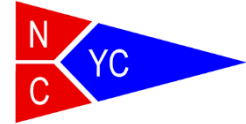




**THISTLE CLASS ASSOCIATION**  
**2021 GREAT LAKES CHAMPIONSHIPS**  
**North Cape Yacht Club (NCYC), La Salle, MI**  
 July 17 – 18, 2021



**SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**  
**REVISED 7/13/2021**

*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 instruction is not grounds for protest or a request for redress by a boat. This changes rule 60.1.*

**1 RULES**

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the *rules* as defined in the *Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS).
- 1.2 The US Sailing prescription to RRS 63.2 shall not apply.

**2 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

Any change to the sailing instructions shall be posted not less than one hour prior to the first scheduled race on the day it shall take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races shall be posted by 1800 hrs or by the protest time limit, whichever is later on the day before it shall take effect.

**3 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS**

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located on the glass by the NCYC front entry doors and on YachtScoring.com (<https://yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eID=14449>). The race office will be in the NCYC clubhouse.
- 3.2 There will be a competitors' meeting on the patio at NCYC on Saturday, July 17 at 1030 hrs.
- 3.3 Radio communications between boats and the Race Committee during racing will be carried out on **VHF channel 72**. Competitors are advised to maintain a listening watch on this channel at all times
- 3.4 [NP] The following communications may be made by the race committee using the designated VHF Channel in addition to any Race Signals (*this changes RRS 29, 32, 33 and 41*): Courses, including the bearing and distance to the first mark; postponements and abandonments; boats identified as OCS and general recalls; changing courses or marks and identify marks; shortening the course; time limits.
- 3.5 [DP] 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.

**4 CODE OF CONDUCT [NP][DP]**

Competitors and Support Persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.

**5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

- 5.1 Signals ashore will be made from the flagpole at NCYC.
- 5.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' will be replaced with '60 minutes.' *This changes Race Signals AP.*

**6 SCHEDULE OF RACES**

6.1 DATE	FIRST WARNING	RACE
Saturday, July 17	1200 hrs	Warning signal for race 1, other races to follow, back-to-back.
Sunday, July 18	0955 hrs	First warning signal, other races to follow, back-to-back.

- 6.2 Flag A displayed, with no sound, while boats are finishing means 'No more racing today.'
- 6.3 No warning signal shall be made after 1400 hrs on Sunday, July 18.

## **7 CLASS FLAGS**

7.1 The class flag will be a **green, purple and white pennant** with the Thistle logo.

## **8 RACING AREAS**

In the open waters of Lake Erie, approximately one mile east and north of NCYC.

## **9 COURSES**

9.1 The diagrams in Addendum A show the courses, including the approximate angles between legs, the order in which marks are to be passed and the side on which each mark is to be left.

9.2 No later than the warning signal, the RC signal vessel shall display on its starboard side the designated course on a placard and the approximate compass bearing of the first leg.

~~9.3 Courses will not be shortened. This changes RRS 32.~~

## **10 MARKS**

10.1 NOR 7.3 is deleted in its entirety.

10.2 Marks 1, 2, 3 4S and 4P (the gate) will be **orange** inflatable marks.

10.3 Mark 1a (the offset mark) will be a white ball.

10.4 New marks, as provided in instruction 14, will be **yellow** inflatable marks.

10.5 The starting mark will be an inflatable mark, or an anchored vessel displaying a staff with an **orange** flag.

10.6 The finishing mark will be an inflatable mark, or an anchored vessel displaying a staff with a **blue** flag.

## **11 RESERVED**

## **12 THE START**

12.1 The starting line shall be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the signal boat and the course side of the mark or the staff displaying an orange flag as described in instruction 10.5.

12.2 [NP] After a postponement, general recall or abandonment is signalled by the RC Signal Boat, an RC Mark Boat may, as a courtesy, display code flags AP, 1<sup>st</sup> substitute or N to facilitate boats returning to the starting area. Only the signals displayed by the RC Signal Boat will govern the conduct of racing. *This changes RRS race signals.*

12.3 A boat starting later than five (5) minutes after her starting signal shall be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. *This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.*

## **13 RESERVED**

## **14 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE**

To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will lay a new mark (or move the finishing line) 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.

## **15 THE FINISH**

15.1 The finishing line shall be between a staff displaying a **blue** flag on the signal boat and the course side of the mark or the staff displaying a **blue** flag as described in SI 10.6.

15.2 Boats shall not sail through the finish line unless they are finishing or attempting to finish. For boats not finishing or attempting to finish, the finish line is an obstruction. A boat which breaks this instruction may correct her error by immediately sailing through the finish line in the opposite direction such that the string referenced in the definition Sail the Course does not pass through the finish line more than once

15.3 [NP] For the purposes of SI 15.2, the finish line will not exist until the blue flags described in SI 10.6 are displayed.

## **16 TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES**

16.1 In accordance with RRS 35, the time limit for each race is 1.5 hours.

16.2 Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) without a hearing. *This changes RRS 35, A5.1, A5.2 and A10.*

## **17 HEARING REQUESTS**

- 17.1 The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the RC Signal Boat docks at the end of each racing day or when the RC signals 'No more racing today' ashore, whichever is later. The time will be posted on the official notice board.
- 17.2 Hearing request forms are available near the Official Notice Board or online ([US Sailing Hearing Request Form](#)).
- 17.3 Notices shall 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 shall be held in the protest room in the NCYC clubhouse, beginning at the time posted on the official notice board.
- 17.4 Notices of Race Committee or Protest Committee protests shall be posted to inform boats under RRS 61.1(b).

