2026 Navy Small Keel Boat Regatta

24-25 October 2026

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

This Regatta will be governed by the Racing rules of Sailing (2025-2028) and the ICSA Procedural Rules for Intercollegiate Sailing competition except as any of these are changed by these sailing instructions.
Note that type III Coast Guard approved life jackets must be worn at all times while on the water.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices will be posted on the official regatta notice board located in the upstairs classroom at Robert Crown Sailing Center. Any change in the sailing instructions will be posted before 0900 on the day it will take effect.

3. NUMBER AND SCHEDULE OF RACES

Saturday 24 October
0900 Skippers Meeting, second floor classroom, Robert Crown Sailing Center
1030 Warning Signal for Race 1, followed immediately by additional races
1700 Approximate end of racing for the day
Sunday 25 October
0930 Warning Signal for additional races
1300 No warning signal will be made after this time, awards ceremony about 45 minutes after last boat docks
A complete round robin is scheduled, switching boats every 2 races.
Three races minimum constitute a series.

4. RACING AREA

Courses will be set in the Severn River and vicinity. The specific race area will be posted on the notice board each race day. If the Race Committee decides to relocate the racing area between races, they will fly code flag "L".

5. THE COURSE

The course will be displayed on a board located on the aft side of the committee boat. Course diagrams are attached. A number in front of a letter indicates how many laps of the course shall be run. If no number is in front of the letter, then just one lap of the course will be sailed. The start/finish line is open during all times while racing.

6. CHANGE OF COURSE AFTER THE START

Course changes will be made to keep the course square to the changing wind conditions.

7. MARKS

All marks will be inflated buoys. The buoy colors may be orange, blue, yellow, green, red, or pink.

8. THE START

Races will be started using rule 26. The starting line will be between the flag on the signal boat at the starboard end and the blue starting buoy on the port end of the line. The warning flag will be code flag "H".

9. TIME LIMITS

Unless at least one boat finishes within 1 hour of the starting signal, the race will be abandoned and resailed.
All boats not finished within 15 minutes of the first boat will receive the points equal to 2 points more than the last finisher but in no case more than the number of starters.

10. RECALLS

The race committee will attempt to notify competitors who are OCS by verbal hail. This does not relieve a competitor's obligation to start properly. Each boat's recall number shall be her mainsail number.

11. THE FINISH

The finish line will be between the flag on the race committee boat and the mark at the port end.
If the race committee does not intend to start another race on the same day, they shall notify competitors as they cross the finish line.

12. PROTESTS

Protest forms will be available on the table in the upstairs classroom of RCSC. Protests and requests for redress shall be lodged within 30 minutes after the signal boat docks. Rules 60.1 and 61.1 shall be used for this event. A protestor must fly a

red flag from the backstay. A boat intending to protest or file for redress shall notify the race committee and identify the party they intend to protest immediately after finishing or withdrawing. This modifies 61.3. Protest will be heard in the approximate order of receipt on the day of the protest or at the first opportune time thereafter.

13. PENALTIES

Rules 44.1 and 44.2 will be in effect, but modified as follows. For fouls which occur outside the 3 length zone, a 360 (1 consecutive tack and jibe) can be done as the penalty turn. If the foul is committed within the 3 length zone of a mark, a 720 must be completed somewhere outside of the zone to absolve a team from penalty. All 360s and 720s completed shall be reported to the race committee as soon as possible after finishing.

14. SCORING

Scoring will be done in accordance with ICSA procedural rules 23 and 24. Each boat's total score will be the sum of her scores for all races. This changes rule A2.

15. RADIO/MOBILE PHONE COMMUNICATION

A boat shall not make any radio transmissions or mobile phone communication at any time on the race course except for in an emergency situation.

16. BREAKDOWNS

If a boat requests breakdown points in a race, they shall notify the race committee upon finishing. Breakdown requests must be filed in the same manner as protests using the protest form provided in the official classroom at RCSC.

17. BOATS

The Navy 26s will be used for the competition. All standing rigging will be preset before the racing to make the boats as evenly matched as possible. Standing rigging, with the exception of the backstay, shall not be adjusted or modified without the authority of the race committee. Bottom cleaning of any kind is not allowed. All boats must carry standard Navy 26 safety gear & equipment at all times. On the water spot checks for safety gear may be made by race committee throughout the race series. Crews shall sail a different Navy 26 for each race day of the series as assigned by the coach.

18. EXPEDITING RACING

To expedite matters, the race committee may award a boat her position and score in a race if it is determined that the boat's position in that race is secure. In this event, the boat will be informed of her position and will be asked to proceed without delay toward the starting line so that the next race may be started within a reasonable time.

19. AVOIDING COLLISIONS

There are to be NO collisions. Particular attention is directed to rule 14. Any collision may result in disqualification of both boats unless the protest committee finds that a boat made every reasonable attempt to avoid damage. If the protest committee deems that a boat was negligent in an incident involving a collision, the boat **WILL** be disqualified from the entire series.

20. SAFETY

19.1 Each competitor is solely responsible for his or her personal safety. However, in circumstances it considers hazardous, the race committee may require a competitor to accept assistance.

19.2 If there is injury to any crew member, assistance may be obtained immediately by hailing the race committee or support boats. Boats may continue racing in accordance with rule 41 when appropriate.

19.3 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee promptly.

19.4 The race committee reserves the right to have all competitors use reduced sail area or reduced sail inventory as conditions warrant.

21. BOAT ASSIGNMENTS AND ROTATION

A drawing will be held Saturday at the Skipper's meeting. Teams will rotate boats after every third race as shown on the boat rotation sheet. Teams shall take all personal gear with them to their next boat.

22. USE OF SPINNAKERS AND REEFING

Should conditions warrant, the race committee may prohibit the use of spinnakers by displaying code flag "W". The signal will be flown prior to the warning signal. Code flag "D" displayed prior to the warning signal will indicate that mainsails reefed to the first reefing point must be used in racing.

23. COACHING

Every effort will be made to provide equal access for coaches and their crews during the regatta. Coaches will not be allowed aboard competitors boats unless assisting with repairs. There is to be no radio, telephone, or other electronic communication allowed between coaches and competitors.