

TEXAS SAILING ASSOCIATION YOUTH CIRCUIT REGATTA
Texas Youth Race Week
ILCA & C420 Hosted at Houston Yacht Club

Organizing Authority:



3620 Miramar Dr. La Porte, TX 77571

July 11-12, 2026

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS
As Amended July 9, 2026 (Changes in RED) (Rev 3)

1. RULES

- 1.1. The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS). However, U.S. Sailing Prescriptions to RRS 63.1 shall not apply.
- 1.2. "The Texas Youth Racing Circuit Conditions" apply and are available on the web site at <http://www.txsail.org/>.
- 1.3. The rules for all classes are modified so that membership in a class organization is not required.
- 1.4. [DP] All boats shall have sail numbers which match the registration form. Sail numbers meeting class standards are recommended.
- 1.5. Appendix T, Arbitration, shall be used.
- 1.6. To the extent there is a discrepancy, other than an omission, between the SIs and NOR, the SIs shall prevail.

2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1. Any change to the sailing instructions (SI) will be posted on the official noticeboard at least two (2) hours before the first race of each day, except for changes to the schedule of races which will be posted by 1900 on the day before they take effect.
- 2.2. Oral changes may be made by the Race Committee (RC) on the water prior to the time of the warning signal of any race upon the raising of signal flag "L" with one sound.

3. COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board houstonyachtclub.com/regatta/WfP7XvGdBr.
- 3.2. Courtesy notices may be posted on the unofficial notice board located in the breezeway adjacent to the HYC Office. Courtesy notices may also be sent via WhatsApp to the regatta group.

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 at Houston Yacht Club.
- 5.2. Code Flag "AP" with two sound signals means the race is postponed. DO NOT leave the club area. The warning signal will not be made sooner than 60 minutes from the lowering of "AP", accompanied by one signal. This modifies RRS "Race Signals".
- 5.3. [DP] Boats shall remain on shore until a sound from the signal mast has been made with the display of code flag D.

6. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 6.1. Six (6) or more races are scheduled.
- 6.2. Completion of one (1) race shall constitute a TSA Youth Circuit Regatta.
- 6.3. The warning signal for the first race on each day of racing is 12:00 noon. See **NOR 7** for details.

7. CLASS FLAGS

- 7.1. The following flags will be used as class flags during starting sequences:

ILCA 6: Green ILCA class flag

ILCA 4: Yellow ILCA class flag

C420: C420 class flag

8. RACING AREAS

- 8.1. The specific location of the racing areas will be announced at the Mandatory Competitor's Meeting (Saturday, 10:30 in the HYC Ballroom).

9. CHECK-IN ON THE WATER

- 9.1. [DP] Prior to the first warning signal of the competitor's fleet of the day, each competitor shall sail past the stern of the RC signal boat on starboard tack, hail their sail number and be acknowledged by the RC. Failure to do so will result in a 20% penalty for the first race of the day.

10. COURSES

- 10.1. Course LA2 is described in *ADDENDUM: Course Diagrams*. They show the courses, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.
- 10.2. The start line will be on the port side of the Signal Boat and the finish line will be on the starboard side of the finish boat.
- 10.3. Deleted.
- 10.4. Deleted.
- 10.5. At a gate, if only one mark is present, round it leaving it to port.

11. MARKS

- 11.1. For the ILCA and Doublehanded Fleets, the marks will be orange tetrahedrons.
- 11.2. The **Change mark** will be a yellow tetrahedron.

12. THE START

- 12.1. Deleted.
- 12.2. Races will be started in accordance with RRS 26. A series of short signals may be made before any starting sequence begins to attract attention.
- 12.3. The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the RC signal boat and the course side of the starting mark.
- 12.4. Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall keep clear of both the start line and all boats whose warning signal has been made.
- 12.5. 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 race committee may attempt to hail her. A boat may not request redress based on failure of the race committee to hail her, failure to hear such a hail, or the order in which boats are hailed. This changes RRS 61.1(a).
- 12.6. A boat may not start later than four (4) minutes after the starting signal for its class. Boats attempting to start after this time will be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.

13. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 13.1. To change the next leg of the course, the RC will lay a new Change Mark (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change a mark is replaced, it will be replaced with the original mark.

- 13.2. To maintain course configuration during a race, the RC may make minor adjustments of the course, up to 10 degrees and 0.1nm, without signaling a change. This changes RRS 33.
- 13.3. Change marks will not have an offset mark (1a).

14. THE FINISH

- 14.1. Deleted.
- 14.2. The finish line for course LA2 shall be between a staff displaying a blue flag on the RC boat and the course side of the finish mark.

15. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 15.1. A competitor must notify the Race Committee (RC) of their intent to protest another boat, at the finish line, before talking to a Support Person including a coach or a parent. If this instruction is not followed, the protest will be found to be invalid. This is in addition to and modifies the requirements of class rules and RRS 60.2.

16. TIME LIMIT

- 16.1. The Race Time Limit (see RRS 35), and the Finishing Window are shown in the table below:

Mark 1 Limit Time	Race Time Limit	Finishing Window
Twenty (20) Minutes	Sixty (60) Minutes	Twenty (20) Minutes

- 16.2. If no boat has passed the first mark within the Mark 1 Time Limit, the race shall be abandoned.
- 16.3. The Finishing Window is the time for boats to finish after the first boat 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 two (2) more than the points scored by the last boat that finished 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.
- 16.4. At its discretion, the RC may finish any boat in place, and it will be scored based on its position on the racecourse. This modifies RRS A3, A5.

