



# 2020 Opening Series Sailing Instructions



- 1 **Rules** – The Series will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* for 2017-2020, (RRS), published by World Sailing.
- 2 **Notices to Competitors** will be posted on the Official Notice Board located on the northeast-facing wall of the AYC clubhouse, lower level.
  - 2.1 Any changes to the Sailing Instructions will be posted on the Official Notice Board, no later than 60 minutes before the first signal of the day, with code flag L on the AYC flagpole.
- 3 **Signals Made Ashore**
  - 3.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the AYC flagpole.
  - 3.2 When a signal is displayed over a Class flag it applies to that Class only.
  - 3.3 When the AP flag is displayed ashore, “1 minute” is replaced with “not less than 30 minutes” in RRS Race Signals AP.
- 4 **Schedule of Races** – Dates are listed in the Series Notice of Race (NOR).
  - 4.1 The scheduled time of the Warning Signal for the first race each day is 13:30 (1:30pm).
  - 4.2 The completion of one race constitutes a Series.
- 5 **Check in by Competitors – This is an AYC Requirement.**
  - 5.1 **All competitors are required to announce their intent to race by checking in “On-the-Water”** with the Race Committee. Boats not properly checking in may be scored DNS.
    - 5.1.1 Competitors shall sail by the stern of the Signal Boat on Starboard and announce **in this order: Fleet / Sail Number / Boat type** (only for Handicap fleets) and “Non-spinnaker” – (only for PHRF, only if sailing non-spinnaker)
    - 5.1.2 The designation of “Non-spinnaker” or “Spinnaker” may not be changed during the series.
    - 5.1.3 Boats must check-in prior to the first Warning Signal of the day, or only during their start sequence and before their Preparatory flag is dropped in their sequence.
  - 5.2 The starting area is the area within 100 yards of the starting line. **Within this “starting area”**, boats whose warning signal has not been made shall keep clear of all boats whose warning signal has been made.
- 6 **Class Flags** – Class Flag designations will be numeral pennants. The Order Of Starts, class flags, and type of course for each class, is posted as a separate document, online and on the Official Notice Board.
- 7 **Courses**
  - 7.1 The course designation for each Class will be posted at or before the Preparatory Signal for that Class, and will come down shortly after the Start Signal. This modifies RRS 27.1.

- 7.2 The course designation will be displayed on the course board ladder at the stern of the Signal Boat, or will be written on a marker board displayed from this same general area. The first number (and optionally letter) will indicate the start number/letter, then a space, and the letters and numbers that follow will indicate the course to be sailed, as described in 7.3, 7.4 and 7.5.
- 7.3 “Long Distance” LD Courses:
- 7.3.1 For the 2020 Opening Series, pre-defined Long Distance courses are shown on the **2018 AYC Long Distance Course Card**, which are available just outside the Race Committee room, and on the AYC website under “Race Documents”. When using pre-defined LD courses, the course number from the Long Distance Course Card will be shown on the course ladder at the stern of the Signal Boat.
- 7.3.2 When there is not an appropriate Long Distance course on the Course Card, RC may choose to post a course made of any combination of AYC permanent marks, channel marks 3 - 12, and a temporary inflatable mark (**orange windward “W” or yellow leeward “L”**).
- 7.3.2.1 Code Flag C will be flown at or before the Preparatory Signal to indicate that a course not shown on the Long Distance Course Card will be used.
- 7.3.2.2 The course will be shown on a white marker board displayed from the stern of the Signal Boat, at or before the Preparatory Signal. Plain letters or numbers (not underlined) indicate marks to be rounded to port, and underlined letters or numbers indicate marks to be rounded to starboard. “W” will indicate a temporary **orange windward** mark, and “L” will indicate a temporary **yellow leeward** mark, if used.
- 7.4 Multihulls will have two courses: a longer course for the Multihull-A Fleet, and a shorter course for the Multihull-B Fleet.
- 7.5 Round the Buoys (RTB) courses will be designated on the stern of the Signal Boat. The first number will indicate the class number, then a space, and the letters and numbers that follow will indicate courses such as W1, W2 or W3 as shown in the attached course diagram.

## 8 Marks

- 8.1 Marks for the Long Distance courses include permanent numbered channel marks or AYC permanent marks, which are shown on the AYC Long Distance Course Card (see 7.3.1), or an **orange tetrahedron** inflatable mark used as a temporary Windward mark (“W”) or a **yellow tetrahedron** inflatable mark used as a temporary Leeward mark (“L”). The Start Line and the Finish Line will be White Ball buoys.
- 8.2 Marks for the Round-The-Buoys Courses
- 8.2.1 Leeward mark for all RTB classes will be a **yellow** inflatable tetrahedron.
- 8.2.2 Windward mark for J/80 class will be an **orange** inflatable tetrahedron, placed farther upwind than the yellow windward mark (see course diagram).
- 8.2.3 Windward mark for all other RTB classes will be a **yellow** inflatable tetrahedron, placed downwind of the orange windward mark (see course diagram).

## 9 Time Limits

- 9.1 For Round-the-Buoys (RTB) courses, the time limit for each race will be 90 minutes for the first boat to sail the course and finish. A boat failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat in her class sails the course and finishes will be scored TLE (Time Limit Expired), which is the same points as DNF. This modifies RRS 35 and A4.

