



**2026 Chubb US Youth Triplehanded Championship
for the Sears Cup
August 7-10, 2026**

**Organizing Authority (OA): US Sailing
Host Club: Noroton Yacht Club, Darien CT**

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Posted July 31, 2026

1 RULES

- 1.1 The Regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS) as changed by [Appendix UF 2026 Sears Cup Umpired Fleet Racing](#).
- 1.2 On-the-water umpiring will be used as detailed in Appendix UF. Event calls may be issued.
- 1.3 Sonar-type boats will be provided by the OA. Sonar class rules will not apply.
- 1.4 The US Sailing Prescription to RRS 63.1 is deleted.
- 1.5 If there is a conflict between rules or regulations, other than RRS, the Sailing Instructions (SI) will prevail. This changes RRS 63.5(c).
- 1.6 Boats shall carry a handheld VHF radio at all times for safety purposes and Race Committee communication.

2 COMMUNICATION: NOTICES, ANNOUNCEMENTS, VHF CHANNELS

- 2.1 Notices, including race documents, amendments and results will be posted on the Official Notice Board on the event website at [2026 Chubb Sears Cup event page](#)
- 2.2 Any change to the SI will be posted before 0900 hours on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 1900 hours on the day before it will take effect.
- 2.3 Before the warning signal, the race committee may make oral changes to the Sailing Instructions as provided in RRS 90.2(c). The procedure for changes made orally on the water is as follows: The Race Committee will announce over VHF 73: "*Sears Cup competitors, this is your race committee with an amendment to the Sailing Instructions.*" After announcing the change, the Race Committee will attempt to obtain acknowledgement from all competitors. Boats may request a repetition of the message without infringing RRS 41 and SI 2.4.

- 2.4 [DP] from the first warning signal until the end of the last race of the day, except in an emergency, to report damage, or in a response to a request from the Race Committee, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.
- 2.5 The Race Committee will communicate with the fleet on VHF 73.

3 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 3.1 On-shore flag signals will be flown from the flagpole on the Club Terrace.
- 3.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, “1 minute” is replaced with “not less than 60 minutes” in race signal AP. This changes RRS Race Signals.
- 3.3 When flag T is displayed ashore with two long sounds all boats shall join a tow in the vicinity of the docks to the starting area at the time the RC Signal Vessel leaves the dock. They shall remain on the tow until the Signal Vessel lowers flag T with one long sound.

4 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>
Friday, August 07	0900-1100	Registration
	1100-1800	US Sailing Clinic
	1830	Opening Ceremony
		Followed by the Regatta Dinner starting at 7pm
Saturday, August 08	0930	Competitor’s Meeting
	1100	First Warning Signal
	After racing	Snacks, debrief
Sunday, August 9	0930	Competitor’s Meeting
	1100	First Warning Signal
	After racing	Snacks, debrief
Monday, August 10	0930	Competitor’s Meeting
	1100	First Warning Signal
	After racing	Awards Ceremony, Snacks
	1600	No warning signal will be made after 1600 hrs on Monday August 10

5 BOATS PROVIDED BY THE ORGANIZING AUTHORITY (OA)

- 5.1 Boats will be identified by bow and stern numbers only.
- 5.2 The boats have been equalized in performance potential to the extent possible. An alternate boat(s) may be substituted in case of a breakdown. Claims regarding the performance of the boats shall not be grounds for a boat to request redress. This changes RRS 61.4(b)(1).
- 5.3 All equipment shall be used as supplied and no changes, additions or subtractions shall be made other than those permitted by the SIs or the Organizing Authority (OA). Replacement of broken or damaged gear may only be made with gear sanctioned by the OA.

- 5.4 [Addendum A – Handling Provided Boats](#) lists items and actions that are prohibited, permitted, and mandatory.
- 5.5 [Addendum B – Equipment List](#) details all equipment that shall be onboard at all times.
- 5.6 Competitors are responsible for inspecting their boat before each race for potential breakdowns, damage and discrepancies, which shall be brought to the attention of the Race Committee aboard the Signal Vessel before the warning signal of the first/next race. After the final race of the day, each skipper shall report any issues with the condition of their boat to the event Bosun, or his representative, so that repairs, if needed, may be made before racing resumes the following day.
- 5.7 Initial boat assignments will be determined by a boat draw following registration.

6 SPINNAKERS

When the Race Committee signal vessel displays signal flag “K” with multiple sounds at or before the warning signal, spinnakers shall not be used for that race.

7 CLASS FLAG

The Class flag will be the Sonar Class symbol against a white field.



8 RACING AREAS

Racing will take place approximately 1/4 to 2 miles SW of G “1” at the mouth of Darien Harbor.

