

PART 3 – LCYC SAILING INSTRUCTIONS
REVISED 06/22/2011

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1.0 RULES

1.1 Each Lake Champlain Yacht Club (LCYC) event is governed by the current International Sailing Federation (ISAF) Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) including US Sailing prescriptions, the event's Notice of Race and the current Sailing Instructions except as amended by the event's Special Sailing Instruction (as may be issued).

1.2 All LCYC events are Category A unless specified otherwise by the event's Notice or Race and/or its Special Sailing Instruction (as may be issued). Boats racing under Category C must receive approval from the LCYC Regatta Chairperson prior to the skippers' meeting.

2.0 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located in the glass case on the north wall of the Clubhouse.

3.0 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

3.1 Sailing Instructions and the event's Special Sailing Instruction (as may be issued) will be available at the skippers' meetings and posted on the official notice board. Any changes will be posted before 0900 hours on the day it will take effect, except any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 hours on the day before it will take effect. Copies of the event's Notice of Race, the Sailing Instructions and the event's Special Sailing Instructions (as may be issued) will be available on the LCYC website (<http://www.lcyc.info>) or from the Race Committee on the day of the race.

3.2 Following the raising of the "L" flag with one sound, oral change(s) to the Sailing Instructions and/or to the designated course may be given on the water in accordance with RRS Rule 90.2(c).

4.0 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

Signals made ashore will be displayed from the LCYC signal mast.

5.0 SCHEDULE OF RACES

The race schedule can be found at LCYC website (<http://www.lcyc.info>). Any changes to the schedule of races will be posted on the official notice board. Skippers' meeting times and warning signal times are listed in the event's *Notices of Race* contained within this handbook.

6.0 CLASS FLAGS

Class flags are shown PART 7 of this handbook.

7.0 RACING AREA

The racing area shall be specified in the event's Notice of Race or its Special Sailing Instruction (as may be issued).

8.0 COURSES AND RACE MARKS

Race courses shall be specified in the event's Notice of Race or its Special Sailing Instruction (as may be issued) and/or displayed from the Race Committee boat. Courses and locations of race marks are found in **PART 4 – COURSES AND RACE MARKS** of this **HANDBOOK**.

8.1 RACE COMMITTEE COURSE COMMUNICATIONS

8.1.1 The course for each class, the weather mark letter identification and the magnetic bearing to the weather mark will be displayed on the Race Committee boat before the warning signal. The course, bearing, and weather mark identification may be changed for the succeeding classes.

8.1.2 The Race Committee will attempt to broadcast the course information on channel 72 prior to the warning signal for the first class. A boat's failure to receive Race Committee channel 72 transmissions shall not be grounds for requesting redress.

8.1.3 During races, the Race Committee may monitor channel 72.

8.2 SHORTENING OR ABANDONING AFTER THE START

8.2.1 Shortening of the course or abandonment after the start shall be in accordance with RRS Rule 32 except that *shortening of the course at a location other than at a mark rounding, a gate and/or a line may be specified in the event's Notice of Race or its Special Sailing Instruction (as may be issued)*.

8.2.2 The Race Committee shall signal shortened course for any individual class by hoisting code flag "S" along with its class flag and making two sounds.

8.2.3 The Race Committee shall signal abandonment for any individual class by hoisting code flag "N" along with its class flag and making three sounds.

8.2.4 The Race Committee may attempt to broadcast shortened course or abandoned race information on channel 72.

9.0 THE START

9.1 STARTING AREA

9.1.1 The starting area is defined as a rectangular box whose length extends 150 feet beyond each end of the start line and whose width is 150 feet above and below the starting line and its extensions.

9.1.2 Boats shall keep clear of the starting area until their class flag has been hoisted by the Race Committee. Boats failing to keep clear may be disqualified.

9.1.3 An exception to Paragraph 9.1.2 is made for boats that are registering. Boats that are registering may enter the starboard end of the starting area and shall keep clear of boats that are preparing to start and boats that are racing

9.2 STARTING LINE

The starting line shall be between the orange shape/flag on the Race Committee boat, or its mast if no orange shape is shown, and the port end starting mark. The starting mark may be an inflatable mark, set at the discretion of the Race Committee.

9.3 STARTING SEQUENCE

Unless otherwise specified in the event's Notice of Race or its Special Sailing Instruction (as may be issued), all races will be started using the 5-minute sequence as specified in the current RRS Rule 26 except for the Ladies Cup which will use a 10-minute sequence.

9.4 POSTPONEMENT

9.4.1 Raising of the Answering Pennant "AP" and two sounds will signal postponement. The warning signal for a new start shall be made one minute after the AP is lowered, accompanied by one sound. The starts for any succeeding classes shall follow the new start.

9.4.2 After a long postponement, to alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, the orange starting line flag will be displayed with repetitive sounds at least four (4) minutes before the "AP" is lowered.

