

Little Creek Sailing Association (LCSA)

Sailing Instructions: Wednesday Racing Series

1) Rules

- a) Races will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) for 2021 – 2024 and these Sailing Instructions (SI).
- b) Boats shall meet the safety equipment requirements of the US Sailing Nearshore category.
<https://broadbaysailing.org/resources/Documents/Racing/Monohull-SER-2023.0.pdf>

2) Changes to This Sailing Instruction

- a) Any changes to the SI will be emailed to the captains of all registered boats before 5:00 PM on the day before it takes effect.

3) Skippers' Meeting

- a) None

4) Classes and Flags

- a) There will be three classes: Spinnaker (Spin), Non-Spinnaker 1 (NS1), and Non-Spinnaker 2 (NS2).
 - i) Spin: Code Flag 6, 7, or 9.
 - ii) NS1: Boats with PHRF rating of less than or equal to 170; code flag 5.
 - iii) NS2: Boats with PHRF rating greater than 170; White flag.
- b) Boats will display their class flag on the backstay at least 5 feet above the transom.
 - i) If the boat does not have a backstay, the class flag shall be flown on the starboard, furthestmost aft shroud or starboard flag halyard at least 5 feet above the deck.
 - ii) A boat may be protested for not displaying the proper class flag. Upon being protested, she may exonerate herself by taking a one-turn penalty. If she does not take the one-turn penalty, protest remedies are available.

- 5) Racing Area All races will be held outside of Little Creek entrance off the shore of the East Beach development.

6) Course Marks

- a) S – Orange ball drop mark in the vicinity of the RC boat.
- b) J – Yellow buoy off Ocean View beach. Vicinity of N36 56.541; W 76 12.163 (location is shown on many charts as VMRC reef buoy).
- c) K – Red “2” buoy near the entrance to Little Creek channel. Vicinity of N36 56.483; W 76 10.798
- d) L – Green “1” buoy approximately 2 miles north of the Little Creek channel. Vicinity of N36 58.077; W 76 10.068

- 7) Courses Courses shall be posted on the RC boat as indicated by large letters for course marks and numbers for number of laps (following “X”) Leave **RED** letter marks to **PORT** and **GREEN** letter marks to **STARBOARD**:

- a) Example 1: **K L K S**
- b) Example 2: **K S X2**

- 8) Time Limit Any boat that does not finish within two hours after their class starts will not be scored. (This modifies RRS 35.)

9) Radio Communications

- a) VHF channel 71 will be used for radio communications.

10) Check In / Retirement

- a) Competitors must check in with the RC and be acknowledged prior to racing.
- b) A boat that retires from the race shall notify the RC as soon as possible via the VHF channel 71 or cell phone if they have the RC's cell number.

- 11) Collision With a Race Committee Boat If a boat collides with the RC boat or a limit buoy streamed astern before racing or during the conduct of the race, her penalty shall be to retire.

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12) The Start

- a) The start will be in accordance with RRS 26.
- b) There will be three starts. The first class to start will be NS2, followed by NS1 and then Spin.
- c) Unless a second or third start is postponed, rolling starts will be used. RC may postpone or combine starts but shall notify competitors via VHF channel 71.

13) Shortening Course

- a) The RC may shorten the course at any time by anchoring at a mark of the course, displaying flag "S", with two sounds as the first boat approaches per RRS 32.

14) The Finish

- a) The last letter on the course board will be "S". The finish line shall be the line between the drop mark and the RC boat unless the course has been shortened. Regardless of the color of the "S" on the course board, all boats shall finish from the direction of the last mark or the course side of the finish line.
- b) If the course has been shortened, boats shall finish from the course side between RC boat and designated mark.

15) Protests and Requests for Redress

- a) In addition to informing the protestee at the first reasonable opportunity (RRS 61.1), the protestor shall inform the RC of the protest at the time of the protest or as soon as possible after finishing or retiring by voice or by radio. The protestor shall ensure that the RC acknowledges the protest. (This modifies RRS 61.3.)
- b) The time limit to send this protest to the LCSA Coordinator is four hours after the last start. (This modifies RRS 61.3.)
- c) Protests shall meet the requirements of RRS 61.2. and be reported to the LCSA Coordinator by hand delivery or e-mailing LCSA@broadbaysailing.org.
- d) Before a protest hearing is scheduled for an alleged violation of the RRS, the LCSA Coordinator or designee will set up a meeting between the parties to attempt mediation. If agreement can be reached, the protest can be withdrawn, or one or more of the parties can accept a 50% scoring penalty. (This modifies RRS 63.)
- e) Protest hearings shall be scheduled by the LCSA Coordinator or their representative. The protest committee shall be appointed by the LCSA Coordinator. Should the LCSA Coordinator be a party in the protest, they may transfer some or all their duties concerning the protest to the BBSA Racing Fleet Captain.

