



# 2025-2026 AYC Frostbite Series

1st Series: November 2 - December 21, 2025

2nd Series: February 1 - March 15, 2026

Organizing Authority: Annapolis Yacht Club, Annapolis, Maryland, USA

<https://www.annapolisyc.com/racing/regattas>

## SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

*The notation '[NP]' in a rule of the SIs or NoR means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a).*

### 1 RULES

- 1.1 The event will be governed by the rules as defined in the current Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), for both series.
- 1.2 Each boat shall race with a minimum of three crew (including the skipper). At least three crew members shall have a body weight of at least 100 pounds.
- 1.3 While racing, a boat's crew may not change sails, leave the cockpit, extend body limbs over the lifelines or emerge from a hatch beyond the waist.
- 1.4 RRS 55.2 (Spinnaker Poles; Whisker Poles) is changed such that no Spinnaker Pole or Whisker Pole shall be used while racing. Any other outrigger type shall comply with RRS 55.3.
- 1.5 J/105 Class Rules are modified by Article IX of the local J/105 Fleet-3 Article/Rules. This event is designated a Level 3C event. J/105 Fleet-3 Articles/Rules can be found at <https://www.j105fleet3.org/rules>.
- 1.6 For all boats competing in ORC and PHRF classes, the "Nearshore" category of the US Sailing Safety Equipment Requirements (SER) will apply. The SER can be found at <https://www.ussailing.org/competition/offshore/safety-information/ser-world-sailingspecial-regulations>.
- 1.7 (DP) All crew (including the skipper) shall wear a USCG approved PFD at all times while racing.

### 2 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 Any change to the SIs will be posted to the official notice board before 1100 on the day it will take effect.
- 2.2 In the case of a conflict with the Notice of Race, the Sailing Instructions shall take precedence.

### 3 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1 The official notice board will be located electronically on the event website at:

Series 1:

<https://www.yachtscoring.com/emenu/17014>

Series 2:

<https://www.yachtscoring.com/50446>

- 3.2 On the water, the race committee intends to monitor and communicate with competitors via VHF radio on channel 71.
- 3.3 The race office can be reached by telephone at 410-858-4964 or by email to [raceoffice@annapolisyc.org](mailto:raceoffice@annapolisyc.org).
- 3.4 Forms are available online at <https://www.annapolisyc.com/racing/raceoffice>.

### 4 CODE OF CONDUCT

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

### 5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1 Signals flown ashore will be flown from flagpole at the AYC Clubhouse.
- 5.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, the approximate time of the next warning signal will be announced to all competitors via VHF channel 71, before it is removed. This modifies Race Signals.

### 6 SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 6.1 The event consists of two series, with all races on Sundays:  
1st Series - November 2 - December 21, 2025  
2nd Series - February 1 - March 15, 2026
- 6.2 The first warning signal is scheduled to be made at 1200. Two races are scheduled for each day. The warning signal time for the second race will be announced on VHF 71 and/or by megaphone at lunch between races.
- 6.3 All boats entered are welcome to sail in the annual Hangover Bowl held on January 1. A separate Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions will be published for the Hangover Bowl.

### 7 FLEET FLAGS

- 7.1 No Class or Fleet Flags are required.
- 7.2 A fleet consists of one or more classes that start together.

## 8 THE COURSES

- 8.1 See SI Attachment B.
- 8.2 At 1130 the starting location will be announced on VHF 71. No later than the warning signal for each class, the race committee will announce the course to be sailed on VHF 71.

## 9 THE START

- 9.1 Races will be started using Appendix U, audible sound signals.
- 9.2 The starting line will be between the staff with an orange flag on the race committee signal vessel and the course side of an inflatable mark.
- 9.3 [DP] Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other fleets.
- 9.4 A boat that does not start within 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.
- 9.5 **After starting, during the starting sequence for other classes, boats shall not cross the starting line, in either direction. After starting all classes, the race committee will remove the starting line, by lowering the orange flag, removing the starting Pin, and announcing on VHF that the starting line is now open.**

## 10 RECALLS

- 10.1 **The race committee will announce on VHF radio boats identified as OCS. A boat may not base a request for redress on the failure to hear or receive the announcements, the timeliness of announcement or the order in which boats are announced. This changes RRS 61.1(a).**

## 11 THE FINISH

- 11.1 The finish line will be between the course side of an orange placard on the 2nd deck of the AYC Clubhouse and the course side of an orange shape at the end of "A" dock at the Annapolis City Marina.

## 12 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 12.1 RRS 44.3(b), Scoring Penalty, applies as changed below. RRS 44.1 One turn and Two turn penalties do not apply.
- 12.2 RRS 44.3(b) is changed such that a boat taking a scoring penalty shall inform the race committee by submitting a Penalty Acknowledgement Form via email to the race office (as described in SI 3) no later than 1100 on the day after the incident.
- 12.3 RRS 44.3 Scoring Penalties are as follows:
- (a) 10% but not less than 1 place for breaking RRS 31 (Touching a mark).
  - (b) **20% but not less than 2 places for breaking a rule of Part 2 (When Boats Meet)**
  - (c) **30%, but not less than 3 places for a boat that**

**complies with some of, but not all of the requirements of RRS 44.3(a) and 44.3(b).**

- 12.4 For penalties after racing, RRS/US Appendix V2 will apply, changed such that the percentage will be 30%, but not less than 3 places.

