

2026 Back to School



Regatta



And

11th Annual Dinghy Challenge Cup

Organizing Authority: Pontchartrain Yacht Club

140 Jackson Ave. • Mandeville, Louisiana 70448

985-626-3192 • www.pontyc.org

September 12 -13, 2026

Sailing Instructions - Amendment 1

Preamble

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.

The notation '[SP]' in a rule of the sailing instructions (SIs) means that the standard penalty for a breach of the rule may be applied by the race committee or technical committee without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.

1. RULES

- 1.1. The event is governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing.
- 1.2. The RRS Prescription to RRS 63.1(b), and the RRS Prescription in the Preamble to Part 5, Section B are not in effect.
- 1.3. Protests alleging a breach of a rule of RRS Part 2 or RRS 31, shall not be accepted from a boat that was not involved in and did not see the incident. This changes RRS 60.4(a)(2).
- 1.4 **RRS Appendix V will apply.**

2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1. Changes to the sailing instructions will be posted no later than two (2) hours before the first warning signal on the day it will take effect with the exception of a change to the schedule of races. Schedule changes will be posed by 7:00 pm the day before it will take effect and at the event page on Club Spot <https://pontyc.org/regatta/>.

2.2. Questions regarding the sailing instructions shall be submitted to the PRO in writing. Responses will be posted on the official Notice Board and the online Notice Board located at <https://pontyc.org/regatta/>

3 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official noticeboard located in the clubhouse on the glass case near the bar and at the on line Notice Board located at <https://pontyc.org/regatta/>.
- 3.2 [DP] Before the first warning signal of the first race on each race day, each boat shall sail near the Race Committee signal boat and hail her class and sail number and be acknowledged by the Race Committee. A boat failing to check-in may be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This changes RRS 60.1.
- 3.3 [DP] While racing, 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 CODE OF CONDUCT

[DP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.

5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flagpole located at the south end of the Pontchartrain Yacht Club lawn.
- 5.2 When postponement is signaled ashore, the warning signal will be made not less than 60 minutes after flag AP is lowered. This alters RRS "Race Signals".

6 SCHEDULE OF RACES

Eight (8) races are scheduled, up to **five (5)** races each day. One extra race per day may be sailed provided that the change is made according to SI 2.1.

Saturday September 12th, 2026

Check-in Opens	8:30 am
Complimentary Breakfast for competitors	8:30 am to 10:00 am
Skippers Meeting	10:00 am
First Warning Signal	11:25 am

Complimentary meal after racing is completed for the day **for competitors.**

Sunday September 13th, 2026

Complimentary Breakfast for competitors	8:30 am
First Warning Signal	10:25 am
No warning signal after	2:00 pm

7 CLASS FLAGS

- 7.1 Classes will start using the class flags' respective logos except for the RS Aero class. RS Aeros will use a solid purple flag for a class flag.
- 7.2 Portsmouth will use a solid white flag for a class flag.

8 RACING AREA

The racing area will be in Lake Pontchartrain, south of Pontchartrain Yacht Club and the Bayou Castine harbor entrance.

9 COURSES

There will be two courses used. One for Optimists, and a separate course for all other classes. All classes will sail a Windward / Leeward course twice around.

- 9.1 Optimists will sail the Windward / Leeward course detailed in Appendix A. Red, White and Blue Fleet Optimists will sail a longer course than the Green fleet.

9.1.1 Red, White and Blue fleet boats will sail windward from the start to mark X1 leg 1, proceed leeward to Mark 2 for leg 2. Leg 3 will be a repeat of Leg 1. After rounding mark second time, leg 4 will be sailed leeward to the finish line. Course Mark order is: Start – X1 – 2 – X1 – Finish. See Appendix A

9.1.2 Green fleet boats will sail windward from the start to mark 1 leg 1, proceed leeward to Mark 2 for leg 2. Leg 3 will be a repeat of Leg 1. After rounding mark second time, leg 4 will be sailed leeward to the finish line. Course Mark order is: Start – 1 – 2 – 1 – Finish. See Appendix A

- 9.2 All other classes will sail the Windward / Leeward course detailed in Appendix B. Boats will sail windward from the start to mark 1 then offset of 1A for leg 1 before proceeding leeward to Mark 2 for leg 2. Leg 3 will be sailed windward to Mark 1 and 1A. After rounding marks 1 and 1A for the second time, leg 4 will be sailed leeward to the finish line. Course Mark order is: Start – 1 – 1A – 2 – 1 – 1A - Finish. See Appendix B.