9.4.3 When a start is postponed, the specified time limit for finishing the race shall remain the same.

10.0 RECALLS

10.1 INDIVIDUAL

Individual recalls will be signaled in accordance with the current RRS Rules 29.1 except for the following: *The Race Committee may attempt to notify premature starters by hailing and/or by calling on VHF 72. However, failure of the Race Committee to hail any or all boat(s), failure to correctly hail any boat(s) or failure to hear or receive such notice does not relieve the boat(s) from starting improperly and is not grounds to request redress.*

10.2 GENERAL

General recalls will be signaled in accordance with the current RRS, Rules 29.2 and 30 except for the following: *If a General Recall is made, classes that have not been recalled and not started shall start as though the recall(s) had not been made. Immediately after the last scheduled class has started, the recalled classes will start in the order that they were recalled.*

11.0 THE FINISH

11.1 FINISH LINES

11.1.1 Weekend races – The finish line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee boat or its mast if no orange flag is shown and the adjacent finishing mark.

11.1.2 Series A,B,C,D

11.1.2.1 If the finish is to leeward, the finish line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on the Race Committee boat or its mast if no blue flag is shown and the adjacent blue finishing mark.

11.1.2.2 If the finish is to windward, the finish line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee boat or its mast if no orange flag is shown and the adjacent finishing mark.

11.1.3 If the Race Committee boat is not on station at the finish, boats shall take their own time in local universal time, in hours/min/sec, when the finish mark is sighted abeam of the vessel's mast, leaving the mark on the proper side, and sailing within 10 boat lengths of the mark.

11.2 MID-COURSE START/FINISH LINE

When sailing with mid-course starts, the start/finish line will be approximately 1/3 to 1/2 of the way up the leg from the leeward mark towards the windward mark. Boats shall not cross or pass through the start/finish line except when starting or finishing. A boat infringing this rule cannot exonerate herself. This modifies RRS, Rule 44.

11.3 BOATS NOT FINISHING

A boat that withdraws from the race must notify the Race Committee as soon as possible.

12.0 PENALTY SYSTEM

Penalties taken at the time of an incident shall be in accordance with the current RRS, Rule 44.1 and Rule 44.2. A boat may take a Two-Turns Penalty when she may have broken a rule of Part 2 or a One-Turn Penalty when she may have broken Rule 31.

13.0 TIME LIMIT

The time limit for all classes started shall be specified in the event's Notice of Race or its Special Sailing Instruction (as may be issued). One boat finishing within the time limit for its class shall make the race valid for all boats in that class.

14.0 PROTESTS

14.1 Notice of Intent to Protest shall be delivered to the Race Committee in writing, on standard forms (found in PART 5 of this handbook), within thirty (30) minutes of the Race Committee boat reaching the dock. Those lodging a protest shall verbally notify the Race Committee of their intentions after clearing the finish line.

14.2 The formal protest shall be submitted to the Regatta Chairman on standard forms (found in PART 5 of this handbook) within twenty-four (24) hours of the event, an exception to current RRS, Part 5 - Rule 61.3. The Regatta Chairman will distribute the protest to the protested party which shall have twenty-four (24) hours from its receipt to submit a written response on standard forms.

14.3 Any protests will generally be heard at the LCYC clubhouse after racing on the Wednesday following the incident. Protesting parties, protested parties and witnesses have a responsibility to remain at the Clubhouse until after a protest is heard or is scheduled for a hearing on another date. Not being present for the protest hearing could result in the protest being disallowed or a boat being disqualified.

14.4 The protest committee shall hear all contested protests and hear all protests involving serious damage.

14.5 The handling of a protest for the Commodore MacDonough Race and/or the Ladies Cup Race is specified in the event's Notice of Race or its Special Sailing Instructions (as may be issued).

15.0 SCORING

Races shall be scored using the low-point scoring system as specified in Appendix A of current RRS. All races shall be scored using wind-indexed time-on-time, unless specified otherwise in the event's Notice of Race or its Special Sailing Instruction (as may be issued). Additional Information regarding Series Scoring may be found in PART 1 of this handbook.

16.0 SAFETY

All boats shall carry equipment required by the US Coast Guard. The ultimate responsibility for the safety of the vessel and her crew rests with her captain and individual participants who shall call the Coast Guard for emergencies. By entry in a Lake Champlain Yacht Club event, each participant accepts all risks of that event and agrees that Lake Champlain Yacht Club will not be held responsible for any injury to personnel or loss to vessels or gear. Before each race, each participant shall determine whether it will be safe to participate, given the skill of the crew, the condition of the equipment and the prevailing weather.

17.0 SPORTSMANSHIP

All competitors (including crewmembers) are expected to follow the rules, demonstrate good manners and sportsmanship towards fellow competitors and to members of the race management team and follow the tenets of fair sailing. Allegations of gross misconduct will be handled in accordance the procedure outlined in the current *Racing Rules of Sailing, Part 5, Rule 69*.