



2024 Thursday Adult Racing Series

DC Sail | Diamond Teague Park Piers
99 Potomac Ave. SE, Washington, DC, 20003

NOTICE OF RACE & SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

I. RULES

- I.1. This Regatta will be governed by rules defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) (2021-2024) and this notice of race and sailing instructions. In the event of a conflict between governing documents and the sailing instructions, the sailing instructions shall take precedence.
- I.2. Coast Guard-approved life jackets must be worn at all times while on the water, except for brief periods of adding/removing layers of clothes if necessary. Competitors must provide their own life jackets each week.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1. Official notices including changes to the sailing instructions will be posted on a whiteboard located next to the houseboat at DC Sail. Any changes to the Sailing Instructions will be posted before the first start on the day on which they are to take effect. In the event of a conflict, the whiteboard will take precedence.

3. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 3.1. Races will be held on the following Thursday evenings:

First-Half of Series:

April 18, 2024
April 25, 2024
May 2, 2024
May 9, 2024
May 16, 2024
May 23, 2024
May 30, 2024
June 6, 2024
June 13, 2024
BYE WEEK (Solstice Cup)
June 27, 2024

Second-Half of Series:

BYE WEEK (4th of July)
July 11, 2024
July 18, 2024
July 25, 2024
Aug 1, 2024
Aug 8, 2024
Aug 15, 2024
Aug 22, 2024
Aug 29, 2024
Sept 5, 2024
Sept 12, 2024

- 3.2. Daily Schedule:
- 17:30 - Arrival and rigging
 - 17:45 - Harbor start, competitors may depart docks once signed in
 - 18:00 - The first warning signal may begin at any point after this time.
 - 19:30 - Approximate time for no start after.
 - 20:00 - Depart docks.

Schedule Notes:

- 3.2.i) RC will aim to wait until all boats have arrived at the race course to begin racing for the evening, but will not delay racing due to late arrival. Late arrival is not grounds for redress.
 - 3.2.ii) Sunset times may influence the no-start-after time and dock departure time.
- 3.3. It is at the race committee's discretion to cancel racing for an evening due to weather conditions, inclement forecasts, or other unforeseen circumstances. In the event of a cancellation, there will be no make-up date. Notification of cancellation will be communicated via email as soon as the decision is made for the evening.
- 3.4. The race committee has the right to extend the racing calendar beyond the current schedule if circumstances allow.

4. BOATS & EQUIPMENT

- 4.1. DC Sail FJs will be provided for all competitors, who shall not modify any boat or cause them to be modified in any way except as noted below.
- 4.1.i) Mainsheets may be rigged with a 3:1 or 4:1 purchase.
 - 4.1.ii) Jib sheet block cars may be adjusted to any setting, provided that competitors return them to 3 holes showing in the back at the conclusion of racing each day.
- 4.2. Competitors shall report all damage or loss of equipment; however slight, to the race committee immediately upon arriving on shore after racing for the day.
- 4.3. Breakdown points will not be awarded for the failure of knots.
- 4.4. At the discretion of the race committee and organizing authority, the use of drysuits/wetsuits by competitors may be mandated on any given date. The general guideline that will be used to influence the decision is a combined air and water temperature of 120° or higher. *This will most likely only be a consideration during the month of April.*
- 4.4.i) Penalty for violating SI 4.4 may will include disqualification without hearing from races sailed on the date of the infraction and may include additional punishment, including suspension of DC Sail membership.

5. FORMAT

- 5.1. The format will be a single-division, multi-week, cumulative series that totals an individual's score throughout the 2024 season. Each individual will be scored independently, with both sailors in a boat receiving a score for each race completed.

6. BOAT ASSIGNMENTS, & ROTATIONS

- 6.1. DC Sail FJs will be chosen at will by individuals. Sail numbers must match hull numbers for all races.
- 6.1.i) Failure to comply with SI 6.1 may result in disqualification without hearing from all races sailed with the infraction, at the discretion of the race committee.
- 6.2. Participants will note their sailing partner and sail/hull number on a sign-in sheet next to the Notice Board whiteboard each evening, **before** departing the dock for racing. Failure to complete the sign-in sheet may result in a score of DNS and disqualification from any races scored on that day without hearing.

