

**2021 LITTLE CREEK SAILING ASSOCIATION (LCSA)  
WEDNESDAY NIGHT SAILING INSTRUCTIONS)**

**1. Rules:**

Races will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) for 2021 – 2024, and these Sailing Instructions.

- (a) Non-spinnaker classes will be single-headsail only.
- (b) Boats should meet the safety equipment requirements of the US Sailing Nearshore category. These Safety Equipment Requirements (SER) can be viewed at: <https://www.ussailing.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Monohull-SER-2021.0.pdf>
- (c) All changes to the hull, rig, sails or other factors upon which a rating is based must be reported to the LCSA Coordinator for evaluation, prior to the next LCSA race.

**2. Registration:**

In order to be scored, each boat must have:

- (a) Paid the BBSA and LCSA entry fees. Join us at <https://broadbaysailing.org/join-us>. Total dues are \$65.00, which include BBSA membership (\$45.00) and LCSA membership (\$20.00).
- (b) Signed up for a Race Committee (RC) boat slot (unless all slots have been filled), Sign up at: <https://broadbaysailing.org/LCSACalendar>. Boats serving as RC for a race that is cancelled will be rescheduled by the LCSA Coordinator.
- (c) Submitted a valid PHRF rating (from PHRF of the Chesapeake) to the LCSA Coordinator (submitting a link to your boats rating from the PHRF of Chesapeake is required). Request PHRF at: <http://www.phrfchesbay.org/>.
- (d) Any member without a valid PHRF rating will not be scored, with the following exceptions:
  - (1) Proof of application for 2021 PHRF, prior to April 7, 2021 has been provided to LSCA Coordinator.
  - (2) New members, or existing members that have a “new” boat that they have not raced with LCSA before, will be granted upon request, for their first series raced, a courtesy rating from the LCSA Coordinator. There is no redress for assigned rating.
- (e) All requirements to be scored must be met by 5:00 PM the day before the race. (Amendment 2.1)

**3. Written Changes to Sailing Instructions:**

Any changes to the Sailing Instructions will be emailed to the captains of all registered boats before 5:00 PM on the day before it will take effect.

**4. Schedule of Races:**

Beginning April 7, 2021 through September 22, 2021, LCSA will race every Wednesday. There will be five series conducted in the LCSA 2021 schedule. Each series will consist of five scheduled races. Races canceled for weather or other reasons will not be scored, but will remain part of the series.

	First Warning Signal	Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Race 4	Race 5
Series 1	5:55 PM	04/07/21	04/14/21	04/21/21	04/28/21	05/05/21
Series 2	6:25 PM	05/12/21	05/19/21	05/26/21	06/02/21	06/09/21
Series 3	6:25 PM	06/16/21	06/23/21	06/30/21	07/07/21	07/14/21
Series 4	6:25 PM	07/21/21	07/28/21	08/04/21	08/11/21	08/18/21
Series 5	5:55 PM	08/25/21	09/01/21	09/08/21	09/15/21	09/22/21

## 5. **Classes and Flags:**

There will be three classes, Spinnaker, Non-Spinnaker 1 and Non-Spinnaker 2

(a) Spinnaker Class Flag (any one of the three listed below):

- (1) Class A (code flag "9")
- (2) Class B (code flag "6")
- (3) Class C (code flag "7")

(b) Non-Spinnaker 1 Flag:

- (1) PHRF rating of less than or equal to 170 (code flag "5")

(c) Non-Spinnaker 2 Flag:

- (1) PHRF rating of greater than 170 (white flag)

Boats must stay in the same class for an entire series. Boats must notify the LCSA Coordinator that they are changing class prior to the start of the series. In the absence of such notification, a boat will remain in the class in which it raced in the previous series.

All participating boats must display their class flag on the backstay approximately 5 feet above the transom. If the boat does not have a backstay, the class flag shall be displayed on the starboard rearmost shroud approximately 5 feet above the deck.

A competitor 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 avail herself of the one turn penalty, it could result up to a DSQ if taken to a Protest Committee.

