

Sailing Instructions, Union Sailing Club

2017 Club Racing, Sunday Afternoons and Wednesday Evenings

USC Club Racing is open to Club members in boats no more than 20 feet long, no more than 850 pounds displacement, with a Union Reservoir-specific Portsmouth Handicap derived as described in 15.2.

1. Rules

1.1. USC Club Racing will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing 2017-2020*.

2. Notices to Competitors

2.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located on the Union Sailing Club's shed.

3. Sailing Instruction Changes

3.1. Any change to these sailing instructions will be posted before 09:00 on the day it will take effect. Any change to the schedule will be posted before 20:00 on the day before it will take effect.

4. Signals Made Ashore

4.1. No signals will be made ashore. All signals will be made from the Committee boat.

5. Schedule

Sundays, 2pm start

Spring Sunday Series: April 2, 9, 23, 30, May 7, 21, 28, Jun 4, 18

Summer Sunday Series: Jun 25, Jul 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Aug 6, 13, 20, 27

Fall Sunday Series: Sep 3, 10, 17, 24, Oct 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Wednesdays, 6pm start May through August, 5:30pm start in September

Spring Wednesday Series: May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, Jun 7, 14, 21, 28, Jul 5, 12

Fall Wednesday Series: Jul 19, 26, Aug 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Sep 6, 13, 20, 27

5.1. Three races are scheduled for each day of racing.

5.2. The warning signal for the first race on Sundays will be given at 14:00, and 18:00 on Wednesdays May through August, and 17:30 in September.

5.3. Warning signals for subsequent races will be given as soon as possible after the end of the previous race.

6. Class Flags

6.1. At Race Committee discretion, all boats may be started as one Class. The Class flag will then be solid yellow.

6.2. Race Committee has the option of assigning separate starts and courses to Monohull and Multihull Classes. When there are separate starts, the Class flags will Monohull (red flag) and Multihull (green flag).

7. Racing Area

7.1. The racing area is Union Reservoir. (See diagram on official notice board with locations of the permanent marks.)

8. The Courses

8.1. No later than the warning signal, the Race Committee will display the course to be sailed on a white dry erase board on board the committee boat. The Race Committee may post a different course to be sailed for the Juniors than the other Monohulls.

8.2. All races will start at mark number 1.

8.3. The start line will also be the finish line.

8.4. The course will be indicated by a series of numbers and letters that correspond to the order in which marks are to be passed and ending with "F" for finish.

8.5. All marks are to be rounded to port, except at a leeward gate.

8.6. **Start/Finish line as a GATE:** When the course indicated by the Race Committee includes the letter "G", the start/finish line is then a GATE. All boats on that course **must** pass between the committee boat and the pin. The committee boat and the pin are treated as marks of the course when they are used as a GATE.

9. Marks

9.1. Fixed race marks are white buoys with orange stripes, which are numbered in black from 1 to 9 (see diagram).

9.2. Temporary **Windward** and **Leeward** marks, when used, will be orange flags or orange inflatables and designated on the course board as "**W**" or "**L**".

10. Starts

10.1. Races will be started in accordance with rule 26 with the warning signal given 5 minutes before the starting signal.

10.2. The starting line will be between an ORANGE Flag on the Race Committee boat and the starting mark. The starting mark will be an orange flag or orange inflatable, and the Race Committee boat will be moored to mark number 1.

10.3. A boat has 5 minutes to start after their starting signal. A boat that fails to start within this time will not race and will be scored DNS.

10.4. The starting area extends 100 feet either side of the starting line and in a 100-foot radius from each end of the starting line. Boats that have not received their warning signal will stay outside of this area during the time any other class is in start sequence.

11. Finish

11.1. The finish line will be between an ORANGE Flag on the Race Committee boat and the finishing mark.

11.2. While other boats are still racing, boats will clear the start / finish line area as soon as possible after finishing.

12. Penalty System

12.1. Rule 44.2, two turns penalty shall apply to Monohulls.

12.2. Appendix T-1 is in effect for the Mutihull Fleet, so that a boat may take a one-turn penalty, unless the rule was broken in the zone around a mark, and then her penalty shall be a two-turns penalty. A one-turn penalty includes 1 tack and 1 gybe.

13. Time Limit

- 13.1. There is no time limit for the first boat to finish. However, the race committee may at its discretion abandon any race at any time. Boats finishing more than 25 minutes after the first boat finishes will be scored TLE (time limit expired). This changes Rule 35 and A4.1. Any boat that has not finished within 25 minutes after the first finisher shall return to the starting area. Race Committee shall begin the next race as soon as possible after the 25 minutes have expired.

