



*Tred Avon Yacht Club*  
P.O. Box 337  
Oxford, MD 21654  
tayc.com

**SHIELDS CLASS SAILING ASSOCIATION NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP REGATTA**  
**October 15<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> 2008**  
**Hosted by Tred Avon Yacht Club and Shields Fleet 21, Oxford, MD**

**SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

**1. RULES**

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the *rules* as defined by the *Racing Rules of Sailing 2005-2008 (RRS)* and the *Shields Class Sailing Association Rules* as modified by the *Notice of Race* for this regatta.
- 1.2 In the event of conflict between the *Notice of Race* and the *Sailing Instructions*, the *Sailing Instructions* take precedence. This modifies RRS 63.7.
- 1.3 Each boat shall carry a VHF radio capable of transmitting and receiving on Channel 72.

**2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS**

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the Shields Notice Board located in the foyer of the Tred Avon Yacht Club.

**3. CHANGES IN THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

- 3.1 Changes to the *Sailing Instructions* will be posted before 0900 on the day they will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted before 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

**4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the yardarm at Tred Avon Yacht Club.
- 4.2 When Flag "AP" is displayed ashore, "1 minute" is replaced with "not less than 90 minutes" in Race Signals "AP".

**5. SCHEDULE OF RACES**

- |                       |             |  |
|-----------------------|-------------|--|
| Wednesday, October 15 | 1400 – 1600 | Practice starts and race                 |
| Thursday, October 16  | 1100        | Warning signal for first race of the day |
| Friday, October 17    | 1100        | Warning signal for first race of the day |
| Saturday, October 18  | 1100        | Warning signal for first race of the day |
- 5.1 It is the intention of the race committee to run up to three races a day for a maximum of seven races for the regatta.
  - 5.2 On Saturday, October 18, no warning signal will be made after 1400.

## **6. RACING AREAS**

- 6.1** Racing will be held on the Choptank River, SW of the Choptank River Light.
- 6.2** The rendezvous area is approximately 1.0 NM SW of the Choptank River Light.

## **7. CLASS FLAG**

- 7.1** The Class Flag will be a Shields insignia on a white background.

## **8. CHECK IN PRIOR TO THE START**

- 8.1** Each boat is required to check in with the RC signal boat prior to the first warning signal on each day of racing. Sail on starboard tack astern of the committee boat and hail your number. This will be acknowledged by the race committee. Failure to check in may result in the Race Committee assigning a 20% scoring penalty without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1, A4 and A5.

## **9. COURSES**

- 9.1** Courses will be set at a minimum of 6 nm, but may be shortened to not to less than four nm.
- 9.2** The RC signal boat will display the course number, the approximate magnetic bearing and distance in nautical miles to the weather mark (mark 1) on a white board.
- 9.3** Course 2: Start – 1 – 1a – Finish (downwind)  
Course 3: Start – 1 – 1a – Gate – Finish (upwind)  
Course 4: Start – 1 – 1a – Gate – 1 – 1a – Finish (downwind)  
Course 5: Start – 1 – 1a – Gate – 1 – 1a – Gate – Finish (upwind)  
Course 6: Start – 1 – 1a – Gate – 1 – 1a – Gate – 1 – 1a – Finish (downwind)
- 9.4** Marks 1 and 1a shall be rounded to port. Mark 1a is an offset mark and will be positioned to port of Mark 1.
- 9.5** For courses 2, 4 & 6, the gate marks are not marks of the course for the first or final leg.
- 9.6** When there is a gate, boats shall sail between the gate marks from the direction of the previous mark and round either gate mark.
- 9.7** If only one gate mark is set, boats shall round that mark to port.
- 9.8** Except when there is a change of course, the gate will be positioned to windward of the RC signal boat.
- 9.9** In the event of a shortened course, the finish line shall be between a rounding mark, between the mark and a staff displaying flag S or at a gate, between the gate marks.

