



NOTICE OF RACE

2026 Dillard-Gilbert Potomac Cup Regatta

May 30 - 31, 2026
Hosted by Lightning Fleet 50
Leesylvania State Park
2001 Daniel K Ludwig Drive, Leesylvania, VA 22191

<https://www.nextsailor.com/regatta/PotomacCup2026>

ORGANIZING AUTHORITY & HOST CLUB:

Potomac River Sailing Association (PRSA), and Lightning Fleet 50.

RULES:

The current *Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS), the prescriptions of US Sailing (except where changed by the Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions), this Notice of Race, and the Sailing Instructions shall be in effect. In case of conflict between the Notice of Race (NOR) and the Sailing Instructions (SI's), the Sailing Instructions shall prevail.

RRS 42.3(c) is changed to say “Except on a beat to windward, when surfing down the leeward side of a wave or when planing is possible, a boat’s crew may pull the sheet, but not the guy, controlling any sail to initiate surfing or planing, but only once for each wave or gust of wind. When the mainsheet is pumped, only the part of the sheet between the crew member handling the sheet and the first block on the boom shall be used.”

RRS 44.1 is changed by adding the following sentence after the first sentence: “When an infringing yacht has its spinnaker drawing at the time of the infringement, drops it completely while taking her penalty, and resets it immediately and has it drawing after the penalty, the penalty is a One-Turn Penalty.”

VHF radios are allowed for communications with the Race Committee per ILCA By- Laws Article VIII 5) B) 4) A). The RC intends to communicate with competitors and hail OCS boats using VHF. Failure to receive a hail shall not be cause for redress. The timeliness, order, and ability to understand a radio transmission is not redressable.

Class Rule in Bylaws Article VIII part 1 is changed to say “The total number of persons aboard a boat in an event shall be two (2) or three (3). The same number of crew shall be carried throughout all races of the event.”

ELIGIBILITY:

The regatta is open to all Lightning class sailboats. This event is a [Purnell Cup Regatta](#).

REGISTRATION AND ENTRY:

\$175.00 includes entry fee, dinner for three, beer/beverages, and awards. The registration fee also includes park entry for 1 car & boat, on-site camping, hot dogs after the racing on Sunday, and beverages throughout the weekend.

And that’s not all. **Three regatta long-sleeve tech shirts in the sizes you specify and the color you choose are included for those who register by May 15.**

Please register online at <https://www.nextsailor.com/regatta/PotomacCup2026>.

SCHEDULE:

Friday, May 29

You are welcome to arrive on Friday and, optionally, set up your boat and go for a sail.

Saturday, May 30

09:00-10:30 Check in

10:30 Competitors meeting

12:00 1st Warning Signal

Dinner after racing

Sunday, May 31

10:00 1st Warning Signal

15:00 Final Warning Signal Deadline

Awards following last race

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS:

The Sailing Instructions will be available online a few days before the event.

VENUE:

Leesylvania State Park is located just off I-95 south of Woodbridge, VA. Take exit 156 (approx. 14 miles south of the I-95/495/395 interchange aka the mixing bowl) and follow Route 784 East. Look for small brown signs for Leesylvania State Park. You’ll merge onto Rt. 784E/Dale Blvd; go about a mile; turn right (south) onto Rt. 1; go 1 mile; take

left onto Neabasco Creek Road; go 1.5 miles; turn right into park. Once in the park and after passing under the railroad bridge, look for the second parking lot with the cranes and just north of the park store. For Google maps or a GPS use [2001 Daniel K Ludwig Drive, Woodbridge, VA 22191](#).

Park Entry: the regatta entry fee covers the cost of 1 car and boat for the park. Fees for additional cars should be paid at the ranger station near the park entrance. An area for parking boats and competitor vehicles will be marked off with cones in the parking lot near the launch cranes.

RACING AREA:

Racing area: the racing area will be in the middle of the Potomac River east of the launch cranes/docks.

COURSES:

Courses will be described in the Sailing Instructions. Courses may be shortened at the discretion of the Race Committee.

SCORING:

A total of six (6) races are planned. One (1) race is required to constitute a regatta. If 6 or more races are completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her scores with a throw-out. This modifies RRS A2.

DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY:

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority and host club will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

AWARDS:

Awards will be provided to the top five teams (skipper and crew). The Potomac Cup perpetual will be inscribed with the winner's name. The Doc Gilbert Potomac Cup Painting will be given to the highest placing Fleet 50 skipper to hold for one year and a plate added with their name.

CONTACTS:

Regatta Chair: Nabeel Alsalam – nabeel.alsalam@gmail.com / 571.766.6164
Fleet Captain: Dan Pedersen – pedersendane@gmail.com / 612.382.0239

ACCOMODATIONS:

Tent camping is permitted in the area near the pavilion on Friday and Saturday nights. Overnight RV parking near the pavilion is allowed. Inexpensive motels in the area include the Super8 – Dumfries (703-221-8838) and the Sleep Inn – Dumfries (703-445-0900).

GREEN REGATTA:

This regatta has been certified as a “green regatta” via the Sailors for the Sea regatta certification and sustainability program. Please be mindful of your use of resources and of waste disposal and recycling while at the regatta. Please bring refillable water bottles to the regatta.