

**Muscle Shoals Sailing Club  
Wilson Lake, Alabama**

**Sailing Instructions**

**1. Rules**

1.1 The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 2001-2004, the prescriptions of U.S. Sailing, the prescriptions of the class rules of all types of sailboats participating and these sailing instructions will govern these races and this regatta. With respect to advertising, all regattas at MSSC are classified as Category A events as defined in Appendix 1 of the RRS.

**2. Entries**

2.1 This event is open to all sailors (RRS 46 will not apply). Participants may enter by completing registration and remitting any prescribed entry fees prior to defined deadlines at the registration table in the MSSC clubhouse.

**3. Notices to Competitors**

3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located in the clubhouse on the North Wall.

**4. Changes in Sailing Instructions**

4.1 Any change in the Sailing Instructions will be posted before 1200 Saturday (for nominal 1300 starts) and 0830 on Sundays for those morning starts.

**5. Signals Made Ashore**

5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the committee boat at the dock.

5.2 Code Flag "AP" the Answering Pennant, with two sounds means, "the race is postponed". The warning signal will be made not less than 30 minutes after "AP" is lowered (accompanied by one sound when lowered).

5.3 Code flag "B" with one sound means "protest filing time has begun" and will be raised when the committee boat returns to the dock at the end of the day's racing. When lowered one half hour later it means that "protest filing time has ended".

5.4 Code Flag "L" means that a change in sailing instructions has been posted on the official notice board.

5.5 Code Flag "Y" means that Rule 40 (PFD) applies at all times while afloat.

**6. Schedule of Races**

6.1 The first race on Saturday will begin at 1300 with as many others to follow, as conditions will permit at the discretion of the Race Committee.

6.2 Races on Sunday will begin at 0930.

6.3 There will be no starts after 1130 Sunday for a weekend regatta.

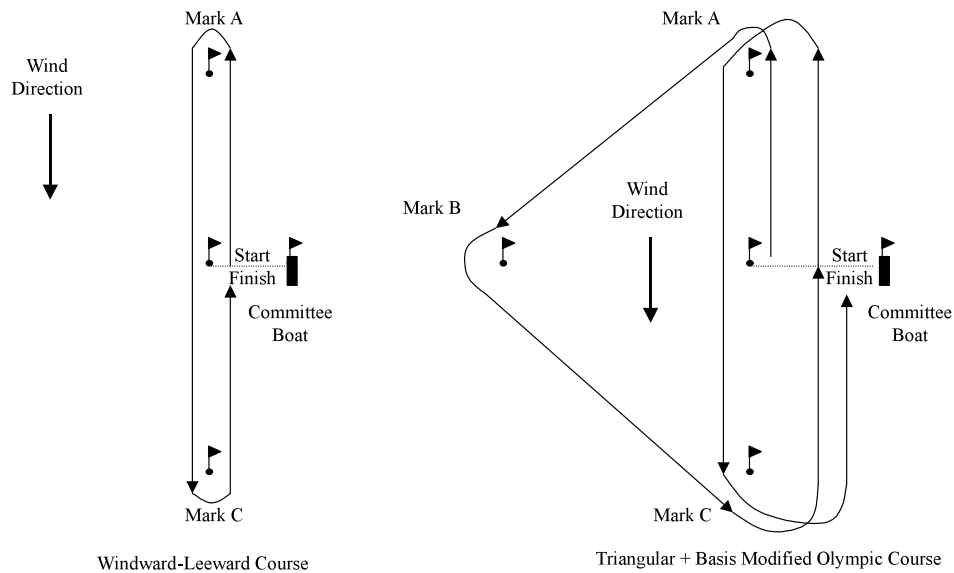
## 7. Racing Area

7.1 The course(s) will be set in the area east, west and south of the clubhouse normally bounded to the south by the sailing line for barges shown on the charts of the Tennessee River. There may be occasions when the rhumb line of a leg projects beyond this line. All competitors must note that commercial traffic has right of way over sailboats and must keep clear of the course being steered by the barge.

## 8. The Courses

8.1 The diagrams below show the courses, the order in which the marks are to be rounded and the side on which each mark is to be left. The type of course will be announced both at the skipper's meeting and from the race committee boat.

Course Diagrams



## 9. Marks

9.1 Marks of the course will be orange oblates, tetrahedral or red and white banded cylindrical marks.

## 10. The Start

10.1 The races will be started according to RRS Rule 26. Instead of a class flag, a yellow shape will be displayed as the warning signal.

10.2 Audible signals will be used to supplement the governing flag signals but do not govern.

10.3 On separate starts, the groupings will start at five-minute intervals in a sequence announced at the skipper's meeting. Thus, the **warning signal** for each succeeding group will be made **immediately after the starting signal** of the **preceeding fleet**.

10.4 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the race committee boat at the starboard end and the port end starting mark (when marks are left to port).

