



2025 US Team Racing Championship for the George R. Hinman Trophy

September 25-28, 2025
Larchmont, NY



SAILING INSTRUCTIONS (SIs)

Organizing Authority (OA): US Sailing
Host Club: Larchmont Yacht Club

All times are U.S. Eastern Time

Posted: September 23, 2025

Amendment 1: September 25, 2025

The notation '[DP]' in a rule in the NoR means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification. The notation '[NP]' in a rule of the NoR means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule nor request redress based on that rule. This changes RRS 60.1 and 61.1.

1 RULES

- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS), including other documents that govern as detailed in the notice of race (published on the [event website](#)).
- 1.2 RRS Appendix D - Team Racing Rules will apply with the following changes.
 - (a) RRS D1.1(d) applies. Arm signals are required.
 - (b) RRS D2.3(d), add: "The umpires may decide that any hard contact (contact between hulls and rigs) is damage for the purposes of initiating a penalty. In addition, when there is damage, two race umpires together with another umpire may determine that a race-win penalty as prescribed in SI Addendum D is warranted for one or more boats, without a protest hearing. The boat(s) that broke rule 14 shall be informed as soon as practicable about the damage level and no penalty(s) that will be imposed. Only at the time of being so informed, may the boat request a hearing. If the boat requests a hearing, the umpires shall report the incident to the Protest Committee, which shall act under D3.3(a)(2), and may decide to impose a greater penalty. If no hearing is requested, the umpires shall impose the penalty(s) by reporting it to the Race Committee (RC). RRS D2.6 applies to this decision."
 - (c) RRS D1.2(a)(1) is changed to: "protest another boat, but her protest is invalid if it alleges a breach of a rule of Part 2 and she was not involved in the incident, unless the incident involved contact between boats on the other team (This changes 60.4(a)(2).);"
 - (d) RRS D1.2(a)(2) is deleted.
 - (e) RRS D2.1(b) is changed to: "A boat that protests under a rule listed in rule D2.2 or D2.3 for an incident while *racing* is not entitled to a hearing. This changes rule 63.2(a)."
- 1.3 The first sentence of RRS 63.7(b) is changed to: "A party to a hearing may not ask for a reopening." Subsequent sentences in this rule, including RRS 63.7(c), are deleted.
- 1.4 RRS 60.2(a)(1) is changed to: "If the protestor is a boat, she shall hail 'Protest' and conspicuously display a red flag, at the first reasonable opportunity for each. She may remove her red flag after it has been conspicuously displayed."
- 1.5 SI Addendum B, Handling of Boats, applies at all times, including practicing and when sailing to/from the racing area.

2 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 Any change to the SIs will be posted no later than one hour before the first scheduled warning signal on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.
- 2.2 In accordance with RRS 90.2 (c), any change to the SI made afloat will be signaled by the display of flag L with one sound signal. The RC or umpires may communicate these changes either verbally or in writing. All changes made afloat will be posted, in writing, to the official notice board as soon as possible on the day they were made, even if this is after racing.

3 COMMUNICATION

- 3.1 The official notice board is online and located at the [event website](#).

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the Club's flagpole.
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- 4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes' in Race Signals AP.

5 SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Item
9/25/2025	1200-1900	Check In & Weigh In
	1200-1800	Practice Race
9/26/2025	0800-0845	Check In & Weigh In
	0900	Mandatory Competitor's Briefing
	1000	First Warning
9/27/2025	0800-0845	Check In & Weigh In
	0900	Mandatory Competitor's Briefing
	1000	First Warning
	1900	Regatta Dinner
9/28/2025	0800-0845	Check In & Weigh In
	0900	Mandatory Competitor's Briefing
	1000	First Warning
	1700	Awards

6 EVENT FORMAT

- 6.1 The event is a three-boat against three-boat team race.
- 6.2 [NP] The OA may change the format or terminate any stage of the event when, in its opinion, it is impractical to attempt to hold the remainder of matches under the existing conditions or in the remaining time scheduled; early stages may be terminated in favor of later stages.