## **18 SCORING**

- 18.1 A boat's series scores will be the total of all their race scores, with no races excluded.
- 18.2 One (1) race is required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 18.3 A boat scored DNF, RET or TLE are scored by adding the number of registered boats to the number of finishers, then divided by 2 (any resulting fraction shall be rounded up to the nearest whole number). *This changes RRS A5.2.* For the purposes of this calculation, boats scored UFD will be excluded from the number of finishers.

## **19 SAFETY REGULATIONS [NP][DP]**

- 19.1 Upon arriving in the starting area, boats are requested to check-in with the race committee by sailing past the stern of the RC Signal Boat on starboard tack and hailing their sail number.
- 19.2 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

## **19 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT [NP] [DP]**

- 19.1 Change in the number of crew or substitution of crew(s) shall not be permitted except in extenuating circumstances and only with the written approval of the Race Committee.
- 19.2 Substitution for a damaged or lost rudder, centerboard, spar or other major equipment shall not be allowed unless the replacement meets TCA specifications and is authorized in writing by the Race Committee. Request for substitution shall be made in writing at the first reasonable opportunity.

## **20 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS [NP][DP]**

A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions. On the water, a boat may be instructed by a Technical Committee equipment inspector to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.

## **21 AWARDS**

Trophies for first through fifth will places be presented. Class provided perpetual trophies will also be presented.

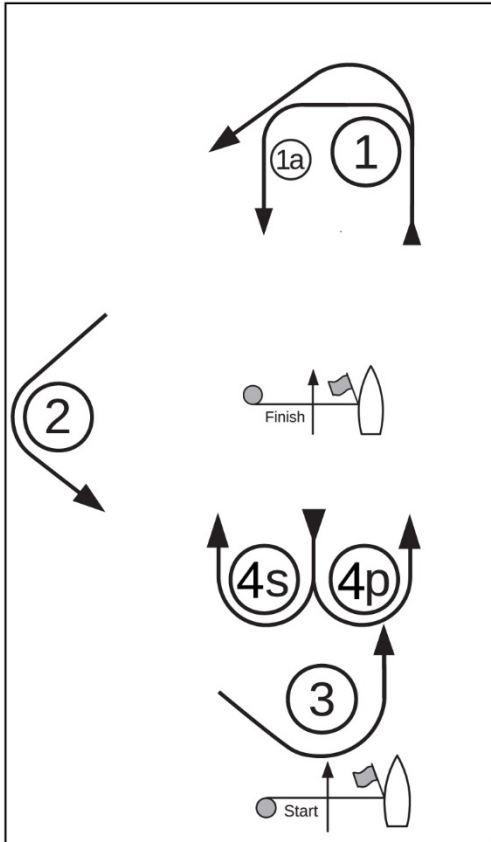
## **22 RISK STATEMENT**

RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. **Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.**

## **23 INSURANCE**

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with minimum coverage of US \$300,000.00 per event or the equivalent.

**ADDENDUM A**  
**ILLUSTRATING THE COURSES**  
*(Not to scale)*

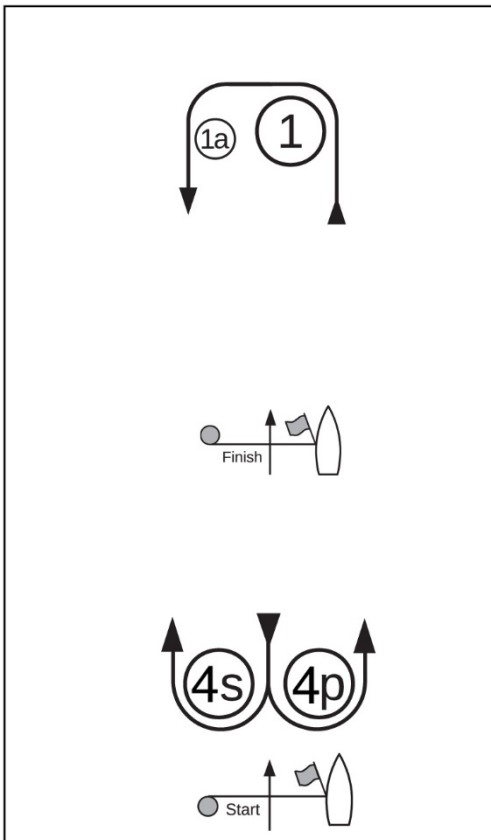


<b>Courses 1 and 2 – Triangle/Windward/Leeward</b>	
<i>Signal</i>	<i>Mark Rounding Order</i>
1	Start – 1 – 2 – 3 – 1 – 1a – 4s/4p – Finish (Equilateral triangle)
2	Start – 1 – 2 – 3 – 1 – 1a – 4s/4p – Finish (Right isosceles triangle)

**Note:** there is no offset mark (1a) when rounding mark 1 for the first time.

<b>Courses 3 and 4 – Windward/Leeward/Triangle</b>	
<i>Signal</i>	<i>Mark Rounding Order</i>
3	Start – 1 – 1a – 4s/4p – 1 – 2 – 3 – Finish (Equilateral triangle)
4	Start – 1 – 1a – 4s/4p – 1 – 2 – 3 – Finish (Right isosceles triangle)

**Note:** there is no offset mark (1a) when rounding mark 1 for the second time.



<b>Course 5 – Windward/Leeward</b>	
<i>Signal</i>	<i>Mark Rounding Order</i>
5	Start – 1 – 1a – 4s/4p – 1 – 1a – 4s/4p – Finish