



**Series Races of the UNION SAILING CLUB
April 7th through October 27th, 2024**

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The notation [DP] in a rule in the Sailing Instructions (SI's) 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 in the Sailing Instructions means that breaches in this rule will not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1 (a).

1. Rules

1.1

The series will be governed by the rules as defined in **The Racing Rules of Sailing for 2021-2024 (RRS)** ([Link to RRS](#)), except as changed by these Sailing Instructions and as permitted under participating class rules.

1.2

Each boat shall comply with all U.S. Coast Guard, State of Colorado, City of Longmont, and other applicable governmental laws, rules, or regulations. [DP].

1.3

The Notice of Season Series (NOS) will be available five (5) days prior to the first race of the series on the USC website <https://www.unionsailingclub.org/> . If there is a conflict between the NOS and the SI's, the SI's will prevail. This changes RRS 63.7.

1.4

The following Racing Rules of Sailing will be changed as follows:

1. 1.3 changes RRS 63.7.
2. 4 changes RRS Race Signal AP.
3. 8.1 changes 27.1

4. 8.5 changes RRS 33.
5. 8.6 changes Rule 32.1, 32.2 and Race Signals
6. 10.1 changes 26
7. 10.2 changes U4
8. 15.1 changes RRS 35.
9. 15.1 changes A4.1.
10. 17.3 Rule 90.3 (a) and Appendix A
11. 17.3.1 changes A4.2
12. 17.3.2 changes A4.2

2. Notice to Competitors

Notices to competitors will be emailed to the Union Sailing Club email list. All competitors are encouraged to sign up here: <https://groups.io/g/unionsailingclub>

3. Changes in Sailing Instructions

3.1

Written changes to the Sailing Instructions will be posted before 0900 on the day they will take effect. Any change to the schedule will be posted before 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

3.2

In accordance with RRS 90.2, oral changes to the Sailing Instructions may be made on the water. When the Race Committee (RC) signal boat displays code flag “L” with one sound signal. This means come within hail of the RC boat to receive the oral changes to the Sailing Instructions.

4. Signals Made Ashore

When code flag “AP” is displayed ashore, the starting time will be no sooner than 30 minutes after lowering the “AP” flag. This changes RRS Race Signal “AP”.

5. Schedule of Events

The full racing schedule is posted in the 2024 Notice of Season Series.

[2024 Series Racing Schedule](#)

5.1

There shall be no make-up races due to cancellations.

5.2

Three (3) races are scheduled for each day of racing. At RC discretion, additional “practice” races may be conducted after formal races. Practice races are voluntary and do not count towards the race series.

6. Class Flags

6.1

The Dinghy fleet flag will be solid yellow. The LMS fleet flag will be solid green.

6.2

Fleets may be started either individually or together by display of applicable fleet flag(s) at the Attention signal.

7 Racing Area

7.1

Attachment A shows the Racing Area. A racing area chart (“Reference Map”) of Union Reservoir is included at the bottom of these instructions.

8. Courses

8.1

No later than the Attention signal, the Race Committee shall indicate the course(s) to be sailed, on a white dry erase board displayed on the RC boat. (This changes 27.1 (Appendix U specifies an “Attention” signal in place of a “Warning” signal)).

8.2.

All races shall start at mark one (1) except in the case where mark one (1) has not been placed (typically due to low water). In this eventuality the races will start at a location determined by the race committee.

8.3

The course(s) shall be indicated by a series of numbers and letters that correspond to the order in which marks are to be passed and ending with “F” for finish. Fleets may be assigned separate courses by the clear display of “LMS” and “DGY” in front of the list of marks to be sailed by that fleet.

8.4

All marks are to be rounded to port, except for a leeward Gate.

8.5

Rule 33 (a) (1-2) is changed to: The race committee may change the next leg of the course by displaying the Flag 'C' with repetitive sounds. At the discretion of the race committee, a number or letter of the next leg will be displayed or verbally relayed to all racers.

8.6

The signal to shorten course shall be to display flag S with the flag(s) of the affected fleet(s) with 2 sounds. This changes Rule 32.1, 32.2 and Race Signals.