## **10. MARKS**

- 10.1** The windward mark is an orange tetrahedron. The offset mark will be a small orange sphere.
- 10.2** Gate marks will be yellow tetrahedrons.
- 10.3** The leeward mark or gate mark will be set about 100 yards to windward of the RC signal boat.
- 10.4** The finish mark will be an orange cylinder.

## **11. THE START**

- 11.1** Races will be started using *RRS 26*.
- 11.2** The starting line will be between a staff flying an orange flag on the RC signal boat and an orange cylindrical mark to port.
- 11.3** A boat starting later than 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored “DNS” without a hearing. This changes *RRS 63.1, A4 and A5*

## **12. RECALLS**

- 12.1** The race committee will attempt to hail OCS boats on Ch 72 VHF.
- 12.2** Failure to hail, the hail of some but not all OCS boats, the order in which or untimely hailing of boats shall not be grounds for redress. This changes *RRS 62.1(a)*.

## **13. THE FINISH**

- 13.1** The finish line for even numbered courses (downwind) will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the RC signal boat and the nearby cylindrical mark.
- 13.2** The finish line for odd numbered courses (upwind finish) will be between an orange flag on a race committee boat and the nearby windward mark to port.

## **14. RADIO COMMUNICATIONS**

- 14.1** Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to cell phones.
- 14.2** The Race Committee intends to use Ch 72 to supplement signaled information to all boats.
- 14.3** Competitors are responsible for having a functioning VHF radio aboard.

## **15. TIME LIMIT**

- 15.1** The time limit for the first boat to finish will be three hours.
- 15.2** Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored “DNF” without a hearing. This changes *RRS 35, 63.1, A4 & A5*.

## **16. PROTESTS**

- 16.1** A boat intending to protest is requested to notify the race committee of its intention and the identity of the protested boat(s) as soon as possible after finishing the contested race.
- 16.2** Protest forms will be available at the Tred Avon Yacht Club Competitor Notices Board. Completed protests shall be delivered to the Protest Committee as soon as possible but not later than two hours after the committee boat has docked. The protest time limit will be posted on the official Notice Board.
- 16.3** A list of protests received will be posted as soon as possible indicating the time and order in which the protests will be heard.
- 16.4** Representatives of the boats who are parties to a hearing and their witnesses shall remain in the vicinity of the TAYC Junior Sailing Room.

**17. ALTERNATIVE PENALTIES**

**17.1** The Two Turn Penalty, rule 44.2 is altered as follows: A boat that may have broken a rule of Part 2 while racing may take a penalty by making ONE TURN including one tack and one gybe that, in all other respects, complies with *RRS* 44.2. However, if a boat breaks a rule of Part 2 within the two length zone of any rounding or passing marks, her penalty shall be a TWO TURNS penalty in compliance with *RRS* 44.2.

**18. SCORING**

**18.1** The Low Point Scoring System of Appendix A will apply

**18.2** A maximum of seven races is scheduled. Four completed races will constitute the series.

**18.3** If fewer than five races are completed, a boat's score will be the total of her race score. If five or more races are completed, a boat's score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score subject to rule 89.3(b).

**19. SAFETY**

**19.1** Competitors are strongly encouraged to wear a USCG approved PFD while racing.

**19.2** Boats retiring from racing are requested to notify the Race Committee on Ch 72.

**20. PRIZES**

**20.1** Prizes will be awarded daily to the winning skipper of each race sailed. At the final Awards Dinner, prizes will be awarded to skippers of the first five place finishers for the regatta. Other trophies are detailed in the Notice of Race.

**21. SUPPORT BOATS**

**21.1** Support boats shall display the sail number(s) of the boat(s) she is supporting.

**21.2** Competing boats may be towed to the race area by a support boat.

**21.3** Other than outside help defined in *RRS* 41, no assistance shall be given or gear transferred between support boats and competing boats from the first warning signal until the completion of the final race of each day without prior approval of the Principal Race Officer or Protest Committee Chair.