



LEWIS CLARK SAILING ASSOCIATION

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RACING RULES

- a. All races will be governed by the US Sailing's Racing Rules of Sailing for 2009-2012 except as otherwise provided in these instructions. The 720° alternative penalty rule will be in effect. The penalty for a yacht which has a spinnaker set and drawing is one turn (360°) provided the spinnaker is fully doused and then reset and drawing following the penalty turn. A 720 or 360° turn is not an admission of guilt.

2. SAFETY

- a. Safety is a prime concern. All yachts entered or racing shall be subject to the direction and control of the race committee, but it shall be in the sole responsibility of each yacht to decide whether or not to start or continue a race. Sailors must judge whether or not they can handle the wind and water conditions prevailing, and they are responsible at all times for their own safety, the safety of others, and of their boat. The race committee may or may not be able to assist.
- b. While racing, each yacht shall carry all items required by the Coast Guard, their class rules, and the State of Washington.
- c. While each competitor is solely responsible for his or her personal safety, in circumstances it considers hazardous, the race committee may require a competitor to accept assistance.
- d. A yacht which retires from a race is asked to notify the race committee. If unable to do so, please post notice of their withdrawal on the bulletin board as soon as is practicable.

3. COURSES

- a. Courses are shown on the course sheet. The course designation for each race will be displayed on the committee boat during the start sequence and may change for different classes (fleets) in their starting sequence.
- b. The race committee may at its discretion shorten, postpone, or abandon any race.
- c. The **START/FINISH LINE IS RESTRICTED**: After correctly starting, a yacht may not cross the starting or finishing line unless she is preparing to start, finishing, or completing a lap of a course where the start or finish mark is a mark of the course.

4. STARTS

- a. The starting line will be a line extending from the mast of the committee boat to a flagged marker buoy. If the committee boat has no mast, the line will extend from the marker buoy to the race steward's position on the boat.
- b. Please keep clear of the starting line when another class is preparing to start.
- c. The class starting order will be announced at the skippers meeting.
- d. The starting sequence will be preceded by several sound signals at the lowering of the answering pennant (red and white) approximately one minute before the class flag is raised.
- e. The one-minute rule will be in effect for every start - boats preparing to start may not be on the course side of the line in the last minute before the start (no dip starts).
- f. Class flags are as follows: Yellow flag, San Juan 21 Red flag, Open class; 'T' Flag, Dingy class ('T' flag is red-white-blue; 3 equal vertical stripes).
- g. Races shall be started by using the following signals. Times shall be taken from the visual signals; the absence of a sound signal shall be disregarded.

Warning signal:	Class Flag	1 sound	5 min. before start
Flag P:	Preparatory signal	1 sound	4 mm. before start
One-minute	Preparatory removed	1 long sound	1 mm. before start
Start:	Class flag removed	1 sound	0 min. before start
- h. Subsequent class starts will follow the same sequence beginning immediately at the start of the previous class.
- i. A yacht shall not start later than 10 minutes after her class' starting signal.
- j. A blue flag flown after a starting sequence signifies the finish line.

5. RECALLS:

- a. Individual recalls will be signaled by displaying code flag "X" (white with a blue cross) with One Sound signal. The race committee will attempt to notify premature starters, but it is the responsibility of each yacht to start properly.
- b. General recalls will be signaled by two or more sound signals and the first repeater flag (yellow and blue triangle). The restart for the general recalled class will be after all other classes have started.

6. POSTPONEMENT

- a. A postponement is indicated by hoisting the answering pennant (red and white) and a sound signal. New races will be indicated by lowering the answering pennant with several sound signals followed by the warning signal (class flag) in approximately one minute.

7. ABANDONMENT

- a. Abandonment is signaled by blue and white checked flag and sound signals, and in accordance with rule 32. After the starting signal, the race committee may abandon the race or shorten the course as appropriate (a) because of an error in the starting procedure, (b) because of foul weather, (c) because of insufficient wind making it unlikely that any boat will finish within the time limit, (d) because a mark is missing or out of position, or (e) for any other reason directly affecting the safety or fairness of the competition.

8. SHORTEN COURSE

- a. In the event of a shortened course, the chase/safety boat will display code flag S (white with blue square) and the finish will be between a blue flag on the safety boat and the next mark of the course (the committee boat will stay on station). Contestants should cross this line as the finish line.

9. TIME LIMIT

- a. The time limit will be 1.5 hours for the first boat in each class. Yachts finishing more than thirty minutes after the first yacht in their class finishes, may be scored DNF (did not finish) or given the finish positions they are in at that time (class boats). In classes with boats of widely divergent boat speeds (open fleets), the time limit may be modified at the skippers meeting.

10. END OF DAY, RACING COMPLETE

- a. Upon finishing of the first boat in the last race of the day, the race committee will fly the "beer mug" flag indicating that there will be no more starts for the day and competitors are free to leave the racing area.

11. NOTICES

- a. Notices to competitors will be posted on the official regatta bulletin board located in the picnic area, possibly under a shelter.

12. PROTESTS

- a. Protesting boats must hail the offending boat (including the word "protest"), fly a red flag, and must notify the race committee at the finish of that race. These three things must be done before a written protest may be filed. Protests must be presented to the race committee within 30 minutes from the time the committee boat returns to the dock, and must be in writing with explanatory diagrams. Forms are available from the race committee.

13. SPECIAL NOTICE

- a. Commercial traffic, including tugs and barges and cruise liners, have right of way over sailing vessels. Racing boats crossing close in front of such vessels will be disqualified. Fishing boats and fishing lines are obstacles, please keep clear!

14. SCORING

- a. The low point scoring system will apply. 1st Place = 1 point, 2nd Place = 2, 3rd = 3, etc. Under local modification, Did Not Finish (DNF) = number of boats entering +1, Did Not Start (DNS) = number of boats entering +2, Disqualified (DSQ) = number of boats entering +3. (Entering = registered)
- b. There will be no throw-outs with five races, one with six or more races. A DSQ can not be used as a throw-out.
- c. Ties in point scores will be resolved in favor of the boat with the most first places, or if the tie remains, the most second places, etc. If a tie still remains, it will be broken in favor of the better score in the last race.

15. HAILING THE RACE COMMITTEE

- a. In fairness to all competitors, and to help the race committee, please do not hail the race committee except for emergencies or for official notifications.