- 9.3 Course will not be displayed on RC Signal Boat as there is only one course.

10 MARKS

- 10.1 Optimist Green Fleet windward mark will be a green tetrahedron. All other course marks will be orange buoys. Marks for other courses will be orange buoys and orange balls for offset marks.
- 10.2 Marks that represent a change of the next leg course will be a yellow inflatable buoy.

11 START

- 11.1 The Start line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the RC signal boat and the course side of the starting mark. Starting procedure will follow RRS 26.
- 11.2 [DP] After the warning signal for a class, boats in classes whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area and shall stay clear of boats in the starting class.
- 11.3 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 race committee will attempt to hail her sail number. A boat may not request redress based on failure of the race committee to hail her number, failure of her to hear such a hail, or the order in which boats are hailed. This changes RRS 61.1(a).
- 11.4 Boats starting later than three (3) minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A4 and A5.

12 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF COURSE

- 12.1 To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will lay a new mark or move the finishing line.
- 12.2 When changing mark 1 on non-Optimist race course the offset will not be set.

12.3 When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.

13 FINISH

The finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on a race committee boat and the course side of the nearby mark.

14 TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES

14.1 The Mark 1 Time Limit, Race Time Limit (see RRS 35), and the Finishing Window are shown in the table below.

Mark 1 Time Limit	Race Time Limit	Finishing Window
30 minutes	1 hour	15 minutes

14.2 If no boat in has passed the first mark within the Mark 1 Time Limit, the race will be abandoned.

14.3 The Finishing Window is the time for boats to finish after the first boat in a class sails the course. Boats starting but failing to sail the course within the Finishing Window, and not subsequently retiring, penalized or given redress, will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) without a hearing. A boat scored TLE shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the finishing place of the last boat that sailed the course within the Finishing Window and was not penalized under RRS 30.3 or 30.4. This changes RRS 35, A5.1, A5.2 and A10.

14.4 Failure to meet the Target Time will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.

15 HEARING REQUESTS

15.1 Competitors shall notify the finishing vessel of their intent to protest upon finishing, or as soon as possible after retiring.

15.2 Hearing request forms are available from the race office.

15.3 Protests shall be delivered to a member of the Race Committee within sixty (60) minutes after the signal boat for her class docks.

15.4 Breaches of SIs 11.3 and 16 will not be grounds for protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1.

15.5 Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the protest room, located at the race office, beginning at the time posted.

16 SCORING

16.1 The Low Point System scoring will be used per RRS Appendix A.

16.2 One (1) completed race will constitute a series.

16.3 If six (6) or more races are completed, a boat's worst score will be excluded.

16.4 Dinghy Challenge Cup Scoring:

16.4.1 The first five fleet races shall count towards the Dinghy Challenge Cup with no discard.

16.4.2 In the event of a tie between two or more teams, each team's individual scores shall be listed in order of best to worst for races that count for the Dinghy Challenge Cup and at the first point(s) where there is a difference the tie shall be broken in favor of the team(s) with the best score(s).

16.4.3 If a tie remains after SI 16.4.2 is calculated, the tied team(s) shall be ranked in order of their scores in the last race counted towards the Dinghy Challenge Cup. Any remaining ties shall be broken by using the tied teams' scores in the next-to-last Dinghy Challenge Cup race and so on until all ties are broken.

17 SAFETY

17.1 Inherently buoyant personal flotation devices meeting U.S. Coast Guard wearable PFD regulations for Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs) designated as USCG “Wearable”, shall be worn, properly secured, by all competitors while on the water, except briefly while changing or adjusting clothing. PFDs shall be worn outside of all clothing and foul weather gear, except for a thin T-shirt or team pinnie, which may be worn over a PFD to prevent snagging of lines or equipment. Inflatable type PFDs are not permitted. This changes the preamble to RRS Part 4 and RRS 40.

17.2 A boat that retires from a race shall notify a race committee vessel before leaving the course, or when that is impossible, the Pontchartrain Yacht Club’s office immediately after arrival ashore.