10.5 When code flag "I" is displayed before or with the preparatory signal (blue shape), RRS 30.1 "Round the ends rule" will be in effect for that start. When lowered one minute before the starting signal, the one-minute period of RRS 30.1 has begun.

10.6 In accordance with the new rule, RRS 26, at the **start** signal for each fleet, the **yellow** shape will be removed.

10.7 A boat **starting** more than 10 minutes after **her** starting signal shall be scored **Did Not Start**. This changes rule A4.1.

## 11. Recalls

11.1 Individual recalls will be signaled in accordance with RRS 29.2 (displaying code flag "X" with one sound signal). The race committee will also make every effort to hail the sail number(s) of those yachts starting prematurely.

11.2 When a general recall has been signaled code flag "**First Substitute**" will be displayed **with two sound signals**. **One minute** after the **First Substitute** flag has been lowered a new **Preparatory Signal** will be made (that is, 4 minutes before a repeat of that fleet's **start**).

## 12. Change of Course

12.1 When changing the course after the start, the race committee will move the original mark to a new location. Any mark to be rounded after rounding the new mark may be relocated to maintain the configuration of the original course.

12.2 A change in course will be signaled near the mark beginning the leg being changed by displaying code flag "C" from the committee boat or a support boat and sounding a horn or whistle periodically.

12.3 When there is a change from the types of courses described at the skipper's meeting out on the race area, code flag "L", **Come within Hail**, will be displayed with no sound signals. The race committee will hail the change in course to participants.

## 13. Shortening the Course

13.1 When shortening the course, the race committee will display code flag "S" with two sound signals after the leading yacht has begun the final leg of the shortened course.

13.2 Olympic courses and two triangle courses may not be shortened to fewer than three legs and windward-leeward courses to less than two complete legs.

13.3 The course may be shortened even when the leading boat will finish course within the time limit (for instance in order to facilitate staging another race)

#### **14. The Finish**

14.1 The finishing line will be between the staff displaying an orange flag on the committee boat and the finishing mark.

14.2 The committee will display a blue shape when on station.

#### **15. Time Limit**

15.1 The time limit for each race shall be two hours. Boats failing to finish within 40 minutes after the first boat of its fleet or within the time limit, whichever is later, will be scored **“Did not Finish”**.

15.2 If the lead boat does not reach the first mark within 30 minutes after starting, the race committee will abandon that race.

#### **16. Penalty System**

16.1 The 720-degree penalty (RRS 44.1 and 44.2) will be in effect.

#### **17. Scoring**

17.1 The Low Point Scoring System, RRS Appendix A4 will apply. One race shall constitute a series.

#### **18. Protests**

18.1 Protests shall be written on forms available in the clubhouse in an envelope on the bulletin board, and delivered to the Principal Race Office or Protest Committee Chairperson before the end of the “Protest Filing Time” and must be lodged in accordance with RRS 61 except that the intention to protest an alleged infringement of the rules occurring during a race shall be signified by the protesting yacht with a clear hail to that effect, with or without display of code flag “B” at the first reasonable opportunity after the incident. The protesting yacht must report such protest relevant to yachts which do not accept an alternative penalty to the race committee when she finishes.

18.2 Rule 67 will apply. (The race committee may disqualify, without hearing, any yacht that breaks RRS 42, Propulsion).

18.3 Protest notices will be posted within 30 minutes of the end of the “protest filing time” to inform competitors where and when there will be a hearing in which they are parties in which they are named as witnesses. Protests will be heard in approximately the order of receipt and as soon as possible.

#### **19. Hiking Pants**

19.1 Hiking pants which provide support for the back of the thigh from above the knee to below the buttocks may be used. This amends RRS 49.1.

## **20. Safety**

20.1 All sailors and participants are encouraged to wear personal flotation devices at all times.

20.2 When a life jacket is flown from the race committee boat or code flag “Y” with a sound signal, PFDs must be worn.

20.3 Each yacht **should** carry a twenty-foot long bowline for towing/rescue.

20.4 When leaving the race area early, a competitor shall attempt to notify the race committee or an official on shore immediately upon arrival.

## **21. Prizes**

21.1 Traditional club series or regatta trophies shall be awarded according to customs for those trophies.

21.2 For every five entrants in a class or fleet, there will be at least one trophy. For every additional two entrants, an additional trophy will be awarded.

21.3 A “fleet” for this purpose shall constitute at least three boats of the same class.

21.4 Special trophies may be awarded at the discretion of either MSSC, a member of the Board of Governors, or the designated coordinator of the particular regatta or series of races.

## **22 Disclaimer of Liability**

22.1 Competitors participate in the races and regatta entirely at their own risk. See Rule 4, “Decision to Race”. Neither the organizing authority nor MSSC will accept any liability for material damage, personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with, prior to, during or after the race or regatta.