- 6.3 The event format will be as detailed below. All round robin wins are worth 1 point.

Stage 1 - Round Robin: A full round robin of all 14 teams.

Stage 2 - Gold/Silver Round: A round robin of the top 6 ranked teams (gold) and bottom 8 ranked teams (silver) using scores from Stage 1. Scores from stage 1 will carry forward. All the gold fleet teams and the top two (2) silver fleet teams will move on to stage 3. The bottom six(6) silver fleet teams will qualify for stage 4.

Stage 3 - Quarterfinal Knockout Series: The gold fleet teams will be ranked 1-6 and top two silver fleet teams will be ranked 7 & 8 using combined scores from stage 1 and 2. The highest ranked team (1) will oppose the lowest ranked team (8); the second highest ranked team (2) will oppose the second lowest ranked team (7); the third highest team (3) will oppose the third lowest team (6); and the fourth highest ranked team (4) will oppose the fourth lowest team (5). The winner of each match will be the first to win two races. The winners of each match will advance to stage 5. The four (4) losing teams will be ranked in order of their combined scores from Stages 1 & 2 for places 5 through 8.

Stage 4 - Consolation Round Playoff: The winner of all matches in stage 4 will be the first to win 1 race. In this stage, the lowest 2 remaining ranked teams will race. The winner advances to race the next lowest ranked team. This continues until a team advances to race the 9th ranked team where the winner of that match will be ranked 9th and the loser ranked 10th. The loser of each match will have a final ranking in the lowest available position not already occupied by a team who previously lost in this stage.

Stage 5 - Semifinal Knockout Series: The highest and lowest ranked teams (rankings after stage 2) will be paired together. The other 2 teams will be paired together. The winner of each match will be the first to win three races. The winners of each match will qualify for stage 7, the losers will qualify for stage 6.

Stage 6 - Petit Final Knockout Series: The losers of the matches in Stage 5 will compete to determine 3rd and 4th places. The winner of the match will be the first to win 2 races.

Stage 7 - Final Knockout Series: The winners from stage 5 will compete in the finals. The winner of the finals will be the first to win three races.

Final Rankings - If any stage is not completed, the teams who qualified for that stage will be ranked using the rankings at the end of the most recent round robin stage.

- 6.4 In the event of ties that affect which teams advance to the top 6 Gold group or stage 3 knockout round, they will be broken first by Appendix D4.2(a)(1). If the tie still remains, if time allows, there will be one race sail - offs. For example, 2 teams tied for 8th place after stage 2 with the same head to head record. This changes Appendix D4.4(a).

7 RACING AREA

- 7.1 The racing area will be in the Larchmont Harbor.

8 COURSES

- 8.1 SI Addendum C describes the courses, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.
- 8.2 The default course will be the starboard digital N course. The alternate course is a port box. If the alternate course is to be sailed, the RC will announce it before the warning signal of a race.
- 8.3 Courses will not be shortened. This changes RRS 32.
- 8.4 The RC may change a leg of the course that begins at a rounding mark by changing the position of the next mark or the finishing line, but no mark shall be moved when any boat is on the leg that it terminates. However, the finishing line may be adjusted while boats are on the first half of the leg it terminates. Subsequent legs may be changed to maintain the course configuration. There will be no visual or audible signals for a course change. This changes RRS 33.

9 MARKS

- 9.1 The start and finishing marks will be yellow balls.
- 9.2 Rounding marks will be orange hippity-hops.

