



SYC Sailing Instructions (revised 5-1-2021)

1 RULES

1.1 Races will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing, RRS. (Current edition)

2 NUMBERS

2.1 All competitors will display numbers (or unique letters) on their sails. This changes rule 77. If your numbers do not match your boat or you display no number, please check in at the RC vessel prior to the starting sequence.

3 NOTICE TO COMPETITORS

Notices to Competitors will be posted on the SYC Race notice board on the west wall of kitchen area of the SYC Clubhouse.

4 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

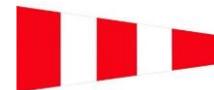
Changes to Sailing Instructions will be posted no later than ninety (90) minutes prior to the scheduled start for that day. Changes posted after that time will apply to the next day of scheduled racing. Sailing Instructions may be changed orally on the water only in accordance with RRS 90.2c. Code flag "L" (black & yellow squares, at right) will be displayed if oral changes apply.



5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the SYC committee boat.

5.2 If AP is displayed ashore, "one-minute" is replaced by "not less than 30 minutes" for the race signal AP. (Red & white vertical pennant, at right)



6 SAFETY & EQUIPMENT

6.1 Competitors shall carry on board an approved PFD for each person. (Competitors aged 12-and-under shall wear a PFD at all times on the water.)

6.2 All Competitors shall wear a PFD whenever the Race Committee displays the "Y" flag (yellow & red diagonal stripes, at right). Failure to comply during a race will result in a DNF.



6.3 Other class rules, concerning safety requirements, will be up to competitors and not subject to protest.

7 SCHEDULE OF RACES

Schedule of races will be as posted before the beginning of the season and amended by Notice to Competitors.

8 CLASS FLAGS

Class Flags or numeral pennants will be displayed if more than one SYC class is planning to start. At other times a Yellow Flag (Q, at right) will substitute for a Class Flag.



9 THE COURSES

9.1 Sunfish Wednesday Courses

9.1a Courses will be windward/leeward/windward with start and finish mid-leg.

9.1b The weather mark will have an offset mark.

9.1c The leeward mark shall be a gate approximately seven boat lengths wide.

9.1d If the course is shortened during or after the first weather leg, competitors should take the most direct course from the offset mark to finish at either the start line or the leeward gate. This will be determined by the position of RC vessel displaying signal flag "S."

9.2 Saturday Series Races Courses – SSR – (All Boats, mixed fleets)

9.2a Courses will be determined by prevailing winds preceding the start, using marks A (Entrance to Echo Cove off North Shore Town Beach), B (north and east of Pierce Island), C (near the entrance to Outlet Cove just east of the SYC mooring field).

9.2b Rounding order will be posted on the SYC Signal Vessel no less than five minutes before the warning signal. Courses may be once or twice around based on conditions. Twice-around courses will be signaled by the numeral 2 (two), following the letter indication of rounding order.

9.2c The SSR start line will be positioned mid-lake to provide for a windward leg to the designated first mark.

9.2d SSR Finishes shall be mid-lake and upwind, unless the course is shortened, but never at a rounding mark. Finishes shall be between the Signal Vessel and a finishing mark. ~~Finishes will usually be in a different location than the starting area.~~

9.2e SSR races may be shortened by displaying code flag “S” with two sound signals. This signal shall be made before the lead boat approaches its next rounding mark. SSR finishes shall be taken at a location upwind or downwind of the rounding mark and clearly visible to all racers. Boats finish between the Signal Vessel, displaying the RC flag with code flag “S” and a finishing mark.



9.2f SSR racers shall abide by all New Hampshire navigation marks and warnings. In doing so, reefs, rocks and shallow water so designated shall be treated as a “continuing obstruction’ governed by RRS 19 & 20.

10 MARKS

10.1 Marks will be orange spheres.

10.2 Mark rounding will be to port.

10.3 If gate marks are used and one of the gate marks is missing or obviously out of position, the remaining gate mark will be rounded to port.

11 THE START

11.1 The attention signal will be several short blasts of a horn or whistle, approximately thirty (30) seconds before the start sequence unless pennant AP (Red & white vertical stripes) is displayed for a postponement. In that circumstance, AP drop with one sound signal will constitute the attention signal.

11.2 Start Sequence will be as follows:

Three minutes, Warning, Class Flag/Numeral Pennant or Yellow Signal up, Sound signal

Two minutes, Preparatory, P-flag up (at right), Sound signal



One Minute, P-flag struck, Long Sound Signal

Thirty Seconds, 3 short Sound Signal

Start, Class Flag, Numeral Pennant or Yellow Struck, Sound Signal

11.3 SSR Races will have one starting sequence for all fleets.

11.4 The start line will be between a staff displaying the Race Committee flag and the course side of the starting mark.

11.5 The Race Officer will attempt to augment the Auto-start tones with horn or whistle signals. Per, US Sailing *Racing Rules of Sailing*: “Times shall be taken from visual signals; the absence of a sound signal shall be disregarded.”

