

# Lorain Sailing & Yacht Club

## Racing Rules

## Handicap Fleet

Revised September 2000

Revised May 2001 - Compliance with 2001-2004 US Sailing Rules

Revised June 2001 - Modify Course Designation Information / added fleet flag descriptions

Revised May 2002 – Changed Penalty Turns/added Cruising Class

Revised May 2005 based upon 2005-2008 US Sailing Rules Update

Revised April 2010 based upon the 2009 – 2012 US Sailing Rules Update

Revised March 2011

## Table of Contents

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>1. General</b>                                | 1 |
| 1.1 Status of Rules                              | 1 |
| 1.2 Applicability of Rules                       | 1 |
| 1.3 Order of Precedence of Rules                 | 1 |
| 1.4 Applicability of PHRF-LE, US Sailing Rules   | 1 |
| 1.5 Changes in Sailing Instructions              | 1 |
| <b>2. Responsibilities</b>                       | 2 |
| 2.1 Owner / Skipper                              | 2 |
| 2.2 LSYC Responsibility                          | 2 |
| <b>3. Entries</b>                                | 2 |
| 3.1 LSYC Membership                              | 2 |
| 3.2 PHRF-LE Cards                                | 2 |
| 3.3 Safety Equipment                             | 2 |
| 3.4 Additional Equipment for Shorthanded Sailing | 2 |
| 3.5 Fleet Declaration                            | 3 |
| <b>4. Schedule of Races</b>                      | 3 |
| <b>5. Racing Area</b>                            | 3 |
| <b>6. Racing Course</b>                          | 3 |
| <b>7. Signals</b>                                | 3 |
| <b>8. Official Time</b>                          | 3 |
| <b>9. Starting</b>                               | 4 |
| 9.1 Starting Sequence and Signals                | 4 |
| 9.2 Starting Order                               | 4 |
| 9.3 Check - In                                   | 4 |
| 9.4 One Minute Rule                              | 4 |
| <b>10. Time Limits</b>                           | 4 |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>11. Protests</b>                       | 4 |
| <b>12. Alternative Penalty Provisions</b> | 4 |
| <b>13. Scoring</b>                        | 5 |
| 13.1 Points System                        | 5 |
| 13.2 DNF Points                           | 5 |
| 13.3 DSQ Points                           | 5 |
| 13.4 DNC Points                           | 5 |
| 13.5 Counting Races                       | 5 |
| 13.6 Committee Boat Points                | 5 |
| 13.7 Race Credits                         | 6 |
| <b>14. Radio Communications</b>           | 6 |
| <b>15. Cruising Class</b>                 | 6 |
| <b>16. Awards</b>                         | 6 |
| 16.1 Class Series Awards                  | 6 |
| 16.2 Class Overall Awards                 | 6 |

## ***1. General***

### **1.1 Status of Rules**

These Rules rank as Sailing Instructions as described in US Sailing Rule 86. Information included in Italics is intended to be explanatory in nature and is not part of these Sailing Instructions. The section entitled Committee Boat Duty is a Club rule and not part of the Sailing Instruction.

### **1.2 Applicability of Rules**

These Rules apply to regular series races sponsored by the LSYC. Additional or amended rules for specialty races and Regattas will be distributed prior to the applicable race.

### **1.3 Order of Precedence of Rules**

All races sponsored by LSYC will be governed by (a) these Sailing Instructions; (b) the rules of the individual classes designated as participating; (c) the prescriptions of US Sailing; (d) the International Yacht Racing Rules, in this order of precedence.

### **1.4 Applicability of PHRF-LE**

The handicap racing fleet(s) will be guided by the PHRF-LE handicap system and associated rules as they may from time to time be modified.

In the event of conflict among these Rules, protest and other matters will be decided by (a) these Sailing Instructions; (b) the PHRF-LE Rules and/or applicable one design class rules; (c) the prescriptions of US Sailing; (d) the International Yacht Racing Rules, in this order of precedence.

### **1.5 Changes in Sailing Instructions**

Any changes in these Sailing Instructions will be communicated in accordance with US Sailing Rule 86. Any changes to these Sailing Instructions will be posted at least two hours ahead of the Warning Signals for races to which they apply. Any changes made on the water shall be communicated by hail (oral, radio or both) to affected yachts. The Official Notice Board is located at the LSYC Club House on the front window and clearly identified as "Official Notice Board."

