

2026 HOBIE 14 OPEN AND WOMEN'S NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Organizing Authority: Hobie Class Association of North America,
hosted by Fort Walton Yacht Club, Fort Walton Beach, FL

June 15 – 19, 2026

AMENDMENT #1 June 16, 2026

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The notation [DP] in a rule in the SI means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification. The notation [NP] in a rule in the SI means that is non-protestable by a boat, the RC or the Technical Committee.

1 RULES

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

2 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

2.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted not less than 60 minutes prior to the first scheduled race on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 1800 on the day before it shall take effect or prior to the previous day's protest time limit, whichever is later.

3 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Notices to competitors shall be posted on the Official Notice Board located on the back porch of the Fort Walton Yacht Club. At the end of each day of racing, the Race Committee (RC) shall post its docking time as well as any RC actions. Notices of protest hearings and requests for redress shall be posted here within 30 minutes after the expiration of protest time.
- 3.2 There will be a competitors' meeting on Monday, June 15 at 0930 at the fire pit. Other competitors' meetings may be scheduled as required.
- 3.3 On the water, the Race Committee intends to monitor and communicate with competitors via VHF radio channel 7.2. This information is given as a courtesy, and a request for redress may not be based on any aspect of this unofficial communication, including content, timeliness, existence, and/or failure to hear. *This changes RRS 61.4(b)*.
- 3.4 Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones. [DP]

4 CODE OF CONDUCT

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

5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flagpole behind Fort Walton Yacht Club.
- 5.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes' in race signal AP. *This changes Race Signal AP.*

6 SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 6.1 There will be 4 days of fleet racing (06/15 – 06/19). Wednesday (06/17) is a lay day.
- 6.2 The maximum number of races to be attempted is 20.
- 6.3 The scheduled first warning signal:
- 6.3.1 Monday (06/15) – 1155 hours.
- 6.3.2 Tuesday (06/16), **Wednesday (06/17)**, Thursday (06/18), and Friday (06/19) – 1155 hours.
- 6.4 On Friday (06/19) no warning signal will be made after 1500 hours.

7 CLASS FLAGS AND ORDER OF STARTS

7.1 Class flag shall be white background with black Flying Hobie H.

8 RACING AREA

8.1 The racing area shall be the waters surrounding Fort Walton Yacht Club.

9 THE COURSES

9.1 HCA Standard Courses will be used. Reference Attachment A.

- 9.2 The “G” option will NOT be displayed by the Signal Boat. The leeward mark may be a single mark or a gate. If the leeward mark is a single mark, it shall be left to port.
- 9.3 No later than the warning signal, the Signal Boat may display an approx. compass bearing & distance of the first leg.

10 MARKS

- 10.1 Rounding Marks
- 10.1.1 Weather Mark: Orange tetrahedron.
- 10.1.2 Leeward and Gate Marks: Green tetrahedrons.
- 10.1.3 Offset Mark: Orange ball.
- 10.2 Change mark as provided in Instruction 13.1 shall be: Yellow tetrahedron.
- 10.3 Starting and Finishing marks: Orange teardrop inflatable mark.

11 MEASUREMENT AND EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

- 11.1 Boats shall comply with the applicable IHCA Class Rules and the requirements of the Notice of Race.
- 11.2 All boats shall be weighed and measured prior to racing as directed by the Technical Committee or Race Committee.
- 11.3 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the Class Rules, the Notice of Race, and these Sailing Instructions. [DP]
- 11.4 A boat that has not completed required weighing and measurement, or that fails inspection, shall not race until authorized by the Technical Committee or Race Committee. [DP]
- 11.5 When instructed by a race official, measurer, or equipment inspector, a boat shall proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection. [DP]

12 THE START

- 12.1 The Start Line shall be between a staff displaying an Orange flag on the RC Signal Vessel and the course side of the starting mark as described in Instruction 10.3.
- 12.2 A boat starting later than four minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. *This changes RRS 63.1, A4 and A5.*

13 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 13.1 To change the next leg of the course, the RC will lay a change mark (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change a change mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark. A single gate mark may be moved or adjusted without a signal. *This changes RRS 33.*

14 THE FINISH

- 14.1 The Finish Line shall be between a staff displaying a Blue flag on the RC Signal Vessel and the course side of the starting mark as described in instruction 10.3.