16) Severe Weather Plan

- a) Sustained winds of 20 kts or greater are grounds for cancelling a race.
- b) The RC may cancel or postpone a race for lightning depending upon the location and direction of the storm.
- c) Delays or cancellations before racing will be by the VHF channel 71 and announced 30 minutes prior to the first warning if time permits. Updates will be provided every 15 minutes until it is determined to race or abandon.
- d) Cancellations while racing due to weather will be by the VHF channel 71. Competitors shall respond with acknowledgement.
- e) Any decision to cancel or postpone is based on the judgement of the RC and is not subject to redress.

17) Scoring

- a) Each series will be scored according to RRS Appendix A Scoring except for each class (Spin, NS1 and NS2): (this changes RRS A2)
 - i) The 2 worst scores will be excluded if 5 races are completed.
 - ii) The worst score will be excluded if 4 races are completed.
 - iii) Zero scores will be excluded if 3 or fewer races are completed.
- b) Scores for disqualification because of a protest hearing (DSQ, DNE) shall not be excluded; however, if the race is abandoned, no boat will receive a score for that race.
- c) Weekly race scores will be posted on the LCSA Official Webpage at: <https://broadbaysailing.org/LCSAResults>.

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- d) The RC boat's score for that race will be the boat's average score of non-excluded races for that series, rounded to the nearest tenth. (Example: 1-2-RC-4-5 shall be scored $(1+2)/2=1.5$) RC will not get "credit" towards points, unless at least one boat in their class completes the race.
- e) If the race is abandoned, no boat will receive a score for that race.

18) Safety / Compliance with Government Restrictions

- a) Boats racing in or near a shipping channel MUST give way to commercial and/or military vessels operating in the channel and are required to KEEP CLEAR of those vessels. Competitors MUST take evasive action well in advance of any potentially dangerous situation. Communication directly with those vessels via VHF-13/16 is advised.
- b) Any attempt by a competitor to exercise right of way over, to cross near, or to interfere with the reasonable transit of the race area by commercial, military, or other vessels unable to respond readily or restricted in their ability to maneuver will be grounds for protest.
- c) Should such a protest occur, the burden of proof is on the vessel allegedly interfering to prove that she in no way interfered with the commercial/military vessel. Additionally a protest may also be filed by the LCSA Coordinator or BBSA Racing Captain if a report is received from an offended vessel or local port authorities/pilots. The protest time limit for this circumstance is 48 hours after the time limit of the last race completed.
- d) As per RRS 42.3(c)(i), if a dangerous situation develops, a boat may use her engine to avoid that situation. No penalty will be assessed, provided she does not gain a significant advantage in the race.
- e) In no way does this instruction absolve any competitor from violating the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (COLREGs).

19) Disclaimer of Liability:

- a) Competitors participate in a race entirely at their own risk. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage, personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after any race.
- b) The safety of a boat and its crew is the sole responsibility of the person in charge (Captain). The person in charge must ensure that the boat is sound, seaworthy, and manned by a competent crew of the appropriate number for the boat.
- c) By participating or intending to participate in an event conducted under the rules, each competitor and boat owner agrees to accept these rules.
- d) The person in charge of each boat shall ensure that all competitors in the crew and the boat's owners are aware of their responsibilities under RRS 4.
- e) If the owner is not onboard during a race, the owner's designated person in charge must be a member of BBSA and LCSA.

20) **Insurance** Each Captain of a participating vessel, by entering a LCSA-sponsored race certifies that the vessel they Captain is insured for racing with valid third-party liability insurance, with a minimum coverage of \$100,000 per event or the equivalent.

21) **Contacts** BBSA Little Creek Sailing Association Coordinator – Rob Williams call/text: (757) 639-6671 or email: LCSA@broadbaysailing.org