

2017 DISC Fall Classic Series

Sailing Instructions

1. **Application of Sailing Instructions (SIs)** – These SIs apply to the DISC Fall Classic Series and the DISC Frostbite Race. Changes to these SIs will be posted on the DISC website at www.discsailing.org.

2. **Eligibility to Participate** – See the NOR.

By entering an event, the boat owner/skipper agrees that there are inherent risks to competitive sailing and, as such, 1) they are solely responsible for the decision whether to enter or continue any race, and, 2) they shall hold harmless DISC and the DISC officers for any damage or liability that may occur during a race or regatta.

Each boat owner/captain is responsible for the safety of his/her crew, guests, and boat.

3. **Rules** – This regatta will be governed by the 'rules' as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing 2017-2020 (RRS). RRS 63.7, Conflict between Rules, is replaced by, "If there is a conflict between the Sailing Instructions and the Notice of Race, the Sailing Instructions shall apply."

4. **Entries** – All entries must have a valid 2017 PHRF of the Chesapeake rating or proof of a submitted rating application to PHRF of the Chesapeake. At least one class for non-spinnaker and at least one class for spinnaker fleet boats will be offered. Boats may not switch classes during the series.

All participants must qualify for a U.S. Near-shore (5P & 6P) PHRF rating and must meet the following,

- Motor – must meet the requirement for 4P in Section 2.7.2 of the U.S. Safety Equipment Requirements as adopted by PHRF of the Chesapeake,
- Navigation lights – must meet the requirement for 4P in Section 3.3.1 of the U.S. Safety Equipment Requirements as adopted by PHRF of the Chesapeake, and
- Lifelines – if the boat was originally equipped with them. For those boats that do not have lifelines, all crew must wear approved Type III or Type V personal flotation devices while racing.

The owner/skipper of each boat entered shall be responsible for the actions of his/her crew, guests, and support persons. In the event of a serious breach of conduct, sportsmanship, destruction of property, or failure to comply with a request from any regatta official, the boat or competitor may be subject to expulsion from the regatta.

5. **Notices to Competitors** – Notices to competitors will be posted on the DISC website www.discsailing.org. The Race Committee may change these instructions up until the end of the skippers' meeting and will notify all participants attending the Skipper's Meeting of any changes.

6. **Handicapping** – DISC uses the Performance Handicap Racing Fleet (PHRF) rating system foster competition between dissimilar boats. All boats participating in DISC events shall have a valid PHRF certificate issued by PHRF of the Chesapeake.

Time-on-Distance (TOD) shall be used to determine corrected finish times and to score yachts racing in all DISC events.

7. **Schedule of Races** – See the NOR.

8. **Radio** – Boats should monitor VHF 69a for courtesy communications from the Race Committee.

9. **Course and marks** – DISC courses are listed under Racing Resources on the DISC website, www.discsailing.org. Fixed government marks will be used. The course will be determined the day of each race. All marks serving as turning marks are to be left to Port unless that mark is a finishing mark, or specifically directed to round to starboard by the Race Committee course selection.

10. **Starting and Finishing Lines** – See the NOR.

11. **Time Limit** – See the NOR.

12. **Shortening Course** – The Race Committee may shorten the course at their discretion provided no boats have finished. The Race Committee boat shall indicate a shortening of the course by announcing the shortening of course on VHF channel 69a, failure to receive, understand, or the content of the message will not be considered as grounds for redress. This modifies RRS 62.1.

12.1. At such time the course is shortened by the hail from the Race Committee over VHF channel 69, the new finish line of the shortened course shall be the original start finish line extended to both the Maryland and Virginia shores. **All finishing boats shall record their own times as they cross the finish line of the shortened course.** Email finish times to www.discsailing.org. This modifies RRS 32.2.

13. **Protests** – See the NOR.

14. **Scoring** – Handicapping of individual yachts will be based on the PHRF certificates on file with the Race Director and/or posted on the PHRF of the Chesapeake website. There will be at least one spinnaker and non-spinnaker fleet.

