

PRSA Spring Regatta
Potomac River Sailing Association
May 23-24, 2026
Washington Sailing Marina, Alexandria, VA
Event website: <https://nextsailor.com/regatta/1306>

Regatta Sailing Instructions

1. RULES

- 1.1 These races will be governed by *rules* as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS) and US Sailing Prescriptions except where modified by the SI or NOR.

2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 Changes to the sailing instructions will be posted no later than 0800 on Saturday, September 20, except any changes to the schedule of racing will be posted by 2000 on Friday, September 19.

3. COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official electronic notice board located at <https://nextsailor.com/app/page/regatta/1306/notices>.
- 3.2 While racing, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.
- 3.3 On the water, the race committee may make courtesy broadcasts to competitors on VHF radio channel 68.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from a Race Committee boat on the ramp launch pier.
- 4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 45 minutes' in Race Signals AP.

5. CODE OF CONDUCT

- 5.1 [DP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.

6. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 6.1 Competitors' meeting: **1000** on Saturday in the dry sail launch area near the cranes.
- 6.2 First race for the first class: The warning signal for the 1st race of the day for the first class to start is **1125** on both Saturday and Sunday.
- 6.3 First race for the other classes: There will be a short time interval between the start of one class and the warning for the next class (no rolling starts).
- 6.4 Subsequent races: **The RC intends to start subsequent races for some classes before all the classes have finished.**

- 6.5 Number of Races: As many races as conditions and time allow on each day.
- 6.6 End of racing: No warning signal will be made after 1630 on Saturday. No warning signal will be made after 1630 on Sunday.

7. CLASS FLAGS

Class	Class Flag
Albacores	AL on white
Flying Scots	FS on red
Windmill	Blue Windmill on White
Inland 20s	I-20 on yellow
Lightnings	Red flash on yellow
Buccaneers	Crossed cutlasses on white
Lasers	Red laser burst on white

8. ORDER OF STARTS

- 8.1 The order of starts for the first race of the first day will be announced at the competitors’ meeting.
- 8.2 Classes with 5 or more competitors will have their own start. Classes with 4 or fewer competitors *may* be started together or grouped with another class.

9. RACING AREA

- 9.1 Races will be conducted on the Potomac River, between National Airport and Hains Point, Washington, D.C.

10. COURSES

- 10.1 See “SI Addendum 1” attachment (below) for a description of the courses that may be used, the flag signals used to designate each course, and directions on how to sail each course.
- 10.2 If there is only one gate mark, then it must be rounded to mark.

11. MARKS

- 11.1 The marks designated as 1, 2(2S/2P), and 3 in the attachment will be orange cylinders.
- 11.2 New marks as provided in instruction 14.2 will be large yellow cylinders.
- 11.3 The start pin is a white cylinder with a red flag on top.
- 11. The finish pin is a white cylinder with a blue flag on top.

12. OBSTRUCTIONS

- 12.1 Channel-bound vessels within the racing area are obstructions. Boats that are racing must keep clear of such vessels. A boat may not exercise right of way over, cross in close proximity to, or interfere with the reasonable transit of the race area by commercial vessels. A boat charged under this rule has the burden of proof to show that she did not break the rule. Boats must take action well in advance of any potential conflict.
- 12.2 The RC may protest a boat under this rule based on information received from any person, including a person with a conflict of interest. The protest time limit may be extended. Statements from the US Coast Guard, DC Police, or commercial ship captains will be accepted as evidence without the author present. This modifies RRS 60.2(a)(2), 60.3, 60.4(a), 60.4(b)(3), 61.3, and 63.6.

12.3 The penalty for violation of this rule is to be scored DNE.

13. THE START

13.1 Races will be started using RRS 26, with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal. A series of short blasts will precede the warning signal.

13.2 The start will be between an orange flag on the signal boat and the course side of a small white cylinder with a red flag.

13.3 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall stay clear of the starting area and the finish line during the starting sequence for other classes.

13.4 Individual Recalls will be signaled in accordance with RRS 29.1. Additionally, the Race Committee will attempt to notify OCS boats via hail on VHF-68. This modifies RRS 29.

13.5 Failure to transmit or receive an OCS notification, promptness of the notification, or a boat's position in the notification sequence, shall not be considered grounds for granting redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

13.6 A boat starting later than the start of the next fleet after her start shall be scored Did Not Start (DNS). This changes RRS A5.1, A5.2 and A10.

14. CHANGE OF THE FIRST AND SUBSEQUENT LEGS OF THE COURSE

14.1 The race committee may, without signal, move a mark to change the direction up to 30 degrees or the length up to 10% of the previous length, or adjust the angle or width of the leeward gate. This changes RRS 33.

14.2 The race committee may, when signaled in accordance with RRS 33, lay a new mark, as described in the SI Addendum 1 (or move the finishing line or gate) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.

14.3 Additionally, the Race Committee may notify of course changes to boats via hail on VHF-68 or by voice. This modifies RRS 33.

14.4 Failure to transmit or receive a notification, promptness of the notification, or a boat's position in the notification sequence, shall not be considered grounds for granting redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

15. THE FINISH

15.1 The finish line will be between a blue flag on the RC boat and the course side of a small white cylinder with a blue flag.

