



**2026 Buccaneer 18
North American Championship**

October 1st – 4th, 2026

Southern Maryland Sailing Association

N38° 19' 22" W076° 27' 30"

14490 Solomons Island Rd, Solomons, MD

PO Box 262, Solomons, MD



Notice of Race (NoR)

1. RULES

- 1.1. The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) and the current [Buccaneer Class Association \(BCA\) Racing Rules](#).
- 1.2. The BCA Racing Rules, in effect at the time of the regatta, will apply and will prevail if there is a conflict with this Notice, unless modified by the Sailing Instructions.
- 1.3. [NP] All boats shall carry a floating tow line, minimum 40 feet in length and at least ¼ inch in diameter.

2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1. Sailing instruction will be available on the SMSA website by July 1st.

3. ORGANIZING AUTHORITY

- 3.1. The BCA & Fleet 69 in cooperation with the Southern Maryland Sailing Association (SMSA) is organizing this regatta.

4. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1. The regatta is open to all boats of the Buccaneer 18 class entered by a current member of the BCA.
- 4.2. All Buccaneer 18 sailboats manufactured by licensed builders shall be entitled to compete in this regatta. Boats must be configured in accordance with the BCA Racing Rules.
- 4.3. Registration can be completed at www.smsa.com and must be received by 4:30PM on Thursday, October 1st, 2026.

5. FEES

- \$350 – Before April 15th, 11:59 PM EST
- \$380 – After April 15th, 11:59 PM EST
- \$415 – After Aug 1st, 11:59PM EST

6. FLEETS

- 6.1. This North American Championship regatta may include 'A' and 'B' fleets, contingent upon the number of competitors. Competitors will select whether to compete in the 'A' or 'B' fleet when they register.

- 6.2. Skippers can revise their fleet designation up until 4:30 PM on Thursday, October 1st, 2026, by notifying the registration desk.
- 6.3. No previous winner of a Buccaneer 18 class sanctioned regatta will be permitted to compete in B Fleet.

7. SCHEDULE

- 7.1. Onsite Registration, Boat & Sail Measurement, and Practice Races
Thursday, October 1st, 9:00AM – 4:30PM. Practice races are intended to begin on the water at 1:30 PM with no races to be started after 3:30 PM.
- 7.2. Dates of Racing:
October 2, 3, and 4, 2026. On the 4th, no races shall be started after 2:00 PM. Warning signals will be at 11:00 AM each day unless otherwise noted on the Event Notification Board.
- 7.3. Number of Races:
The number of races run each day shall be at the discretion of the PRO, there will be no predetermined limit on any given day or for the series. The target number of races each day will be four (4), except the last day when the target number of races will be three (3) or less.

8. VENUE

- 8.1. SMSA will host the event on the Patuxent River between the Governor Thomas Johnson Bridge and the mouth of the Patuxent River. The specific location for racing will be based on weather and anticipated traffic in the area.

9. SCORING

- 9.1. Three (3) races shall constitute a Regatta.
- 9.2. Scoring will be in accordance with the Low Point scoring system of RRS Appendix A.
- 9.3. If 6 or more races are held, a boat's score shall be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score. If twelve (12) or more races are held, a boat's score shall be the total of her races excluding her two worst scores. A DSQ shall not be excluded. This modifies RRS A2.1.

10. CHARTERED OR LOANED BOATS AND EQUIPMENT

- 10.1. A chartered or loaned boat may carry national letters or a sail number in contravention of her class rules, provided that the race committee has approved her sail identification before the first race. See RRS G3.

11. PRIZES

- 11.1. Prizes will be awarded according to the number of entrants registered by September 1st.

12. COMMUNICATION

- 12.1. The online official notice board is located at www.smsa.com, under the BNAC 2026 link.
- 12.2. Use of hand-held VHF radios is encouraged to receive communications from the Race Committee. Race information will be communicated over the radio whenever possible.

13. STORAGE/LAUNCHING

- 13.1. The SMSA facility uses a jib crane/hoist to launch boats. Lifting straps and lines are not provided. Boats shall be kept in their assigned spots which are subject to change by the

direction of the BNAC Race Chair. Boats requiring a ramp launch may use the public launch area under the nearby Gov. Thomas Johnson Bridge.

14. ADVERTISING

- 14.1. Advertising will be restricted to Category A.
- 14.2. Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organizing authority.

15. MEDIA RIGHTS

- 15.1. Competitors give absolute right and permission to the BCA and SMSA for any media rights of persons, boats, and shore activities during the event, to be published in any media worldwide whatsoever for any editorial, promotional, and advertising purposes and to be used in press information.

16. INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

- 16.1. Each competitor is required to have Liability Insurance with a minimum coverage in the amount of \$100,000 USD that is valid for the period of the regatta.

17. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 17.1. Competitors participate in this regatta entirely at their own risk. (See Rule 4, Decision to Race). The BCA, the SMSA, and all sponsors and volunteers will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta. The safety of the boat and its crew is the sole and inescapable responsibility of the Skipper who must ensure that the boat is fully sound, thoroughly seaworthy, and manned by an experienced and physically able crew.
- 17.2. The Skipper shall be responsible for his own conduct and that of his crew. (See Rule 69, Misconduct) Neither the establishment of regulations or inspection of a boat by a committee member in any way limits or reduces the complete and unlimited responsibility of the Skipper. In the event of a serious breach of conduct, the destruction of property, or failure to comply with a reasonable request of any Race Officer or Event Committee member, the Skipper will be responsible for all damaged and the boat may be subject to disqualification from the regatta, and further sanctioning by the event Protest Committee.

18. REGATTA CONTACTS

For further information please contact BNAC2026@SMSA.com.