- 6.3. Participants may pair with any other participating individual for any race.
 - 6.3.i) An FJ must have exactly two individuals in the boat and participants may not switch boats or partners mid-race.
 - 6.3.ii) Swaps of any kind are allowed between races, so long as the race committee is notified of any changes by the conclusion of racing each day to maintain accurate scoring. Failure to comply with the above conditions (SI 6.3) may result in a score of DSQ.
- 6.4. Boat rotations will not be required nor facilitated by the race committee. Competitors are encouraged to stay with the same pairing throughout each day of racing, for ease of scoring.

7. COURSES & MARKS

- 7.1. See Figure 1 below for course configurations. The preferred course will be windward-leeward, twice around (W4).
- 7.2. A leeward gate mark and/or an offset windward mark may or may not be used, at the discretion of the race committee. If a gate/offset mark is set, it is presumed to be part of the course unless otherwise stated by RC.
- 7.3. The race committee will announce course changes from the RC boat prior to the Warning Signal. If no announcement is made, it is presumed that the course will be the same as the previous race.
- 7.4. All marks shall be rounded to port, except a leeward gate which is to be rounded on the inside at either mark.
- 7.5. The start/finish line is not restricted and may be passed through at any time during the race. The start/finish line is not a required gate on legs where boats are not starting/finishing.

8. MARKS

- 8.1. The marks will be a variation of red/white/yellow inflatable buoys.
- 8.2. The race committee start/finish boat will display an orange flag. Failure to display the flag will not be grounds for protest or redress.
- 8.3. The race committee will aim to maintain the same mark designations throughout racing on each day. Alternate colors/shapes being used at specific parts of the course are not grounds for protest or redress.

9. CHANGES TO THE COURSE WHILE RACING

- 9.1. After the starting signal, the race committee may change the position of any mark to maintain course configuration. If no boat is on that leg of the course, no signals are required. If marks are modified while boats are sailing on the same leg, an announcement from RC will notify competitors. (Changes RRS 33)
- 9.2. The race committee may, in the interest of time and at their discretion, shorten races during racing by removing laps with an announcement from the race committee boat. The race committee may not add to the number of laps in a race once it has started.

10. STARTS, FINISHES, AND RECALLS

- 10.1. Races will use Three-Minute Dinghy Starts. See Figure 2 for the starting sequence.
- 10.2. Failure of a competitor to hear the starting signals shall not be grounds for redress.
- 10.3. Failure of a competitor to be in proximity of the race course at the Warning Signal shall not be grounds for redress.
- 10.4. The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the race committee vessel and the course side of the starting mark.
- 10.5. There may be a standoff buoy attached to the Race Committee Signal Boat. This buoy and the line attaching it to the boat are considered to be part of the signal boat.

- 10.6. The I Flag Rule (aka “round the ends rule”, RRS 30.1) may apply for any start if hailed prior to the starting sequence. The signal will be made orally and need not display of flag “I”.
- 10.7. Recalls
 - 10.7.i) Individual Recall - When, at a boat’s starting signal, any part of her hull is on the course side of the starting line, or she must comply with RRS 30.1, the race committee shall attempt to hail her bow number. No flags shall be displayed. (Changes RRS 29.1)
 - 10.7.ii) General Recall – The race committee may signal a general recall by multiple sounds and/or a hail of “general recall” and need not display the First Substitute. Following a general recall, the warning for any subsequent start may be initiated at any time. (Changes RRS 29.2)
 - 10.7.iii) On Course Side Hails – As a courtesy, the Race Committee will attempt to hail boats "On Course Side" (OCS) as soon as possible after the start. Failure of electronic equipment, failure to hear a hail, order of hail, or delay in hailing will not be grounds for redress. (Changes RRS 62.1.a)

11. TIME LIMITS & EXPEDITING RACING

- 11.1. There is no time limit for races. The race committee may shorten or abandon a race in the event that changing wind conditions impact the anticipated finish time for boats.
- 11.2. To expedite racing, the race committee may award a boat her position and score in a race if it is determined that the boat’s position in that race is secure. In this event, the boat will be informed of her position and will be asked to proceed without delay toward the starting area so that the next race may be started within a reasonable time.

