



SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

2026 CHOCTAWHATCHEE BAY CHALLENGE CUP



October 3, 2026
Fort Walton Yacht Club
Fort Walton Beach, Florida

1. RULES

The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS).

2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The sailing instructions (SIs) will be available electronically online at the official noticeboard.

Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0900 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

3. COMMUNICATION

3.1. The official notice board is located at:

<https://nextsailor.com/regatta/2026CBCC>

3.2. On the water, the Race Committee may make courtesy broadcasts to competitors on VHF radio, channel 72, or as announced at the competitor's meeting.

3.3. The competitor's meeting will be in-person at Fort Walton Yacht Club per the schedule below.

3.4. Changes to the sailing instructions will be posted before 12:00 on the day they take effect. Changes made at the skipper's meeting will be posted following the skipper's meeting.

3.5. On the water, the race committee intends to monitor and communicate with competitors on VHF radio channel <channel>. Use this SI if VHF radios have been required in the NoR.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

4.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed on the yardarm on the FWYC back lawn.

4.2. When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes' in Race Signals AP.

5. CLASSES

5.1. All boats will compete as a single fleet.

5.2. At least three boats from each club must compete to constitute a team.

5.3. The class flag will be pink.

6. SCHEDULE

6.1. A total of three (3) races may be attempted.

6.2. Events:

Friday, October 2	5:00 PM	Late Registration @ Fort Walton Yacht Club
	6:00 PM	Skipper's meeting
Saturday, October 3	11:55 AM	First Warning
	ASAP	Awards following the last race (Lounge)

7. COURSES

7.1. The racing area will be located on the waters of the Choctawhatchee Bay

7.2. The courses will be Windward/Leeward with dropped marks as shown in Attachment A.

7.3. The RC shall display the course to be sailed no later than the warning signal

8. CHECK IN

- 8.1. Each boat shall sail past the stern of the RC signal boat and hail her sail number until acknowledged by the RC prior to the warning signal for the first race of the day.

9. MARKS

- 9.1. Mark 1 (Windward Mark) will be an orange tetrahedron.
- 9.2. Mark 1a (offset) will be an orange ball.
- 9.3. Mark 2 (Leeward Mark) will be an orange tetrahedron.

10. THE START

- 10.1. The races will be started in accordance with RRS 26.
- 10.2. The starting line will be between the staff displaying the orange flag on the RC boat and Mark 2.
- 10.3. A boat starting later than five (5) minutes after her starting signal shall be scored Did Not Start (DNS). This modifies RRS 63.1, A4, and A5.
- 10.4. If any part of a boat's hull is on the course side of the starting line before her starting signal and she is identified, the RC may broadcast her sail number on the pre-briefed VHF radio channel. The failure of any boat to hear the hail, untimeliness of the hail, the order of hail, or failure to hail all or some boats shall not be grounds for redress. This modifies RRS 62.1(a).

11. THE FINISH

- 11.1. The finishing line will be between a staff displaying the blue flag on the RC boat and Mark 2.

12. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 12.1. RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

13. SCORING

- 13.1. The Low Point System of Appendix A of the RRS will apply.
- 13.2. No score shall be excluded.
- 13.3. One race is required to be completed to constitute a regatta.
- 13.4. Scoring will be by club team with team size determined by the club with the fewer number of boats.
- 13.5. RRS A2 is changed so that a team series score shall be the total of her individual boat scores.

14. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 14.1. Protest forms are available from the race committee (as conditions and situation permits) and from the Fleet Captain.
- 14.2. Protests, request for redress, and request for reopening shall be delivered to the Race committee or Fleet Captain within the posted protest time limit.
- 14.3. The protest time limit is 30 minutes after the Race Committee signal boat has returned and the RC has returned.
- 14.4. Persons will be notified, and notices will be posted no later than 20 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses.

ATTACHMENT A: COURSE DIAGRAMS

