



**SOUTHERN MARYLAND SAILING ASSOCIATION**

**2026 KEELBOAT PROGRAM  
RACE CIRCULAR**



**2025 Season High Point Winner – Spinnaker Class  
Diablo  
Russell Miller**



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## SMSA Keelboat Race Points of Contact

Vice Commodore	Randy Gross	301-904-9712 (cell) <a href="mailto:vicecommodore@smsa.com">vicecommodore@smsa.com</a>
Keelboat Race Program Chair	Larry Ray Tom Moulds	Keelboat Race Chair PO Box 262 Solomons, MD 20688 <a href="mailto:keelboatrace@smsa.com">keelboatrace@smsa.com</a> 301-481-0103 (cell-Tom) 240-751-5015 (cell-Larry)
CBYRA Delegate	Marc Briere	301-904-5141 (cell) <a href="mailto:CBYRA@smsa.com">CBYRA@smsa.com</a>
PHRF Delegate	Marc Briere	301-904-5141 (cell) <a href="mailto:PHRF@smsa.com">PHRF@smsa.com</a>
PHRF Handicapper	Dan Trammell	<a href="mailto:dantramm@verizon.net">dantramm@verizon.net</a>
Keelboat Race Scoring Team	Rhonda LaFleur	<a href="mailto:score@smsa.com">score@smsa.com</a>
Protest Committee Chair	Shawn Stanley	301-904-8594 (cell) <a href="mailto:Protest@smsa.com">Protest@smsa.com</a>
RC Boat Captain (maintenance)	Joe Frost	410-610-8730 <a href="mailto:RCBoat@smsa.com">RCBoat@smsa.com</a>
<b>2026 SMSA Appointed Protest Committee (PC) Members</b>		
Dan Trammell (Senior Judge and Principal SMSA PC Arbitrator), Jimmy Yurko, Elliott Peterson, Marc Briere, Pete LaRoche, Mark Gyorgy		
Other appointments will be made by 2026 Protest Committee Chair or Keelboat Race Program Chair, as required		
<b>Racing Program Sponsors</b>		
Safe Harbor Zahniser's Yachting Center	RC Boat Dockage & Maintenance	



# SMSA General Sailing Instructions (SIs)

## 1 Rules

- 1.1 SMSA events are governed by the current Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), except where modified the SMSA Sailing Instructions in this circular.

## 2 Entries

- 2.1 Each yacht owner agrees to abide by the current US Sailing RRS and the SMSA Organizing Agency sailing instructions as recorded in this race circular.
- 2.2 All entries should register online at [www.smsa.com](http://www.smsa.com). Non-Members wanting to participate in non-invitational regattas should contact the Keelboat Program Race Chair as [keelboatrace@smsa.com](mailto:keelboatrace@smsa.com). See POC Table for additional contact information.
- 2.3 In consideration of being permitted to enter the event, being knowledgeable of the risks of competitive sailing, and knowing that it is his/her responsibility to decide whether to enter or continue any race, owners (and their crews) voluntarily assume the risk of participation in SMSA race events and release SMSA and its designees and volunteers conducting the event from all liability in connection with any injury or damage that may occur.
- 2.3.1 In order for a boat to participate in the SMSA racing program, the boat owner or organization representative must be a current member of SMSA, except for Fleet Building races & CBYRA sanctioned races wherein non-SMSA owners of yachts wishing to compete in the CBYRA sanctioned / invitational races must be members of CBYRA or of a yacht club recognized by SMSA. The Keelboat Program Race Chair, Vice Commodore, or Commodore may consider other exceptions on a case-by-case basis for an out of area visitor who asks to participate in a club race.
- 2.3.2 In order to be scored in SMSA formal races, the online entry form, race fee payable online via credit/debit/ACH or by a check, money order to SMSA, and a copy of the boat's current PHRF of the Chesapeake Valid Rating Certificate must be received and processed prior to the race or series (see paragraph 2.4.3 concerning informal race scoring).
- 2.3.2.1 It is the owner's responsibility to ensure their entry is accepted by the deadline in the race SIs.
- 2.3.2.2 Season entry and race fee of \$390 covers races found within this race circular.
- 2.4 Ratings:
- 2.4.1 When a yacht competes in an SMSA CBYRA-sanctioned race she shall display US SAILING numbers or the sail number listed in the class roster conforming to PHRF Chesapeake Bay requirements.
- 2.4.2 If a yacht's rating or the parameters on which the rating is based are changed from what is listed on the Valid Rating Certificate, it is the owner's responsibility to inform the race committee of the new valid



rating at check-in. A copy of the revised rating certificate must be provided to the Keelboat Race Chair or scoring team. A rating change becomes effective on the date listed on the revised rating certificate. Race results will be amended upon receipt of a copy of the revised rating certificate, if necessary.

- 2.4.3** The keelboat program PHRF Handicapper may provide a provisional PHRF rating for participants racing in an informal SMSA race.

## **2.5 Crew Limits**

- 2.5.1** Crew limitations imposed by PHRF or a class association will be in effect for formal races and SMSA's CBYRA sanctioned races.
- 2.5.2** The PHRF or class association maximum crew limit is waived for SMSA informal races to allow skippers to bring visiting friends, new sailors, co-workers, etc., and not have to turn them away because of the crew limit. It is incumbent on skippers to stay within the Coast Guard and safety limits of their boats and safety gear inventories.