- 12.5 The penalty shall not be more than the boats scored TLE or DNF.

## 13 TIME LIMITS

- 13.1 The time limit is 90 minutes from the starting signal for each class.
- 13.2 RRS 35 is deleted and replaced with: "If one boat sails the course as required by RRS 28 and finishes within the time limit, all boats that finish in that class within the time limit shall be scored according to their finishing places unless the race is abandoned. If no boat in that class finishes within the time limit, the race committee shall abandon the race for that class. If at least one boat finishes in a class within the time limit, boats still racing in that class after the time limit shall be scored TLE (Time Limit Expired). This changes RRS A10.

## 14 PROTESTS, REQUESTS FOR REDRESS, SCORING INQUIRIES

- 14.1 The protest time limit is 1100 on the day following the incident.
- 14.2 Hearing requests, scoring inquiry and other forms can be found online at:  
<https://www.annapolisyc.com/racing/raceoffice>.
- 14.3 **ALL FORMS** shall be delivered to the race office **BY EMAIL** at: [raceoffice@annapolisyc.org](mailto:raceoffice@annapolisyc.org). Neither the AYC front desk nor the AYC Harborside Director will accept forms.
- 14.4 Hearing requests shall be delivered to the race office by the protest time limit.
- 14.5 When the race committee receives a scoring inquiry form, it will review its records and respond as soon as practicable.
- 14.6 The list of protest notifications and penalty acknowledgements will be posted by 2000 on the day after a race. For protests/requests filed by the protest committee or race committee, posting of this list constitutes notification required by RRS 60.2(d).
- 14.7 The protest hearing schedule including date, time, and location of the hearing will be posted by 2000 the day after a race. Hearings may be held online. For online hearings, connection details will be posted at least 24 hours in advance of the hearing.
- 14.8 RRS 60.4 (a) (2) is replaced with: "if it alleges a breach of a rule of part 2 or rule 31 and is from a boat that was not involved in, and did not see, the incident, or"
- 15 **SCORING**
- 15.1 RRS Appendix A4, Low Point System, will apply.

- 15.2 Eight days of racing are scheduled for both the 1st Series and Seven days of racing for the 2nd Series. One race is required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 15.3 When 3 or fewer races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores. When 4 or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
- 15.4 The first sentence of RRS Appendix A5.2 is deleted and replaced by: A boat that did not start, did not finish, retired, was TLE, did not come to the starting area, did not sail the course, or was disqualified shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats that finished.
- 15.5 For ORC and PHRF classes their 2025 ratings will be used for both Series.
- 15.6 Corrected times for classes using PHRF will be calculated with Time-on-Time scoring using a boat's Random Course Handicap (Non-Spinnaker) rating. A boat's corrected time will be her elapsed time multiplied by  $(650 / (550 + \text{PHRF Rating}))$ .
- 15.7 Corrected times for ORC classes will be calculated using ORC Time-on-Time ratings. The race committee will assign the appropriate course type and wind strength prior to scoring. These decisions will not be grounds for redress by any competitor. This changes RRS 61.1 (a).
- 16 [NP,DP] SAFETY REGULATIONS**
- 16.1 All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communicating on US channels.
- 16.2 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee or race office at the first reasonable opportunity.
- 16.3 (DP) All crew (including the skipper) shall wear a USCG approved PFD at all times while racing.
- 17 DOCKING AND INTERACTION WITH NON-RACING VESSELS AND PROPERTY**
- 17.1 AYC reminds all our boats that it is important to respect the rights of vessels that are not racing. The race committee or protest committee may protest a boat based on information that a boat may have broken a government right-of-way rule (see RRS Preamble to Part 2) in an incident with a vessel that is not racing.
- 17.2 Boats shall not touch anchored, moored, or docked vessels.
- 17.3 Boats shall not tie up to or touch the docks belonging to the Yacht Basin immediately next to the Yacht Club. Boats that break this SI will be responsible for all charges from the Yacht Basin.
- 17.4 A boat shall not exercise right of way, cross in proximity to, or interfere with reasonable transit of the race area by commercial ships, tugs, or barges. Boats must take evasive action well in advance of a potentially dangerous situation. The US Coast Guard, ship captains, and bay pilots have been encouraged to report any incident they observe.
- 17.5 The race committee or protest committee may protest a boat for breaking this SI based on information received from any source. The protest time limit does not apply. A written statement from the US Coast Guard, a ship captain, or a bay pilot will be accepted as evidence without the author of the statement present. Such incident may also be reported to the protest committee for action under RRS 69 (Misconduct) or the AYC Board of Governors for disciplinary action. This changes RRS 60.2, 60.3, 61.3, and 63.6.
- 18 PRIZES**
- 18.1 Prizes will be given for the top 3 boats in each class.
- 18.2 Additional prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the organizing authority.
- 19 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**
- 19.1 Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. RRS 3 states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone." By participating in this event the competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks, which are assumed by the competitor.
- 20 INSURANCE**
- 20.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$300,000 combined single limit or shall be a vessel representing a Government agency. Competitors are solely responsible for obtaining the required coverage.