

Little Ships Fleet Yacht Club Sailing Instructions 2026

1.0 Rules: The Regatta will be governed by the current Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS 2025-2028), the Prescriptions of the United States Sailing Association, the rules of the classes sailing, these Sailing Instructions, the Notice of Race (NOR), and any addendum, which may be published.

Boats shall be governed by Rule 9 of the Inland Navigation Rules (72 COLREGS). Compliance with the current ISAF Offshore Special Regulations for Category 4 is recommended.

In the event that less than three boats start a race the Race Committee may declare ‘No Contest’ even though the class has been previously established. The M.I.R. rule will apply, PHRF class rules Section E.

2.0 Entries

2.1 Entries shall be submitted as prescribed in the NOR.

2.2 An entrant must be a member of an SCYA recognized yacht club or Class Organization...

2.3 An entrant must have a valid PHRF certificate or be a member of a recognized One-Design fleet for invitational races, except as described in the NOR.

3.0 Notice to Competitors

3.1 Notice to competitors will be posted on the Bulletin Board located at the LSFYC Shed.

4.0 Changes In Sailing Instructions

4.1 Any changes in the Sailing Instructions will be posted before 0930 on the day it will take effect, except that any change in the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

6.0 Schedule of Races

6.1 The schedule of races shall be as prescribed in the NOR or an addendum thereto.

7.0 Class Flags

7.1 For class identification, each boat shall display an international numeral pennant from her permanent backstay as follows:
PHRF A, “Two”; PHRF B, “Five”; PHRF C “Seven”; PHRF D “Three”; PHRF A N/S “Four”; PHRF B N/S, “Eight”; PHRF C N/S “Nine”.
No identification pennants required for other classes.

8.0 Racing Area

8.1 The racing area will be as shown on the current **LSFYC 2024 Course Chart**.

9.0 The Course

9.1 Courses will be selected from those shown on the **LSFYC 2024 Course Chart**.

9.2 Each mark of the course shall be rounded or passed to port unless a small “s”, follows the mark designated indicating that it shall be rounded to starboard..

9.3 With or soon after the warning signal, the race committee will signal the course by displaying numeral pennants or may remove and substitute a new course signal. This changes rule 27.1.

9.4 “Twice around” courses will be signaled by a T flag on the Race Committee boat and broadcast on VHF Channel 68.

10.0 Marks

10.1 Description of marks is shown on the current LSFYC Course Chart. Marks “W” and “L” will be orange tetrahedrons. New marks as provided in rule 33, Change of Course after the Start will be orange tetrahedrons with a black band.

11.0 Check in Before Start

11.1 If flag “L” is flown by the race committee signal boat before the first warning signal, each boat shall sail close-hauled on starboard tack close by the stern of the committee boat, and hail her sail number, which will be acknowledged. Boats failing to check in will be scored “Did Not Start” for the first race each day.

12.0 The Start

12.1 Races will be started in accordance with rule 26 with classes starting at five (5) minute intervals in the order prescribed in the NOR or an addendum thereto.

12.2 The starting line will be between one (1) staff displaying an orange flag with the letters “LSF” on it, the pin end, and a similar staff aboard the race committee boat. If staff flag not in place then Mark 38 near Island Chaffee will be utilized.

12.3 Boats whose preparatory signal has not been made shall remain clear of the starting area and of all boats whose preparatory signal has been made.

12.4 A boat shall not start later than ten (10) minutes after her starting signal.

12.5 Placards identifying the next class to start may be displayed from the Race Committee boat with or soon after, the class warning signal and held until the starting signal.

12.6 Signals will be made from the Race Committee boat at the starboard end of the starting line.

12.7 To draw attention that the race starting sequence is about to begin, two sound signals will be made approximately one minute before the warning signal for the first class.

12.8 The Starting Sequence:

WARNING; two or more horn sounds Six minutes to start
Class flag up & horn..... five minutes to start
Prep flag up & horn..... four minutes to start
Prep flag down & horn.....one minute to start
Class flag down & horn....Start!

12.9. Order of Start by Class
Order of Start: 1st Start: “A”. 12 noon
2nd Start: “B”. 12:05
3rd Start: “C”. 12:10.
(Includes non-spins)
(one-designs: 12:15 and continuing as needed)

13.0 Recalls

13.1 Individual recalls will be signaled in accordance with rule 29.1. Sail numbers will be hailed (see 22.2a).

13.2 General recalls will be signaled in accordance with rule 29.2 (see 22.2a).

14.0 Abandonment or Cancellation

14.1 The Race Committee may abandon or cancel a race in progress when a change in the weather conditions has, in its judgment, made the race an unsatisfactory test of skills (see 22.2a).

15.0 Retirements

15.1 A boat which checks in and later retires shall make every effort to notify the Race Committee before leaving the course area. If that is not possible then, at the first reasonable opportunity after retiring, notify the LSFYC Principle Race Officer (PRO).

16.0 The Finish

16.1 The finish line will be the Start Line (see 12.1). The Finish Line will be crossed from the last mark on the course.

17.0 Boat Inspection

17.1 When requested, a boat shall submit itself to inspection by the Race Committee. Boats not in compliance with their rating certificate or class rules, as modified by their sailing instructions, shall be subject to protest by the Race Committee.

18.0 Time Limit

18.1 The time limit shall be as prescribed in the NOR.

19.0 Protests and Acknowledgement of Infringements

19.1 A boat intending to protest or acknowledging an infringement shall fly a red flag and notify the Race Committee promptly after finishing her race.

19.2 Protests shall be written on forms available at the LSFYC Shed and delivered there within 60 minutes after finish of the race (RRS Rule 61.2).

19.3 Protest notices will be posted on the LSFYC Bulletin Board on the Shed, as they are filed. It is the responsibility of each skipper lodging a protest to comply with rule 61.1(a) and be present along with defense witnesses, at the jury room when the protest is to be heard.

19.4 The jury will hear protests in approximately the order of receipt beginning as soon as possible after filing.

19.5 Decision of the jury will be final as provided in rule 70.4.

20.0 Scoring

20.1 The Low Point Scoring System, rule A2, will apply to each individual race. For the series score, the High Point Scoring System will be used.

20.2 A DNF or OCS will be scored points equal to the number of finishers plus one. A DSQ will be scored points equal to the number of finishers plus two. A DNC or DNS will be scored points equal to the number of starters plus one. This changes rule A4.2

20.3 The Race Committee, based upon the approximate course length, shall determine course distances.

21.0 Alternative Penalties

21.1 The 720 Turns Penalty, Rule 44.2, will apply. Except that the penalty is modified to one complete 360-degree turn that shall include one tack and one gybe. This changes rule 44.2

22.0 Radio Communications

22.1 A boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive special radio communications not available to all boats.

22.2 Radio communications to the racing boats racing will be on VHF Channel 68.

22.2a Race Committee will broadcast postponements or abandonments on VHF Channel 68.

22.2b Flags and Horn will be the only time signals during countdown to start.

22.3 No boat shall transmit or receive on the Amateur Radio Bands or cellular phones except in the event of an emergency.

23.0 Trophies

23.1 Unless prescribed in the NOR, number of trophies awarded per class are based on participation as 9 boats 3 trophies, 12 boats 4 trophies, 15 boats 5 trophies, 5 boats 2 trophies.

Revised 1/16/2026