



**St. Mary's College of Maryland Presents:
The 2025 Governor's Cup Yacht Races
Friday, Aug 1&2, 2025**

St. Mary's College of Maryland
James P. Muldoon River Center
18952 E. Fisher Road

St. Mary's City, Maryland 20686
240-895-4291, FAX 240-895-4455 email : govcup@smcm.edu

**Hosted by St. Mary's College Sailing Association
St. Mary's College of Maryland**

Special Sailing Instructions, All Courses

Entries:

- Entry fee \$120.00. Registration is not complete until payment is received. Online entry is via [NextSailor.com](https://www.nextsailor.com), the link will also be provided on <https://www.smcm.edu/annual-events/govcup/>. Entries will be sent an automated official confirmation by email. Competitors shall verify entry via the Governor's Cup page on NextSailor.com. It is the responsibility of each competitor to notify the Governor's Cup Office by 7/30/25 if verification of entry has not been accomplished.
- Changes to entry information will not be accepted after 1700 on 7/30/25.

Rules: The race will be governed by the 2025-2028 Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the 2025 Chesapeake Bay Yacht Racing Association (C.B.Y.R.A.) General Sailing Instructions, 2025 C.B.Y.R.A. Handicap and Cruising One Design Rules, and these Special Sailing Instructions.

Safety: Monohulls: The "Monohull SER Nearshore" category of the US Sailing Safety Equipment Requirements (SER), available at <https://www.ussailing.org/competition/offshore/safety-information/ser-world-sailing-special-regulations/> will apply as modified below.

(a) In the event of a conflict between the SER and applicable class rules, the class rules shall govern.

(b) The following SER from the Monohull Coastal SER will also apply:

SER 2.4.1, Lifelines

SER 2.7.2, Mechanical Propulsion

SER 3.14, GPS Receiver

SER 3.22, Soft plugs for through hull fittings

SER 3.24.1, Lights

SER 3.26, Radar reflector

SER 3.35, Rigging: Halyards

For all multihull boats competing, the "Multihull SER Nearshore" category of the US Sailing Safety Equipment Requirements (SER), available at <https://www.ussailing.org/competition/offshore/safety-information/ser-world-sailing-special-regulations/> will apply as changed below.

(a) In the event of a conflict between the SER and applicable class rules, the class rules shall govern.

(b) The following SER from the Multihull Coastal SER will also apply:

SER 2.7.2, Mechanical Propulsion

SER 3.14, GPS Receiver

SER 3.22, Soft plugs for through hull fittings

SER 3.24.1, Lights

SER 3.26, Radar reflector

SER 3.35 Rigging: Halyards

(c) RRS 40 is changed to require all competitors racing aboard any boat without lifelines or which is being double handed to wear personal flotation devices at all times when above deck.

(d) At least one VHF radio, whether fixed or handheld, shall have an MMSI number properly assigned to the yacht.

Ratings: All PHRF entries must have a valid 2025 PHRF Chesapeake Bay rating certificate. <http://www.phrfchesbay.org/>. All Multihull entries must have a valid 2025 Chesapeake Multihull Association (CMA) certificate. <https://chesapeakemultihulls.org/>. ORC entries must have a currently valid ORC certificate. <https://orcches.org/>. CRCA entrants must have a current EZ certificate. <https://sailcrca.org/>

Flags: All competing yachts must display their proper class flag from the bow pulpit and at least six feet above the deck on the backstay. The 2025 PHRF Class Splits will be as per PHRF for 2025, shown here for reference.

Starts: Starts shown are tentative based on recent years starts, we will modify starts as required. If 3 or more boats fit in other classes and desire a start, a start will be given, Email govcup@smcm.edu if your class wishes a start and 3 boats wish to enter.

The final start sequence will be posted on the official Notice board by Sunday, July 28th, Check for that & other SI amendments at the link below before starting.

Changes: Changes to the Sailing Instructions will be posted before 0900 on Aug 1st on the electronic "Official Notice Board"; <https://nextsailor.com/app/page/regatta/917/notices>

Cruising Classes: For 2025 we will include all Cruising Classes for which 3 boats are entered. PHRF Cruising classes must have a current PHRF Cruising certificate, ORC Cruising classes an ORC Cruising certificate, Chesapeake Racer Cruiser Association an EZ certificate. Refer to the appropriate organization for details.

GPS Tracking: GPS tracking is to be determined. As per RRS 41 c) and for safety, use and monitoring of GPS and/or AIS by competitors while racing any leg of the 2025 Governor's Cup is approved.

