



67th Downriver Race

Sailing Instructions (v1)

Saturday July 26, 2025

'[DP]' at the beginning of an SI if that SI is subject to discretionary penalty

1 RULES

- 1.1** The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*, the prescriptions of US Sailing, PHRF-LE Class Rules, and One Design Class Rules as applicable.

2 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1** Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 09:00 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 20:00 on the day before it will take effect.

3 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1** Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located at www.noticeofrace.net.
- 3.2** On the water, the race committee intends to monitor and communicate with competitors via VHF radio on channel [VHF CH71](#).
- 3.3** [DP] While racing, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

4 CODE OF CONDUCT

- 4.1** [DP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.

5 SCHEDULE OF RACES


- 5.1** The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race is [10:55](#). *The starting sequence of classes is as follows:*
Start 1 - Spinnaker A
Start 2 - Spinnaker B
Start 3 - Spinnaker C
Start 4 - JAM


5.2 One race is scheduled and is required to be completed to constitute a series.


5.3 No skippers meeting is planned.

6 CLASS FLAGS

6.1 The class flags are:

Spinnaker A – 

Spinnaker B – 

Spinnaker C – 

Jam – 

7 RACING AREA

7.1 The racing area is in the Detroit River starting at Windsor Yacht Club and ending at the Grosse Ile Yacht Club.

8 COURSE

8.1 SI Addendum 1 includes an illustration of the course.

8.2 The location of the starting line is between a staff displaying a blue R/C flag on the Windsor Yacht Club patio (port) and spar buoy DP3 (starboard). Proceed downstream from the start, leaving Peche Island channel DP2 to Port. Leave Fleming Channel DPB to Starboard. Leave Fighting Island North Light Iso R 4s to port and Grassy Island to starboard. Leave Fighting Island Channel South Light Iso R 6s to port. Leave Livingstone Channel Upper Entry Light Al WR 10s to starboard – DO NOT enter Livingstone Channel. Leave Amherstburg Range Front Light D65 F Y to starboard. Enter Hole in the Wall leaving Livingstone Channel Light DL20 Iso R 2s to port. Leave Detroit River Entrance Hickory Island Channel Buoy 16 to port. Proceed to finish line. Course distance for scoring is 21.8 NM.

9 Special notice to competitors Restricted Area

9.1 Certain sections underneath the Gordie Howe Bridge while under construction are deemed to be restricted areas as defined by US Coast Guard 33 CFR § 165.T09-0293. Law enforcement intervention during the race will not be considered valid grounds for request for redress.

10 MARKS

10.1 Mark(s) are various fixed and or floating government buoys

See USCG Light List and Canadian Coastguard List of Lights Buoys and Fog Signals for location and description of government buoys and aids to navigation.

<https://www.navcen.uscg.gov/light-list-annual-publication>

<https://notmar.gc.ca/list-lights>

10.2 The following are marks of the course. See course description in section 9.2 and the illustration in SI Addendum 2 for more details. Canadian list reference numbers are given in ():

NL. No:7815(684.3)-Fighting Island Channel, North Light Iso R 4s.

SL. No:7735(684.1)-Fighting Island Channel, South Light Iso R 6s.

UEL. No:7195(677)-Livingstone Channel Upper Entrance Light Al WR 10s.

D65. No:7090(663)-Amherstburg Channel, Amherstburg Range Front Light D65 F Y.

DL20. No:7270(699)-Livingstone Channel, Light DL20 Iso R 2s.

RN16. No:7615-Detroit River Entrance Hickory Island Channel, Buoy 16.

DP3. (no reference found) Peche Island Channel, DP3.

DPB. No:8225(705.6)-Fleming Channel, Lighted Buoy DPB of Shoal

DP2. No:(706.9)-Peche Island Channel Light Buoy DP2.

11 THE START

11.1 Races will be started using RRS 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal.

11.2 The starting line is between a staff displaying a blue R/C flag on the Windsor Yacht Club Patio port end and the course side of spar buoy DP3 (Green Spar).

