**Potomac River Sailing Association**

**Dinghy Open**

**September 14, 2014**

**Sailing Instructions**

1. RULES

 The Potomac River Sailing Association Dingy Open, presented by the Washington Sailing Marina and the Potomac River Sailing Association, is held to promote friendly racing. The event will be governed by the current International Sailing Federation Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), as adopted by the United States Sailing association, except as modified by the Notice of Race or these Sailing Instructions.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

 Notices to competitors will be posted at the official notice board located in the lawn area at the end of the boat racks.

3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

 Any changes to these sailing instructions will be posted 90 minutes before the scheduled start of the first race on the day the change is to take effect, except that any change to the schedule will be posted by 1800 on the day before it will take effect.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the signal boat at the finger pier of the ramp launch area.

4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, the warning signal will be made not less than 45 minutes after the AP flag is lowered. This changes Race Signal AP.

5. RACING AREA

5.1 Races will be conducted on the Potomac River, between Gravelly Point and Hains Point, Washington, D.C.

5.2 Channel-bound vessels within the racing area are obstructions. Boats that are racing must keep clear of such vessels.

6. PLANNED SCHEDULE & NUMBER OF RACES

6.1 Competitor’s meeting: 1000 on Sunday in the crane area.

6.2 First race for the first class: The warning signal for the 1st race of the day for the first class to start is 1130 on Sunday.

6.3 First race for the other classes: There will be a short time after the start of one class and the warning for the next class (no rolling starts).

6.4 Subsequent races: The RC intends to start subsequent races for some classes before all the classes have finished.

6.5 Number of Races: A total of 5 races are planned, but 1 race will constitute a regatta.

6.6 End of racing: No warning signal will be made after 1500 on Sunday.

7. SPECIAL SIGNALS

7.1 10 seconds before the warning signal of each class, the RC will begin making 5 sounds that take 5 seconds to complete.

8. THE STARTS

8.1 The order of starts will be:

 1st – Multi-hull Division

 2nd – Spinnaker Division

 3rd – Non-spinnaker Division

8.2 RRS 26 Starting Sequence will be used. The start sequence will be as follows:

* 5 minutes Class flag up and horn blast
* 4 minutes P flag up and horn blast
* 1 minute P flag down and horn blast
* Start Class Flag up and horn blast

8.3 Subsequent races: The RC intends to start a subsequent race as soon as all competitors in a class have finished even if that changes the order of starts for the subsequent race.

9. CLASS FLAGS

Class Class Flag

Multi-hull Division White

Spinnaker Division Green

Non-Spinnaker Division Yellow

10. COURSES and MARKS

 See attachment for a description of the courses that may be used, including how each will be designated with flags and the direction and order the competitors shall round the marks.

11. MARKS

11.1 The marks designated as W, J, and L in the attachment with be orange cylinders.

11.2 The offset mark, if used, will be a smaller orange ball.

11.3 New marks as provided in instruction 15.2 will be large yellow cylinders.

12. START LINE

 The start will be between an orange flag on the signal boat and the course side of a small white cylinder with a red flag.

13. HAILS

 The race committee may use a loud hailer to identify On the Course Side of the line boats after starts and otherwise to communicate with the fleet on the water. Failure to receive a hail or for a hail to be made, the order of hails made, or failure to receive any communications to the fleet shall not be cause for redress. This changes RRS 62.1 (a) and complies with 41 (d).

14. FINISH LINE

 The finish line will be between a orange flag on the RC boat and the course side of a small white cylinder with a blue flag.

15. CHANGE OF THE FIRST AND SUBSEQUENT LEGS OF THE COURSE

15.1 To change the first leg of the course, the race committee will lay a yellow mark and display the C-flag from the signal boat before the warning signal and remove the original mark as soon as practicable.

15.2 To change the 2nd or subsequent leg of the course, the race committee will lay a new mark (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.

16. TIME LIMIT

 The time limit will be 90 minutes for the first boat to finish in each class. Boats finishing more than 30 minutes after the first boat that sails the course and finishes will be scored the number of boats finishing within the time limit plus 1 point, not to exceed the score of Did Not Finish. This changes RRS 35.

17. PENALTY SYSTEM

 Rule 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

18. PROTESTS

18.1 Due to the informality of this regatta, protests are highly discouraged, but the current US sailing Rules shall be adhered to. Protest forms will be available at the race committee signal boat when it docks at the ramp’s finger pier.

18.2 Protests shall be delivered to the PRO before the protest time limit, which will be 1 hour after the docking of the race committee signal boat.

19. SCORING

 The Portsmouth Yardstick Scheme will be used. The Race Committee will set figures for boats without a published Portsmouth Number.

20. AWARDS

 Awards will be presented on Sunday afternoon at the BBQ.

**COURSES and MARKS**

TWO FLAGS, ONE OVER THE OTHER, (ON THE RC BOAT) INDICATES THE COURSE



Leave all marks to port

**W Course**

Marks: W (windward) and L (leeward)

Start, go around the two marks, repeat if necessary until you’ve passed the leeward mark the required number of times, finish.

**T Course**

Marks: W (windward), J (gybe), and L (leeward)

Start, go around the three marks, repeat if necessary until you’ve passed the leeward mark the required number of times, finish.

**O Course**

Marks: 1 triangle (W, J, and L) followed by windward/leewards (W and L)

Start, go around the W, J, and L marks (1 triangle), go around the W & L marks, repeat if necessary until you’ve passed the leeward mark the required number of times, finish. (Examples: O/2 = 1 triangle + 1 w/l = 2 times past L mark, O/3 = 1 triangle + 2 w/l = 3 times past L mark)

**The start/finish line is between the W & L marks.**

The W, L, and J marks will be orange cylinders. The start pin will be a white cylinder with a red flag on top. The finish pin will be a white cylinder with a blue flag on top.