Severn Sailing Association

2026-2027 Frostbite Series

Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions

1. ***Rules:*** The Frostbite Series will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), US Sailing prescriptions, International Laser Class Association Rules, and the changes detailed in the following Sailing Instructions:
    a. A boat that may have broken a rule of RRS Part 2 shall take a penalty by making a 360 degree turn. This changes RRS 44.1
    b. No boat shall leave the basin(s) until the safety boat has left. **Any boat that leaves the basin before the safety boat will not be scored on that day without a hearing.**
    c. Fleets will be scored separately. Competitors will be scored based on your declared fleet at registration (ILCA 7, ILCA 6. ILCA 4/6 Rig Swapping).
    d. There must be a minimum of three boats in each fleet to have a separate start. If there are less than three boats in either of three fleets, all boats will start together but will be scored separately.
    e. Non-class legal replica sails are permitted.
    f. Competitors must register with a unique sail number and must sail with this same number throughout the series. Sails without numbers will not be scored.
    g. The sound signal starting system in RRS Appendix U will be used with the following changes:
        - The 3-minute warning signal will be eliminated.
        - The sequence will begin with 2 long horns 2 minutes prior to the start. This changes rule U3.
        - RC will use Individual Recall and General Recall flags as indicated. This changes rules U2 & U6.
        - Failure to receive a hail shall not be grounds for redress.
    h. Competitors shall wear a personal buoyancy aid at all times while on the water. For the purpose of this series, a dry suit or wet suit is not considered a buoyancy aid. This changes RRS 27.1 and 40.
    i. Competitors shall wear full body wetsuits or dry suits at all times while sailing. **Any competitor not wearing a dry or full body wetsuit will not be scored on that day without a hearing.**

2. ***Dates & Schedule:*** The 2026-2027 Frostbite Series will be divided into two parts.
    - Series 1:
        Nov 15, 22, 29
        Dec 6, 13, 20
        Jan 3, 10 and only Jan 17 if we have a weather cancellation during Series 1.
        If we do not, then Jan 17 will be day 1 of Series 2.

    - Series 2 (with a cancellation during Series 1)
        Jan 24, 31
        Feb 7, 14, 21, 28
        March 7, 14 and only March 21 if we have a weather cancellation during Series 2.
        If we do not, then March 14 will be the last day of Series 2.

    - We follow this schedule each Sunday.
        Competitors' Meeting at 12:00 PM.
        First warning at 1 PM.
        No races shall be started after 3:30 PM.
        We'll enjoy the fire pit on shore to warm up!

3. ***Registration:*** Registration shall be made online:
https://severnsailingassociation.theclubspot.com/regatta/YjQv8MJRMB

Participants shall hold a current ILCA-NA Membership, valid through March, 2027.

Join ILCA-NA online here.

Unregistered participants shall not sail.

4. ***Weather Monitoring and Communication:***
   a. Each day of frostbite racing begins with a competitors' meeting that includes a weather briefing, to share:
      - the latest National Weather Service marine forecast for our zone (Sandy Point to North Beach; available at http://forecast.weather.gov/shmrn.php?mz=anz532)
      - current water temperature (from December 1-April 3, use http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/station_page.php?station=tplm2; otherwise use http://www.buoybay.noaa.gov/locations/annapolis)
      - any current watches, warnings, advisories, or weather statements for that marine forecast zone
   b. The Race Committee will post the NWS weather forecast for the day on the Notice Board, no less than two hours before the first scheduled start (it can be printed out from the computer in the Race Committee office on SSA's second floor).
   c. While on the water, a designated Race Committee member will monitor weather conditions, particularly to see if any new watches, warnings, advisories, or weather statements are issued for the Annapolis area. *Note that while mobile apps can be informative, many do not reliably relay NWS watches, warnings, advisories, or weather statements* that provide critical, timely information. For that purpose, track http://forecast.weather.gov/shmrn.php?mz=anz532.