18 Prizes

18.1 Optimist Red, White and Blue Fleets – First through third will be awarded for each division.

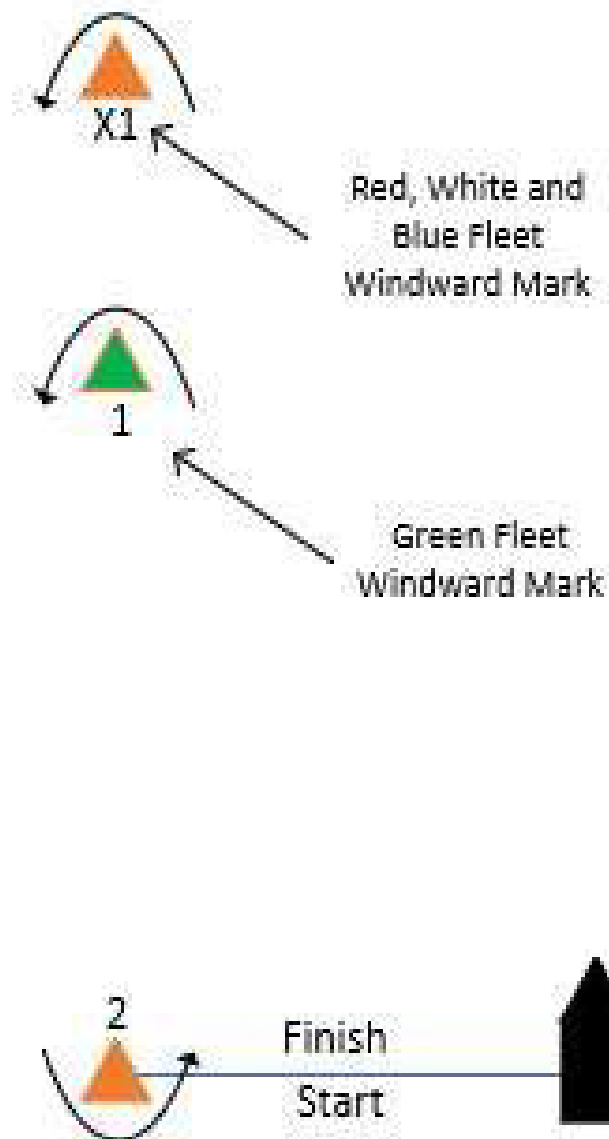
18.2 Optimist Green Fleet – Participants will receive a participation award. First through third will also receive an award.

18.3 All other classes – Awards will be given for first through third.

18.4 Dinghy Challenge Cup Teams – Awards will be given for first through third. Overall winning team will be inscribed on the James Edwards Trophy.

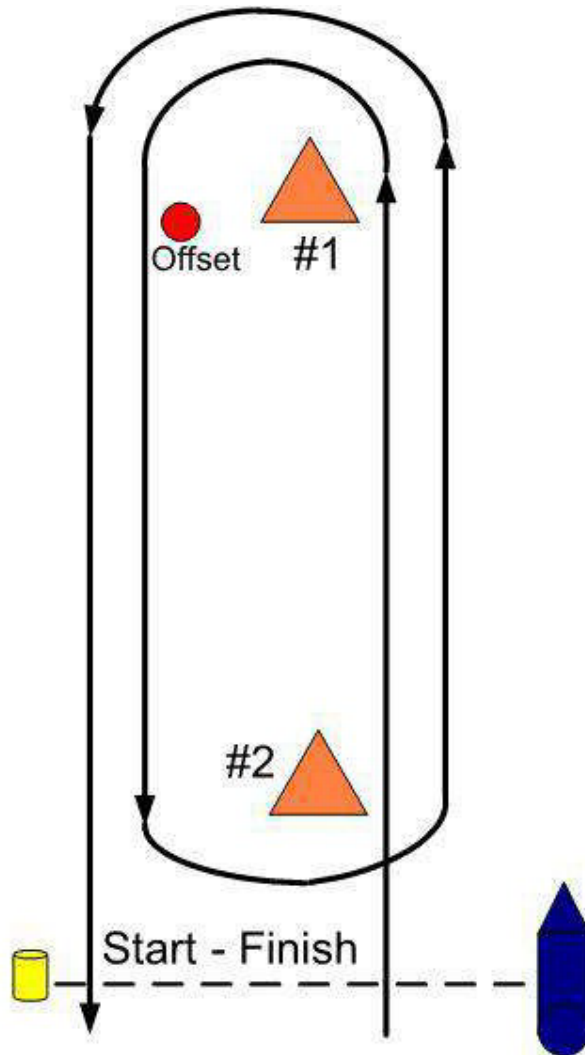
Appendix A

Optimist Course Card



Appendix B

All Other Classes Course Card



W - Even # of legs