11.6 All divisions will be given a start regardless of their presence in the starting area. (This allows for late arrivals to be properly scored)
Starting offsets will calculated into the corrected time finish & applied to the Portsmouth Rating Handicap.

11.7 Boats in divisions, not in the active starting sequence, **shall** stay clear of the active division start. Flagrant violation of this instruction, in the opinion of the Race Committee **may** result in a 10% penalty to a boat’s elapsed time for the race.

12 RECALLS

12.1 The Race Committee will attempt to notify any boat that starts prematurely, but are not required to under rule 29.1

12.2 Individual recalls will be signaled by the “X” flag with one sound. (white flag with blue cross, at right) The flag will be displayed until all premature starters have sailed completely to the pre-start side of the starting line or one of its extensions, but no later than two minutes after the starting signal (this changes RRS 29.1)



12.3 General recalls will be announced by “The First Substitute Pennant” (Yellow field with blue border) with two sound signals. (RRS 29.2) “First Substitute” struck with one sound signal will be attention for the re-start.



12.4 [Reserved]

12.5 OCS racers failing to properly restart an SSR race will be given a penalty equal to the approximate time they were OCS plus two (2) minutes

13 THE FINISH

13.1 The finish line will be between a staff displaying the blue RC flag and the course side of the finish mark. NOTE: The line may be reversed from the default, "buoys to port," in a shortened race

13.2 SSR finishes will be in accordance with instructions 9.2d and 9.2e

13.3 SSR finishers should come within hale, if the RC vessel is flying code flag code flag L (black and yellow squares) at the finish. There may be a second race if conditions permit.



14 TARGET TIME

14.1 SYC Sunfish Target Time shall be 45 minutes per race. The SYC race officer shall use discretion to allow racers to finish if they are close to target time.

14.2 SYC Sunfish Target Time to the weather mark shall be 20 minutes. If racers do not appear close to rounding at this point, the race officer will consider shortening or abandonment based on conditions.

14.3 SSR Target Time shall be sixty (60) minutes per race. The SYC race officer shall use discretion to allow racers to finish if they are close to target time. Once one finisher crosses the line at target time the race is official and all competitor finishes within the finishing window shall be recorded.

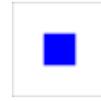
15 FINISHING WINDOW

15.1 SYC Sunfish races will have a 15-minute finishing window after the first boat crosses the line to complete the race. The race officer will signal the closing of the window with one long horn. Non-finishers still competing at the end of the window will be scored one place greater than the last official finisher.

15.2 SSR races will have a 40-minute finishing window after the first boat crosses the line to complete the race. The race officer will signal the closing of the window with one long horn. Non-finishers still competing at the end of the window will be scored one place greater than the last official finisher.

16 SHORTENING OR ABANDONING AFTER THE START

16.1 After the starting signal, the Race Committee may shorten course by displaying flag S (white with blue square, at right) with two sound signals or abandon the race by displaying flag N with three sound signals.



16.2 The Race Committee shall be guided by rule 32.1 and 32.2 in abandoning and shortening races. Abandonment should be considered after significant Race Committee errors, unfairness of the competition, foul weather, insufficient wind making it unlikely any boat will finish close to the target time or the safety of a competitor or competitors.

16.3 When the N flag (blue & white checks, at right) with three sound signals is displayed, competitors should use judgment as to whether to return to the starting area or to SYC. The Race Committee will attempt to hail its intentions following abandonment.



17 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

17.1 A boat, which may have broken a rule of RRS part 2 (right of way) or rule 31 (touching a mark), may take a One-Turn Penalty to exonerate herself. This modifies rule 44.1.

17.2 A boat intending to protest regarding an incident in the racing area shall notify the race committee as soon as possible after it finishes. This changes rule 61.1a.

17.3 The time limit for protests is 30 minutes after the committee boat docks.

18 SCORING

18.1 The Low-Point Averaged Scoring System, (rules.ussailing.org) shall be used.

18.2 The series shall consist of races scheduled and sailed from the Spofford Yacht Club from **June 2** to **August 28** as announced by each racing fleet. To qualify for inclusion in the final series results a boat shall compete in (i.e., come to the starting area for) at least 50 percent of the races completed. Other fleet requirements may also be applied to determine the 50 percent criteria.

18.3 Each boat finishing a race and not thereafter retiring or being disqualified will be scored as follows:

Finishing place	Score
First	1
Second	2
Third	3
Fourth	4

Each place thereafter Add 1 point

All other boats that compete in that race, including any that come to the starting area and thereafter retire or finish and thereafter retire or are disqualified, will receive the score for the finishing place one more than the number of boats competing in that race. Boats that do not compete in that race (DNC) will not be scored.

18.4 The series score for each boat will be the sum of her race scores divided by the number of races for which she is scored. The qualified boat with the lowest series score is the winner, and others are ranked accordingly.

18.5 Race ties will be handled using rule A7. Series ties will be broken using rule A8.1.

Rules A1, A3, A5, A6, A10 and A11 also apply.