17. HEARING REQUESTS

- 17.1. The protest time limit is sixty (60) minutes after the RC signal boat from each Competitors' racecourse docks.
- 17.2. Protests forms will be made available at the protest desk in the HYC lobby. Forms must be delivered to the same desk.
- 17.3. Notices will be posted within approximately **thirty (30)** minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearing, and location of the hearing, in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will begin at the time and location posted.
- 17.4. The person who served as mediator during Arbitration may not serve on the protest committee.
- 17.5. Deleted.

18. SCORING

- 18.1. The Low Point System of RRS Appendix A shall apply, modified so that:
 - 18.1.1. One (1) completed race is required to constitute a regatta.
 - 18.1.2. When five (5) to nine (9) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
 - 18.1.3. When ten (10) or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her two (2) worst scores.
- 18.2. Deleted.
- 18.3. The regatta shall be scored as a whole with all boats receiving scores according to recorded finish positions.

- 18.4. The regatta is part of a two regatta series "Texas Youth Race Week". The overall place for the two regatta series will be the sum of each regatta's final place. Ties will first be broken by the combined score of the entire two regatta series. If a tie still exists, Appendix A shall be applied to the combined score of the entire two regatta series.

19. SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 19.1. [DP] RRS 40 is changed so that each competitor shall wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved life jacket (PFD), in good condition, that is 100% dependent on foam for flotation (i.e., inherently buoyant) and the appropriate size for the sailor, at all times while on the water, except for brief periods while adding or removing clothing. A violation of this instruction may be protested by race officials or a competitor; however, an inadvertent and momentary breach of this instruction may receive a penalty less than disqualification at the discretion of the protest committee. A pinnie may be worn outside of the PFD.
- 19.2. [DP] A competitor who withdraws from a race or does not intend to start a race shall inform the RC as soon as possible. This may also be accomplished by the competitor notifying a member of the RC ashore.
- 19.3. Sailors of Double-Handed fleet boats are encouraged, but not required, to carry an emergency safety line cutter, such as an "S-Cutter" tool or harness webbing cutter.

20. SUPPORT BOAT RESTRICTIONS

- 20.1. Support Persons' Boats, including coaches and parents, shall have a working VHF radio and monitor the RC channel.
- 20.2. [DP] Support Persons' boats shall keep at least two hundred (200) feet away from all competitors and shall not communicate with any racing competitor from the time of the competitor's preparatory signal until after the competitor has finished, or the RC signals a postponement or abandonment.
- 20.3. Failure of support boats to keep wakes down, remain outside the racecourse while boats are racing, may result in the RC limiting where support boats may go during a race.
- 20.4. [DP] All Support Persons operating a boat must employ a safety kill-switch lanyard as required by Texas state law, especially when in the proximity of and approaching sailors in and on the water. If a Support Person's boat is required to use a kill switch and is not equipped with, or is not using, a kill switch, the Support Person may be subject to protest.
- 20.5. Deleted.

21. DISPOSAL OF TRASH

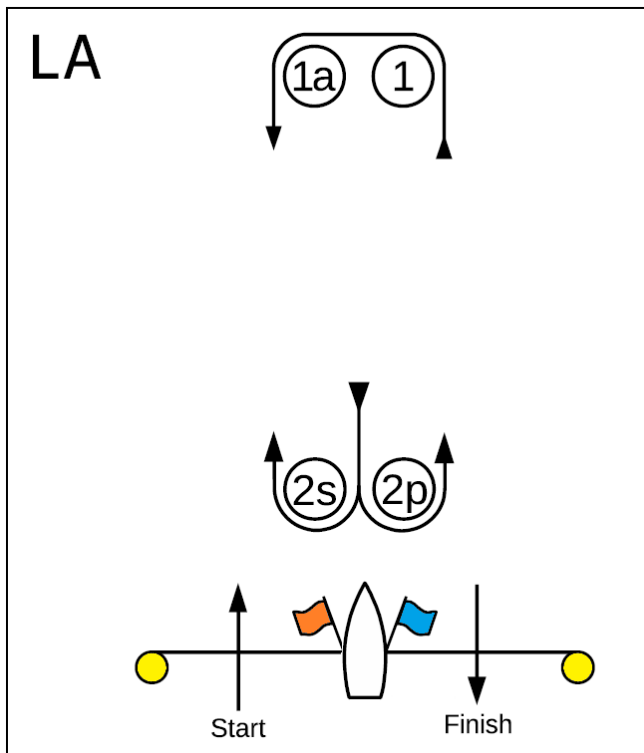
- 21.1. Trash may be placed aboard official or support person vessels.

22. RISK, DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY, & PERSONAL CONDUCT

- 22.1. An adult (parent, guardian or designated adult) is responsible for the safety of their sailor. It is the responsibility of this adult to decide if the sailor should sail in the weather and sea conditions that might arise during the event. The adults supervising the competitors are ultimately responsible for the risks. 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 this event.
- 22.2. The designated adult shall accept full responsibility for all actions of the competitor during any activity related to the event. This includes on-shore activities before, during, and after the regatta.
- 22.3. All competitors, coaches and parents are expected to maintain the highest levels of conduct throughout the entire event until such time as they leave for home or the airport. Enforcement of discipline and conduct shall be conducted as per RRS 69.1 and/or the policies and procedures of US Sailing (Regulation 15).

Above all, BE SAFE and HAVE FUN!

ADDENDUM: COURSE DIAGRAMS



COURSE LA2 – Windward/Leeward with Offset Mark, Leeward Finish

Signal	Mark Rounding Order
LA2	Start - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p - 1 - 1a - Finish

* When a course change has been signaled, and the Change Mark is to be rounded, Mark 1a will not present.

If 2s or 2p is missing, then the remaining mark shall be rounded to port.