10 THE START

- 10.1 Races shall be started using US Sailing Appendix U Audible-Signals Racing System modified to utilize a rolling start, where the starting signal for a race is the warning signal for the next race. This may be modified to allow more time between starts as needed.
- 10.2 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the RC signal vessel and the course side of the starting mark.
- 10.3 Colored placards or flags representing the colors of the boats (teams) in the race and/or the race number may be displayed on the RCSV before the preparatory signal.
- 10.4 [NP] Failure to hear a signal shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.1 and 61.4.
- 10.5 Flag X will be used. If flag X is displayed, it will be displayed no longer than one (1) minute after the starting signal. This changes RRS U4.
- 10.6 A boat shall not start later than two (2) minutes of her starting signal. This changes RRS D3.1(a).
- 10.7 The starting order will be available online and may be displayed at the rotation area.
- 10.8 [NP] A boat whose warning signal has not been made shall stay clear of the starting area.

11 THE FINISH

- 11.1 The finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on a RC vessel and the course side of a nearby mark.

12 ABANDONMENT

- 12.1 [NP] Abandonment will be signaled audibly by the RC and/or umpires. Abandoned races may be re-sailed and if so, a new warning signal will be made as soon as practical. This changes RRS 32.3 and Race Signals.

13 HEARING REQUESTS

- 13.1 Protests and requests for redress will be handled in accordance with RRS D1.2.

14 [NP] DAMAGE

- 14.1 See also NoR 8.
- 14.2 Competitors are responsible for inspecting their assigned boats before each race for possible breakdowns and missing equipment. Discrepancies must be reported to the OA immediately.
- 14.3 Competitors shall report any damage, breakdown, or loss of equipment, however slight, to the Bosun immediately upon returning a boat. Compliance with this instruction is required regardless of whether a score change for a breakdown or redress for damage is being requested.
- 14.4 The RC may decide not to run a re-sail as a result of a breakdown or damage in a round robin stage if the result of that race is not relevant to the progress of any team to the next stage, and they shall score each team half a race-win.

15 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

- 15.1 [DP] Substitution of competitors is only permitted in accordance with the championship conditions.

16 TRASH DISPOSAL

- 16.1 Trash may be placed aboard official [or support person] vessels and the changing dock.

17 PRIZES

- 17.1 Prizes will be awarded in accordance with the notice of race and championship conditions.
- 17.2 Additional awards may be given at the discretion of the OA and host club.

18. Minimum Crew Weight

18.1 In the event that a team does not meet the required weight limit of 870 pounds at the re-weigh, the team's previous scores between the closest two weigh-ins shall be deemed as losses. Accordingly, all races scored as losses due to the failed weigh-in shall be counted as wins for each team raced against. In order to continue racing, the team must carry additional weight to comply.

SI Addendum B - HANDLING OF BOATS

B1 [DP] GENERAL

- B1.1 Each skipper is responsible for the damage or loss to their boat unless responsibility is otherwise assigned by the umpires or the jury.
- B1.2 Any request to alter, in any way, the equipment on a boat shall be in writing and worded to permit a yes/no answer, and delivered to the chief umpire.
- B1.3 The crew sailing the boat shall report any loss of provided equipment, damage, or other problem with the boat to the RC as soon as practicable after finishing, and to bosun during on-water boat swaps or ashore after the last race for the boat each day.

B2 [DP] SUPPLIED EQUIPMENT

- B2.1 Boats will be provided for all competitors, who shall not modify them or cause them to be modified in any way except as permitted in this attachment.
- B2.2 While all reasonable steps are taken to equalize the boats, variations will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.4(a)(1).
- B2.3 The following non-fixed items, provided by the OA, are to be carried on board at all times in their designated place while sailing.

(a) SAILS and SAILING EQUIPMENT

- 1 Mainsail and set of battens
- 1 Main sheet
- 1 Headsail and headsail battens
- 2 Headsail sheets
- 1 rudder, tiller, and tiller extension

B3 [DP] MANDATORY ACTIONS

- B3.1 Boats shall obey speed restrictions and navigation marks, while leaving or returning to the berth or mooring.
- B3.2 At the end of each sailing day, competitors shall:
 - (a) roll (or fold), bag, and stow all sails
 - (b) leave the boat in the same or better state of cleanliness as when first boarded that day.

