vilamoura, Portugal, December 11-19, 2026.

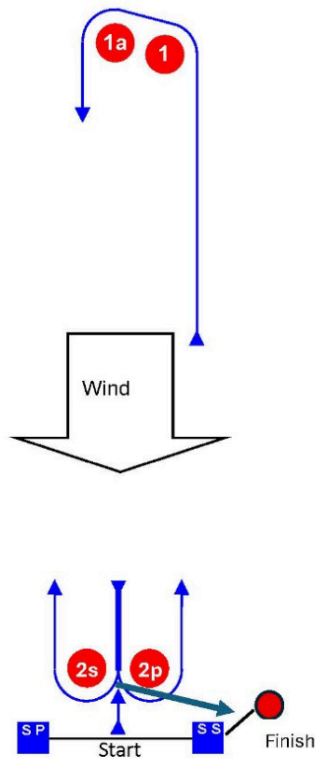
23 PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES

23.1 No participant or competitor shall use or possess, on or off the water, marijuana or any other substance if possession is illegal under state or federal law, or any alcoholic beverages. An alleged breach is not grounds for a protest. When the protest committee believes a competitor may have breached these regulations, it shall follow the process in the US Sailing Code of Conduct. A competitor found to have breached an element of the Code of Conduct shall be excluded from the remaining races and, where practicable, removed from the venue and sent home. The competitor's boat shall be disqualified from all races of the series, as stated in NoR 15.1.

ADDENDUM A COURSES

Nacra 15 windward leeward course with reach finish

Mark colors are governed by SI 10. The diagram is schematic and is not to scale.



Marks 1 and 1a are left to port. At gate 2s/2p, pass between the gate marks from the direction of the previous mark and round either mark. On the final downwind leg, leave mark 2p to port before sailing to the finish.

LR2: Start - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p - 1 - 1a - 2p - Finish

LR4: Start - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p - 1 - 1a - 2p - Finish

ATTACHMENT B POSITIONS FOR COACHES AND SPECTATORS

Coach vessels shall remain at least 100 feet outside course laylines and clear of the windward mark and start/finish areas.

Spectators and other support vessels shall remain at least 250 feet outside the race course, on its starboard side and below the windward mark, and clear of start/finish areas.

The race committee may impose a more restrictive position under Attachment C5.

ATTACHMENT C INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUPPORT AND SPECTATOR VESSELS

C1 The objective of this attachment is to augment the safety resources available to the regatta and provide a clear and fair racing area.

C2 Except when assisting a boat in danger or at the request of the race committee, support persons and spectators shall remain outside the racing area as defined in Attachment B from the warning signal until all boats have finished or the race committee signals a postponement or abandonment.

C2.1 Support and spectator vessels shall display any identification supplied by the OA at registration.

C2.2 Spectator vessels shall not enter the area used by racing boats, communicate with racing boats during or between races, or provide other support during or between races. Spectator vessels shall remain at least 250 feet outside the race course and on its starboard side.

C3 Representatives of support and spectator vessels shall obtain the day's operating instructions and VHF channel at the 0915 competitors' briefing.

C4 Support and spectator vessels shall monitor the VHF channel provided by the race committee and immediately follow instructions from the race committee and OA, especially when flag V is displayed. They shall not interfere with racing. During racing, boats and support or spectator vessels shall not approach or signal one another, except to provide assistance to a person or vessel in danger or as directed by the race committee.

C5 The race committee may restrict support and spectator vessels to a box below the starting line for the entire race, or impose other restrictions to ensure fair racing and competitor safety.

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