



Hampton Roads Sunfish Challenge & Dinghy Distance Race

September 17, 2016

Sailing Instructions

RULES:

The Hampton Roads Sunfish Challenge & Dinghy Distance Race is held to promote friendly and honorable racing. The event will be governed by current International Sailing Federation Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 2013-2016, as adopted by the United States Sailing Association, except as modified by these instructions.

ENTRIES:

A completed entry form is required. Entry fee of \$35.00 must accompany the entry form. \$10.00 fee for crew is required at registration. Registration can be made up to the Skippers Meeting, with a \$5 late fee applying the day of the race.

GENERAL:

1. A boat is entirely for her own safety whether afloat or ashore and nothing whether in the Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions or anywhere else reduced this responsibility.
2. It is for a boat to decide whether she is fit to sail in the conditions in which she will find herself. By launching the boat confirms that she is fit for those conditions and her crew is competent to sail and compete.
3. The provision of Safety Boats does not relieve the boat of her responsibilities.

SAFETY:

1. **All competitors shall wear a US Coast Guard or International equivalent personal floatation device at all time when racing, with exceptions made for the Windsurfing competitors.** Wet suits and Dry suits do not constitute an adequate Personal Flotation Device.
2. Radio Communications: Although it is desirable that all boats carry a hand-held VHS radio (Ch. 72), only a **whistle is required**.
3. **20 ft. Painter Lines must be affixed to all Dinghies (excluding Windsurfers), in the event a tow is needed.**

4. The race starting procedure shall not commence until all Safety Boats are afloat and on station.
5. All boats are required to yield the right of way to commercial vessels (freighters, tugs, ferries, etc.) transiting the race area during a race. Any contestant that fails yield to commercial traffic is subject to disqualification.
6. No race will be started if the average wind velocity for a 10-minute period exceeds 25MPH.

START/FINISH LINE:

1. The Start Line/ Finish Line will be between the Race Committee boat's Orange Flag and an Orange Drop Mark on the water at Willoughby Bay.

COURSE:

1. The Long Distance Race Course to be sailed will consist of a start between the RC boat and a drop mark at Willoughby Bay, heading west into the Hampton Roads with a turn at Middle Ground Lighthouse, leaving it either to Starboard or Port, with a return finish at Willoughby Bay.
2. If inclement weather, the RC may elect to run different courses within Willoughby Bay with fixed government marks and drop marks.

RACE START TIMES:

1. Approximate "ATTENTION" signal times: 1030. The starting sequence will be:
Racing Sunfish Fleet, Recreation Fleet, & Tandem Sunfish Fleet, followed by the Laser/Force 5 Fleet, Harbor 20 Fleet, Open Fleet, Multi-Hull, & Sonar Fleet.
 2. All classes will be designated by a colored flag to denote classes.
 - a. Racing Sunfish flag: RED FLAG w/Sunfish Logo
 - b. Rec./Tandem Sunfish: Black FLAG w/White Sunfish Logo
 - c. Laser/Force 5 flag: BLUE FLAG w/ Laser/Force 4 logo
 - d. Open Class flag: WHITE FLAG
 - e. Multi-Hull /Hobie flag: GREEN w/Hobie logo
 - f. Sonar flag: Gray w/Sonar logo
 - g. Viper Flag: White Flage w/Viper logo
3. Please stay at least 50 yards away from the start line if it is not your start.

STARTING SIGNALS: RRS 26 Starting Sequence will not be used. Instead, a modified 3 minute Dinghy Start Sequence will be employed. The start sequence will be as follows:

- Approx. 5 min. to race start – ATTENTION – short, repeated horn blasts.

- 3 Minutes 3 Long Horn Blasts
- 2 Minutes 2 Long Horn Blast
- 1 Minute 1 Long Horn Blast
- Start 1 Long Horn Blast

Finish Line Procedures:

1. Racers will be given a laminated 8x11 inch numbered placard that is to be attached to the rear of their PFD.
2. At the race finish line, the racer will hold up their number to the Finish Line RC and shout their number to the RC folks as well. This will ensure that all race participants will be scored.
3. After finishing, please clear the finish line area to allow room for the other boats that are still on the course.

TIME LIMIT: The Race Committee will close the Finish Line at 1630. All boats resigning from the race should contact the Safety Boat by hailing on VHF Ch 72 or by blowing their whistle.

AWARDS:

1. A total of 9 plaques will be presented to the 3 Sunfish Classes.
2. 5 plaques will be presented to the Open Class.
3. 3 plaques will be presented to each of the remaining Fleets.
4. A special Tyler Patnaude Memorial Sunfish Challenge Perpetual Trophy will be awarded to the 1st place finisher in the Recreational Sunfish Class.
5. 2 Boat of the Day awards will be presented to the deserving boats based on an exhaustive set of dizzying criteria set for by the RC that only the RC folks can understand.

PROTESTS:

1. Due to the informality of this regatta, protests are discouraged but the current US Sailing Rules shall be adhered to. All properly formatted protest must be turned into the RC within 1 hour of the last Fleets finish.
2. Protests will be turned into the Sunfish Challenge office on the 2nd floor of the Willoughby Harbor Marina building.
3. Formal protests will be entertained at a hearing to be scheduled as soon as possible after the race.
4. Sailors must prepare their protest in accordance with the current US Sailing Rules 60-71.4.

SCORING:

1. For the Open Class, the Portsmouth Yardstick Scheme will be used, subject to 3% acceleration from the published number, if needed. The Race Committee will set figures for boats without a published Portsmouth Number.
2. For all other Classes, one design scoring will apply.

SOCIAL:

1. Breakfast will be provided by [Yorgos Bageldashery](#) of Norfolk, so please stop by and thank Greg Peterman his support.
2. Lunch/Dinner is provided. Extra lunch tickets are available for \$5.00.
3. All registered race participants are invited to attend the lunch/dinner social and awards ceremony immediately following the race at the Willoughby Harbor Marina.
4. Loose Cannon will perform at the post race party.



Order of Events

Race Day, Saturday Sept, 17, 2016

1. **0700-0930** Boats arrive at Willoughby Boat Ramp, 1300 Bayville St. Norfolk, Va
 - i. Skippers/crew will rig boats and Ramp Teams will assist in getting boats into the water.
 - ii. Skippers will sail their boats 2/10th mile to Willoughby Harbor Marina, where the Marina Team will assist in securing the boat to the Pier.
2. **0800-0930** Check in at the registration desk, located on the steps of the Willoughby Harbor Marina Office.
 - i. Skippers will register, eat breakfast, and finish rigging their boats
 - ii. Registration will close at 0930.
3. **0930 Skippers Meeting on the steps of the Marina office**
4. **1030** Approx. time for First Warning, Starting Sequence for Racing Sunfish Class.
 - i. No rolling starts for this race.
 - ii. Start line will be clear of boats before the Class starts.
5. **1600 Time limit for all boats to clear the racecourse**
6. **1730 Food, drinks, raffle, and post race awards at Willoughby Harbor Marina. The post race awards ceremony will start promptly at 1730, no earlier.**

Theme for the Day-Be Patient, Be Flexible, Have Fun!!