- 9.2 For Long Distance (LD) courses, the time limit for each race will be two and a half (2.5) hours for the first boat to sail the course and finish. Boats failing to finish within 60 minutes after the first boat in her class sails the course and finishes, will be scored TLE (Time Limit Expired), which is the same points as DNF. This modifies RRS 35 and A4.
- 9.3 Boats may be finished in place, if their finishing position can be correctly determined, or if a boat agrees to be finished in place. Her finish time will be adjusted so as not to appear to have finished in front of boats in her class who finish within the time limit.

## 10 The Start

- 10.1 The Race Committee may alert the competitors prior to the first start sequence, and prior to the second race of the day, with a series of short blasts (more than 6) approximately 1 minute prior to the starting sequence for the first start in that sequence.
- 10.2 The starting line will be between an orange line flag on the port side of the Signal Boat and a white ball buoy on the port side.
- 10.3 The start sequence may be broadcast on the Primary VHF Race Committee Channel 78.
- 10.4 The Starting Signal sequence will be as described in RRS 26.

## 11 Recalls

- 11.1 The RC may attempt to promptly broadcast the sail number of each recalled boat on the primary VHF channel 78. The following shall NOT be grounds for redress:
  - 11.1.1 Failure of a boat to receive the recall broadcast.
  - 11.1.2 Failure of the RC to broadcast recall numbers.
  - 11.1.3 A boat's position in the sequence of broadcast numbers.
- 11.2 A start that has a General Recall will go to the end of the starting sequence for its re-start. This modifies RRS 29.2.

**12 Change of Course** – For Long Distance (LD) courses; the Race Committee may not change the direction or length of any leg of the course after the start. This modifies RRS 33.

## 13 The Finish

- 13.1 Long Distance (LD) and Round-the-Buoys (RTB) classes will have separate finish lines, as follows, and as depicted on the course diagram:
  - 13.1.1 LD Finish Line: For Long Distance (LD) classes, boats will finish at the RC Signal Boat which will remain in the general vicinity of the Start throughout the race (labeled "SB" in course diagram). The LD Finish Line will be between an orange line flag on the port side of the Signal Boat and a white ball buoy on the port side.
  - 13.1.2 RTB Finish Line: For Round-the-Buoys (RTB) classes, boats will finish at an RC Chase Boat which will be anchored farther upwind than the yellow windward tetrahedron (labeled "FB" in course diagram). The RTB Finish Line will be between an orange line flag on the port side of the Chase Boat and a white ball buoy on the port side.
- 13.2 If a Course must be shortened, it will be in accordance with RRS 32.2.
  - 13.2.1 A course board or class flag will show which class is having their course shortened.
  - 13.2.2 Classes not being shortened at that mark, will continue to sail their designated course

## **14 Obstructions**

### **14.1 Start Line and Finish Line obstructions:**

14.1.1 After the start, the Start Line is an obstruction, except when a boat has been recalled and needs to sail to the pre-start side of the starting line as described in RRS 29.1.

14.1.2 After the start, both Finish Lines are obstructions, except for corresponding boats when on the last leg of their course.

14.1.2.1 The LD Finish Line is always an obstruction for RTB classes.

14.1.2.2 The RTB Finish Line is always an obstruction for LD classes.

14.1.3 Boats that sail through these obstructions will be scored points equal to DNF.

14.1.4 A boat may “unwind” to correct its error in order to comply with rules 14.1.1, 14.1.2, 14.1.2.1, and 14.1.2.2, provided she has not finished. This modifies RRS 28.1.

14.2 All marked swim areas and dive areas are considered obstructions.

14.3 If “X” mark is present, the area between “X” mark and Windy Point is an obstruction.

## **15 Scoring** – The scoring is defined in the NOR.

**16 Protests** – Written protests shall be filed with a Race Committee representative in the AYC office. Protests shall be filed within 30 minutes of the Race Committee boat docking after the race. Protests will be heard in the approximate the order of receipt, as soon as possible on the day of the race, or as soon as reasonably possible.

## **17 Arbitration**

17.1 Appendix T, Arbitration, shall apply. Before any protest is scheduled for a hearing, an Appendix T Arbitration meeting will be held for all protests citing alleged breaches of Part 2 or Rule 31 of the RRS.

17.2 One designated representative, in compliance with rule 63.3(a), for each party will appear with an arbitrator. No witnesses are permitted during arbitration.

## **18 Safety**

18.1 The level of Lake Travis fluctuates, so beware of shallow spots.

18.2 A boat retiring from a race is requested to notify the RC on VHF channel 78, before leaving the racing area or as soon as possible.

18.3 For matters concerning safety, boats may contact the RC by VHF radio on channel 78.

**19 Disclaimer of Liability** – By participating in the Series, each boat owner, skipper and crew agree to sail and use the Austin Yacht Club facilities at his or her own risk. To the fullest extent permitted under Texas law, each boat owner, skipper and crew unconditionally and irrevocably releases and discharges the Austin Yacht Club, their Officers, Board of Directors, agents, and all other persons who assist in maintaining equipment or in organizing and/or conducting races, from all claims and legal liability for personal injury, death or property damage incurred in connection with the event.

**RTB Course Diagram**