14. Protests

- 14.1. Appendix T, Section A: Penalties at the Time of the Incident, shall be in effect for Multihulls only.
- 14.2. Appendix T, Section B: Penalties Taken After a Race, shall be in effect.
- 14.3. A protesting boat must inform the Race Committee of their intention to protest as soon as practical after finishing. Please wait for a break in the finishers to hail the Committee boat.
- 14.4. Protests must be delivered to the Race Committee in writing within 20 minutes after the Committee boat docks. Race Committee will notify the USC Protest Committee of the protest within 24 hours.
- 14.5. Hearings will be held as soon as possible, at a time and place mutually agreed upon between the protesting party, protested skipper, and the USC Protest Committee, but no later than 7 days.
- 14.6. Appendix T, Section D: Arbitration, shall apply.

15. Scoring

- 15.1. Lasers, Mutineers and Snipes may choose to be scored in the "LMS Fleet" or in the Portsmouth Dinghy Fleet. Skippers can opt in to the LMS Fleet at any time by notifying either the RC Chair or the scorekeeper. Sailors requesting to switch from the LMS Fleet back to the Portsmouth Fleet will be switched back at the beginning of the next series. The "LMS Fleet" will be scored as a single fleet with no handicaps.
- 15.2. All other Dinghy, Multihull, and Junior Fleets will be scored separately, each fleet using handicaps derived from the USSA Portsmouth Yardstick Wind Handicap (HC) tables as described in 15.2. All helmsmen in the Junior Fleet must be 18 or younger.
- 15.2.1. For each Portsmouth Fleet, a single handicap will be calculated by combining the wind range numbers for that class using weighting factors generated from local wind data. All of the handicaps are normalized by a single factor to keep them in a similar range to the Portsmouth D-PNs previously used.
- 15.2.2. The current USC handicap formula, based on historical data from multiple nearby weather stations, is: $USC-PN = [0.52*HC1 + 0.43*HC2 + 0.05*HC3 + 0.00*HC4] * 0.978$.
- 15.2.3. The HC handicaps will be taken from the USSA Portsmouth Yardstick tables. If the HC tables are incomplete for any class, the USC Race Committee will assign a USC-PN handicap based on the D-PN from that class and HC data from classes deemed to be most similar to that class.
- 15.2.4. USC-PN Handicaps are published in the racing section of the USC website.
- 15.3. The CHIPS 3 High Point System will be used to score the Series for both the Portsmouth and the LMS Fleets. The following changes apply.
- 15.3.1. A boat's worst score will be excluded from her total if 3-5 races are completed in the Series, 2 scores will be excluded if 6-8 races are completed, 9-11 races = 3 scores excluded, 12-14 races = 4 scores excluded, 15-18 races = 5 scores excluded: excluding 1 score for every 3 races completed in a series.
- 15.3.2. RC: Skippers serving on Race Committee staff will be scored for each race served, 10 points higher than their average of the series. If a skipper serves on Race Committee for more than one racing day per series, the second and subsequent days will be scored for each race served, their average place of the races they sailed in the series.
- 15.3.3. RTC: Representing the Club: A sailor who misses Club races because they are participating in another sailing event and register for that event as a member of Union Sailing Club may notify the Race Committee Chair and be scored their average place of the races they sailed in that series for the races missed.
- 15.3.4. TLE: Number of finishers plus 1 place
- 15.3.5. DNS, OCS, DNF and RET: shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats that came to the starting area in the Fleet. DNC and DSQ shall be scored zero points.
- 15.4. VOLUNTEERING: Race Committee volunteers are vital to the success of the Club racing program. Each club member who races must volunteer a minimum of one day for every 5 days racing; skippers won't be eligible for Series Awards unless they've volunteered for RC as describe here. Other significant volunteering efforts within the Club may be presented to the USC Racing Committee for consideration of fulfilling this requirement, including helping at a USC Regatta.
- 15.5. GUEST RACING POLICY: A guest may join a member when the member is the racer-of-record on the Race Committee timing sheet. A guest may race their own boat in two days of racing as the racer-of-record, however, their racing results will not impact the series standings unless they join USC before the series is scored and posted.

16. Safety Regulations

- 16.1. All boats will check in at the Committee boat prior to their first race. The following information will be provided to the Race Committee.
- 16.1.1. Member Name (First and Last please spell your last name).
- 16.1.2. Boat Type (Snipe, Butterfly, 420, Sunfish, etc.).
- 16.1.3. Sail Number
- 16.1.4. Fleet Preference (LMS or Portsmouth Fleet)
- 16.2. Boats must meet US Coast Guard, State of Colorado, Weld County, and City of Longmont safety requirements.
- 16.3. A boat that retires from a race shall notify the Race Committee as soon as possible.
- 16.4. All skippers and crew shall wear a PFD when the wind speed exceeds 15 MPH.
- 16.5. All skippers and crew shall wear a PFD when the water temperature is less than 60 degrees F.