11.3 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races.

11.4 If any part of a boat's hull is on the course side of the starting line during the two minutes before her starting signal and she is

identified, the race committee will attempt to broadcast her sail number on VHF channel [VHF Ch71](#). Failure to make a broadcast or to time it accurately will not be grounds for a request for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

11.5 If any part of a boat's hull is on the course side of the starting line at her starting signal and she is identified, the race committee will attempt to hail her sail number. Failure to hail her number, failure of her to hear such a hail, or the order in which boats are hailed will not be grounds for a request for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

11.6 A boat that does not start within [4](#) minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.

12 THE FINISH

12.1 The finish will be between the GIYC Flagpole and a buoy dropped in the water ~200 meters east of the club.

12.2 If the race committee is absent when a boat finishes, she shall report her finishing time, and her position in relation to nearby boats, to the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

13 PENALTY SYSTEM

13.1 For the [all](#) class(es), RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

14 TIME LIMITS [AND TARGET TIMES]

14.1 The Mark 1 Time Limit, Race Time Limit (see RRS 35), and the Finishing Window are shown in the table below.

	Race Time Limit	Finishing Window after 1 st boat per class
	7 hours	1 hour

14.3 The Finishing Window is the time for boats to finish after the first boat in class sails the course and finishes. Boats failing to finish within the Finishing Window, and not subsequently retiring, penalized or given redress, will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) without a hearing. A boat scored TLE shall be scored points for the finishing place [one][two] more than the points scored by the last boat that finished within the Finishing Window. This changes RRS 35, A5.1, A5.2 and A10.

15 HEARING REQUESTS

- 15.1** The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the last boat finishes. The time will be posted on the notice board at Grosse Ile Yacht Club.
- 15.2** Hearing request forms are available from the race Committee at GIYC following the race or at <https://www.ussailing.org/resource-library/us-sailing-hearing-request-form/>
- 15.3** Notices will be posted at GIYC no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the protest room, located at [GIYC](#), beginning at the time posted.
- 15.4** RRS 62.2(a) and 66.2(a) do not apply.

16 SCORING

- 16.1** The scoring system is as follows:
As stated in the notice of Race, and RRS Appendix A, SCORING.
- 16.2** A distance of 21.8 miles will be used for scoring.

17 SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 17.1** [DP] A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

18 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

- 18.1** A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules, notice of race and sailing instructions.

19 TRASH DISPOSAL

- 19.1** Trash may be placed aboard official [or support person] vessels.

20 PRIZES

- 20.1** The number of flags will be dependent on the number of competitors per class.
1st place flag for 2 competitors
1st & 2nd for 3 competitors,
1st, 2nd & 3rd for 4 or more.
The following trophies will also be announced:

Commodore Ralph Braden Trophy will be awarded to the PHRF yacht with the best-corrected time.

Commodore Oscar E. Raison Memorial Trophy will be awarded to the mono-hull yacht with the best elapsed time.

Commodore Charles Anderson Memorial Trophy will be awarded to the GIYC yacht with the best elapsed time.

Commodore Burdeno Trophy will be awarded to the JAM yacht with the best-corrected time.

GIYC Past Commodore's Trophy will be awarded to the GIYC Spinnaker yacht with the best-corrected time.

Jimmy Morrison Trophy will be awarded to Cruising Class yacht with best-corrected time.

21 RISK STATEMENT

- 21.1** RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. **Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.**

22 INSURANCE

- 22.1** Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of **\$300,000** per incident or the equivalent.

23 Ratings

- 23.1** PHRF yachts will be placed into classes and rated in accordance with measurements and ratings accepted and on file with a valid PHRF rating certificate. PHRF-LE RATINGS WILL APPLY.
- 23.2** Entries not having an official rating certificate may be ASSESSED A PENALTY of Seven [7] seconds per mile.
- 23.3** The GIYC Race Committee will in its sole discretion assign a rating to a boat without a current PHRF-LE certificate.
- 23.4** Class splits will be posted on the Notice of Race website by 09:00 on July 26th