16. PENALTY SYSTEM

16.1 RRS/US Sailing Appendix V1 (Penalty at the Time of an Incident) will apply: "A boat may take a One-Turn Penalty when she may have broken a rule of Part 2 or RRS 31 while *racing*. However, when she may have broken a rule of Part 2 while in the *zone* around a *mark* other than a starting *mark*, her penalty shall be a Two-Turns Penalty." This changes RRS 44.1.

17. TIME LIMIT

17.1 The time limit will be 90 minutes for the first boat to finish in each class. Boats still racing 15 minutes after the first boat that sails the course and finishes will be scored TLE (time limit expired).

The official time limits will be determined by the Race Committee's timekeeping. Only the Race Committee's recorded times will be used to decide whether boats have complied with the time limits. This changes RRS 35, A5.1, A5.2, and A10, and adds 'TLE' with the meaning Time Limit Expired.

- 17.2 A boat scored TLE shall be scored points for the finishing place two more than the points scored by the last boat that finished within the Finishing Window. TLE shall not be worse than DNF. This changes RRS 35, A5.1, A5.2 and A10.

18. HEARING REQUESTS

- 18.1 Protest Forms are available from the Regatta Chair. Protests shall be delivered to the Race Committee within one hour after the official docking of the RC signal boat. The time of docking will be posted on the official Notice Board.
- 18.2 Protests will be heard in approximately the order of receipt as soon as possible.
- 18.3 Protest notices will be posted within approximately 30 minutes of the protest time limit to inform competitors where and when there is a hearing in which they are parties to a hearing or named as witnesses.

19. SCORING

- 19.1 One race is required to be completed to constitute a regatta.
- 19.2 If there are 5 or fewer races, no scores will be excluded. If there are 6 or more races, a competitor's worse score will be excluded. This changes RRS A2.1.
- 19.3 Rule A5.3 will apply (see 13.6, above, as well).

20. SAFETY

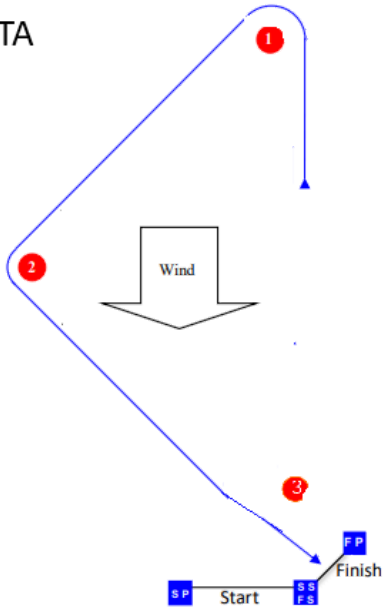
- 20.1 All competitors are required to wear a personal flotation device properly secured.
- 20.2 Competitors leaving the race area must notify the RC (verbally or via VHF)

21. PRIZES

- 21.1 Trophies will be awarded Sunday afternoon with the depth based on the number of registrants in each class registered before the end of the discounted early registration period.
- 21.2 The Norman C. Schaller Memorial Trophy will be conferred to the skipper with the fewest points in the largest fleet among fleets of 10 or more boats.
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ATTACHMENT: SI Addendum 1
COURSE BOARD, (ON THE SIGNAL BOAT) INDICATE THE COURSE

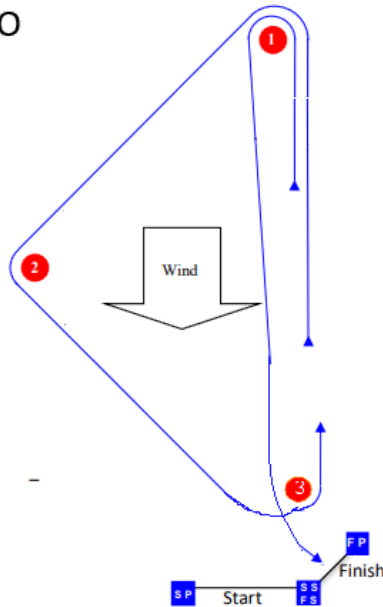
TA



Course: Triangular Reaching Finish

Signal	Mark Rounding Order
TA1	Start – 1 – 2 – Finish
TA2	Start – 1 – 2 – 3 – 1 – 2 – 3 – Finish

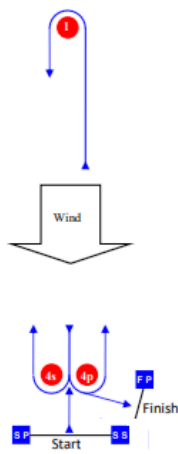
O



Course: Triangular Reaching Finish

Signal	Mark Rounding Order
O2	Start – 1 – 2 – 3 – 1 – 3 – Finish

LA



Course: Leeward finish

Signal	Mark Rounding Order
LA2	Start – 1 – 4s/4p – 1 – 4p – Finish
LA3	Start – 1 – 4s/4p – 1 – 4s/4p – 1 – 4p – Finish
LA4	Start – 1 – 4s/4p – 1 – 4s/4p – 1 – 4s/4p – 1 – 4p – Finish