

64th Annual Tuesday Night Sundown Series Sailing Instructions

1.0 SECTION 1 U.S. COAST GUARD INSTRUCTIONS

- 1.1 All competitors shall not interfere with commercial shipping transiting the racing area at any time.
- 1.2 When code flag "F" is displayed by the race committee, on shore or boat, the shipping channel downstream of the channel mark "G1" shall become a restricted area. Sec 1.3 then applies.
- 1.3 Any boat inside the restricted area when code flag "F" is displayed shall exit the restricted area while staying in conformance with the requirements of Sec 1.1. Boats shall not enter the restricted area except to expeditiously cross the channel.
- 1.4 Any boat not complying with Secs 1.1, 1.2 or 1.3 may be subject to protest by the race committee and reported to the Coast Guard.
- 1.5. Infraction of Secs. 1.1, 1.2 or 1.3 is not subject to protest by another boat (this changes RRS 60.1)

2.0 RULES

- 2.1 Races will be governed by rules as defined in the current "Racing Rules of Sailing" (RRS) or as modified by the Sailing Instructions (SI).
- 2.2 When in conflict, the "Sailing Instructions" (SI) shall prevail over the Notice of Race (this changes RRS 63.7)

3.0 SIGNALS

3.1 Signals made ashore by the Race Committee will be displayed at the race committee end of the starting line located at the east corner of the Windmill Pointe Marina, Grosse Pointe Park.

3.2	Shipping Channel Off Limits	"F" Flag (Red Diamond on White Field) SI Section 1 is in effect while flag is up.	SIREN (Both hoist and drop.)
	Shortened Course	"S" Flag (Blue Rectangle on White Field) displayed before the preparatory signal of any class (this changes RRS 32).	2 Long Sounds
	Short/Short	"S" over "S" signifies race Course 4.	
	Recall Signal	"X" Flag (Blue Cross on White Field): Individual recall.	1 Sound
	Postponement	"AP" Pennant (3 Red, 2 White Vertical Bars on Triangle Pennant) Races not started are postponed. Warning will be made 1 minute after removal of "AP".	3 Sounds
	Abandonment	"N" Flag (Blue and White Checkerboard Pattern) All races abandoned, return to the starting area. Warning signal will be made one minute after removal of "N".	3 Sounds
		"N over A" Flags (A - Vertical Blue and White Swallowtail) All races abandoned, no more racing today.	

4.0 FORMAT OF RACING

4.1. Racing will be divided into two sections: Spring and Summer. Each series will be comprised of seven (7) races. The first warning signal will be at 1855 hours. Changes will be made in the form of amendment. Updates will be posted at: gpsc.org.

Spring Series: May 14, 21, 28, June 4, 11, 18, 25

Summer Series: August 6, 13, 20, 27, 30, **September** 3, 10, 17

4.2 SEQUENCE	Class	Standard Course	Shortened Course	Short Short Course
START 1	PHRF A (≤99)	1	2	4
START 2	Cruising (ASYM)	2	3	4
START 3	JAM	2	3	4
START 4	PHRF B (100-171)	2	3	4
START 5	CAL 25	2	3	4
START 6	PHRF C (≥174)	2	3	4
START 7	CRESCENT	2	3	4

PHRF Handicapping based on 'Time on Time' calculations

4.3 Updated class splits shall be posted at gpsc.org racing section and with the race committee dockside. NUMERAL PENNANTS corresponding to the start number will be used as Class Flags.

5.0 RACING AREA

- 5.1 Addendum A: '2024 GPSC Sundown Series' chart shows the general location, approximate range and bearing (in one direction) and the approximate Latitude/Longitude of each mark of the course. The area is in the South Western portion of Lake St. Clair.
- **5.2 Race Course Descriptions**

MARKS TO STARBOARD (Green flag or shape)	MARKS TO PORT (Red flag or shape)
COURSE 1 Distance = 7.0 NM	COURSE 1 Distance = 7.0 NM
Start - D - C - WYC B - Finish	Start – WYC B – C – D – Finish
COURSE 2 Distance = 5.0 NM	COURSE 2 Distance = 5.0 NM
Start – D – WYC B – Finish	Start - WYC B - D - Finish
COURSE 3 Distance = 4.0 NM	COURSE 3 Distance = 4.0 NM
Start – D – A – Finish	Start – A – D – Finish
COURSE 4 Distance = 2.5 NM	COURSE 4 Distance = 2.5 NM
Start – A – Finish	Start – A – Finish

5.3 Buoy description and approximate coordinates:

MARK A Lake St. Clair Navigation Red Buoy 2	MARK B WYC Buoy B				
42°21.905′N 082°53.871′W	42°21.646'N 082°52.904'W				
MARK C Lake St. Clair Navigation Green Buoy 7	MARK D GPSC Orange/White Buoy				
42°23.334'N 082°51.999'W	42°22.779'N 082°53.694'W				
Start/Finish					
42°21.509′N 082°55.475′W					
* Note: Latitude and Longitude are in degrees and decimal minutes.					

