

The Doc Gilbert Memorial Potomac Cup

Hosted by Lightning Fleet 50

Leesylvania State Park
Woodbridge, VA USA
May 3-4, 2008

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

The regatta will be governed by the 'rules' as defined in the *Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS).

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located in the Picnic Pavilion, Shelter # 4, which is also the location of the Registration Desk.

3. CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted by 10:30 AM on Saturday, and by 9:00 AM on Sunday, except that any change to the scheduled warning signal for Sunday will be posted by 6:00 pm Saturday.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the committee boat at the dock.

4.2 If a postponement (flag AP) is signaled ashore, the warning signal will be made not less than 1 hour after AP is lowered. This changes RRS Race Signals "AP".

5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

5.1 The RC intends to run 3 races on Saturday and 2 on Sunday. Races not sailed on Saturday may be sailed on Sunday.

5.2 The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race is 12:00 pm on Saturday and 10:00 am on Sunday.

5.3 Flag "F" will be used to alert boats that another race or sequence of races is to start soon. See section 10. THE START

5.4 No warning signal will be made after 3:00 pm on Sunday.

6. CLASS FLAGS

The class flag will be:



LIGHTNING



FLAG F

7. RACING AREA

The racing area will be approximately one nautical mile directly off the docks at Leesylvania State Park.

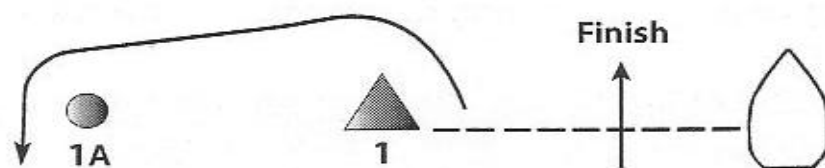
SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

8. THE COURSE

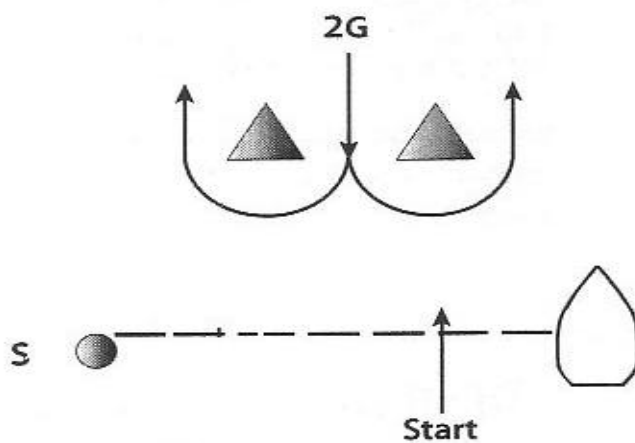
The diagram in the illustration below shows the courses, including the order in which marks are to be passed and the side on which each mark is to be left.

The course is twice around a windward-leeward course with an extra weather leg for a total of 5 legs. A shortened course, which shall be indicated by an S-flag raised before the warning signal, is once around a windward-leeward course with an extra weather leg for a total of 3 legs. This changes RRS Race Signals "S".

The weather leg will be approximately 1 mile. There will be a weather mark and offset mark approximately 10-boat lengths away, both will be rounded to port. The leeward mark will be a gate with two marks approximately 5-8 boat lengths apart. A yacht must pass between the marks and can round either mark to go upwind.



Not to Scale



5 Leg W-L Course: Start--1(port)--1A(port)--2G--1(port)--1A(port)--2G--Finish(upwind)

Shortened 3 Leg W-L Course (indicated by an S-flag raised before the warning signal):

Start--1(port)--1A(port)--2G--Finish(upwind)

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

9. MARKS

- 9.1 Marks 1, and both sides of the gate, marks 2G, will be Orange tetrahedrons.
- 9.2 Mark 1A will be a small orange ball.
- 9.3 The starting mark S will be a large Yellow ball.
- 9.4 The finishing mark will be Mark 1.