5. ***Safety:***
   a. Check In/Out Procedure - Each competitor will indicate their status on shore via the check-in/out board. Each competitor is responsible for filling out a key tag with their name and sail #, hanging the tag on the *out hook* position before launching. Once back on shore, each competitor is to move their tag to the *in hook* position. Competitors launching out of Eastport YC should walk over to indicate their status on the board; competitors out of Annapolis YC or other locations may dock briefly at SSA for this purpose on their way to and from the race course or may ask a friend to do so for them by phone. **If a competitor does not follow the check in/out procedure, that competitor will not be scored without a hearing.**
   b. Each competitor shall carry a safety whistle with their PFD/life jacket, worn at all times while on the water.

6. ***ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS***
   a. Participation in the series is at the competitor's risk.
   b. **All competitors are required to agree to the SSA Waiver (accomplished during registration).**

      Review the waiver here.

7. ***Racing:*** The first warning signal each Sunday shall be at 1:00 PM. No races shall be started after 3:30pm.

8. ***Course:*** A windward/leeward, triangle, or other course may be set at the discretion of the Race Committee. The start/finish shall be in the middle. The start will be on the port side of the RC boat between an orange flag mounted on the boat and a pin mark. The finish will be on the starboard side of the RC boat between a blue flag mounted on the boat and a red spherical mark. **Review a diagram of this and other possible courses here.** Course length will be set to approximately 15 minutes per race. If the RC intends to set a different course, such course description and diagram shall be posted on the board under the stairs prior to 12:30 PM.

9. ***Scoring:*** A low point system will be used.
    a. Daily: Competitors will be scored each day using a low point system. The daily ranking will be based on the total of each competitor's scores on that day. DNS equals the number of competitors for the day plus 1 point (this modifies RRS Appendix A 4.2). There will be no throw-outs for daily scoring.
    b. Series: Competitors will be scored for the series using a low point system. Series scoring shall be the total of each competitor's daily finishes, excluding 50% of the scores. In the case that an odd number of days are raced, the number of excluded scores shall be rounded down. To be included in the final series score, competitors must have completed their Race Committee duty during the series. Competitors must also have been scored for 50% of the race days to be included in the final series score. An average score received for race committee duty (see 9. d.) shall qualify as a race day score for the overall series.
    c. In the event of a tie excluded scores will be used to break the tie (this modifies RRS Appendix A8.1).
    d. Race Committee Duty: The competitor's score on the day he or she serves on RC shall be the average of all his or her daily scores. Exceptions to this rule are made at the discretion of the ILCA Fleet 10 Captains.

10. ***Protests:*** All protests will be settled using the three-minute justice system. **Review this procedure here.**

11. ***Race Committee:*** All competitors must volunteer for one RC day during each series to be scored for that series. Only SSA members may drive boats. **RC signup is available online here.** ILCA Fleet 10 Captains are exempt from Race Committee duty. Any exceptions to these rules must be approved by the ILCA Fleet 10 Captains.

12. ***Entry Fees:***
    SSA Non-member & SSA Junior Club, Non-Resident and Supporting Member
    i. Series 1 entry fee is $240
    ii. Series 2 entry fee is $240
    SSA Member (Associate, Voting, Emeritus and Jr. Associate)
    iii. Series 1 & 2 entry fee is $30

13. ***Boat Storage:*** *Subject to available space and only available to SSA Members.*
    i. Middle rack $320
    ii. Lower rack/dolly $395
    NOTE: Winter SSA Membership is possible for those who are not SSA Members and wish to participate in frostbite and store a boat, otherwise, non-members have to bring their boats back and forth each Sunday: https://www.severnsailing.org/join-ssa
    Email office@severnsailing.org and copy laserfleet10@gmail.com and katherine.martin.dc@gmail.com.

14. ***Information:*** For questions please contact Scott Williamson, laserfleet10@gmail.com or Kat Martin, katherine.martin.dc@gmail.com.

15. ***Directions:*** US Route 50 to Exit 24 (Rowe Blvd – MD 70) to Annapolis. Continue on Rowe Blvd as it bears to the right after College Creek. At Church Circle, turn right and go to Duke of Gloucester Street (the Maryland Inn is on the corner), turn right and go to the end, turn right on Compromise, go over the Spa Creek Bridge then turn left on Severn Avenue (at the light). Go five blocks and turn left on First Street. Severn Sailing Association is at the end of the street on the right.