

## 2017 Spring Weekend Series

March 25, April 1, April 15 (also Cherry Blossom Regatta)

Sailing Instructions for March 25, April 1 Only

**Organizing Authority:**  
**DAINGERFIELD ISLAND SAILING CLUB**

1. **Application of SI's** – These Sailing Instructions apply to the March 25 and April 1 races in this Series only. The April 15 racing will be conducted according to the Cherry Blossom Regatta Sailing Instructions and will be posted at the DISC website ([www.discsailing.org](http://www.discsailing.org)).

2. **Eligibility to Participate** – All entries must have a valid 2017 PHRF of the Chesapeake rating certificate or proof of a submitted rating application to PHRF of the Chesapeake. Each boat must be owned by a member in good standing of DISC. The boat owner is not required to be onboard or to helm. A skipper of a club-owned boat (e.g., SCOW, PSC, etc) must be an active DISC member and must register the boat in DISC races.

By participating and entering DISC races and regattas, the boat owner/skipper agrees to abide by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 2017-2020, the DISC bylaws, the DISC Notices of Race, PHRF of the Chesapeake, and the DISC Sailing Instructions.

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 Event Sailing Instructions and the Notice of Race, the Event Sailing Instructions shall apply." DISC's Event Sailing Instructions and Notice(s) of Change will be posted on [www.discsailing.org](http://www.discsailing.org).

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](http://www.discsailing.org). The Race Committee may change these instructions up until the end of the Skipper's 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** – Skipper's Meeting is at 11:00 a.m. on the deck behind the Afterdeck Café at Washington Sailing Marina for March 25 and April 1.

The rendezvous time for March 25 and April 1 is at 12:00 p.m. in the vicinity of Potomac River R "6" FI R 2.5s.

The scheduled time for the Warning Signal for all races is at 12:10 p.m.

The schedule is:

Saturday, March 25

Skipper's Meeting	11:00 a.m.
Rendezvous	12:00 p.m.
5 Minute Warning	12:10 p.m.
Start	12:15 p.m.

Saturday, April 1

Skipper's Meeting	11:00 a.m.
Rendezvous	12:00 p.m.
5 Minute Warning	12:10 p.m.
Start	12:15 p.m.

8. **Radio** – Boats should monitor VHF 69 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](http://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. Unless otherwise stated at the Skipper's Meeting, races will be held on the "Middle Course".
10. **Starting and Finishing Lines** – The start line will be between Potomac River R "6" FI R 2.5s and the "NO WAKE" buoy near the boathouse on Virginia shore or the pilings at the North end of the dock in the event the buoy is not present. The start sequence will be announced over the radio (VHF channel 69). No committee boat is expected to be on station. If a committee boat is present the starting line will be between the mast on the committee boat and the middle of "R" "6".

All fleets will start together (one start).

Any part of a competitor's boat or person on that boat that is over that imaginary line prior to the starting gun will make that competitor over early and considered On Course Side (OCS); a boat over early must properly re-cross the line or else be scored OCS.

When finishing, skippers in both fleets are to record their time using GPS time. They will announce on VHF channel 69 that they have finished and email the time to the club officers ([www.discsailing.org](http://www.discsailing.org)).

11. **Time Limit** – The time limit shall be 2 hours per race. No races will be started after 3:30 p.m. for March 25 and April 1 races.
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 69, 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](http://www.discsailing.org). This modifies RRS 32.2.
13. **Protests** – Protests must be made in accordance with the Racing Rules of Sailing 2017-2020 to be considered a “valid protest”. Upon finishing, the Race Committee boat must be notified of the intent to protest another boat and the protest must be filed with the Standing Race Committee in person or with the DISC officers by email at [officers@discsailing.org](mailto:officers@discsailing.org) by 8:00 p.m. the day of racing. A time will then be set for the hearing.

A protested competitor can exonerate themselves from a foul by performing one tack and one gybe in the same direction or two tacks and two gybes in the same direction, in accordance with rule 31 or Part 4, paragraphs 44.1-44.2 or by taking a 20% scoring penalty on the water in accordance to rule 44.3, unless their penalty is to retire.

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 Cherry Blossom Regatta will be used as part of the overall Spring 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.

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](mailto:officers@discsailing.org) with any questions about DISC racing or these Race Instructions.