



# Sailing Instructions

Series Races of the UNION SAILING CLUB

April 9th through October 31st, 2023

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 and other applicable governmental laws, rules, or regulations. [DP].

### 1.3

Series SI's 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 will be changed as follows:

1. 1.3 changes RRS 63.7.
2. 4 changes RRS Race Signal AP.
3. 8.5 changes RRS 33.
4. 15.1 changes RRS 35.
5. 15.1 changes A 4.1.
6. 17.3 Rule 90.3 (a) and Appendix A
7. 17.3.1 changes A4.2
8. 17.3.2 changes A4.2

## **2. Notice to Competitors**

Notices to competitors will be posted on the USC Mailing list. All competitors are encouraged to sign up here.

<https://groups.io/g/unionsailingclub>

## **3. Changes in Sailing Instructions**

### **3.1**

Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted before 0900 on the day it 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 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 2023 Notice of Season Series.

[2023 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**

At the Race Committee's discretion, all boats may be started as one Class. The Class flag will be solid yellow.

## **6.2**

The Race Committee has the option of assigning separate starts and courses to Monohull and Multihull Classes. When there are separate starts, the Class flags will be Monohull (red flag) and Multihull (green flag).

## **7 Racing Area**

### **7.1**

Attachment A shows the Racing Area. A racing area chart ("Reference Map") of Union Reservoir is attached to these instructions.

## **8. Courses**

### **8.1**

No later than the warning signal, the Race Committee will indicate the course to be sailed by displaying the marks to be rounded on a white dry erase board displayed on the RC boat.

### **8.2.**

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

### **8.3**

The course will 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.

### **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.

## **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 Blue, 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**

Races will be started under RRS 26, with a warning signal given 5 minutes before the starting signal.

### **10.2**

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

### **10.3**

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 will 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 (Snipe, Butterfly, Sunfish, Laser, MC Scow, Mutineer, M14, RS Feva, etc)

#### **12.1.3**

Sail Number

#### **12.1.4**

Fleet Preference (LMS, Portsmouth, Multihull) 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. 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 Snipes may choose to be scored in the “**LMS Fleet**” or in the Portsmouth 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 Portsmouth 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** All other Dinghy, Multihull will be scored separately, each fleet using handicaps derived from the US Sailing and as established by USC and listed in Appendix B.

**17.2.1** For each Portsmouth Fleet, a single handicap will be calculated by combining the wind range numbers for that class using weighting factors generated from the local wind data. All of the handicaps are normalized by a single factor to keep them in a similar range to the Portsmouth D-PNs previously used.

**17.2.2**

The current USC handicap formula, based on historical data from multiple nearby weather stations, is:  $USC-PN = [0.52*HC1 + 0.43*HC2 + 0.05*HC3 + 0.00*HC4] * .0978$ .

**17.2.3**

The HC handicaps will be taken from the US Sailing Portsmouth Yardstick Tables. If the HC tables are incomplete for any class, the USC Race Committee will assign a USC-PN handicap based on the D-PN from that class and HC data from classes deemed to be most similar to that class.

**17.2.4**

USC-PN Handicaps are published in the racing section of the USC website and the most popular classes are attached in Appendix B of the SI's.

**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 class for each series.

### **20 Disclaimer of Liability**

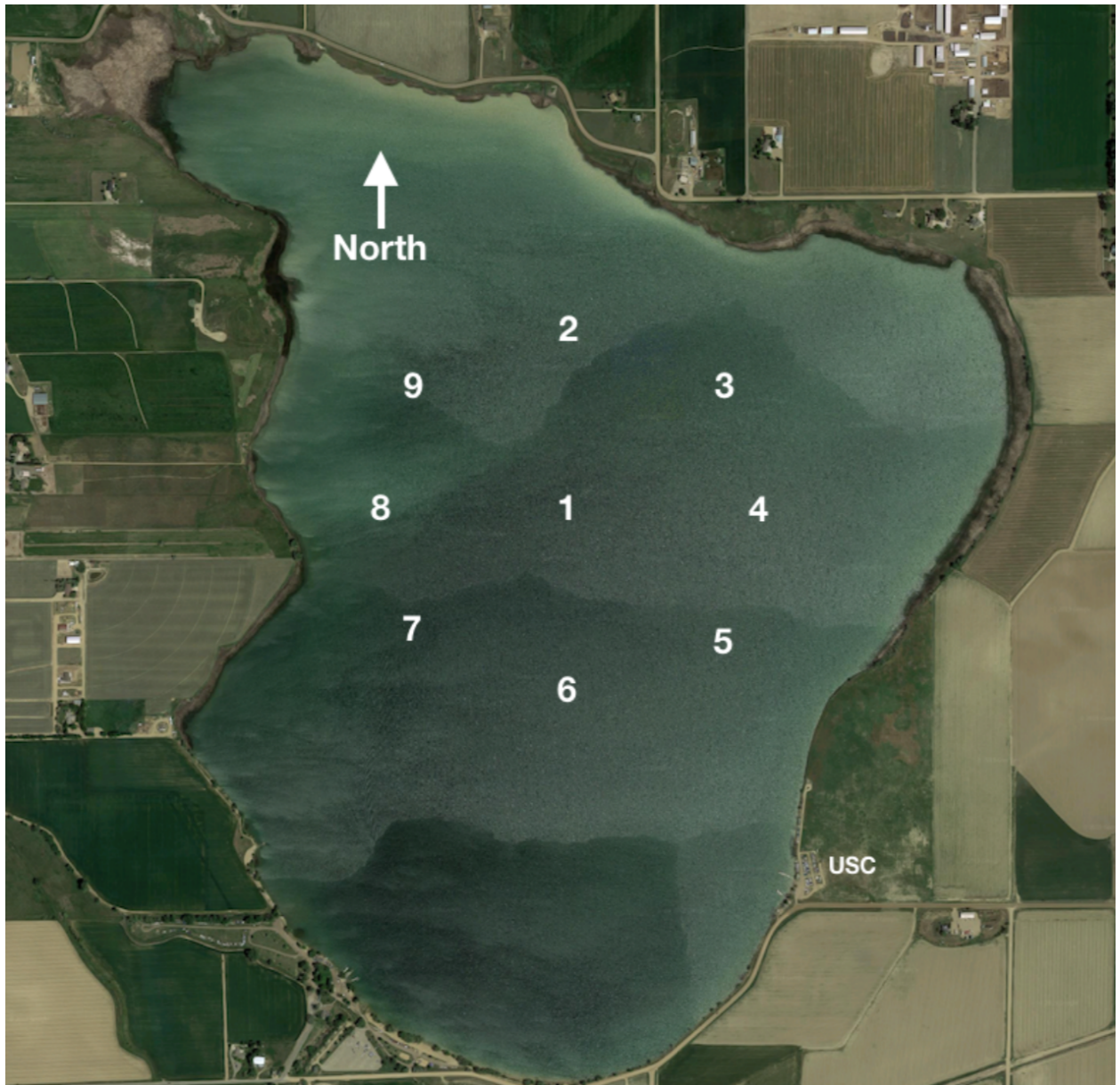
Competitors participate in the series entirely at their own risk. Union Sailing Club will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury, or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after racing.

### **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



## **Appendix B: USC Portsmouth Numbers**

<https://www.unionsailingclub.org/resources/Documents/2021/USC%20Portsmouth%20Ratings%202021%20-%20April%2012.pdf>