9 THE COURSES

- 9.1 **Addendum C – Courses** show the order in which marks are to be passed and the side on which each mark is to be left.
- 9.2 No later than the warning signal, the course to be sailed will be displayed on the course board on the starboard aft side of the RC vessel.
- 9.3 No later than the warning signal, the Race Committee will display on the same board the approximate compass bearing and distance of the first weather mark.
- 9.4 Mark 2s/2p is a gate. In the event one of the gate marks is missing, the single remaining mark shall be rounded to port.
- 9.5 Mark 1a is a windward offset mark to port of Mark 1.
- 9.6 Marks, including the windward offset mark, shall be rounded in order and always left to port, except that a gate, when used, shall be rounded as described in Definitions, *Sail the Course*.

10 MARKS

- 10.1 Marks 1, 1A, 2S and 2P will be orange tetrahedrons.
- 10.2 The starting and finishing marks will be a yellow tetrahedron.
- 10.3 New marks, as provided in SI 11, will be green tetrahedrons.
- 10.4 The start/finish marks are not marks of the course unless a boat is starting or finishing.

11 THE START

- 11.1 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the starboard end signal vessel and the course side of the port-end starting mark as described in SI 10.
- 11.2 Races will be started in accordance with RRS rule 26.
- 11.3 The Race Committee will endeavor to hail boats observed to be OCS at the start on VHF 73. Failure of equipment, failure to hear a hail, delay in hailing or the order in which hails are given will not be grounds for a boat to request redress. This changes RRS 61.4(b)(1).
- 11.4 A boat starting later than five (5) minutes after the starting signal will be scored DNS. This changes RRS A.5

12 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 12.1 To change the next leg of the course, the Race Committee will lay a new mark (or move the finishing line to a new position) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.
- 12.2 The Race Committee may change the course by up to ten degrees in bearing and/or 0.1 nm in length without a signal or change of mark color. This changes RRS 33.

13 THE FINISH

The finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on a Race Committee vessel and the course side of the finishing mark as described in SI 10.2.

14 TIME LIMITS

- 14.1 The time limit for the first boat to sail the course and finish will be 60 minutes.
- 14.2 If no boat has passed the windward mark for the first time 30 minutes after the starting signal, the race shall be abandoned.
- 14.3 Boats failing to finish within 20 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes and not subsequently retiring, penalized or given redress, will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) without a hearing. A boat scored TLE shall be scored one more point than the finishing place scored by the last boat that finished within the Finishing Window. This changes RRS 35, A5.1, A5.2 and A10.

15 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 15.1 Red protest flags, provided by the OA, shall be displayed when protesting another boat in accordance with rule UF3.1.
- 15.2 Other Protests and Requests for Reopening or Redress shall be made in accordance with rule UF 4.2.
- 15.3 Protests and requests for reopening or redress need not be in writing, but Hearing Request forms will be available in the Regatta Room or on the US Sailing website should a competitor wish to complete one for hearings held ashore.
- 15.4 The Protest Committee will attempt to post a list of hearings on the Official Notice Board no later than 30 minutes after the Race Committee Signal vessel has docked.

- 15.5 If hearings are held ashore, they will take place at Noroton Yacht Club in the Regatta Room, located on the first floor. The Protest Committee will attempt to hold hearings in the order of receipt. Representatives of boats who are parties and their witnesses to a hearing shall remain on call on the patio of Noroton Yacht Club.
- 15.6 Video and/or photographs taken from any support, spectator and/or coach vessel shall not be presented as evidence at hearings by a competitor or a witness. The Protest Committee may present, as evidence, publicly available photos or video. This changes RRS 63.4(b).
- 15.7 Breaches of SI 17 will not be grounds for a protest by a boat.
- 15.8 When the Protest Committee finds that a boat that is a party to a protest hearing has broken a rule, and as a result has caused catastrophic damage to the other boat involved in the incident (defined as a boat being unable to race the following day), in addition to other penalties, the OA may require that the team at fault give their boat to the team with the damaged boat as a replacement until the damaged boat has been fully repaired.

16 SCORING

- 16.1 Twelve (12) races are scheduled.
- 16.2 A boat's series score shall be the total of all of her race scores. No score will be excluded. This changes RRS A2.
- 16.3 Three races will constitute a Series.

17 SAFETY [NP]

- 17.1 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the Race Committee and/or the umpires as soon as possible.
- 17.2 [DP] PFDs Each competitor shall wear a USCG-approved life jacket, in good condition, that is 100% dependent on foam for flotation and the appropriate size for the sailor, at all times while on the water except briefly while changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment. This changes rule 40.1. The PFD must be worn outside of all clothing except that a thin shirt or bib may be worn over the PFD to prevent snagging.
- 17.3 Addendum E - Harbor Channel and Hazards, shows hazards in the harbor. All competitors shall stay within the harbor channel until they have passed the green bell buoy on its eastern side when leaving or returning to the harbor.