## 6. **Scoring:**

The PHRF (CR) Circular Random handicap rating will be used for all races. (Amendment 1)

Each series will be scored according to RRS Appendix A Scoring, except that

- (a) For each class (Spinnaker, Non-spinnaker 1 and Non-spinnaker 2), there will be 2 throw-out races in each series, where 5 races are completed; 1 throw-out if 4 races are completed; and 0 throw-outs if 3 or fewer races are completed (this changes RRS A2).
- (b) For each race, a boat that did not start, did not sail the course, did not finish, retired or was disqualified shall be scored points one more than the number of boats that started the race. "Boats that started the race" shall be defined as the number of boats that checked in with the race committee. (This changes RRS A5.2). (Amendment 3.1)
- (c) Boats not racing in order to serve as Race Committee (RC) shall be scored for that race equal to their boat's average score of non-throw-out races for that series (Example: In a series a boat that places: 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.
- (d) Scores for disqualification as a result of a protest hearing (DSQ, DNE) shall not be used as a throw-out. Exception: If the race is abandoned, no boat will receive a score for that race.
- (e) A boat scheduled to be RC shall either serve as scheduled, or find her own replacement. When finding a replacement, the RC will notify the LCSA Coordinator of the change prior to the race start. If she is unable to either serve or find a replacement, she will be penalized in accordance with RRS 44.3(c) (20% penalty) for the next 5 races in which she competes.

Weekly Race scores will be posted on the LCSA Official Webpage at: <https://broadbaysailing.org/LCSAResults>.

## 7. **Prizes:**

Trophies for the first three places in each series will be given at the LCSA 2021 Awards / 2022 Kick-off meeting to be held in March 2022.

Additionally, boats will be recognized for their class performance in all five series.

- (a) Each boat will be scored based on its best 13 races of the year in the five LCSA series (note: For boats racing in more than one class in different series, the best 13 races will all be in the same class).

- (b) The lowest total in each class will be recognized.
- (c) The RC credit will not apply.
- (d) Ties will be decided by the boat with the most first place finishes in their class. In case of an equal number of first place finishes, scoring shall move to the most second place finishes and so on.

**8. Sail Numbers:**

To facilitate identifying boats for scoring, all boats participating in LCSA races will have a sail number on at least one sail, preferably on both the headsail and the main sail. Boat owners will provide their sail number to the LCSA coordinator in writing before their first race. All sail numbers on a boat must be the same. Boats not scored because they did not have a sail number or had mismatched sail numbers will not be subject to redress.

**9. Racing Area:**

All races will be held outside of Little Creek entrance off the shore of the East Beach development.

**10. Course Marks**

S – Orange Ball drop mark in the vicinity of the RC boat.

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).

K – Red “2” buoy near the entrance to Little Creek channel. Vicinity of N36 56.483; W 76 10.798

L – Green “1” buoy approximately 2 miles north of the Little Creek channel. Vicinity of N36 58.077; W 76 10.068

**11. Courses:**

Courses shall be posted on the RC boat as indicated by large letters for course marks and numbers for number of laps. Leave RED letter marks to PORT and GREEN letter marks to STARBOARD:

Example 1: **K L K S**

Example 2: **K S x2**

**12. The Start:**

Races shall be started by using the following signals. (This changes RRS 26)

Minutes before starting signal	Visual signal	Sound signal	Means
6	None	5 short	Attention (first start only)
5	Class flag(s) displayed	1 short	Warning
4	Preparatory flag displayed	1 short	Preparatory signal
1	Preparatory flag removed	1 long	One minute
0	Class flag(s) removed/displayed	1 short	Starting signal

The iStart automated starting box may be used for sound signals.

There will be three starts (Non-Spinnaker 2 class followed by Non-Spinnaker 1 class and Spinnaker class). Unless a second or third start is postponed, rolling starts will be used. (Amendment 3.2)

Competitors must check in with the Race Committee and be acknowledged prior to racing. (Amendment 2.2)

**13. Starting Line:**

The starting line for all classes will be between the "S" drop mark and an Orange Flag on the RC boat.

It is recommended that the start line be approximately 1.5 times the total length of the largest class.

**14. Keeping Clear of Starting Area:**

Boats are encouraged to remain clear of the starting area as boats are starting. Boats not racing shall keep clear of boats that are racing.

**15. Individual Recall:**

A boat is over the starting line early if any part of the hull is on the course side of the line when the starting gun sounds. When this happens, flag "X" is flown with one sound. "X" remains flying until all offenders have restarted properly by getting back behind the starting line, but no later than four minutes after the starting signal or one minute before any later starting signal.

Additionally, the RC as a courtesy only, may attempt to announce the "over-earlies" on the radio. (This changes RRS 29.1)

**16. Safety/Compliance with Government Restrictions:**

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.