9 Marks

9.1

Marks 1 through 9 are white buoys with orange/red stripes located approximately as shown on the Reference Map.

9.2

Temporary marks, when used, will be Orange or Yellow inflatables and/or flags and are designated as "O" or "Y".

9.3

Start/Finish line as a GATE: When the course indicated by the Race Committee includes the letter "G", the start/finish line is then a GATE. All boats must pass between the committee boat and the pin. The committee boat and the pin are treated as marks of the course when they are used as a GATE.

10. Starts

10.1

Appendix U (Audible-Signal Racing System) shall be in effect. This changes rule 26.

10.2

Individual recalls shall be signaled by a single sound and display of flag X until the hull of all returning boats has been completely on the pre-start side of the line, or for four minutes, or until one minute before the next start whichever is earlier. . A hail of sail number (or other distinguishing feature) need not be made. This changes U4.

10.3

A boat starting later than 5 minutes after the starting signal of their fleet will be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing.

10.4

The starting area extends 100 feet on either side of the starting line and in a 100 foot-radius from each end of the starting line. Boats that have not received their warning signal will stay outside of this area during the time any other class is in the start sequence.

11 Start & Finish Lines

11.1

The Start Line shall be a line between an orange inflatable or an orange flag in the vicinity of the RC boat and an orange flag on the RC boat. The Race Committee boat shall be moored to Mark Number One (1).

11.2

The Finish Line shall be a line between an orange inflatable or an orange flag in the vicinity of the RC boat and an orange flag on the RC boat.

11.3

While other boats are still racing, boats will clear the start/finish line as soon as possible after finishing, and be careful to not interfere with boats that are still racing, including disrupting their wind.

12 Check In

12.1

Each boat shall sail on starboard tack past the transom of the RC Boat while RC is flying the Code Flag "L", and hail her:

12.1.1

Member Name (First and Last, please spell last)

12.1.2

Boat Type (Melges 14, Melges 15, Finn, 29er, MC Scow, Laser, Mutineer, Snipe, etc.)

12.1.3

Sail Number

12.1.4

Fleet Preference ("Dinghy", "LMS") and be acknowledged by RC with a return hail of her sail number. This shall be done before the first race in which a boat competes. Any boat failing to check-in and failing to finish will be scored as **DNC**. [DP]

12.2

Competitors must have and sail under a unique/non-duplicated mainsail number. Failure to do so may compromise scoring. In the event two (2) or more boats are sailing under the same mainsail number, all boats with that number may be listed as DNF until duplication is identified and resolved. [DP]

13 Safety

13.1

Boats must meet US Coast Guard, State of Colorado, Weld County and the City of Longmont safety regulations. [NP]

13.2

A boat that retires from a race must notify the Race Committee as soon as possible. [DP]

13.3

All skippers and crew must wear a PFD when the wind speed exceeds 10 knots [DP]. Racers under the age of 18 years must always wear a PFD when sailing.

13.4

All skippers and crew must wear a PFD when the water temperature is less than 60 degrees F. [DP]

13.5

MC Scow dinghies should have adequate masthead floatation equipment. [NP]

14 Penalty System

14.1

RRS Appendix V1 (Alternative Penalties) applies and is in effect for Multihulls.

14.2

RRS 44.1, Taking a Penalty, shall apply to Monohulls.

14.3

RRS Appendix T (Arbitration) applies.

15 Time Limit

15.1

There is no time limit for the first boat to finish. However, the race committee may at its discretion abandon any race at any time. Boats finishing more than 20 minutes after the first boat finishes will be scored **TLE** (time limit expired). This changes RRS 35 and A4.1.

15.2

Any boat that has not finished within 25 minutes after the first finisher shall return to the starting area. The Race Committee shall begin the next race as soon as possible after the 25 minutes have expired.

16. Protests and Requests for Redress

Any registered boat intending to protest must notify the RC upon finishing or within the protest time if they do not finish. Please wait for a break in the finishers to hail the committee boat. Protest forms are available from the RC, or at the USC Club House. Protests must be filed with the RC or an attending USC officer no later than 20 minutes after RC returns to shore.