## **2. Responsibilities**

### **2.1 Owner / Skipper**

A yacht must be owned by or under full season charter by an active LSYC, WYC or other approved club member to regularly compete in LSYC club races or be granted permission to compete (approved clubs must be recognized members of US Sailing).

### **2.2 LSYC Responsibility**

LSYC assumes no responsibility for damage to or loss of your yacht or any loss of life or personal injury resulting from your racing or intention to race in an LSYC sponsored event.

## **3. Entries**

### **3.1 LSYC Membership**

Only a yacht owned by or under full season charter to a: LSYC, WYC or other approved club (as designated in section 2.1) member in good standing may race without the invitation or permission of the LSYC race committee.

### **3.2 PHRF - LE Rating Card**

Yachts competing in a LSYC series race, other than designated specialty races and racing yachts competing in their first season of organized racing, must be current members of PHRF - LE. A valid PHRF - LE rating certificate must be on file with LSYC prior to the first race of the series to avoid a penalty rating.

Any first season yacht competing without a rating certificate will be assigned a rating by the LSYC race committee based on the available ratings in the PHRF - LE rating data bank.

### **3.3 Safety Equipment**

Each participating yacht shall have on board at least the minimum USCG approved safety equipment required for a vessel of that size. Plus any additional safety equipment required by PHRF - LE, one design class and US Sailing.

### **3.4 Additional Equipment for Short Handed Sailing**

A yacht may have on board and utilize properly installed and functioning mechanized self-steering equipment. When such equipment is in use the skipper is still fully responsible for following all racing rules. The PHRF - LE requirement of three (3) people on board is modified to a minimum of two (2) people on board.

*Note: It is strongly recommended that self steering equipment be fully disengaged at the start, mark roundings and any other time that prudent seamanship would dictate manual steering is the only safe method of operating the vessel.*

### **3.5 Fleet Declaration**

Each yacht must designate prior to the first race of a series in which class it will participate in. JAM, PHRF or One-Design

#### **4. Schedule of Races**

A complete calendar of races will be distributed prior to the season and posted at the LSYC Club House. All start times will be included with the schedule.

#### **5. Racing Area**

PHRF/JAM: The racing area will generally be east of the Lorain Harbor break-wall and will be announced 30 minutes prior to the first warning gun.

One Design: The race area will be designated prior to the RC leaving the dock.

#### **6. Course**

The course will be posted in the Race Committee boat. The course will follow a wheel designation with "A" mark being approximately one (1) n.m. due north of the wheel's "S" mark centerpoint. Each letter designation in clockwise rotation will be A, B, C, D, E, F, G and H. In addition to the letter designated marks the New Light House and Green Navigational Markers #3 and #5 may be used as starting, turning or finishing marks. Marks will be a combination of permanent spar buoys, inflatable marks and USCG navigational marks. All marks are to be rounded to port unless the designated mark is immediately followed by a (S) in parentheses. The (S) designation indicates that the mark is to be left to starboard. Example: A (S) - C (S) - G - #5. A & C would be left to starboard and G & #5 would be left to port.

The southeastern entrance to the Lorain harbor marked by the yellow navigation aid at the end of the Spitzer Lakeside Marina fishing pier will not be used at any point in any race.

#### **7. Signals**

Signals and flags will follow US Sailing Rules.

#### **8. Official Time**

The Race Committee boat will be the designated official timekeeper.

#### **9. Starting**

##### **9.1 Starting Sequence**

The starting sequence will be as described by the US Sailing Rules.

##### **9.2 Starting Order**

The normal starting order is as follows, but may be amended by the race committee via on the water notification prior to the start of that particular race. This notification will occur via the RC sign board and/or fleet flags.

| <u>Fleet</u>       | <u>Flag</u>           |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| PHRF Fleet -       | Light blue with a "P" |
| Jam Fleet -        | Pink with a "J"       |
| Cruising Fleet -   | to be determined      |
| One Design Fleet - | to be determined      |

### **9.3 Check - In**

Each yacht shall pass by the RC Boat and check-in before starting to race.

### **9.4 One Minute Rule**

The One-Minute rule as described in US Sailing Rule 51.1 (c) shall be in effect for all racing. The "I" flag shall be considered displayed at all times even if it is not actually displayed from the RC Boat.

### **9.5 Auxiliary Power**

Auxiliary Power must be off from a yacht's Preparatory Signal and until she finishes or withdraws.