12. PROTESTS

It should be noted that traditionally, we do not hear protests for this series. If fouls occur on the race course, be a good sport and take a spin if it is due. If a competitor is unaware of a rule, take it as a constructive learning opportunity for all. We’re all here to have a good time and learn from each other! With that being said...

- 12.1. If a competitor intends to file a protest following racing, they must inform the race committee at the conclusion of the race. At the end of racing for the day, a brief arbitration will be held by a member of race committee (RRS Appendix T). If a protest hearing follows the arbitration procedure, the protest committee shall be a member of the race committee and a third-party volunteer from the pool of competitors.
- 12.2. Protest hearings will follow a “one and done” approach. The protesting party will have 60 seconds to describe the event, with optional visual aid. Then the protested boat will have 60 seconds to describe the event, with optional visual aid. The protest committee will then confer and may ask additional questions of either party. The committee will then make their decision and the hearing will be closed. No appeals will be allowed.

13. SCORING

- 13.1. Scoring will be in accordance with RRS Appendix A low point system.
 - 13.1.i) Each competitor’s total score will be the sum of their scores in the series, with no drops.
- 13.2. A boat scored OCS, DNS, DNF, RET, or NSC will be scored 1+ the number of boats competing on that date.
- 13.3. If a competitor does not attend the event on a given day, they will be given a score of 2+ the number of boats competing on that day for each race scored that day. A score of DSQ is also 2+ boats competing.
- 13.4. If a competitor participates as a volunteer race committee member on a given evening, their score for the evening will be 0 for each race in which they volunteer. This score alteration is limited to one evening per half of the season.

14. TROPHIES

- 14.1. A trophy will be awarded to each of the top three finishers of the full season.
- 14.2. Trophies will be presented at the Halloween Regatta unless otherwise announced by the organizing authority.

15. SAFETY

- 15.1. Each competitor is solely responsible for their personal safety. See RRS Part I. However, in circumstances it considers hazardous, the race committee may require a competitor to accept assistance.

16. RIGHTS TO USE NAME AND LIKENESS:

- 16.1. By participating in this event, competitors automatically grant to the Organizing Authority the right, in perpetuity, to make, use, and show, at their discretion, any photography, audio and video recordings, and other reproductions of them made at the venue or on the water from the time of their arrival at the venue, until their final departure, without compensation.

17. CONTACTS

Cam Costello - PRO

Director of Programs and Waterfront Ops

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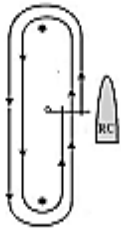
Traci Mead

