



William H. Myers Heritage Regatta

Shields Class

August 22-23, 2026

Tred Avon Yacht Club
Oxford, MD



SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

PRO Ed Cassidy

[NP] The notation '[NP]' in a *rule* means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1.

[DP] The notation '[DP]' in a *rule* means that the penalty for a breach of the *rule* may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.

1. RULES

- 1.1 The Organizing Authority (OA) is the Tred Avon Yacht Club (TAYC).
- 1.2 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS) including US Prescriptions and by the Shields Class Sailing Association.
- 1.3 RRS 60.4(a)(2) is changed as follows: "if it is from a boat that alleges a breach of Part 2 or RRS 31, but she was not involved in it ~~or~~ **and** did not see the incident".

2. CODE OF CONDUCT

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

3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1 Any change to the Sailing Instructions (SI's) made ashore will be posted on the official bulletin board located in the first-floor lobby of the TAYC clubhouse at at www.tayc.com/racing-cal by 0900 each race day, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted before 2000 on the day before it will take effect.
- 3.2 Changes made to the SI's on the water will be announced to all competitors over VHF radio. Failure of competitors to receive or hear such announcements shall not be grounds for redress.

4. COMMUNICATION

- 4.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the official bulletin board and at www.tayc.com/racing-cal by 0900 each race day.
- 4.2. All boats shall carry a radio capable of communicating on all standard marine VHF channels.
- 4.3. On the water, the race committee (RC) intends to monitor and communicate with competitors via courtesy broadcasts over VHF channel 71. This includes announcements and confirmation of race committee signals before, during and after racing. Failure of competitors to receive or hear such announcements shall not be grounds for redress.

- 4.4. [DP] While racing (except in an emergency), from the first warning signal of the day until the end of the last race of the day, a boat shall neither make nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This prohibition also applies to cell phones and any other wireless devices.
- 4.5. From one hour prior to the scheduled first warning of the day until a boat has finished racing for the day, it may not receive weather, current or navigational information except from a publicized source available *at no cost* to all competitors. Subscription, password protected or restricted access web pages are considered private information and may not be used for transmission or reception of specialized weather information.
- 4.6. Weather data developed specifically for the event that is obtained or derived from sources prohibited in SI 4.5 shall not be used.
- 4.7. General use of the Internet and publicly available (at no cost) web sites to obtain weather information, including all National Weather Service data, is permitted.

5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed from the signal mast on TAYC's upper deck.
- 5.2. When flag "AP" is displayed ashore, "1 minute" is replaced with "not less than 45 minutes." This changes Race Signal AP.

6. SCHEDULE OF RACES

6.1 Saturday, Aug 22

- 0800 Continental breakfast
- 0900 Skippers' meeting at gazebo adjacent to clubhouse
- 1100 First warning
- 1500 No warning after this time
Cash bar following racing

6.2 Sunday, Aug 23

- 0800 Continental breakfast
- 1030 First warning
- 1330 No warning after this time
Awards presentation w/cash bar following racing

- 6.3 The race committee intends to start as many races each day as conditions and the schedule allow.

7. RACING AREA

- 7.1 Races will be sailed in the Choptank River west of the Choptank Light or in the Tred Avon River near TAYC.
- 7.2 The RC will confirm the designated racing area and signal boat position over VHF 71 no less than 60 minutes before the first warning signal each day.

8. COURSES

- 8.1. The attached diagrams with identification numbers indicate the layout of courses that may be sailed.

- 8.2. No later than the warning signal for each race, the RC will announce over VHF 71 and display from the starboard side of the signal boat: the course designator [see SI 8.3], the approximate compass bearing and approximate distance to the windward mark.
- 8.3. Course Designators
 - 8.3.1. **Course 3** – windward-leeward-windward-leeward-windward (5 legs)
 - 8.3.2. **Course 4** – windward-leeward-windward-leeward (4 legs)
 - 8.3.4 As noted in the text accompanying the course diagrams, the leeward mark may be set as either a single leeward mark or as a gate.
 - 8.3.5 When set as a single leeward mark, it shall be rounded to port. When a gate mark is missing the remaining mark shall be rounded to port.

9. MARKS

- 9.1. The windward mark [1] and the offset mark [2], if set, will be orange inflatable balls of the same size.
- 9.2. The gate marks [3A and 3B] or single leeward mark [3] will be orange inflatable balls.
- 9.3. The starting pin will be a yellow inflatable ball.
- 9.4. The finish pin will be a yellow inflatable tetrahedron.
- 9.5. A race committee starting or finishing boat may set a small, red stand-off buoy, which buoy, the line attaching it and the RC boat are all part of the starting or finishing mark.

