Race Instructions for 2016

Approved by the board APR 2, 2016

Rules
➢ Races will be governed by "The Racing Rules of Sailing" (RRS) 2013-2016, except as modified by these sailing instructions.

Eligibility
➢ All skippers shall be members (in good standing) of BLSA. All skippers shall have a current, completed, and signed 2016 BLSA Racing Registration Form on file with the Race Director.

Safety
➢ Boat owners/ participants shall have, onboard, all the legally required and appropriate safety equipment.

Disclaimer of Liability
➢ All skippers shall have a current, complete, and signed liability form on file with the Race Director.
➢ Brookville Lake Sailing Association, members and volunteers, shall not be held liable for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in connection with or prior to, during, or after the races.

Communications
➢ Notices to competitors or changes to sailing instructions will be announced at the skippers meeting prior to the races each day.
➢ RRS 27 is amended to allow for on-the-water radio communications between the committee and racing boats on VHF channel 71.
➢ If you miss the skippers meeting and intend to race please hail the committee boat via VHF radio or sail by the stern of the boat to let the race committee know you intend to race.
➢ Likewise, if you leave the race course early or do not participate in all races let the race committee know your intent.

Decision to Race
➢ As stated in RRS Rule 4, a boat is solely responsible for deciding whether or not to start or to continue racing.

Schedule: BLSA Racing Program
- ➢ The schedule of races will be posted on the BLSA website: www.blsa.us.
- ➢ The skippers meeting will be held at approximately 1100 hours EDT at the Hanna Creek Dock.
- ➢ The first race will begin at approximately 1200 hours EDT.
- ➢ If possible, cancelled races will be made up on designated make up days as outlined in the BLSA schedule of events
- ➢ Based on the number of boats, more than one fleet may be established at the discretion of the BLSA Race Director
- ➢ The time-on-time handicapping system used will be the Portsmouth Yardstick (D/PN) without corrections for wind speed. Modification factors and adjustments for unique boats will be made at the discretion of the Race Director. All Portsmouth numbers and modifications for each boat will be posted on the website and agreed upon prior to a boat's participation in the BLSA racing program.

Schedule: BLSA Portsmouth Races (ie. Fun races)
- ➢ The schedule of races will be posted on the BLSA website: www.blsa.us.
- ➢ The skippers meeting will be held at approximately 1100 hours EDT at the Hanna Creek Dock or at the discretion of the BLSA Race Director.
- ➢ The race will begin at approximately 1200 hours EDT or as announced by the BLSA race director.
- ➢ Instructions for the races will be given prior to the start of the race.

Schedule: BLSA Pig Regatta
- ➢ The "Notice to Competitors" for this event will be published no later than one month prior to the event.
- ➢ The Pig Regatta will not be scored in the season series
- ➢ The Pig Regatta may be open to boats outside of the BLSA membership

Racing Area
- ➢ The racing area will be determined by the Race Director and announced at the skippers meeting.

Race Course
- ➢ The course to be raced by each fleet will be determined by the Race Director (or by an appointee). The courses planned will be discussed at the skippers meeting and may be posted on the side of the Safety Boat before each race.
- ➢ Diagrams of the standard courses are available through the Race Director.
- ➢ The start/finish line is off-limits or 'sacred' while racing; boats shall not cross through the line on any leg of the course accept at the start and finish of each race. A boat doing so shall be scored as a DSQ.

Starting Sequence

➤ A rally sequence consisting of several short horn blasts will occur approximately 15-20 seconds before the starting sequence. The countdown sequence is as follows:

Fleet 1	Fleet 2		
5:00	10:00	Fleet 1: Warning Signal	Fleet 1 Class Flag Up and Sound Horn
4:00	9:00	Fleet 1: Preparatory Signal	Blue Flag Up and Sound Horn
1:00	6:00	Fleet 1: One Minute Signal	Blue Flag Down and Sound Horn
0:00	5:00	Fleet 1: Start	Fleet 1 Class Flag Down
		Fleet 2: Warning Signal	Fleet 2 Class Flag Up and Sound Horn
	4:00	Fleet 2: Preparatory Signal	Blue Flag Up and Sound Horn
	1:00	Fleet 2: One Minute Signal	Blue Flag Down and Sound Horn
	0:00	Fleet 2: Start	Fleet 2 Class Flag Down and Horn