Finishing Line: Between the orange flag on the committee boat and the cross on Church Point. Yachts finishing in darkness shall illuminate sail numbers for identification purposes. All yachts shall record the finishers immediately ahead and behind them.

Time Limit: Each yacht finishing before 1530 on Saturday 2 Aug 2025 will be recorded by the finish boat. Boats finishing after 1530 on Saturday 2 Aug 2025 shall self-note the finishing time and record it on the official notice board located at the Sailors information table at the James P. Muldoon River Center. Finishing time shall be taken as the cross on Church Point passes 90 degrees magnetic off the starboard bow.

VHF Radio: Race committees will communicate on **VHF channel 68**.

Non-Finishers: Yachts withdrawing after the starting signal shall notify the Race Committee by calling 240-895-4291 and leaving a message.

Refunds: Requests for refunds of entry fees will be honored for boats withdrawing before the start.

Protests: Protests shall be written on standard US Sailing protest forms and lodged at the Sailors Information Table within ninety minutes of the protesting yacht's finish. Protest notices will be posted on the Official Notice Board at the Information Table. Protests will be heard at 1900 on Tuesday, 5 August 2025 at the James P. Muldoon River Center at St. Mary's College of Maryland. Note: It is every competitor's responsibility to check the [Official Notice Board](#).

Awards: Trophies will be awarded at the Awards Ceremony for the classes in which impending protests do not influence trophy results. Trophies will be awarded based on the number of registered boats in each class: 1st place (3 boats); 2nd place (5 boats); 3rd place (9 boats); 4th place (15 boats); 5th place (20 or more boats).

Annapolis Course:

Classes & Flags:

All competing yachts must display their proper class flag from the bow pulpit and at least six feet above the deck on the backstay. The 2025 Class Splits will be as per PHRF for 2025, shown here for reference, with additional Cruising and ORC classes and starts. ORC may split into several classes with a single start for 2025. Refer to the [Official Notice Board](#) for final classes and starts.

Class	Rating	Class Flag
Multihull A	>=1.0	W
Multihull B	<1.0	F
ORC 1	ORC	1
ORC 2	ORC	2
ORC Racer/Cruiser	ORC	Green
ORC Cruiser	ORC	White
PHRF A	Up to 109	9
PHRF B	110-148	6
PHRF C	149 and up	7
PHRF N	All non-spinnaker	5
PHRF Cruising	All	2 nd Repeater
CRCA Racer	Racer/Cruiser	Green
CRCA Cruiser	Cruiser	White
CHESSS	All	3 rd Repeater

Intended Start Times:

RRS 26 ("Starting Races") is modified as shown below:

Class	Time (Aug 1, 2025)	Signal
	1455	Warning
CRCA Cruiser	1500	Start
CRCA Racer	1505	Start
PHRF C	1510	Start
PHRF N & Cruising	1515	Start
PHRF B	1520	Start
Multihull A&B	1525	Start
CHESSS	1530	Start
Class	Time (Aug 1, 2025)	Signal
	1655	Warning
ORC 1	1700	Start
ORC 2	1705	Start
PHRF A	1710	Start

Course: Leave to starboard: Thomas Point Light, Point No Point Light, Point Lookout Light, and St. Mary's River Junction Red and Green Buoy (FL (2+1) R6s). In addition, St. Mary's River Lighted Day markers 1, 2, and 3 shall be passed on the channel side. No other marks need to be honored.

Distance: 68.6 nautical miles.

Check-in: The Annapolis race committee may employ a vessel used solely for check-in of contestants, others check in with the RC start boat, Yachts must check in with the check in boat prior to starting. If there is a check-in boat it will be positioned approximately 100 yards northwest of the committee boat and will be flying a race committee flag. Yachts failing to check in may be scored DNC.

Starting Line: Between the orange flag on the committee boat and Annapolis Area Mark "X" (R-2).
(Note: 'keep away' buoy, if present, is a part of the committee boat)

"Best in Fleet" Trophy:

The Joseph Waldschmitt Memorial "Most Competitive Class" trophy will be presented to the winner of the class (of all classes regardless of rating system) having the smallest corrected time interval between the first and fifth place finishers.

Special Awards, Annapolis race only

Classes: The Alumni Trophy, the Steve Bickell Memorial, and the North American Rating Overall Trophy will be scored by including the entire fleet, (Fleet Overall Scoring) using the North American Ratings System (NAR), assuring all yachts from all rating systems and starting times are compared as concisely as is currently available.