1. **APPENDIX T Arbitration** of the RRS shall be in effect for all races of this series. Pre-Hearing/arbitration will be available to all parties in protests. The penalized boat shall not be scored worse than **DNF**. The full protest committee will hear unresolved pre-hearings. Arbitration may be heard immediately following the conclusion of races that evening, if agreeable to all parties involved. It may also be delayed until prior to the Protest Hearing.
2. RC will notify the USC protest committee of the protest within 24 hours.
3. **Protest Schedule:** The Protest hearing will be heard as soon as possible, at a place and a time mutually agreed upon between the protestor, the protestee and the USC Protest Committee, but no later than 7 days after the protest is filed.

17. Scoring

17.1

Lasers, Mutineers and Snipe sailboats may choose to be scored in the "LMS" fleet or in the "Dinghy" fleet. Skippers can opt in to the "LMS" Fleet at any time by notifying either the RC Chair or the Scorekeeper. Sailors requesting to switch from the "LMS" Fleet back to the

“Dinghy” fleet will be switched back at the beginning of the next series. The “LMS” fleet will be scored as a single fleet with no handicaps.

17.2

The “Dinghy” fleet will be scored separately, using Portsmouth Number ratings derived from published US Sailing sources or published class guidelines (e.g., Melges 15). The USC Portsmouth Number ratings will be reviewed annually and published on the Union Sailing Club website - [2024 USC Portsmouth Number ratings](#)

For any class of sailboat not included in the “USC Portsmouth Number ratings” published at the beginning of the season, the Race Committee Chair will select a rating from the same published US Sailing sources.

17.3

Rule 90.3 (a) and Appendix A in the RRS shall be modified to use the High Point Scoring System described as CHIP3, and will be used to score both the Portsmouth fleet and the “LMS” fleet.

17.3.1

Appendix A 4.2 is modified so that a boats worst score will be excluded from her total if 3-5 races are completed in the Series, 2 scores will be excluded if 6-8 races are completed, 9-11 races = 3 races excluded, 12-14 races = 4 races excluded: excluding 1 score for every 3 races.

17.3.2

Appendix A 4.2 is modified as follows:

TLE = number of finishers plus 1

RTC = Average of races sailed in that series for the races missed by a skipper representing the club at another regatta. RTC is also granted for up to two racing days for parents traveling with juniors who race in junior regatta events. **The number for RTC in a Series can be equal to, but not exceed the number of races sailed at Union Reservoir.**

DNS, OCS, DNF, RET = number of boats in their fleet that came to the starting area plus 1

DSQ, DNC, DNE = 0

RC = Scored as 10 points higher than average of the series. For more than one racing day per series, the second and subsequent days will be scored for each race served, their average place of the races they sailed in the series.

17.4

Race Committee volunteers are vital to the success of the club racing program. Each club member who races must volunteer a minimum of one day for every 5 days of racing; skippers won't be eligible for Series Awards unless they've volunteered for RC as described here. Other significant volunteering efforts within the Club may be presented to the USC Racing Committee for consideration of fulfilling this requirement, including helping at a USC Regatta.

18. Guest Racing Policy

A guest may join a member when the member is the racer-of-record on the committee timing sheet. A guest may race their own boat in two days of racing as the Racer-of-record, however, their racing results will not impact the series standings unless they join USC before the series is scored and posted.

19. Awards

Awards will be presented to the top 3 placing skippers in each fleet for each series.

20. Disclaimer of Liability

Competitors participate in the series entirely at their own risk. Union Sailing Club will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury, or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after racing.

21. Photography Consent

Competitors entering the racing series accept that they may be photographed and/or videotaped participating in the race and/or Union Reservoir or the Union Sailing Club's facilities and they consent to the taking of such images and to the use, reuse, publication and republication of such images in any media, in conjunction with the competitor's name or not, without compensation and without the competitor's approval of such images or any use thereof

APPENDIX A: Reference Map