B4 [DP] PROHIBITED ACTIONS

- B4.1 An action listed in B4 is prohibited unless it is a permitted action listed in B5.
- B4.2 Any additions, omissions or alterations to the equipment supplied.

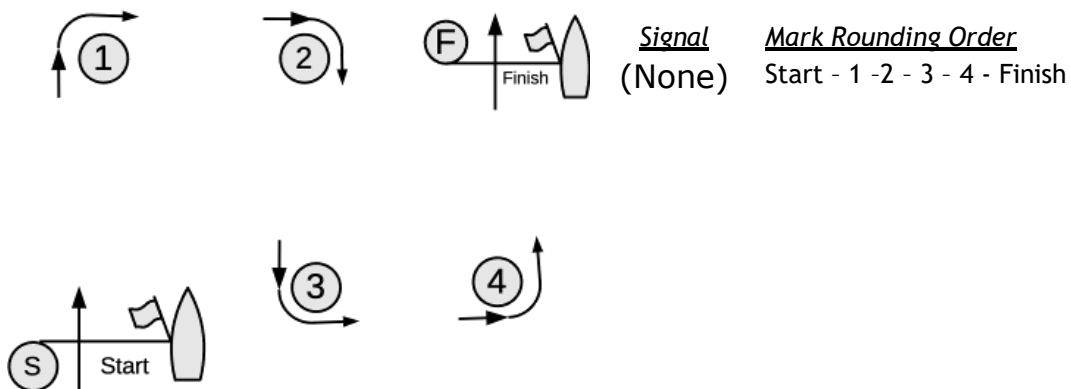
- B4.3 The use of any equipment for a purpose other than that intended or specifically permitted.
- B4.4 The replacement or removal of any equipment without the permission of the RC.
- B4.5 Sailing the boat in a manner that it is reasonable to predict that damage would result.
- B4.6 Taking a boat from its berth or mooring without having paid the required damage deposit or having permission from the RC, or, on race days, while flag AP is displayed ashore.
- B4.7 The use of electronic or navigation equipment.
- B4.8 Changing the number of purchases of running rigging.
- B4.9 Use of duct or gaffing tape. Use of rigging tape or plastic tape is permitted provided it does not leave a residue.
- B4.10 Marking directly on the hull, deck, sails, or lines. Rigging or plastic tape may be used to mark control lines or the deck. Marking pens may be used on tape.
- B4.11 Perforating sails or modifying the sails in any way.

B5 PERMITTED ACTIONS

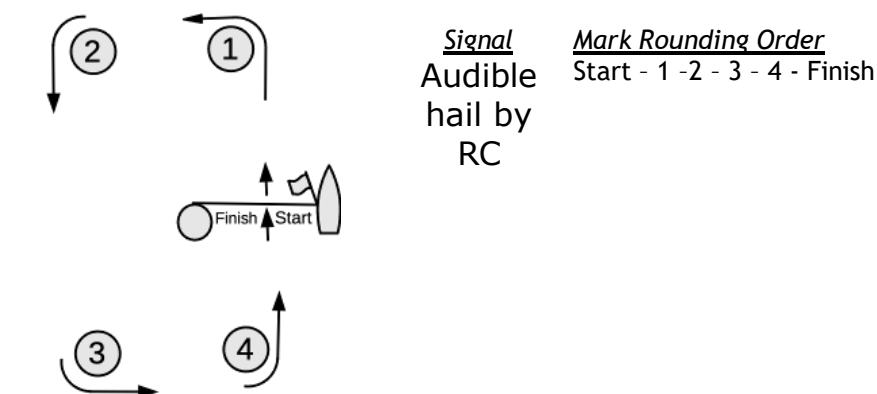
- B5.1 An action listed in B5 is permitted, even if it conflicts with a prohibited action listed in B4.
- B5.2 The following equipment may be brought aboard by competitors:
 - (a) rigging or plastic tape (but not duct or gaffing tape)
 - (b) tell-tale material (not to be put on sails)
 - (c) handheld compasses, watches, timers, and small personal video devices such as GoPro
- B5.3 Competitors may use the equipment in B5.2 to:
 - (a) attach tell tales (but not to sails)
 - (b) make signals as per SI or RRS
 - (c) personal safety

