

# Little Creek Sailing Association (LCSA)

## 2023 Oktoberfest Racing Sailing Instruction

September 14, 2023

### 1) Schedule

- a) Races will be held each Wednesday evening from September 27 through October 25, 2023.

First Warning Signal	Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Race 4	Race 5
5:55 PM	9/27/2023	10/4/2023	10/11/2023	10/18/2023	10/25/2023

### 2) Rules

- a) Races will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) for 2021 – 2024, and these Sailing Instructions (SI).
- b) Boats shall meet the safety equipment requirements of the US Sailing Nearshore category. These Safety Equipment Requirements (SER) can be viewed at:  
<https://broadbaysailing.org/resources/Documents/Racing/Monohull-SER-2023.0.pdf>

### 3) Changes to This Sailing Instruction

- a) Any changes to the SI will be posted on the BBSA Website for Oktoberfest before 5:00PM the day before it takes effect. All registered Captains will be alerted of posted changes but lack of receipt is without redress.

### 4) Skippers' Meeting

- a) None

### 5) Radio Communications

- a) VHF channel 72 will be used for radio communications during this series.

### 6) Sail Numbers

- a) All boats must 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. Boats not scored because they did not have a sail number or had mismatched sail numbers will not be subject to redress.

### 7) Check In / Retirement

- a) Competitors must check in with the RC and be acknowledged prior to racing. A boat that retires from the race shall notify the RC as soon as possible via the VHF channel 72 or cell phone if they have the RC's cell number.

### 8) Classes and Flags

- a) The Organizing Authority is planning on three classes, Spinnaker (Spin), Non-Spinnaker 1 (NS1) and Non-Spinnaker 2 (NS2).
- i) Spin: Code Flag 6, 7, or 9.
  - ii) NS1: Boats with PHRF rating of less than or equal to 170; Code flag 5.
  - iii) NS2: Boats with PHRF rating greater than 170; White flag.

### 9) Racing Area

- a) All races will be held outside of Little Creek entrance off the shore of the East Beach development.
- b) Course Marks.
- i) S – Orange Ball drop mark in the vicinity of the RC boat.
  - ii) 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).
  - iii) K – Red “2” buoy near the entrance to Little Creek channel. Vicinity of N36 56.483; W 76 10.798
  - iv) L – Green “1” buoy approximately 2 miles north of the Little Creek channel. Vicinity of N36 58.077; W 76 10.068

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### 10) Courses

- a) 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**:
  - i) Example 1: **K L K S**
  - ii) Example 2: **K S x2**

### 11) Time Limit

- a) Any boat that does not finish within one - and one-half (1 ½) hours after their class starts will not be scored. (This modifies RRS 35).

### 12) The Start

- a) The start will be in accordance with RRS 26.
- b) There will be three starts; the first class to start will be NS2, followed by NS1 and then Spin.
- c) Unless a second or third start is postponed, rolling starts will be used.

### 13) Shortening Course

- a) 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 per RRS 32.

### 14) The Finish

- a) The last letter on the course board will be "S". The finish line shall be the line between the "S" drop mark and the Blue Flag on the RC boat unless the course has been shortened. Regardless of the color of the "S" on the course board, all boats shall finish from the direction of the last mark or the course side of the finish line.
- b) If the course has been shortened, boats shall finish from the course side between RC boat and designated mark.

### 15) Scoring

- a) The PHRF (CR) Circular Random handicap rating will be used for all races.
- b) The series will be scored according to RRS Appendix A except for the following (this changes RRS-A2).
  - i) The 2 worst scores will be excluded if 5 races are completed.
  - ii) The worst score will be excluded if 4 races are completed.
  - iii) Zero scores will be excluded if 3 or fewer races are completed.
- c) Disqualification as a result of a protest hearing shall be scored DNE (disqualification that is not excludable).
- d) Weekly race scores will be posted on the LCSA Official Webpage at: <https://broadbaysailing.org/LCSAResults>.
- e) If the race is abandoned, no boat will receive a score for that race.

### 16) Prizes

- a) Trophies for the top three boats in each fleet will be given at the LCSA 2023 Awards / 2024 Kick-off meeting.

### 17) Protests and Requests for Redress

- a) Boats will inform the RC of their protest no later than when the RC, or designee, retrieves the start pin. The protestor shall ensure that the RC acknowledges the protest. (This modifies RRS 61.3.).
- b) Protests shall meet the requirements of RRS 61.2. and be submitted to the LCSA Coordinator no later than three hours after the last start, the night of the race, by hand delivery or e-mailing [LCSA@broadbaysailing.org](mailto:LCSA@broadbaysailing.org).
- c) Before a protest hearing is scheduled for an alleged violation of the RRS, if both parties request, the LCSA Coordinator or designee will attempt to mediate the protest between the parties at AJ Gators immediately after the race. The preceding does not preclude the parties working it out by themselves. 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.)

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- d) 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 their duties concerning the protest to the BBSA Racing Fleet Captain.

### **18) Safety / Collision with a Race Committee Vessel / Compliance with Government Restrictions**

- a) Boats that are involved in any collision, with any Race Committee vessel, at any time, before during and after the race (not to include the anchor rode or standoff buoy) shall retire.
- b) 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.
- c) 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.
- d) 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.
- e) As per RRS 42.3(c)(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.
- f) In no way does this instruction absolve any competitor from violating the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (COLREGs).

### **19) Severe Weather Plan**

- a) Sustained winds of 20 kts or greater are grounds for cancelling a race.
- b) The RC may cancel or postpone a race for lightning depending upon the location and direction of the storm.
- c) Delays or cancellations before racing will be by the VHF channel 72 and announced 30 minutes prior to the first warning if time permits. Updates will be provided every 15 minutes until it is determined to race or abandon.
- d) Cancellations while racing due to weather will be by the VHF channel 72. Competitors shall respond with acknowledgement.
- e) Any decision to cancel or postpone is based on the judgement of the RC and is not subject to redress.

### **20) Disclaimer of Liability:**

- a) 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 during a given race. 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/or boat owner agrees to accept these rules.
- b) 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.

### **21) Insurance:**

- a) Each person in charge 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.

### **22) Contacts**

- a) Andy Spittler (Little Creek Sailing Association Coordinator) [LCSA@broadbaysailing.org](mailto:LCSA@broadbaysailing.org)