## **10. Time Limits**

A race will be abandoned if the leading yacht in a particular fleet or division does not round the first mark within one (1) hour of the start of the race. If the course has been shortened to one (1) leg the race committee, at its discretion can finish the race beyond the one (1) hour time limit.

A race will be abandoned if the leading yacht in a particular fleet or division does not finish the race within three (3) hours of the start of the race.

## **11. Protests**

Any protest made shall follow all US Sailing prescriptions. If a protest is turned in and is not properly filled out no protest hearing will be convened.

## **12. Alternative Penalty Provisions**

The two turn penalty shall remain in full force and effect.

### **13. Scoring**

#### **13.1 Points System**

The low point system will be used for scoring races with 1 points awarded for first, 2 points for second, and 3 points for third, etc. Ties will be broken per US Sailing Appendix A-23.

#### **13.2 DNF Points**

A DNF yacht will receive points equal to the total number of yachts starting in their division in that particular race. A yacht dropping out of a race must notify the Race Committee and receive acknowledgement; failure to notify the RC will add two (2) positions to the yachts race as penalty.

#### **13.3 DSQ Points**

A DSQ yacht will receive points equal to the total number of yachts started in their division in that particular race plus (1) one.

#### **13.4 DNC/DNS Points**

A DNC yacht will receive point's equal the largest number of yachts competing in their division for the DNC race plus two (2) points

#### **13.5 Counting Races**

A race must have three (3) starters per division for the race to be counted for the division and series. The highpoint race(s) will be used as the throw out(s). It may include but is not limited to DNC or DNF races.

| <b><u>Number of Races</u></b> | <b><u>Races Counting</u></b> | <b><u>Throw-outs</u></b> |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1                             | 1                            | 0                        |
| 2                             | 2                            | 0                        |
| 3                             | 3                            | 0                        |
| 4                             | 4                            | 0                        |
| 5                             | 4                            | 1                        |
| 6                             | 5                            | 1                        |
| 7                             | 5                            | 2                        |
| 8                             | 6                            | 2                        |
| 9                             | 7                            | 2                        |

#### **13.6 Committee Boat Points**

A yacht serving as Committee Boat will receive points equal to an average score of her races in that series. Calculations for yachts average score will be done after throw outs are removed.

- a) For class overall award calculations, a yachts committee boat score will remain the same as it was in a series.
- b) Only one Committee Boat score will be counted in any series unless:
  - 1.) the boat is assigned the 2nd duty as a result of the Lottery ... no other date options are available
  - 2.) The boat is assigned that date as alternate duty by the fleet captain.

### **13.7 Race Credits**

In addition to the normal throw-outs, a boat that will miss a race day may qualify for a race credit if:

They notify the Fleet Captain or scorekeeper 1 week prior to the race date. The 1-week prior notification is waived for emergencies where the *situation is not known in advance*. For example: *death in the family, unexpected work travel etc.* The Fleet Captain or scorekeeper must still however be notified prior to the race. The race credit will be calculated the same as a committee boat average.

A boat may receive a maximum of 2 race credits per year. A committee boat duty and 2 race credits cannot be utilized in 1 series.

### **14. Radio Communications**

**Channel 6** will be used as the official LSYC radio channel. Please hail the LSYC Committee boat as "LSYC - RC".

### **15. Cruising Class**

LSYC is developing a cruising class for all non-racing style/equipped boats. This class will not require PHRF Certificates and is intended to be a method to attract additional participation in LSYC Racing. Cruising Class vessels can only utilize Jib and Main sails, no cruising spinnakers, gennakers, spinnakers, bloopers, etc. will be permitted. Organization and starting methodology will be specified under separate cover.

The Cruising Class is open to LSYC Members that have not participated in Handicap racing in the previous three seasons.

### **16. Awards**

#### **16.1 Class Series Awards**

Each Class will receive First, Second and Third place awards for the yachts with the three lowest scores in each of the series provided 5 or more yachts have participated. First place award for 3 or 4 yachts.

#### **16.2 Class Overall Awards**

Each Class will receive First, Second and Third place awards for the yachts with the three lowest overall scores provided 5 or more yachts have participated. First place awards for any class with less than 5. Each yacht's class overall score will be determined by adding the totals of all her series scores. Throw-out and committee boat duty scores will not be changed.