15 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 15.1 APPENDIX V (Alternate Penalties) shall apply. *This changes RRS 44.1.*

16 TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES

- 16.1 Time limits and target times are as follows:

Class	Race Target Time	Race Time Limit	Initial Weather Mark Time Limit	Initial Weather Mark Target Time
All	40-45 minutes	90 minutes	30 minutes	8-13 minutes

- 16.2 If no boat has passed their initial Weather Mark within the Initial Weather Mark time limit, the race shall be abandoned.
- 16.3 Failure to meet the target times will not be grounds for redress. *This changes rule 61.4 (b).*
- 16.4 Boats may be finished on the course at the discretion of the RC. The RC determines the method and order of finishing. *This changes RRS 35 and A4.*

17 HEARING REQUESTS

- 17.1 Hearing Request forms are available on the notice board as described in instruction 3.1. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit.
- 17.2 For each class, the protest time limit is 60 minutes after the signal boat has docked after the last race of the day. The time will be posted on the official notice board.
- 17.3 Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the protest room, the location of which shall be posted on the official notice board, beginning at the time posted on the notice board.
- 17.4 Notices of RC or Protest Committee (PC) protests will be posted to inform boats under RRS 60.2(a)(2).
- 17.5 Breaches of IHCA class rule 8.1 (with respect to the country of certification only), of instructions 3.3, 3.4, 12.2, 16.4, 19, 21 will not be grounds for a protest or a request for redress by a boat. *This changes RRS 60.4.* [DP]

18 SCORING

- 18.1 One race is required to be completed to constitute a series.

19 SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 19.1 Competitors shall check in by hailing their sail number to the RC Signal Boat before the start of the first race each day (and the first race following any postponement ashore). A boat is checked in when the RC acknowledges her by repeating her sail number. [DP]
- 19.2 A competitor that retires from a race shall notify the RC as soon as possible. [DP]
- 19.3 The PFD must be worn outside of all clothing except that a thin shirt may be worn over the PFD to prevent snagging. The PFD may also be worn in such a way that a full trapeze harness is secured over the PFD.

20 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

- 20.1 Substitution of competitors will not be allowed without prior written approval of the Race Committee. [DP]
- 20.2 Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed unless authorized by the Race Committee. Requests for substitution of equipment shall be made to the Race Committee at the first reasonable opportunity. [DP]

21 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

- 21.1 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions. On the water, a boat can be instructed by a RC equipment inspector or measurer to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection. [DP]

22 AWARDS

- 22.1 Awards will be presented at the Awards Ceremony after the conclusion of racing on the last day of each event.
- 22.2 The highest-ranking North American competitors shall be named 2026 Hobie 14 North American Champions.

23 RISK STATEMENT

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk, See RRS 3, Decision to Race. It is the personal responsibility of each competitor to determine their level of safety. If wind, wave or water conditions make you doubtful of your ability to handle the conditions safely, it is your decision and your decision only to continue sailing or to retire. The organizing authority and hosting authority will not accept any liability for property damage, personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with, prior to, during, or after the regatta.

24 INSURANCE

- 24.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum coverage of \$100,000 (USD) per event or the equivalent. [NP] [DP]

25 SPECIAL NOTES

- 25.1 Any boat receiving 'hands on' assistance from rescue/mark boats will be scored Did Not Finish. *This changes RRS rule A5.* The RC may decide when a boat or crew needs assistance.
- 25.2 The RC may request redress for competitors who exhibit extraordinary sportsmanship.

SAFETY NOTES TO ALL SAILORS

WHILE THE EVENT SITE IS CLEAR OF ELECTRICAL POWER LINES, WHEN OFF-SITE – AVOID!!!

Whenever off-site, whether raising or lowering a mast, while sailing, or moving your boat over land, ALWAYS check for and avoid low overhead electrical power lines. If you see a power line, **AVOID IT! A MAST COMING IN CONTACT OR EVEN NEAR AN ELECTRICAL POWER LINE CAN CAUSE SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH TO PEOPLE ON OR TOUCHING THE BOAT!**

ATTACHMENT A – Illustrating the Course

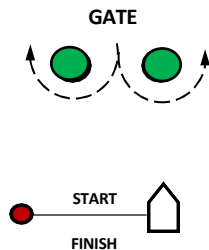
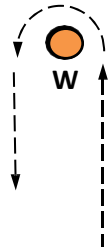
No.	Course	Finish	Options
1	(S) A C A	(F) Downwind	1G
2	(S) A C A C A	(F) Downwind	2G
5	(S) A C	(F) Upwind	5G
6	(S) A C A C	(F) Upwind	6G

NOTE: Color and/or shape of marks used in illustrations may not accurately represent the actual color or shape of marks used on the actual race course. Refer to SI 10, 12 and 14.

COURSE 1 and 2 DIAGRAM and ROUNDING ORDER (Not to Scale)

COURSE 1: START – W – GATE – W – FINISH

COURSE 2: START – W – GATE – W – GATE – W – FINISH



COURSE 5 and 6 DIAGRAM and ROUNDING ORDER (Not to Scale)

COURSE 5: START – W – L (or GATE) – FINISH

COURSE 6: START – W – L (or GATE) – W – L (or GATE) – FINISH