18 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

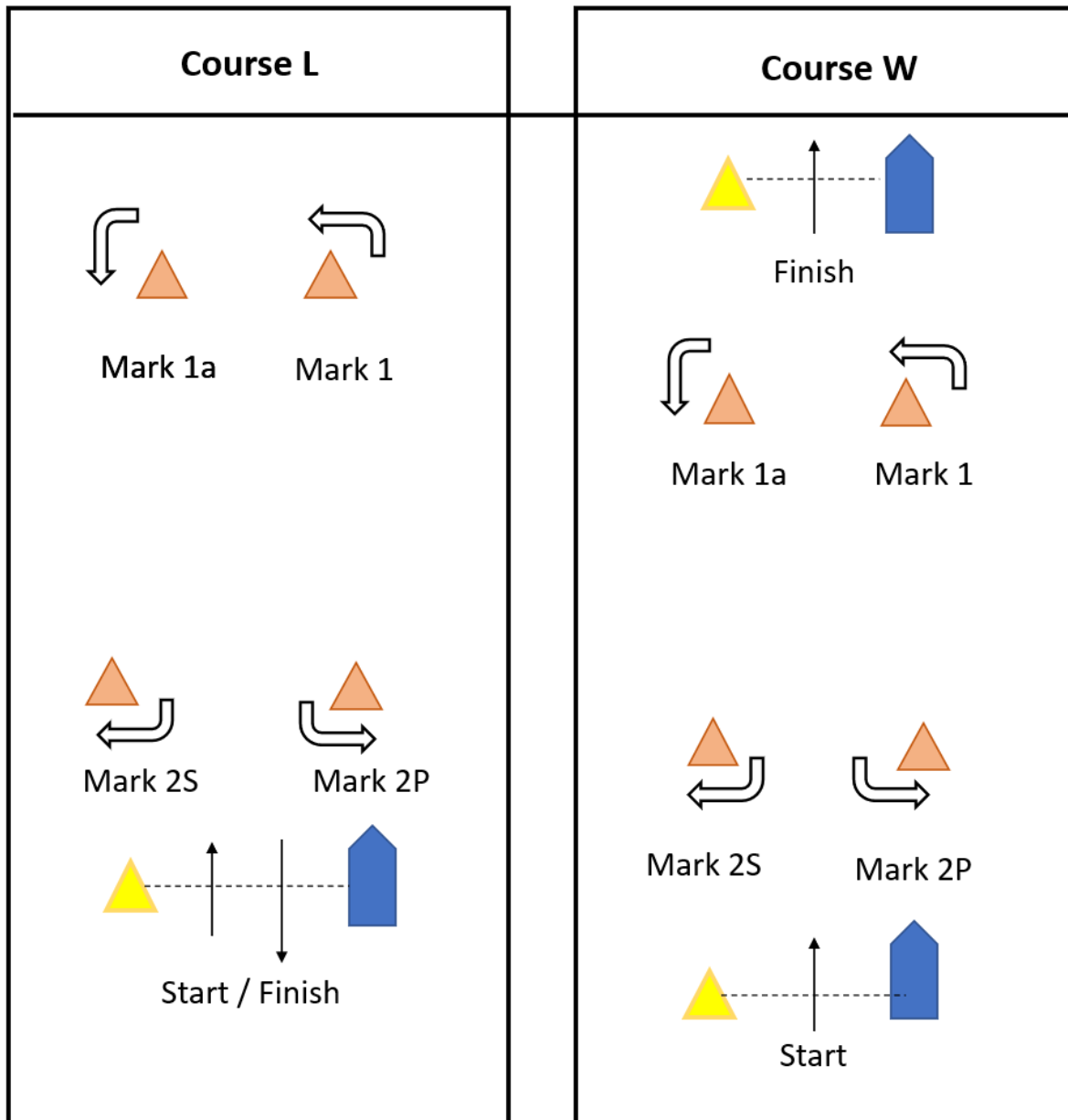
- 18.1 Substitution to the submitted Crew List may only be made with the permission of the OA.
- 18.2 Yellow Breakdown Flag (provided by the OA to each team for the duration of the event): Before the warning signal of a race, a boat may display a yellow breakdown flag and hail an umpire boat to signal a breakdown or damage to the boat, her sails or injury to her crew and request a delay to the next start. She shall proceed as soon as possible to a position close to leeward of the Race Committee Signal vessel and remain there, unless otherwise directed. The time allowed for repairs, if any, will be at the discretion of the Race Committee.

