

LAKE ERIE DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP

Hosted by Thistle Fleet #31

PYMATUNING YACHT CLUB

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- Jurisdiction:** Races will be organized and sailed under management of Pymatuning Yacht Club.
- Rules:** The races will be governed by the rules as defined in the current Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), and the rules and bylaws of the Thistle Class Association (TCA) except as modified by these instructions. Appendix V, Alternative Penalties will be in effect.
- Changes:** Notices and changes in these instructions will be posted on the official scoreboard on the clubhouse porch. Code Flag 'L' will be displayed ashore from the Race Committee Boat.
- Schedule:** The warning signal for the first race is scheduled for 11:00 AM on Saturday, and 10:00 AM on Sunday, but will be no sooner than 30 minutes after the shore cannon. Although a break is scheduled after every two races, additional races may continue as conditions warrant. Code Flag 'L' will be displayed from the Race Committee Boat to indicate another race to follow. One race is required to constitute a series. Unless it is the first race of the series, no race will start on Sunday after 2:00 PM.
- Scoring:** Scores will be calculated using the low point scoring system of Appendix A. All races will be scored. RRS A4 and A5 are amended to add: A boat that has not met the definition of start five minutes after her starting signal will be scored DNS (Did Not Start). RRS A4 is amended to add: The score for TLE (Time Limit Expired) is 2 points more than the number of boats that finished within the time limit.
- Marks:** Marks will be red, yellow, or orange inflatable cones, spheres, cylinders, or tetrahedrons. These marks will be on display at the competitors' meeting on Saturday morning. The fixed PYC marks are to be disregarded.
- Start:** Races will be started using Rule 26 of the RRS. The class flag will be a green, purple, and white triangular pennant with the Thistle Class insignia. The Starting Line will be between the orange flag on the race committee boat and a nearby buoy.
- Finish:** The Finishing Line will be between the Blue flag on the mast of the race committee boat and a nearby buoy.
- Course:** **Course "1" (Code Flag 1)** will consist of six legs as follows: A windward leg, two reaching legs, a second windward leg, a run to the leeward mark and a windward leg to finish.
- Course "2" (Code Flag 2)** will consist of five legs as follows: A windward leg with a short reach to an offset mark, a run to the leeward gate, a second windward leg and short reach to an offset mark, a run to the leeward gate, and a windward leg to finish.
- Course "3" (Code Flag 3)** will consist of five legs as follows: A windward leg, two reaching legs, a second windward leg, and a leeward leg to finish.
- Course "4" (Code Flag 4)** will consist of four legs as follows: A windward leg with a short reach to an offset mark, a run to the leeward gate, a second windward leg and short reach to an offset mark, and a leeward leg to finish.
- Signals:** Signals made ashore will be displayed from the docked Race Committee boat.
- Postponement:** All postponements will be signaled by the Answering Pennant and two sounds. Upon lowering the AP, one sound shall be signaled. The warning signal will be made one minute after this signal is lowered. When Flag AP is displayed ashore, one minute is replaced with not less than 30 minutes.
- Recall:** The Race Committee will attempt to notify all premature starters and may use any means available to do so, including hailing on VHF channel 68. Failure to do so will not relieve any boat of her obligation to make a proper start. The following changes Rule 62.1(a) and will not be grounds for redress: failure of the RC to hail or broadcast any sail numbers; failure of a boat to receive the recall hail or broadcast; a boat's position in the sequence or the promptness of the hail or broadcast. Code Flag "X" will be displayed until all boats have started correctly but no longer than four (4) minutes after the start.

- General Recall:** In the event of a general recall, the warning signal for the new start shall be made one minute after lowering the First Repeater (RRS 29.2).
- Course Change:** If a significant wind shift occurs during the progress of a race, the Race Committee may adjust the course for subsequent legs. The Race Committee will signal a change of the direction of the next leg of the course by displaying the Code Flag "C" before the leading boat has begun the leg, although the new mark may not then be in position. The Race Committee will make every attempt to notify boats of the approximate location of the adjusted mark. Notwithstanding Rule 33, the compass bearing to that mark need not be posted, and the leg may be shortened or lengthened without additional signals. Failure of the Race Committee to adjust the course shall not be grounds for protest.
- Shorten Course:** RRS 32.2 is amended to include the following:(d) in the event the Race Committee displays Flag "S" (Shorten Course) over Flag "C", the competitors shall round the nearest mark to the signaling boat and proceed to the finish at the principal Race Committee vessel.
- Time Limit:** RRS 35 is amended to add: Boats failing to finish within 20 minutes of the first boat to finish will be scored TLE (Time Limit Expired).
- Protests:** A boat desiring to protest must comply with all requirements as set forth by U.S. Sailing. In addition, she must notify the Race Committee of her intention immediately after finishing and file a written protest within one hour of the Race Committee boat's docking time. Watch the scoreboard for time and place of the hearing.
- Required Equipment:** All boats must always have on board the equipment required by Thistle Class. The patrol boat may inspect the boat at any time. Failure to have the required equipment on board will result in disqualification. Substitution of competitors, and of damaged or lost equipment will be allowed, subject to the approval of the PRO.
- Communication:** From the first warning signal until the end of the last race of each session, 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. The Race Committee may make courtesy broadcasts to competitors on VHF radio, Channel 68.
- Check In:** Racing boats are encouraged to check in prior to each racing session by crossing the stern of the main RC boat on starboard, hailing, and receiving acknowledgement.
- Check Out:** Any boat that leaves the racecourse for any reason without giving notice to and receiving acknowledgment from the Race Committee shall at the earliest possible opportunity use the Clubhouse radio (Channel 68) to notify the Race Committee of their whereabouts.
- Disclaimer:** **SAILING IS AN ACTIVITY THAT HAS AN INHERENT RISK OF DAMAGE AND INJURY. COMPETITORS IN THIS EVENT ARE PARTICIPATING ENTIRELY AT THEIR OWN RISK. SEE RRS 4, DECISION TO RACE. THE RACE ORGANIZERS (ORGANIZING AUTHORITY, RACE COMMITTEE, PROTEST COMMITTEE, HOST CLUB, SPONSORS, OR ANY OTHER ORGANIZATION OR OFFICIAL) WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR DAMAGE TO ANY BOAT OR OTHER PROPERTY OR THE INJURY TO ANY COMPETITOR, INCLUDING DEATH, SUSTAINED AS A RESULT OF PARTICIPATION IN THIS EVENT. BY PARTICIPATING IN THIS EVENT, EACH COMPETITOR AGREES TO RELEASE THE RACE ORGANIZERS FROM ANY AND ALL LIABILITY ASSOCIATED WITH SUCH COMPETITOR'S PARTICIPATION IN THIS EVENT TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW.**