



# 2021 Opening Series Sailing Instructions



- 1 **Rules** – The Series will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing for 2021-2024, (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.
  - 2.2 A Competitor’s Briefing will be held online Saturday March 6 at 18:30; recording to be posted on the AYC website afterward
    - 2.2.1 Questions about the Sailing Instructions or about the Competitor’s Briefing can be sent via email to: **race\_commander@austinyachtclub.net** CC: *edpierce206 at gmail.com*
    - 2.2.2 All questions will be answered and will be posted as revisions to NOR or SI if needed.
    - 2.2.3 The Online Briefing Meeting may be recorded and shared on the AYC Website.
    - 2.2.4 A representative of the AYC Permanent Race Committee will be available from 11:45am -12:00 noon each Sunday under the AYC Clubhouse (close to the entrance to the RC Room) to answer any questions, but no formal additional briefing is planned at that time.
- 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 is NOT required for this series.**
  - 5.1 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.
  - 5.2 It is recommended that a valid, pre-registered RaceQs account be active on a cellphone on each boat, for the duration of the races.
- 6 **Class Flags** – Class Flag designations will be numeral pennants as identified in the Order of Starts.

## 7 Courses

- 7.1 The course designation for each Class will be broadcast by RC on VHF channel 78 within 30min. of the first warning signal. RC may repeat course broadcast at their discretion.
- 7.2 The course designation will be chosen from the **New (2021) “Long Distance” course card**, which are available just outside the Race Committee room, and on the AYC website under “Race Documents”.
- 7.3 Multihulls will have two courses: a longer course for the Trimarans, and a shorter course for the Catamarans. Catamarans will sail “the next shortest distance race on the Course Card”, compared to the course sailed by the trimarans. (e.g. D-4 is posted, catamarans will sail D-3).

## 8 Marks

- 8.1 Marks for the “Long Distance” courses include permanent numbered channel marks and AYC lettered marks, which are shown on the **New (2021) “Long Distance” course card**,
- 8.2 In addition to the permanent marks, RC may choose to deploy a yellow tetrahedron, located near the AYC point. When deployed, this mark will be considered “A” mark. This A” mark is shown on the 2021 Course Map.

## 9 Time Limits

- 9.1 The time limit for each race will be 1800 (6:00 pm). Boats failing to finish by 1800 (6:00 pm) will be scored DNF. This modifies RRS 35 and A4.

## 10 Obstructions

- 10.1 All marked swim areas and dive areas are considered obstructions.
- 10.2 If “X” mark is present, the area between “X” mark and Windy Point is an obstruction.

## 11 The Start

- 11.1 The starting line will be between two white ball buoys. If the Signal boat is anchored, then the starting line will be between an orange line flag on the RC Boat and a white buoy, in the vicinity of AYC.
- 11.2 The RC is not required to fly flags to indicate the start sequence. The Warning Signal for each start #1 through #6 will be a sound signal (horn) and broadcast on the VHF Channel 78.
- 11.3 The Start / Finish line is not an obstruction. Competitors should use caution in that area.
- 11.4 The Order of Starts, Time of Start for each fleet are posted as a separate documents, online and on the Official Notice Board.
- 11.5 If necessary, RC will indicate postponement of the start, per RRS Race Signals.
- 11.6 If RC postpones a race, RC may choose to change the course. The course previously communicated (per SI 7.1) may be changed by RC on the water during a postponement, by flying Code flag “C”. When RC is flying code flag “C”, RC will communicate the new courses by VHF channel 78. This must be done for all fleets not yet started, prior to the next Warning Signal.
- 11.7 Before AP is lowered, RC will announce the time for the Warning Signal of the next start, by VHF channel 78, followed by time of any subsequent start times remaining.

- 12 **Recalls** – Competitors are to monitor their own positions and start properly and fairly. Competitors who do not start properly can be protested.

### **13 The Finish**

13.1 The Finish line will be between two white ball buoys as used for the Start line. If the Signal boat is anchored, then the finish line will be between an orange line flag on the RC Boat and a white buoy, in the vicinity of AYC.

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.

13.2.3 Skippers should still enter their own finish times, per SI 14.

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

14.1 For scoring purposes, boats may record their finish time in hrs:min:sec using GPS local time and note the name and sail number of the boat finishing in front and the same information for the boat behind them, using the online tool at: [www.austinyachtclub.net/2021finish](http://www.austinyachtclub.net/2021finish)

14.2 Boats must enter their finish time info by 2200 on the day of the race. Boats identified by RC as racing that day, for which there is no available finish time, and that do not meet the 2200 deadline, may be scored DNF at the discretion of the Scoring Committee.

### **15 Protests** – Written protests shall be filed with the PRO of the day or the PRC rep. Protests shall be filed within 30 minutes of the Race Committee boat docking after the race. Protests will be heard in the approximate order of receipt, as soon as possible on the day of the race, or as soon as reasonably possible.

### **16 Arbitration**

16.1 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.

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

### **17 Safety**

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

17.2 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.

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

### **18 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.