- (a) Any attempt by a competitor to exercise right of way over, to cross in close proximity to, 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.
- (b) Should such a protest occur, the burden of proof is on the vessel allegedly interfering to show that she in no way interfered with that commercial/military vessel. Such protest may also be filed by a protest committee as a result of a report received from the 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.
- (c) As per RRS 42.3(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.

In no way does this instruction absolve any competitor from violation of the Collision Regulations.

**17. Shortening Course:**

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. RC will replace the Blue Flag mounted on his boat with Flag "S". Boats shall finish by passing between the RC boat (Flag "S") and the mark in the direction from the previous mark.

If there are multiple laps, the RC may shorten course at the Start/Finish line, displaying Flag "S", with two sounds as the first boat approaches. RC will replace the Blue Flag mounted on his boat with Flag "S". Boats shall finish by passing between the RC boat (Flag "S") and the "S" drop mark in the direction from the previous mark.

**18. The Finish:**

The last letter on the course board will be "S". The finish line shall be the line between the "S" mark and the Blue Flag on the RC boat. Regardless of the color of the "S", all boats shall finish from the course side of the finish line.

If course has been shortened, boats shall finish from the course side between RC boat and designated mark.

While not required, the RC should consider adjusting the finish line so that it is roughly perpendicular to a line drawn from the RC boat and the last mark before the finish.

Any boat that does not finish within two hours after their class start will not be scored. (This modifies RRS 35.)

**19. Protests and Requests for Redress:**

Boats shall inform the RC of their 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 Race Committee acknowledges the protest. (This modifies RRS 61.3.).

- (a) Protests shall meet the requirements of RRS 61.2. and be reported to the LCSA Coordinator on the night of the race by e-mailing [LCSA@broadbaysailing.org](mailto:LCSA@broadbaysailing.org),
- (b) The time limit to send this protest email to the LCSA Coordinator is four hours and 30 minutes after the last start. (This modifies RRS 61.3.)

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 to mediate the protest. 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.)

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 of their duties concerning the protest to the BBSA Racing Fleet Captain.

**20. Radio Communications:**

All boats must have a working VHF and should monitor VHF-72 thirty (30) minutes before the first warning until racing is completed for that evening.

- (a) Between the Courtesies and the Warning Signal, the RC may announce:

- (1) Cancellation of racing due to bad weather or other factors.

- (b) While racing, the RC may announce:

- (1) Boats who are "over early".

- (2) Shortening of the course.

- (3) Abandonment of racing.

- (4) Cancellation of racing due to bad weather or other factors.

Failure of the RC to provide a radio announcement or failure of a boat to receive a radio announcement will not be considered grounds for redress.

To facilitate proper radio communications, boats are urged to limit use of VHF-72 to emergency communication with the RC and early retirement from the race.

**21. Weather cancellations:**

This decision will be made based on the judgment of the RC and the decision is not subject to redress.

Cancellations while racing will primarily be by VHF-72, and Code Flag N with three sounds.

RC should cancel the race whenever he/she thinks it will be unsafe, or when there is a high probability of damaging boats because of the weather. Sustained winds of 20 knots or greater on the race course will be grounds for cancelling the race.

**22. Disclaimer of Liability:**

Competitors participate in a race entirely at their own risk. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after any race. The safety of a boat and its crew is the sole responsibility of the person in charge of the boat. The person in charge must ensure that the boat is sound, seaworthy, and manned by a competent crew of appropriate number for the boat. By participating or intending to participate in an event conducted under the rules, each competitor and boat owner agrees to accept these rules.

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.

**23. Race Committee:**

The Race Committee Equipment (to include an iStart automated starting box, signal flags, course board, orange drop mark and anchor, and RC Bag) will be located in a locked dock box located at Bay Point Marina, on A Dock, in front of Slip A8. Those serving as RC should return the equipment immediately after the race that they served as RC. After returning the equipment they should email or text the LCSA Coordinator that the equipment is returned and they should identify any discrepancies or shortfalls in the RC equipment. Combination to the Dock Box will be provided separately. (Amendment 2.3)

The Race Committee should deliver the scoring sheet to the LCSA Coordinator or the designated representative by either

- (a) Hand-delivery at a mutually agreed location or
- (b) Sending a text photo or e-mail with a photo of the results to the LCSA Coordinator [LCSA@broadbaysailing.org](mailto:LCSA@broadbaysailing.org) or designated representative. (Recommend the RC keeps the scoring sheet for 24 hours, in the event of accidental loss).

**24. Insurance:**

Each skipper 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.

**25. Safety Measures in Response to COVID-19**

Deleted (Amendment 2.4)

LCSA Coordinator:

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