

16th Annual Equinox Regatta

The Florida Yacht Club
Jacksonville, FL
September 19-20, 2026

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The notation '[NP]' in a rule of the sailing instructions (SIs) means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1.

1. RULES

- 1.1. The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in the *Racing Rules of Sailing, 2025-2028* (RRS).
- 1.2. RRS Appendix V2 will be in effect for this regatta.
- 1.3. RRS 60.4(a)(2) is changed as follows: "(2) if it is from a boat that 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. The last sentence in RRS Appendix U5 is replaced with "This changes rule **61.2**."

2. ENTRIES

- 2.1. This event is open to all competitors who meet the eligibility requirements as stated in the Notice of Regatta and who have filed valid entries in accordance with the Notice of Regatta. Competitors may enter by a completed entry form in Clubspot and paying the entry fee as specified in the Notice of Regatta.
- 2.2. Entry forms must be completed by the competitor's designated adult representative. The decision to sail or to compete in any race will be the sole responsibility of the competitor's designated adult representative and that adult representative accepts full responsibility for all actions of the competitor during any activity related to this event.

3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 3.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located in the FYC Sailing Center and posted to Clubspot.

4. CHANGES TO THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 4.1. Changes to the Sailing Instructions will be posted by 0830 on the day they will take effect.

5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed from the floating T-dock near the sailing center.
- 5.2. If a postponement is signaled ashore the warning signal will be made not less than 45 minutes after AP is lowered.

6. SCHEDULE (all events take place at the FYC Sailing Center unless otherwise noted)

- 6.1. Saturday, May 2nd
- | | |
|------------------------|-----------|
| Registration/Check-In | 0800-1000 |
| Race Committee Meeting | 1000 |
| Skippers Meeting | 1045 |
| First Warning | 1140 |
- 6.2. Sunday, May 3rd
- | | |
|------------------------|------|
| First Warning | 1000 |
| No race to start after | 1430 |

7. CLASS FLAGS

- 7.1. The Club 420 class flag will be used for the 420 course. The Optimist white with blue logo flag will be used for the RWB fleet, while the Optimist green with white logo flag will be used for the Green fleet.

8. RACING AREA

- 8.1. The racing area will be upon the St. John's River. The location of each course will be described at the skipper's meeting.

9. COURSES & MARKS

- 9.1. The attached diagrams show the courses, the course designations, the marks in order, and the rounding direction of each.
- 9.2. Pink tetrahedrons will be used on the 420 course and green tetrahedrons will be used on the Optimist course.
- 9.3. The number of laps to be sailed will be indicated on a board located on the starboard side on the Signal Boat.
- 9.4. After the starting signal, the Race Committee (RC) may change the position of any mark to maintain course configuration, provided that no boat is on that leg of the course. No signals are required (changes RRS 33).

10. STARTS

- 10.1. Prior to the first race of each day, competitors shall check in by sailing on starboard tack past the stern of the RC Signal Boat and hailing their sail number clearly and loudly, making sure that the RC acknowledges the hail. Failure to check in may result in a competitor not being scored (this is a part of FYC safety protocols) [DP] [NP].
- 10.2. The starting line will be between the staff displaying an orange flag on the RC Signal Boat and the nearby orange starting buoy. Boats not racing shall stay clear of the starting area.
- 10.3. Races will be started in accordance with Appendix U, Audible-Signal Racing System, amended to allow use of RRS 30.3 and RRS 30.4. The class flag shall be displayed at the 3-minute warning signal. The Preparatory Signal will be made at the 2 minutes mark with two long sounds. At the Preparatory Signal, the appropriate flag will be displayed if a Starting Penalty is to be used. At 1 minute with one long sound, the starting penalty flag will be removed, and this will define the beginning of the Starting Penalty period if RRS 30.3/.4 are being used. At the starting signal, the class flag is removed (changes RRS U3).
- 10.4. For the Optimist course: RWB and Green fleets will have separate starts and may sail a different number of laps. RWB fleet will start first, followed by the Green fleet.

- 10.5. The RC intends to hail OCS competitors. Failure of the RC to hail an OCS competitor or a competitor's failure to hear such a hail shall not be grounds for redress; the skipper is solely responsible for starting in accordance with the RRS.

11. FINISHING

- 11.1. The finishing line will be between the staff displaying the blue flag on the RC Signal Boat and the nearby white finishing buoy. Boats shall not sail through the finishing line unless they are finishing.
- 11.2. After finishing, competitors and support/coach boats shall clear the finishing area as soon as possible to avoid interfering with competitors still racing. The RC may protest a boat violating this instruction [DP] [NP].