- 18.3 After the warning signal, a race may be postponed or abandoned at the discretion of the Race Committee if the breakdown flag was displayed as required by SI 18.3.
- 18.4 Except when SI 18.3 applies, failure to effect repairs in the time allowed or breakdowns after the warning signal shall not be grounds for a boat to request redress. This changes RRS 61.4(b).

ADDENDUM C - COURSES

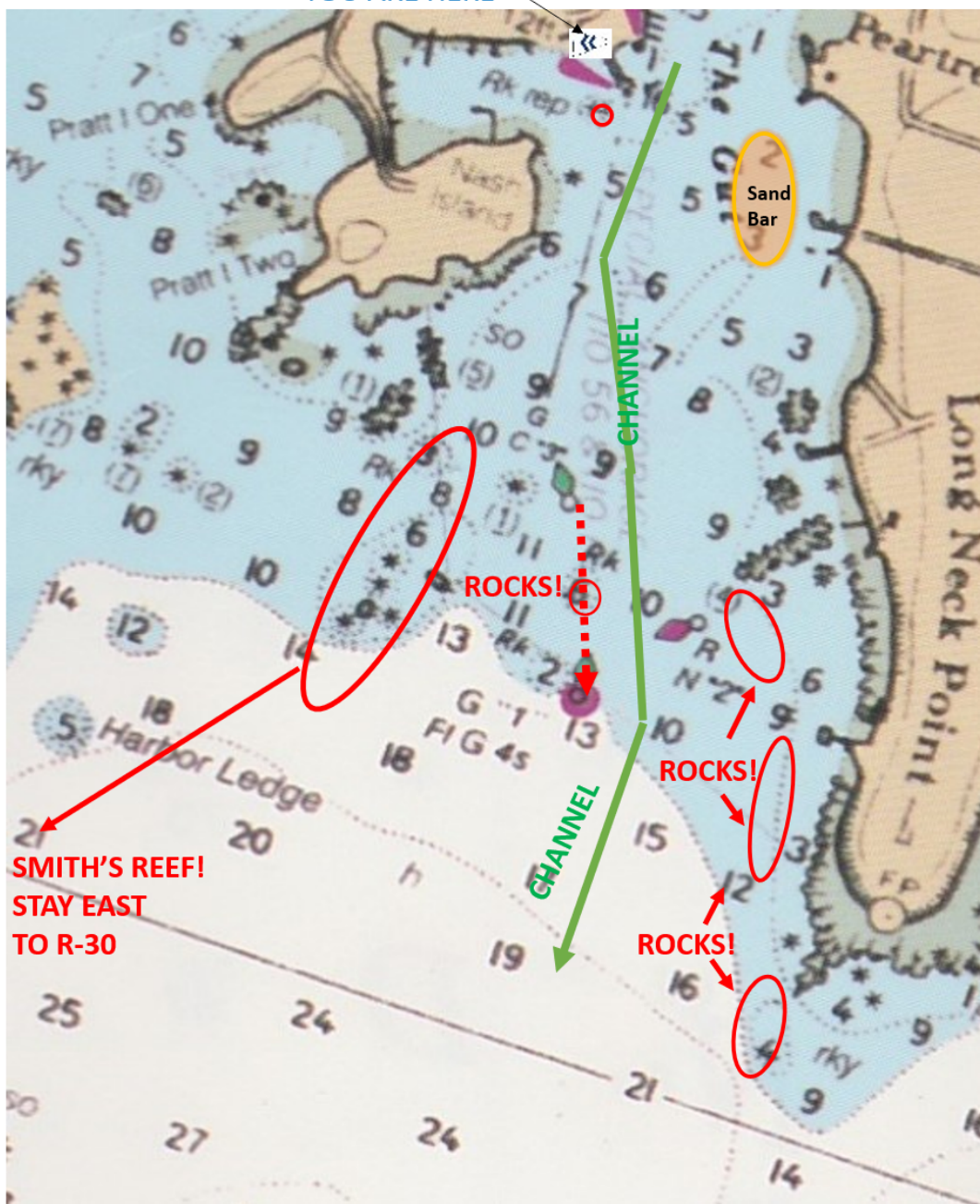
Course L: Start – 1 – 1a – 2S/2P – 1 -1a – Finish (downwind)

Course W: Start – 1 – 1a – 2S/2P – 1 – 1a – 2S/2P – Finish (upwind)



ADDENDUM E, Page 1
HARBOR CHANNEL AND HAZARDS

YOU ARE HERE



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