10. THE START

- 10.1 Races will be started using rule 26 with the following addition:
An attention signal (flag F with one sound) will be made five minutes before the warning signal. The flag F will be removed with one sound one minute before the warning signal. The flag F will not be used following a postponed or recalled start.
- 10.2 The Starting Line will be between a staff or halyard displaying an **Orange flag** on the main committee boat and the starting mark described in 9.3. A line boat may be positioned near the port end of the Starting Line.
- 10.3 **A limit mark may be laid adjacent to a Committee Boat to protect it. It will be a small orange ball, is not a mark of the course, and shall be considered an obstruction. Boats shall not pass between the limit mark and the Committee boat it guards after the preparatory signal. Boats infringing this Instruction shall take a Two-Turns Penalty or else be disqualified without a hearing.** This changes RRS 63.1.
- 10.4 A boat starting later than 15 minutes after her start shall be scored Did Not Start. This changes rule A4.1.

11. CHANGE OF COURSE AFTER THE START

To change the position of the next mark, the race committee will move the original mark (or the finishing line) to a new position. The change will be signaled before the leading boat has begun the leg, although the mark may not yet be in the new position. Any mark to be rounded after rounding the moved mark may be relocated without further signaling to maintain the course configuration .

12. THE FINISH

The finishing line will be between a staff displaying a **blue flag** on the committee boat and the course side of the finish mark described in 9.4.

13. PENALTY SYSTEM

The Two-Turns Penalty, Rule 44.2 of The Racing Rules of Sailing, will apply with the modification that when an infringing yacht has its spinnaker drawing at the time of the infringement **it may optionally take a One-Turn Penalty by promptly dropping the spinnaker completely, doing one turn, including one tack and one gybe, and resetting the spinnaker and having it drawing.**

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

14. TIME LIMITS

14.1 The time limit for the first boat to finish is **one hour and forty five minutes**.

14.2 Boats failing to finish within **thirty minutes** after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored "TIE" unless the race committee believes that such boats can be assigned a finishing place in order of progress along the course in a fair manner. "TIE" is calculated per rule A7. The race committee will have final judgment in this decision.

This changes rule 35, A4.1, and adds TIE to scoring abbreviations in A11.

15. PROTESTS

15.1 **Protest Forms are available from the Regatta Chairman. Protests shall be delivered to the Race Committee within one hour after the official docking of the designated (RC ensign) Race Committee Boat. The Time of docking will be posted on the official Notice Board.**

15.2 Protests will be heard in approximately the order of receipt as soon as possible.

15.3 Protest notices will be posted within approximately 30 minutes of the protest time limit to inform competitors where and when there is a hearing in which they are parties to a hearing or named as witnesses.

15.4 Rule 66 is changed by adding this sentence: 'On the last day of racing, a party to the hearing may ask for a reopening no later than 30 minutes after being informed of the decision.'

16. ARBITRATION

If an arbitrator is present, an arbitration meeting will be scheduled for each protest involving a rule of Part 2 unless the arbitrator deems the protest inappropriate for arbitration. One representative of each party who was on board at the time of the incident will meet with the arbitrator(s). No Witnesses will be permitted. After taking testimony from each representative, the arbitrator(s) will render an opinion:

16.1 The protest is invalid or no boat broke a rule. If the protestor agrees, the arbitrator will allow the protest to be withdrawn. If the protestor disagrees, the protest committee will schedule a protest hearing.

16.2 One or both boats broke a rule. The boat(s) breaking a rule may accept a 40% scoring penalty calculated as described in RRS 44.3(c) and the arbitrator will allow the protest to be withdrawn. If not, the protest committee will schedule a protest hearing.

16.3 The arbitrator decides a protest hearing is required. The protest committee will schedule a protest hearing.

16.4 RRS 63.1 is changed by adding, "The arbitrator may act on behalf of the Protest Committee and allow a protest to be withdrawn without the approval of the Protest Committee."

17. SCORING

17.1 Five races are scheduled

17.2 One race is required to be completed to constitute a series. No scores will be excluded, this modifies rule A2.

18. PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded to each member of the crews placing **first through fifth in the Lightning class**. In addition, the Gilbert Perpetual Trophy will be awarded to the highest-placing yacht skippered by a member of Fleet 50 in the Lightning class.
