



2026 MUSC Hollings Cup Regatta

Organizing Authority (OA): Charleston Ocean Racing Association (CORA)

September 12, 2026
Charleston, SC

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

(version 09/3/2026)

1 RULES

- 1.1. The event is governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
- 1.2. Rule details are found in the NOR

2 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Oral changes to the Sailing Instructions (SI) may be made in accordance with RRS 90.2(c) by announcements made over the official VHF channel for the affected class(es).

3 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Notices to the competitors will be posted on the official notice board on-line on the CORA calendar event page: <https://charlestonoceanracing.com/regatta/NKc0pyFIV0>
- 3.2 A boat intending to race shall check in with the Race Committee (RC) using the boat name, sail number and class using VHF 74 or by verbal hail and continue to do so until acknowledged by RC.
- 3.3 Once acknowledged, boats shall switch and monitor VHF 73 for all further race communications.
- 3.4 RC may report visual signals displayed over the VHF. Information reported is provided as a courtesy to competitors and does not in any way alter any competitor's responsibility to observe the RC visual signals, which govern the conduct of the racing. Errors or omissions in courtesy broadcasts will not be grounds for redress.

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

Any postponement announcements will be made over the VHF.

5 SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 5.1 Saturday - September 12, 2026: 1300 hours - Scheduled first warning signal
- 5.2 A maximum of 3 races are scheduled for each Class.

6 CLASS FLAGS

Spinnaker Class (S) - solid pink
Non-spinnaker (N) - solid light blue
J-105 Class - J105 Class Flag

7 RACING AREA

The racing area will be inside Charleston Harbor.

8 COURSES

Courses will be announced from the race committee boat and displayed on a white board prior to the start of the race.

9 MARKS

The following are marks that may be used

Start Mark:	White Ball
Finish Mark:	Blue Flag/ Orange Ball
Rounding Mark:	Orange Tetrahedron
Rounding Mark:	G37 – G FL G 4S
Rounding Mark:	BP – FL (2+1) R 6S 5M
Rounding Mark:	R4 – R FL 4S Y EFL
Rounding Mark:	R2 – R FL R 2.5S 5M
Rounding Mark:	J – Y Special purpose

10 OBSTRUCTIONS

The following areas are designated as obstructions: Middle Ground, Castle Pinckney and all commercial vessels including dredging operations and ferries.

11 THE START

- 11.1 Races will be started using RRS 26 with the warning signal made five minutes before the starting signal.
- 11.2 The starting line will be between the staff displaying an orange flag on the RC signal boat and the starting mark or an orange flag on the pin boat.
- 11.3 A boat that has not met the definition of *start* within 4
- 11.4 A boat that has not met the definition of *start* within 4 minutes of her assigned starting time or starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing.
- 11.5 If any part of a boat's hull is on the course side of the starting line at her starting signal and she is identified, the RC will attempt to hail her sail number. Failure to hail her number, failure of her to hear such hail, or the order in which boats are hailed will not be grounds for request for redress. This is added to RRS 62.1(a).
- 11.6 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence.

12 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

Any course changes will be announced over the VHF on Channel 73.

13 THE FINISH

- 13.1 The finishing line will be between a blue flag on RC signal boat and a nearby finish mark or blue flag on finish boat.

14 PENALTY SYSTEM

RRS Appendix V shall apply.

15 HEARING REQUESTS

A boat intending to protest shall comply with RRS 61. Added to RRS 61 is: "Additionally, boats shall report to the RC, as soon as possible after finishing, their sail number and the sail number(s) of the protested boat(s)." The time limit for submitting a protest is 6:00 pm on September 12th, 2026.

16 SCORING

- 16.1 Boats will be scored using PHRF ToT (time on time).
- 16.2 The scoring system in RRS Appendix A will be used except that no scores will be excluded.
- 16.3 One race in a class is required to be completed to constitute a series for that class.

17 SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 17.1 Each competitor is solely responsible for his own safety and, by participation, agrees to sail at his or her own risk. Neither the Hollings Cancer Center, Hollings Cup Regatta, RC, ChYC, CYC-SC, CORA or other persons assisting with the conduct of races shall be responsible for damage or injury suffered during races or related activities up to and including death.
- 17.2 A boat that retires from the race or leaves the course area shall notify the RC as soon as reasonably possible.
- 17.3 Boats shall monitor and keep clear of all commercial traffic and dredging operations. Boats that hinder commercial traffic to the point of five horns or interfere with dredging operations are subject to protest by the RC and may be scored DSQ for that race without a hearing.

18 PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded to the top fundraising boat overall and to the top 3 boats racing in each class.

19 RISK STATEMENT

- 19.1 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.**
- 19.2 The Hollings Cancer Center, RC, ChYC, CYC-SC, CORA and their employees and volunteers do not accept responsibility for the loss of life or injury to participants or others, or for the loss or damage to any vessel in any way or from any cause during or relating to the event.

20 INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid, third party liability insurance with a minimum coverage of \$300,000 USD per event or the equivalent.



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SAFETY INFORMATION

IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY ON THE WATER:

Please **contact the Race Committee on VHF Channel 73**; you will then be instructed to switch to VHF Channel 71 for further transmissions.

Life-Threatening Emergency – Water Rescue Needed

- ① **Call the Coast Guard** – VHF Channel 16 or **843-740-7050**
Provide location, victim's condition, and your callback number.
- ② **Call 911** – Report the same details.
- ③ **If near Carolina YC** (50 East Bay Street, Charleston), also call:
CORA Rear Commodore: 843-900-6896
Carolina YC Contacts:
Sailing Director: **203-209-6313**
Dock Master: **203-940-1440**
Club Office: **843-722-0209**

Life-Threatening Emergency – Transporting Victim to Carolina YC Docks

- ① **Call 911 & Charleston Police: 843-577-7434**
Provide location (50 East Bay St.), victim's condition, and where to meet.
- ② **Call Carolina YC: 843-722-0209** – Notify them an ambulance is on the way.
- ③ **After transport, call CORA Rear Commodore: 843-900-6896**