Executive Director

DC Sail | 202-547-1250

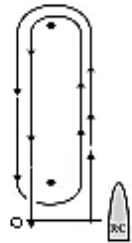
tmead@dcsail.org

Figure 1: Course Configurations



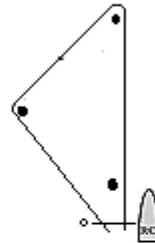
D2

Modified Windward/
Leeward – twice around



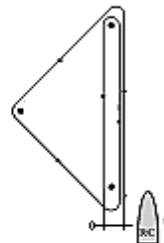
W4

Windward/Leeward --
twice around



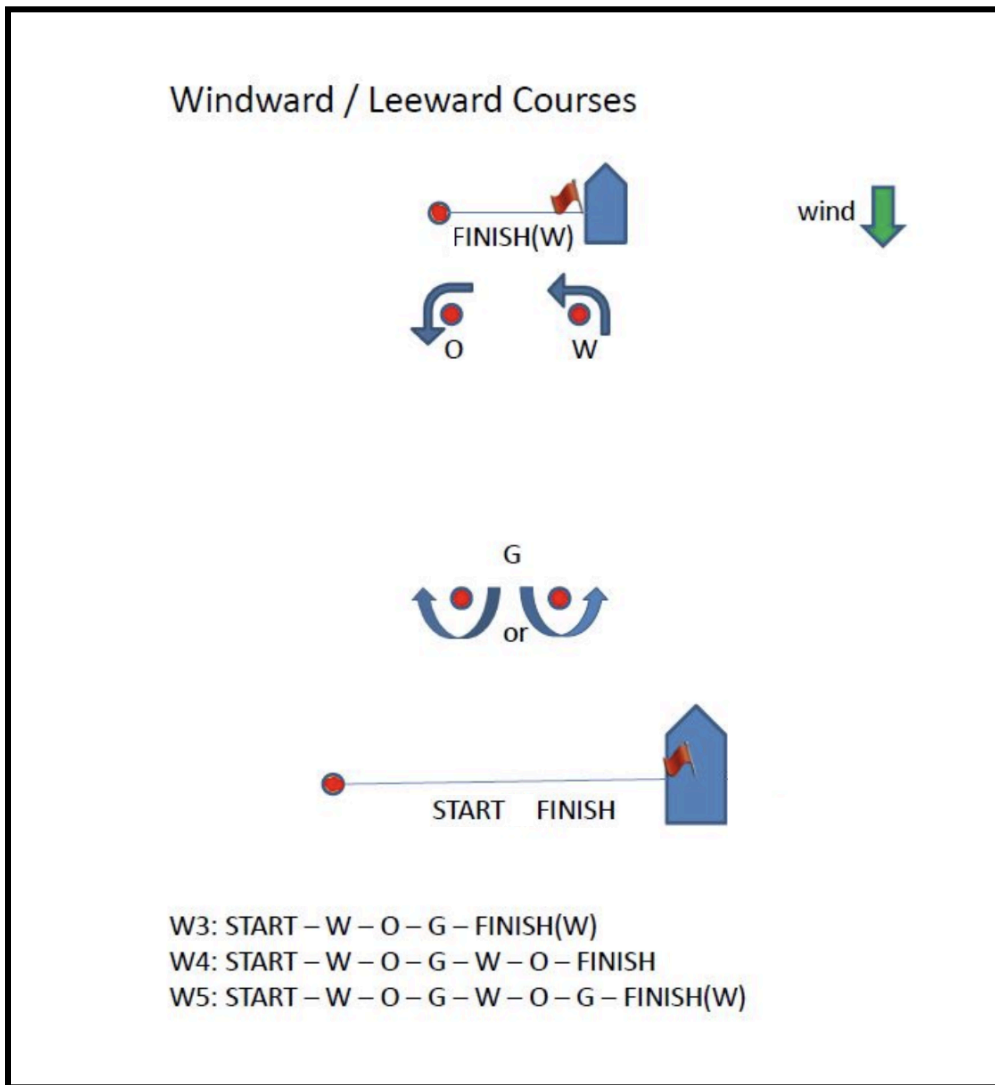
T1

Triangle course –
once around,
start/finish may be positioned in
the middle of first leg



O1

Olympic course



Additional course variations may be considered at the discretion of the race committee.

Figure 2: Starting Sequence

Signal	Flag and Sound	Time Before Start
Warning Signal	3 long	3 minutes
Preparatory Signals	2 long	2 minutes
	1 long and 3 short	1 minute, 30 seconds
	1 long	1 minute
	3 short	30 seconds
	2 short	20 seconds
	1 short	10 seconds
	1 short	5 seconds
	1 short	4 seconds
	1 short	3 seconds
	1 short	2 seconds
	1 short	1 second
Starting Signal	1 long	START