

Sailing Instructions

1. Rules: Racing will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the prescriptions of the United States Sailing Association (US SAILING), and the rules of the Thistle class, except as any of these are altered by these sailing instructions. Advertising shall be in accordance with RRS 6 World Sailing Regulations, Advertising Code, and the relevant class rules.
2. Eligibility: Competitors may register with, and have all fees paid to the organizing authority, before 0930 on the first day of racing. Competitors may be required to display their Thistle Class membership cards, for the current year, or show proof of measurement.
3. Notices to Competitors will be posted on the Race Committee Bulletin Board, whose location will be noted at the competitor's meeting.
4. Changes in Sailing Instructions will be posted before 1000 on the day they will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 1800 on the day before it will take effect.
5. Signals made ashore will be displayed from a docked race committee boat. Code flag "AP" Answering Pendant with two audible signals, (one when lowered) means "The race is postponed". The thirty minute harbor signal for the next race will be the same as the lowering of the AP.
6. Radio communication: Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones. Competitor announcements will be made on VHF channel 68.
7. Courses: The course may be any of the following from Table 1. The course will be displayed on a race committee starting boat, on or before the warning signal. The first two digits of the compass course to mark 1 (windward mark) will be displayed along with the course (28=280 Deg., 04=40 Deg.). All courses except "B" will be port rounding.

Course Descriptions

Posting	Description	Finish Location
I1	Windward + offset + leeward gate + 1/3 windward	1/3 up leg 3
I2	Windward + offset + leeward gate + windward + offset + leeward gate + 1/3 windward	1/3 up leg 5
L2	Windward + offset + leeward gate + windward + offset + leeward gate + windward	Windward mark
F	1 Triangle + windward + leeward +1/3 Windward	1/3 up leg 6
O	1 Triangle + windward + leeward +windward	Windward mark
G	1 Triangle + windward + leeward	Leeward mark Leave R/C to Port
B	Windward + broad reach + windward + broad reach +windward	Windward mark

Shortened courses: The race committee may shorten a race in progress in accordance with RRS 32. When shortening the course, the race committee will display code flag "S" and make two audible signals.

Marks of the course will be described at the skippers' meeting.

8. Starting: Races will be started in accordance with RRS 26. The starting Line will be between a yellow or orange shape on a race committee boat and the starting mark. A race official may be stationed at the starting mark, and may hail premature starters. Races may start and finish from different locations on the course.

Starting Penalties: Will be in accordance with rule 30.

Recalls: Individual recalls will be signaled in accordance with RRS 29.1. The race committee will endeavor to notify any premature starters by hailing of their sail number or other clearly distinguishing feature. VHF channel 68 may also be used to notify.

General recalls will be signaled in accordance with RRS 29.2.

9. Abandonment: The race committee may abandon a race in progress in accordance with RRS 32. Abandonment will be signaled by display of code flag "N" and three audible signals. Code flag "N over H" means the current race is abandoned and further instructions will be made ashore.
10. The finish line will be between a yellow staff or orange shape on a race committee boat and the finishing mark. The finish boat will fly a blue flag to indicate that it is finishing boats.
11. Time Limit: The time limit will be 90 minutes.

No race will be started after 1700 on Saturday, or after 1300 on Sunday.

12. Protests: All protests must comply with Part 5 of the RRS. Protests shall be lodged with a member of the race committee. When the race committee boat docks, there may be one audible signal, and display of code flag "B", indicating the start of protest filing time.
13. Scoring: The low point scoring system, Appendix A of the RRS, will apply, with multiple races scheduled, of which one shall be completed to constitute a series, except that each yacht's total score will be the sum of her scores for all races. Ties in total points will be resolved in accordance with RRS Appendix A8 Series Ties.
14. Safety equipment: Each yacht must carry the safety equipment prescribed in the Thistle class rules. Failure to carry the required gear may result in disqualification. Race officials may ask to inspect safety gear on the water between races.