



St Margaret Sailing Club 2023 Senior Fleet Racing

Organizing Authority: St Margaret Sailing Club

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Date of Issue: June 02, 2023

1. Rules

- 1.1 The racing will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing 2021 - 2024* (RRS)
- 1.2 The following racing rules will be changed by these Sailing Instructions: 26, 32, 33, 35, 62.1(a), A5, and Race Signals
- 1.3 PHRF NS ratings will be used for the purposes of calculating corrected times, on a time-on-time basis, except for pursuit ('Bermuda start') races, which will use PHRF NS ratings on a time-on-distance basis.
- 1.4 The PHRF NS rules are changed to allow a boat whose PHRF NS inventory includes a spinnaker, to sail without a spinnaker using a no-spinnaker handicap on a race-by-race basis, without having to submit an application for a handicap change to PHRF NS.

2. Notice to Competitors

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be sent by email to the SMSC Keelboat Racing mailing list members at racing@smc.ca and additionally, may be posted on the SMSC web site: <http://smc.ca/keelboat-racing>.

3. Changes to Sailing Instructions

- 3.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 1200 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

4. Signals made ashore

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the SMSC wharf.
- 4.2 If a postponement is signaled, the warning signal will be made not less than 30 minutes after flag AP is lowered.

5. Schedule

- 5.1 Races will offered as specified in the latest published SMSC Keelboat Racing - Notice of Race found on the SMSC Keelboat Racing Program webpage (<https://www.smc.ca/keelboat-racing>)
- 5.2 The warning signal for the first start on weekday evenings will be at 1805. The warning signal for the first start on weekends will be 1300.

5.3 The organizing authority may cancel a scheduled race for safety or other operational reasons.

6. Class Flags

6.1 The class flags are described in the following table:

Class	Class Flag
A Handicap	Code Flag 'A'
B Handicap	Code Flag 'B'

7. Courses and Marks

7.1 No later than the warning signal, the race committee will designate the course to be sailed as a course number from the SMSC course card or as a list of rounding marks together with the side on which they are to be left, on a whiteboard on the side of the race committee signal boat. As a courtesy to competitors, courses may also be announced on VHF Channel 71. In the event that the weather or sea conditions do not permit use the whiteboard, the course shall only be announced on VHF Channel 71.

7.2 Boats shall observe all navigational marks except DA58 (SMSC's ECHO mark). Boats shall observe and avoid any marked commercial fishing or aquaculture infrastructure.

7.3 All marks will be as described on the SMSC Course card; typically small plastic cans, spar buoys (sometimes with flags), floating posts (with flags), mooring buoys or navigational marks.

7.4 While the French Village Harbour shoreline fishing net is deployed and the club start/finish line is a mark on the course, the high-flyer buoy at coordinates 44°37'.981N 063°55'.540W shall be passed to the North.

7.5 Races may start and/or finish at the Club start line, adjacent Golf, Foxtrot or other marks, at the Race Officer's discretion. Subject to further notice, the intent is to start and finish all races at Golf or Foxtrot, except the following will start and finish at the Club: Ocean Race, Island Race and Turkey Trot.

8. Check-in Before Starting

8.1 Eligible boats (see the Notice of Race) shall check-in with the Race Committee before the first warning signal of a race, either by VHF Channel 71 or by hailing the Race Committee, giving the boat name and designating whether it is sailing 'with spinnaker' or 'white sails only' so that the appropriate PHRF rating can be applied. This designation shall not be changed after the first warning signal of a race. If a designation is not made, the boat's default PHRF rating will be applied.

8.1.1 Novice skippers requesting a separate starting signal shall declare their intention with the Race Committee during check-in by also declaring 'Novice'. Failure to declare 'Novice' before the first warning signal will result in the boat being timed from the earliest starting signal.

8.2 For Bermuda start races, boats intending to race, or contemplating racing, should announce their intention by an email to the SMSC Senior Fleet members at SMSC Racing List racing@smc.ca, or otherwise inform senior fleet at keelboatracing@smc.ca so that preparations can be made for announcing starting times for individual entries. Check-in on the race course is still required, per 8.1.

9. The Start

9.1 The starting line will either be the SMSC 'club line' or at a committee boat, as follows:

9.1.1 The club line will be between the breakwater SE light and the course-side extremity of the Club Finish mark to the south.

9.1.2 The committee boat line will be between the RC Flag staff on the race committee boat and the course-side of the near-by mark.

9.2 All classes will start in a single starting sequence with Novice participants eligible to start per 9.3.1

9.3 Races will be started with Rule 26, with the following change:

9.3.1 An additional Novice starting signal will be displayed and sounded 2 minutes following the primary starting signal, preceded by a one-minute signal.