12. TIME LIMIT

- 12.1. The time limit for each race will be 45 minutes for the first boat to sail the course. Boats still racing more than 20 minutes after the first boat sails the course will be scored "Time Limit Expired" (TLE) and will receive two more points than the last finisher, but not more than DNF (changes RRS 35, A4, A5, and A10).
- 12.2. The RC may score a boat or boats in place (including DNF and TLE) so that subsequent races may be sailed.

13. PROTESTS

- 13.1. Competitors intending to protest must inform the RC immediately after finishing the race to be protested and before communicating with coaches, parents, or spectators. Written protests shall be delivered to the Protest Desk located in the Sailing Center within 30 minutes of the relevant RC Signal Boat docking. The official docking times will be displayed on the official notice board. Protest forms are available in the FYC Sailing Center.
- 13.2. A list of protests will be displayed as soon as possible after racing each day. The location of each hearing will be noted on the official notice board.

14. SCORING

- 14.1. The Low Point System of Appendix A of the RRS will apply. When 5 or less races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores. When 6 or more races are completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores less her worst score (changes RRS A2).
- 14.2. One completed race shall constitute a regatta.

15. ENVIRONMENTAL & SAFETY

- 15.1. Competitors shall not discharge trash into the water. Any competitor who throws trash into the water is subject to disqualification. Such disqualification will be posted on the official notice board and any competitor so disqualified may request a hearing [DP] [NP].
- 15.2. A boat retiring from a race shall notify a RC vessel before leaving the racing area if possible; otherwise, a boat retiring from a race shall notify the Waterfront Director immediately upon arriving to shore. No sailor shall sail to shore without a safety boat escort.
- 15.3. Support, spectator, and coach boats shall stay well clear of the course while any race is in progress unless rendering assistance to any vessel in danger. If a competitor receives such assistance they shall retire.
- 15.4. Optimist Green fleet coaches may coach from the back of the fleet, keeping well clear of Optimist RWB boats. After the finish, coaches and spectators shall not communicate with competitors until they are well clear of the finish area.

- 15.5. No wake is permitted within 500 yards of the race course while boats are racing. Violation of any part of this section may result in a penalty being assessed to the competitor(s) associated with the vessel violating this instruction [DP] [NP].
- 15.6. All coach and spectator boats MUST have attached to the driver an automatic engine shut-off cord. Anyone in violation of this rule will be asked to leave the race course and their team sailors may be penalized [DP] [NP].

16. PRIZES

- 16.1. Trophies will be awarded to the top finishers in their respective classes. Participation awards will be given to Optimist Green Fleet participants.

17. RISK STATEMENT

- 17.1. RRS 3 states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing 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.

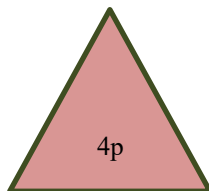
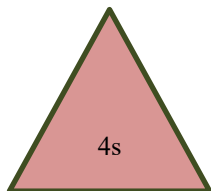
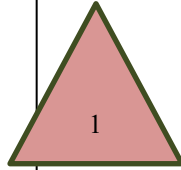
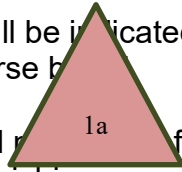
420 Course

Course "W #"

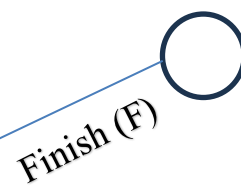
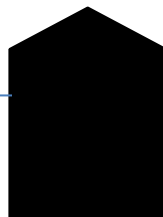
S-1-1a-4s/4p-F

of Laps will be indicated on
course b

Must round r before
finishing



Start
(S)



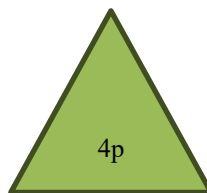
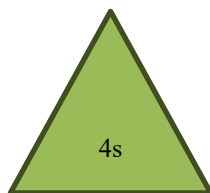
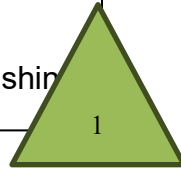
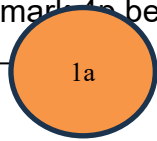
Optimist Course

Course "W #"

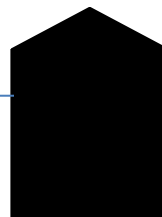
S-1-1a-4s/4p-F

of **Laps** will be indicated on course board

Must round mark 4s before finishing



Start
(S)



Finish (F)