Recalls

➤ Individual Recall: When the Race Committee can identify all boats that are on the course side of the starting line at the starting signal, an individual recall will be signaled by displaying flag X (shown below) and one sound of the horn. The flag will be lowered either (1) when all boats have started correctly or (2) at the one minute signal of the subsequent fleet's start. The race committee may offer a courtesy hail to over-early boats via VHF radio or by hail. However, lack of a hail or inability to hear any hail shall not be grounds for redress/protest. Any boat not returning and properly starting shall be scored DNS.
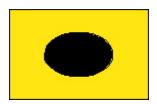

"Individual Recall"

➤ General Recall: When the race committee is unable to determine the boats that are over the start line early, a general recall will be signaled by display of the "First Substitute" flag (shown below). The fleet receiving a General Recall shall restart either (1) by a rolling start if they are the only remaining unstarted fleet, or (2) in a normal sequence after any other unstarted fleet.

"General Recall"

> Starting Penalties- Rule 30: Rule 30.1 Round-an-End Rule "I" Flag (shown below). Any boat being over the start line within one minute before the start shall round outside either the committee boat or the starting pin to return to the start (no dip starts). However, the "I" Flag is not in effect unless displayed on the committee boat.

"Around the Ends Rule"

Time Limits
> The time limit for each race will be 1.5 hours (unless otherwise announced at the skippers meeting) for the first boat of each fleet to finish.
> At the discretion of the race director, or his appointee, a boat actively racing, but not finishing, more than 30 minutes after the first properly finishing boat of her fleet will be finished in place.
> Time limit to reach the first mark following the successful start of each fleet shall be set at 45 minutes for each fleet. If after 45 minutes the lead boat of a fleet doesn't reach the first mark, the race will be cancelled or shortened at the discretion of the race committee.

Scoring Long Series & Regattas
> Series scoring shall use the Low Point Scoring System of RRS 2013-2016 , Appendix A in accordance with rule 90.3 but with the following scoring modifications.
> Points for finishing (First Place- 1 Point, Second Place- 2 point, Third Place- 3 points …etc.)
> Other scoring shall follow the codes below.

DNC (Did Not Compete)	RRS 20013-2016 App. A9. is modified as followed: = # of boats reporting to the starting area that day +2 ▪ Boat/skipper not present to race, did not come to the starting area
DNS (Did Not Start) OCS (On course side at start) RBS (Retiring before starting)	= # of boats starting +1
DNF (Did Not Finish) RBF (Retiring before finishing)	= # of boats finishing +1
RAF (Retired after finishing)	= # of boats properly finishing (other than RAF boat itself) +1
DSQ (Disqualification)	= # of boats finishing that race +2, and cannot be a scoring throw-out
(FIP) Finished In Place	# of boats racing (last place finish)

Scoring Committee Duty
➢ Committee and/or Mentor duty will not be scored in the 2016 season.
➢ Committee/Mentor duty will be fulfilled by a volunteer and they may be assisted by the BLSA Race Director (or his appointee).

BLSA Regatta and Season Series Racing Format
➢ The 2016 BLSA racing season will be comprised of 10 regattas.
➢ The sum of races completed in the 2016 season will be scored as a season series to determine the BLSA Club Champion.
➢ Regatta and Season Series Scoring
  o Each regatta will be scored as one series
  o Throw out races are as follows (~1/3 of races):
    ▪ 4-5 races completed = 1 throw out race
    ▪ 6-8 races completed = 2 throw out races
    ▪ 9-11 races completed = 3 throw out races
    ▪ 12-14 races completed = 4 throw out races
    ▪ 15-17 races completed = 5 throw out races
    ▪ (this format continues as necessary for the total number of races)

➢ Breaking a Tie: Race ties will be broken using RRS A7. Series ties will be broken using rule RRS A8.

Penalties and Protests
➢ In accordance with RRS 44.1 and 44.2 the 720 degree (two circles) penalty shall apply for a rule of Part 2 while racing, and a 360 degree (one circle) when breaking rule 31 (touching a mark).
➢ Protests shall follow the procedure of RRS Rule 61, Protest Requirements. A boat intending to protest shall inform the other boat at the first reasonable opportunity, by hailing "Protest" and conspicuously displaying a red flag until she is no longer racing. After the race the skipper shall hail/express the intent to file a protest to the race committee. Any official written protest must be delivered to the race committee within 60 minutes after the committee boat reaches the dock after racing. The race director will organize a protest committee consisting of three members.

Awards
➢ Bullet flags will be distributed throughout the season for individual race wins.
➢ Boats that participate in at least one regatta will be recognized at the annual banquet.
➢ Championship awards will be awarded at the annual dinner.
➢ Awards for regattas will be given at a social function following the event.