5.4 SHORTENED COURSE AFTER THE START: When Code Flag "J" is displayed from a Race Committee boat near a rounding mark, boats shall round the mark and sail directly to the finish. Flag "J" consists of three horizontal bands, colored blue-white-blue. The Race Committee vessel displaying the visual signal may attempt a sound signal to alert racers of the shortened course as they approach. This changes RRS 32 as it pertains to shortening the course.

6.0 THE START

6.1 One minute prior to Start 1: Warning, No flag raised. A few short horn sounds.						
	5 minutes to Start	Warning	Class flag <u>raised</u>	1 sound		
	4 minutes to Start	Preparatory	"P" flag <u>raised</u>	1 sound		
	1 minute to Start	1 Minute	"P" flag <u>lowered</u>	1 long sound		
	Class Start	Start	Starting class flag lowered & next remaining class flag raised	1 sound		
First warning signal: 1855 hours.						

- 6.2 Each race will be started using Rule 26 with the warning signal made five (5) minutes prior to the starting signal. The warning signal for each succeeding class shall be raised as the class flag for the current start is lowered.
- 6.3 Start times shall be taken from the visual signals; the absence or error of a sound shall be disregarded.
- 6.4 The starting line will be between the flagpole displaying the RC flag near the upstream corner of the Grosse Pointe Park marina seawall and a floating orange inflatable or ridged buoy near the channel.

7.0 THE FINISH

7.1 The finish will be between the flagpole on the upstream corner of the Grosse Pointe Park marina seawall and an inflatable or rigid orange buoy near the channel. In darkness, all finishing boats <u>must</u> light their sail numbers for the final minute as they approach the finish line.

8.0 TIME LIMIT

- 8.1 The time limit for each class to complete their course, as required by rule 28.1, is two (2) hours.
- 8.2 Boats failing to finish within one (1) hour after the first boat in their class finishes, as required by rule 28.1, shall be scored 'Did Not Finish' (DNF). This changes rules 35, A4 and A5.

9.0 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 9.1 Protest forms are available on line at www.gpsc.org or from US Sailing.
- 9.2 Protests and requests for redress shall be delivered to the dockside Race Committee or (preferably) emailed to racechair@gpsc.org within the appropriate time limit.
- 9.3 For each class the time limit for delivery of the written protest (to either collection location) is two (2) hours after finishing (reference RRS 61.3).
- 9.4 The time and place of protest hearings will be posted on www.gpsc.org. The intention is to post within 48 hours of the completion of each race.

10.0 SCORING

- 10.1 Handicaps shall be calculated using the **Time-on-Time** method.
- 10.2 Low point scoring determined by current RRS.
- 10.3 Boats will be scored based on corrected time. Points awarded on corrected finish place. Boats not racing will be scored a total number of boats registered (number of boats participating in at least one race of the series) plus one (1).
- 10.4 Points will be totaled separately for Spring and Summer series.
- 10.5 The following number of races shall be used in scoring:
 - a) when six (6) or more races are completed, the results of the best five shall be totaled.
 - b) when five (5) races are completed, the results of the best four shall be totaled.
 - c) when four (4) or fewer races are completed, the results of **all** races shall be totaled.
- 10.6 DSQ's cannot be thrown out.
- 10.7 Ties resolved by current RRS A8.
- 10.8 There will be no retroactive scoring of unregistered boats.
- 10.9 First, Second and Third place flags will be awarded in each class with at least five (5) registered boats. First and Second place flags will be awarded in each class with four (4) registered boats.

11.0 RETIRING FROM THE RACE

11.1 Boats retiring from a race shall notify the RC as soon as possible (the race committee can be reached on Channel 68). Alternatively, please email the Race Chair (racechair@gpsc.org). Boats failing to notify the RC may be penalized by not permitting the race to be thrown out at the discretion of the RC.

12.0 RADIO COMMUNICATION

12.1 The RC communicates with the mark set and patrol boats on **Channel 68**. The start sequence may be broadcast on this channel. GPSC Sundown Series SI 6.4 still applies in all cases.

13.0 CHANGES, ERRORS, OMISSIONS

- 13.1 Monitor www.gpsc.org Sundown Series race page in the race section of the website for changes to the Sailing Instructions (SI). Changes to class splits may occur up to one week prior to the first race **but not thereafter**. Report errors, omissions or direct questions to: racechair@gpsc.org.
- **14.0 WAIVER OF LIABILITY** Sailing is an activity with inherent risk of damage and injury. Competitors in this event are participating entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race.