10. THE START

- 10.1. [DP] Prior to the first race of the day, each competitor shall check in with the race committee by sailing past the signal boat on starboard tack and hailing her sail number until acknowledged by a race official.
- 10.2. Races will be started in accordance with RRS 26. The RC will sound a series of alert signals approximately one minute prior to the warning signal for each start.
- 10.3. The starting line will be between the course side of the staff displaying an orange flag on the signal boat and the course side of the starting pin to port of the signal boat.
- 10.4. A boat crossing the starting line later than 5 minutes after her starting signal will be scored “DNS” without a hearing. This changes RRS A4 and A5.
- 10.5. The RC will attempt to identify and hail premature starters over VHF 71, but the failure to hail, the hail of some but not all OCS boats, the order hailed or untimely hailing of boats shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.4(b)(1).
- 10.6. Competitors are reminded that it is the responsibility of each boat to start correctly; and if aware they have not done so, to return and start correctly even when not identified by the race committee.
- 10.7. Following a postponement or general recall, the next starting sequence will begin one minute after the lowering of code flag “AP” or “First Substitute” with one sound.

11. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 11.1. When the windward mark is changed, it will be replaced by a yellow inflatable ball. If changed again during the same race, the new mark will be replaced by the original mark, an orange inflatable ball.
- 11.2. When the windward mark is replaced by a change mark, no offset mark will be set.
- 11.3. When the race committee removes the gate, the new leeward mark will be a single orange, inflatable mark.
- 11.4. The RC may, without signal, move a mark up to ten degrees or 10 percent of the leg length if no boat is sailing to the mark. This changes RRS 33.

12. THE FINISH

- 12.1 The finishing line will be between the course side of the staff displaying a blue flag on a race committee boat and the course side of a nearby mark.
- 12.2 The RC may, without signal, adjust a finishing line mark while boats are on the first half of the leg. This changes RRS 33.

13. TIME LIMITS

- 13.1. The time limit for the first boat to pass the first windward mark shall be 45 minutes.
- 13.2. The time limit for the first boat to start, sail the course and finish shall be 120 minutes.

14. SCORING

- 14.1 RRS Appendix A4, Low Point System, will apply.
- 14.2 Two completed races shall constitute a series.
- 14.3 When fewer than five races are completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- 14.4 When five or more races are completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
- 14.5 Boats failing to finish a race within 20 minutes (finishing window) after the first boat that has started, sailed the course and finished will be scored "TLE" without a hearing and scored points equal to the number of boats finishing prior to the expiration of the finishing window plus two. This changes RRS 35, and Appendix A10.

15. PENALTIES

- 15.1 RRS Appendix V1 *Penalty at the Time of an Incident* shall apply.
- 15.2 RRS 42.2 *One-turn and Two-turn Penalties* is changed to prohibit a boat from taking penalty turn(s) within the Zone: "After getting well clear of other boats and the Zone as soon after the incident as possible..."

16. PROTEST AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 16.1. In addition to satisfying the requirements of RRS 60.2, the protesting yacht must notify the Race Committee at the finish line and receive acknowledgement.

- 16.2. The protest time limit [the “protest window”] is one hour after the RC signal boat’s official docking time, which will be posted on the official bulletin board in the TAYC lobby.
- 16.3. Forms for filing protests and requests for redress will be available on the official bulletin board on the 1st floor of the clubhouse.
- 16.4. No more than 30 minutes after the close of the protest window, the protest committee will post a notice on the official bulletin board and at www.tayc.com/racing-cal to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or may be called as witnesses.
- 16.5. Hearings will be held in the protest room on the 2nd floor of the clubhouse. Representatives of boats that are parties to hearings shall remain nearby and available in the vicinity of the protest room. The jury may consider failure of a boat to appear when called for a posted hearing grounds for proceeding under RRS 63.1(b).
- 16.6. RRS 60.4(a)(1) is changed by adding: “A protest involving contact may be found valid by the jury even though the requirements of RRS 60.2 and 60.3 have not been fulfilled.”
- 16.7. Penalties, if any, for breaches of rules other than rules of Part 2 may be less than disqualification at the discretion of the Protest Committee.
- 16.8. On the final day of racing, a request for redress based on a jury decision shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the decision was posted.
- 16.9. Other requests for redress shall be delivered no later than the end of the protest time limit or 30 minutes after learning of reasons for making the request, whichever is later.

17. SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 17.1. [DP] A boat that retires or leaves the racing area between races shall notify the Race Committee at the first reasonable opportunity over VHF 71 and receive an acknowledgement.

18. PRIZES

- 18.1. Trophies will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place overall.
- 18.2. The regatta winner will be awarded the Charlotte Todd Memorial Trophy.

19. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 19.1. Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3, Decision to Race. The organizing authority 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.

20. FURTHER INFORMATION

- 20.1. For further information contact TAYC Manager: 410-226-5269 or manager@tayc.com.

COURSE DIAGRAMS