An example sequence would be:

5 min	Warning signal	Class flags hoisted
4 min	Preperatory signal	Prep flag hoisted
1 min	One minute	Prep flag lowered
0 min	Primary starting signal	Class flags lowered
-1 min	Novice One minute	Class flags hoisted
-2 min	Novice Starting signal	Class flags lowered

9.4 For Bermuda start races, Rule 26 is changed as follows:

9.4.1 The race committee will publish a list of competitors together with their starting times, rounded to the nearest minute

9.4.2 The first starter will have a full starting sequence under Rule 26

9.4.3 One minute before any subsequent starting time, the race committee will display the class flag (Code Flag 'A' for Bermuda start races), together with one sound signal and a radio transmission of the boat or boats starting at this start

9.4.4 At any subsequent starting time, the race committee will remove the class flag together with one sound signal

10. Shortening or Changing the Course

10.1 In addition to the procedures of Rule 32, the Race Committee may signal that a race will be shortened to finish at a designated mark by means of a radio transmission to the fleet before the first boat in a class reaches that mark. If no Race Committee boat is on station at the mark, competitors shall pass within one boat-length of the mark, take their own time (using GPS time) as they cross a line perpendicular to the rhumb line to the leg just completed, and immediately thereafter announce their boat name and finish time on VHF Channel 71. The Race Committee will endeavor to acknowledge the transmission. This changes Rules 32 and Race Signals.

10.2 In addition to the procedures of Rule 33, the Race Committee may signal a change in the course specified in SI 6.1 by means of a radio transmission on VHF Channel 71 to the fleet before the first boat in a fleet reaches the mark at which the change becomes effective. This changes Rules 33 and Race Signals

11 The Finish

11.1 Absent any specific notice the finishing line will be the SMSC Club Line, between the SMSC breakwater SE light and the course-side extremity of the Club-F mark, but:

11.1.1 The race officer may specify a race committee boat finish as part of the posted course definition. The committee-boat finish line will be between the RC Flag staff on the race committee boat and the course side of the near-by mark.

12 Time Limit

12.1 The time limit for evening races will be the earlier of two hours and fifteen (2:15) minutes after the starting signal or 2045 hours, for the first boat to finish in each class. Boats failing to finish within 60 minutes of the first boat will be scored DNF. This changes Rule 35.

12.2 The time limit for weekend races will be four (4) hours for the first boat to finish, except for the Ocean race where this is increased to five (5) hours. Boats failing to finish within 90 minutes of the first boat will be scored DNF. This changes Rule 35.

12.3 The first boat referred to in SI 12.1 and 12.2 shall not be a visiting boat referred to in the Notice of Race section 2.2.

13 Protests

13.1 Protests for races scheduled to start or finish on the Club line shall be delivered to the Race Officer, Officer of the Day or the SMSC Bar within 60 minutes after the last boat finishes. Protests for races not finishing at the club line may be filed electronically with racing@smsc.ca within three (3) hours after the last boat finishes. The time of transmission will be taken as the time of receipt. 13.2 Hearings may be held as soon as possible after racing, or may be held over to a later date.

14 Scoring

14.1 One race is required to be completed to constitute a series.

14.2 Novice boat's will be scored in their registered class based on their elapsed time.

14.2 For June, July, August and September Series: When fewer than four races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores. When four or more are completed, a boat's score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

14.3 3 For the Class Championship and White Sail Championship Series: The Series includes three Wednesday Night series of four or five races each (June, July, and August), a Sunday Series of four races ('September') plus five individual races (Club Opener, Father's Day, Ocean Race, Double Handed Race, Island Race, and Turkey Trot). (Total: 22 planned in 2023.)

A boat's series score will be the sum of her race scores, excluding worst scores for approximately 1/3 of races completed, as follows:

- 12 races: total of race scores excluding worst 4 scores
- 13 races: total of race scores excluding worst 4 scores
- 14 races: total of race scores excluding worst 5 scores
- 15 races: total of race scores excluding worst 5 scores
- 16 races: total of race scores excluding worst 5 scores
- 17 races: total of race scores excluding worst 6 scores
- 18 races: total of race scores excluding worst 6 scores
- 19 races: total of race scores excluding worst 6 scores
- 20 races: total of race scores excluding worst 7 scores
- 21 races: total of race scores excluding worst 7 scores
- 22 races: total of race scores excluding worst 7 scores

14.4 Rule A.9 will apply.

14.5 Boats who have failed to file entry forms and insurance declarations as required by the Notice of Race will be scored DNC. This changes Rule A5.

14.6 In the event that the boat fails to obtain a PHRF NS rating before October 1, 2023 she shall be scored RET in all races in which she sailed. This changes Rule A5.

15 Radio Communication and Race Committee

15.1 In addition to on-duty Race Officers, the Race Committee for a given race includes the Senior Fleet Coordinators and/or an Officer of the Day (as designated by a Senior Fleet Coordinator), any of whom may also be competitors.

15.2 Except in an emergency, to register her late entry, to ask for clarification of a transmission by the Race Committee, to retire from a race, or to announce her finish time per SI 10.1, a boat shall not make radio transmissions while racing. Additionally, a boat shall not receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.

15.3 Communication by VHF radio or mobile telephone is permitted between members of the Race Committee before, after, or during a race with respect to the conduct of that race. This changes Rule 62.1(a).

16 Disclaimer of Liability

16.1 Competitors participate in races entirely at their own risk. See Rule 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority (SMSC) will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the SMSC Senior Fleet races.

17 Disclaimer of Liability

17.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$1,000,000CDN per race or the equivalent.