



NBYA Opti #4
4 August, 2026 – Cranston, RI
Edgewood Yacht Club & NBYA



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. The notation '[DP]' means that penalties for breach of that rule will be at the discretion of the protest committee. This changes RRS 60.1

1 RULES

- 1.1** The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*, as modified by the Notice of Race and these sailing instructions.

2 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1** Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 1000 on the day it will take effect. Except in the case of a postponement, a change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect. Changes made ashore will be signalled by display of code flag Lima.
- 2.2** Changes to a sailing instruction may be made on the water by display of code flag Lima on the RC signal boat, by verbal announcements to the competitors directly, and to coaches and support vessels over the VHF.
- 2.3** In the case of a postponement, either ashore or on the water, schedule changes may be made up until 15 minutes before the AP signal is lowered.

3 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1** Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located on the lower level of the Edgewood YC clubhouse.
- 3.2** The race office / protest desk is located on the lower level of the Edgewood YC clubhouse.
- 3.3** On the water, the race committee intends to monitor and communicate with coaches and other support vessels on VHF radio channel 72 (for RWB fleet), or 71 (for Green fleet).
- 3.4** [DP] From the first warning signal until the end of the last race of the day, 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

- 4.1** [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 on the Edgewood YC T-dock.

- 5.2** When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes' in Race Signals AP.
- 5.3** [DP] Boats shall not leave the shore until code flag "D" is displayed. The warning signal will not be made before the scheduled time or less than 30 minutes after flag D is displayed.'

6 SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 6.1** 0815 – Earliest arrival
0915 – 0945 – Check in ashore (Mandatory)
1000 – Competitors' and coaches' briefing
1100 – First warning signal; racing continues afterwards
1530 – No warning after this time.
ASAP – Awards after protest time & scoring
- 6.2** Six races are scheduled. One race shall constitute a regatta.
- 6.3** The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race is 1100.
- 6.4** To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, the orange starting line flag will be displayed with one sound at least five minutes before a warning signal is made.
- 6.5** No warning signal will be made after 1530.

7 CLASS FLAGS

- 7.1** The Red, White, and Blue fleets will start together, and their class flag is a blue Opti logo on a white field. The Green fleet class flag is a white Opti insignia on a green field.

8 RACING AREA

- 8.1** The Green fleet racing area is the Providence River northeast of the yacht club. The Red, White, and Blue fleet racing area is southeast of the yacht club. The two areas may be consolidated into one, in which case that will be announced at the skippers' and coaches meeting.

9 COURSES

- 9.1** The NBYA course chart forms SI Addendum A, and shows the courses, including the approximate angles between legs, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.
- 9.2** No later than the warning signal, the race committee signal vessel will display the course to be sailed and the approximate compass bearing of the first leg.

10 MARKS

- 10.1** RWB Fleet - Orange Tetrahedrons for Course Marks, Orange Round Mark for Pin;
Green Fleet - Yellow Tetrahedrons for Course Marks, Orange Round Mark for Pin.
- 10.2** Other Marks (offset, center line, keep-away) will be announced at the coaches and competitors' briefing if applicable. There will not be replacement marks (in the event of

a course change, it will be announced and the old mark(s) will be moved before any boat is on the changed leg).

11 THE START

- 11.1** Races will be started using RRS 26, except for Optimist Green Fleet races, which will be started according to Appendix U (3-minute audible starting system).
- 11.2** The starting line is between a staff displaying an orange flag on the signal vessel at the starboard end and the course side of a nearby starting mark.
- 11.3** [DP] Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races.
- 11.4** 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).
- 11.5** A boat that does not start within 4 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.

12 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 12.1** To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will move the mark (or finishing line) before the first boat is on the changed leg.
- 12.2** The RC may change the length of a leg by less than 20% or the direction to the next mark by less than 20 degrees without signalling as required in RRS 33 if the change is completed before any boat is on the changed leg.

13 THE FINISH

- 13.1** The finishing line is between a staff displaying a blue flag on the finishing boat and the course side of a nearby finishing mark.

14 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 14.1** Appendix V (V1 & V2) will apply. The scoring penalty in V2 will be 30%.

15 TIME LIMITS

- 15.1** The Race Time Limit is one hour. The Finishing Window is 15 minutes.
- 15.2** The Finishing Window is the time for boats to finish after the first boat sails the course. Boats still racing at the close of 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. This changes RRS 35, A5.1, A5.2 and A10.

16 HEARING REQUESTS

- 16.1** Boats wishing to protest shall report the protest and sail number of the protestee to the RC immediately after finishing and be acknowledged by the RC. Failure to so advise the RC will render a protest invalid. This changes RRS 60.1.
- 16.2** The protest time limit is 30 minutes after the signal boat docks. The time will be posted on the official notice board.
- 16.3** Hearing request forms are available from the race office / protest desk.
- 16.4** Notices will be posted no later than 15 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 in the cottage across from the main Edgewood YC clubhouse.

17 SCORING

- 17.1** Races in this regatta will be scored according to Appendix A. The scoring system for the NBYA Junior season series is described on the NBYA website, at <https://nbya.org/junior-sailing>.
- 17.2** One race is required to be scored to constitute a series.
- 17.3** (a) When fewer than 5 races have been completed, a boat's series score is the total of her race scores.
- (b) When 5 or more races have been completed, a boat's series score is the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

18 SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 18.1** [DP] All boats shall check in on the water by sailing past the RC signal boat's stern, announcing their sail numbers, **and being acknowledged by the RC**. A boat's check-in is not complete until her sail number has been acknowledged.
- 18.2** [DP] A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity, either by having her coach hail the RC on the RC's VHF channel, or by sailing past an RC boat and declaring her retirement. Promptly after returning to shore, the boat shall confirm to the RC at the race office that she has retired and made it ashore.

19 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

- 19.1** [DP] Substitution of competitors is not allowed without prior approval of the RC.
- 19.2** [DP] Substitution of damaged or lost equipment is not allowed unless authorized in writing by the RC. Requests for substitution shall be made to the committee at the first reasonable opportunity, which may be after the race.

20 [DP] SUPPORT TEAMS

- 20.1** Support teams, including all support persons and support person vessels, shall comply with all reasonable requests from race officials.

20.2 Team leaders, coaches and other support persons shall stay outside areas where boats are racing from the time of the preparatory signal for the first start until all boats have finished or retired or the race committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment.

21 TRASH DISPOSAL

21.1 Trash may be placed aboard official [or support person] vessels.

22 PRIZES

22.1 Prizes will be given for the top three finishes in each class.

23 RISK STATEMENT

23.1 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.**

24 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:

EVENT CHAIR:

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NBYA is pleased to participate in the
Sailors for the Sea, Clean Regattas Program.

Use of refillable water bottles is strongly encouraged