Alumni Trophy: Yachts racing in all classes are eligible to compete for the Alumni Trophy if two or more members of the yacht's crew are graduates or current students with 24 credits or more of St. Mary's College of Maryland. The winner will be the eligible yacht that qualifies for the trophy and finishes with the fastest corrected time based on Fleet Overall Scoring. Skipper must indicate intention to compete for the trophy to be eligible with the names of the alumni racing.

Steve Bickell Memorial Trophy:

The Steve Bickell "Most Improved" Memorial Trophy will be presented to the skipper/boat with the largest numerical increase of finish position based on Fleet Overall Scoring when results of the 2025 race are compared to the 2024 race results.
(Skipper/boat must be the same as 2024)

North American Rating System Overall:

The NAR Overall trophy will be awarded to the 1st place finisher of the fleet overall scoring.

Fishing Bay Course:

Classes & Flags:

Class	Region IVN Rating	Class Flag
PHRF A	Up to 109	Q above 0
PHRF B	110-148	Q above 6
PHRF C	149 and up	Q above 7
PHRF N	All non-spinnaker	Q above 5
PHRF Cruising	All	Green

The Start:

RRS 26 ("Starting Races") is modified as shown below:

Class	Time (Aug 1, 2025)	Signal
	1755	Warning
PHRF Spinnaker	1800	Start
PHRF N & Cruising	1805	Start

Course:

Pass to port: "Piankatank 2", Windmill Point Light, Smith Point Light, Potomac Mo(a) "A", then St. Mary's "SM" to starboard. In addition, St. Mary's River Mark G"1" (Fl G2.5s) shall be left to port, R"2" (Fl R4s) left to starboard, G"3" (Fl G6s) shall be left to port.

Distance: 48.6 nautical miles

Check-in: Yachts must check in with the race committee prior to starting. Yachts failing to check in may be scored DNC.

Starting Line: Between the orange flag on Race Committee boat and Piankatank "5". (Note: 'keep away' buoy, if present, is a part of the committee boat)

Potomac Course:

Classes & Flags:

All competing yachts must display their proper class flag from the bow pulpit and at least six feet above the deck on the backstay.

Class	Rating	Class Flag
PHRF Spinnaker	All	Q
PHRF N	All	Q above "5"

The Start:

RRS 26 ("Starting Races") is modified as shown below:

Class	Time (Aug 1, 2025)	Signal
	1755	Warning
PHRF Spinnaker	1800	Start
PHRF N	1805	Start

Course: East (down river) keeping Ragged Point to Starboard, rounding Moa "A" to Port then St. Mary's "SM" to Starboard. In addition, St. Mary's River Mark G"1" (FI G2.5s) shall be left to port, R"2" (FL R4s) left to starboard, G"3" (FI G6s) shall be left to port.

Distance: 46.7 nautical miles

Check-in: Yachts must check in with the race committee prior to starting. Yachts failing to check in may be scored DNC.

Starting Line: Between the orange flag on the committee boat and Dahlgren line of fire buoy "P". (Note: 'keep away' buoy, if present, is a part of the committee boat)

Solomons Course:

Classes & Flags:

All competing yachts must display their proper class flag from the bow pulpit and at least six feet above the deck on the backstay.

Class	Rating	Class Flag
PHRF N	All	Q above "5"
CRCA Racer/Cruiser	All	Green
CRCA Cruiser	All	White
PHRF C	149 & up	Q above 7
PHRF B	110 to 148	Q above 6
PHRF A	Up to 109	Q above 9

The Start:

RRS 26 ("Starting Races") is modified as shown below:

Class	Time (Aug 1, 2025)	Signal
	1755	Warning
CRCA Cruiser	1800	Start
CRCA Racer	1805	Start
PHRF	1810	Start

Course: Leave to starboard: 1PR, Point No Point Light, Point Lookout Light, and St. Mary's River Junction Red and Green Buoy (FL (2+1) R6s). In addition, St. Mary's River Lighted Day markers 1, 2, and 3 shall be passed on the channel side. No other marks need to be honored.

Distance: 36.2 nautical miles

Check-in: Yachts must check in with the race committee prior to starting. Yachts failing to check in may be scored DNC.

Starting Line: Between the orange flag on Race Committee boat and SMSA mark 'S' off the Gazebo.
(Note: 'keep away' buoy, if present, is a part of the committee boat)