SI Addendum C - Courses

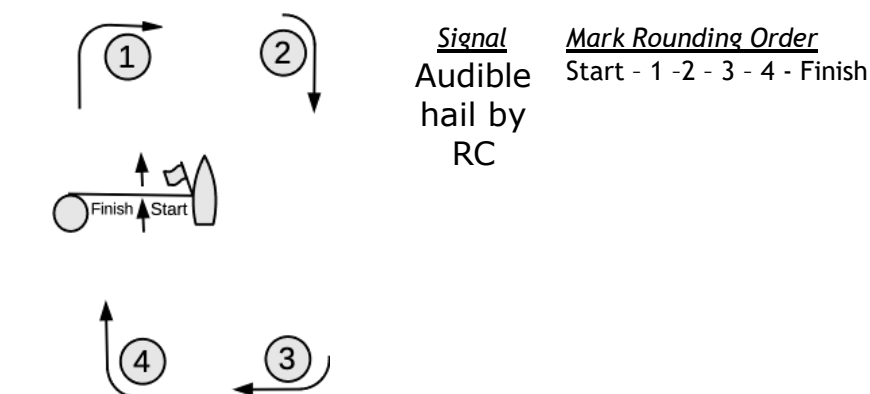
Digital N (Team Racing)



Port Box (Team Racing)



Starboard Box (Team Racing)



SI Addendum D - PENALTIES FOR DAMAGE RESULTING FROM CONTACT BETWEEN BOATS RACING

The umpires may impose a penalty for breaking rule 14 without a protest hearing, unless a boat involved in the incident requests a hearing, in which case the umpires shall report the incident to the protest committee. If it has good reasons to do so, the protest committee may impose a greater discretionary penalty than what the umpires determined was appropriate. This addendum explains how the penalties will be determined and is intended to:

- Minimize damage to keep costs down and avoid delays while boats are repaired.
- Ensure that penalties fit the breach and are consistent.

Damage will be divided into 3 levels as shown in the following table:

Level	Extent	Effect
Level A - Minor Damage	Does not significantly affect the value, general appearance, or normal operation of the boat. <i>Common examples might include: Broken tiller, bent chainplate, minor gelcoat damage</i>	Boat may race without repair although some minor surface work may be required after the event. Repairs should not normally require more than one (1) hour of work
Level B - Damage	Affects the value and/or general appearance of the boat. <i>Common examples might include: Major gelcoat damage, minor fiberglass work</i>	The damage does not affect the normal operation of the boat in that race but may need some (temporary) work before racing again. Requires more than one (1) hour of work but should not normally require more than three (3) hours of work.
Level C - Major Damage	The normal operation of the boat is compromised and its structural integrity may be impaired. <i>Common examples might include: Hull punctures, significant rig damage and other major fiberglass repair</i>	The boat will need some repair work before racing again. Requires more than three (3) hours of work.

Penalties

Race-win penalties may be imposed by umpires after a race to boats that break rule 14. Any penalties are deducted from one boat's or both boats' team's total race wins for the round-robin or knock-out match in which the damage occurred. In the event that both boats are given the same penalty in a race during a knock-out match, the penalties are offsetting and will be disregarded for scoring purposes.

Race-Win Penalties - to be applied without a hearing

Level	Round Robin	Knock Out
A	No penalty	No penalty
B	1/2 race win	3/4 of race win
C	1 race win	1 race win

Deductions from Damage Deposits

Any deductions from damage deposits are a matter for the Organizing Authority and are not related to and do not affect any race win penalties imposed by the Umpires or protest committee.