The results from the Frostbite Race will be used as part of the overall Fall Classic Series results.

Races will be scored using "Time-on-Distance". Scoring will be based on the "low point" system. Under this system the first yacht to finish, based on corrected time, will receive 1 point and each succeeding yacht will receive points equal to his/her finishing position. That is, the second place yacht will receive 2 points, the third place yacht, 3 points, etc.

Yachts starting a race but not completing it will be scored as “DNF” and assigned 1 more point than the number of competitors in the fleet that came to the starting area that day.

Yachts that arrive at the start before the countdown, but do not race will be scored as “DNS” and assigned 1 more point than the number of competitors in the fleet that came to the starting area that day.

Yachts registered for the series, but not starting, will be scored as “DNC” and assigned 1 more point than the number of competitors in the series.

Yachts not finishing within the allowable time will be scored Time Limit Expired, “TLE” and will be assigned 2 points plus the number of boats to finish (in their class) within the time limit.

Yachts scored DSQ will be assigned 1 more point than the number of competitors in the fleet that came to the starting area that day.

15. Management – The races shall be under the management of the DISC Standing Race Committee, which shall have the full power to interpret the rules, decide protests and to reject entries of any yacht at any time. DISC accepts no responsibility for accidents occurring during these series.

16. Race Committee – The Standing Race Committee is comprised of Henry Cheng (Non-spin Fleet Captain), Scott Moore (Spin Fleet Captain), Nelson Pemberton (Vice Commodore and Protest Chair), any Executive Committee Officer in attendance, or a person or persons appointed by the Executive Committee.

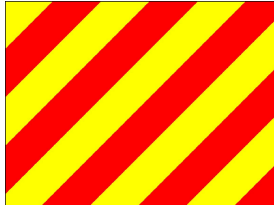
17. Safety – All safety equipment required by the Coast Guard must be onboard. A minimum crew of two (skipper plus one crew) is mandatory. All yachts must meet all local regulations, which include lights for night sailing (this will be strictly enforced). Any yacht found negligent of Coast Guard safety regulations will be disqualified. Boats must be self-righting at all times while racing.

Sailing is an all-weather sport. It is the responsibility of individual skippers to decide, based on conditions at the time of the race and their own assessment of their boat and crew’s ability, whether or not to race. The Standing Race Committee is charged with determining if a race will be held. Such decisions will be made on the day of the race, based on conditions at that time. In the case of lightning, dangerous wind or other extreme conditions, the Standing Race Committee may decide to postpone or cancel a race.

Personal Floatation Devices - All crewmembers shall wear Personal Floatation Devices (PFDs) when directed by the Standing Race Committee at the skippers’ meeting, when announced over VHF channel 69a, or when the Y flag (red/yellow stripe) is displayed during racing. PFD will be required whenever a small craft advisory is in effect or when conditions warrant. Should the Race Committee or Standing Race Committee observe a crew member without a PFD, except for the removal or addition of clothing, the yacht will be disqualified from the race without hearing. This is consistent with Rule 40 of the 2017-2020 Racing Rules of Sailing. Safety is

ultimately each skipper and crew's responsibility, DISC encourages all competitors to wear PFD's at all times.

Y flag:



18. **Commercial Traffic** – A boat shall not exercise right of way over, cross in close proximity to, or interfere with reasonable transit of the race area by commercial freighters, tugs and tows, or other commercial vessels. A boat charged under this rule has the burden of proof that she did not interfere with the commercial vessel. Boats must take evasive action well in advance of any potentially dangerous situation.

The Race Committee may protest under this instruction based on information received from competitors or a person with a conflict of interest. If a competing yacht is found to have violated this rule, the yacht shall be scored DSQ for that race. The Race Committee may impose more severe penalties if they determine that gross negligence on the part of skipper or crew of the yacht in question endangered the safety of their yacht, other DISC yachts, or commercial traffic transiting the racecourse. This changes RRS 60.2(a).

Please contact the DISC officers at officers@discsailing.org with any questions about DISC racing or these Race Instructions.