## **3 Notices to Competitors**

- 3.1** Notices to competitors will be published on the official notice board located on the SMSA website, keelboat race page, by 2100 the day preceding the event.
- 3.2** While not officially a Notice to Competitors, in the event of emerging bad weather, RC may announce postponements and/or cancellations via email (primary) and Facebook (secondary). If this is the case, the RC will also need to ensure radio announcements are made IAW SI 23.1.

## **4 Changes to Sailing Instructions**

Any change to these General SIs will be posted on the Keelboat page on the SMSA Website, no later than 15 days prior to taking effect. Changes to a Race's Special SIs including schedule and starts will be posted on the Keelboat page on the SMSA Website by 9 pm the night before it takes effect. RC will make every effort to distribute these changes to competitors when they check-in.

## **5 Signals Made Ashore**

Fleet hails may also be made on VHF channel 72. Electronic Signals made ashore will be promulgated using social media /smart devices / group texts.



## 6 Schedule of Races

Apr	8	Wed	Wednesday Night Series A-1
	11	Sat	Little Choptank Race (Middle Distance Series, CBYRA & SMSA High)Point)
	12	Sun	Spring Invitational (Invitational Series, CBYRA & SMSA High Point)
	15	Wed	Wednesday Night Series A-2
	22	Wed	Wednesday Night Series A-3
	25	Sat	Double Handed Race
	29	Wed	Wednesday Night Series A-4
May	6	Wed	Wednesday Night Series A-5
	9	Sat	Vice Commodore's Cup
	13	Wed	Wednesday Night Series A-6
	16	Sat	Frost-Goode Race (CBYRA & SMSA High Point)
	20	Wed	Wednesday Night Series A-7
	27	Wed	Fleet Building - Wed. Night
Jun	3	Wed	Wed. Night Race B-1
	10	Wed	Wed. Night Race B-2
	13	Sat	Marcy Series (Women's Race-SMSA Only)
	17	Wed	Wed. Night Race B-3
	24	Wed	Wed. Night Race B-4
	27	Sat	Smith Point Race (Middle Distance Series, CBYRA & SMSA High Point)
	28	Sun	Summer Invitational Race (Invitational Series, CBYRA & SMSA High Point)
Jul	1	Wed	Wed. Night Race B-5
	8	Wed	Wed. Night Race B-6
	11	Sat	Sharp's Island Race (Middle Distance Series, CBYRA & SMSA High Point)
	15	Wed	Wed. Night Race B-7
	22	Wed	Mini Pursuit Race
	29	Wed	Wednesday Night Series C-1
Aug	5	Wed	Wednesday Night Series C-2
	12	Sat	Wednesday Night Series C-3
	15	Wed	Mixed Couples Race / Battle Creek Cruise
	19	Wed	Wednesday Night Series C-4
	26	Wed	Wednesday Night Series C-5
Sep	2	Wed	Wednesday Night Series C-6
	9	Wed	Wednesday Night Series C-7
Oct	10	Sat	Hooper - Point/No-Point Race (Middle Distance Series, CBYRA & SMSA High Point)
	11	Sun	Fall Invitational (Invitational Series, CBYRA & SMSA High Point)
Nov	1	Sun	Fall Frostbite #1
	8	Sun	Fall Frostbite #2
	15	Sun	Fall Frostbite #3
	22	Sun	Fall Frostbite #4
	22	Sun	Wednesday Racing Pot Luck & Awards
Mar	7	Sun	Spring Frostbite #1
	14	Sun	Spring Frostbite #2
	21	Sun	Spring Frostbite #3
	28	Sun	Spring Frostbite #4



## 7 Class Definitions and Flags

**7.1 SMSA Keelboat Classes:** SMSA uses the PHRF Chesapeake Bay class splits for region 2:

Region	Class	PHRF Ratings	Pennant/Flag
2	A	109 and below	#9 Pennant
2	B	110 to 145	#6 Pennant
2	C	146 and up	#7 Pennant
1-4	N	All ratings	#5 Pennant



**7.2 Double Headsail Restriction:** Double headsails are allowed in all spinnaker classes. PHRF-N class is limited to single headsails except during sail changes.

**7.3 Portsmouth Class:** Some races allow for small boat and dinghies participation. At RC's discretion, Portsmouth may be granted their own start if enough boats are at the start.

Region	Class	PHRF Ratings	Pennant/Flag
2	Port	All	#4 Pennant



**7.4 CRCA Classes:** SMSA Invitational Races may use CRCA Class with ORR-ez certificates:

Region	Class	Ratings	Pennant/Flag
CRCA	Cruiser	All	Solid White Rect
CRCA	Racer	All	Solid Green Rectangle



## 8 Racing Areas

SMSA races take place in three areas: SMSA Patuxent River (in the vicinity of Solomon's as well as upriver) and Chesapeake Bay Race Areas are illustrated in the courses section of this circular. Middle distance series races extend up to 35 miles north or south of Patuxent River "1" in the Chesapeake Bay.

## 9 Courses

- 9.1** Courses are determined by RC using Solomon's Area Race Marks, Chesapeake Bay Navigation Marks, drop marks, other navigational marks or as designated in Special SIs.
- 9.2** Patuxent River navigation marks are to be passed on the channel side at all times unless they are specified rounding marks or otherwise specified in Race SIs. Race Mark "Y" is to be passed on the channel side at all times.
- 9.3** Marks shall be rounded in the order displayed reading from left to right or top to bottom. Marks designated by red letters shall be rounded to port and those designated by green letters shall be rounded to starboard. One lap shall be sailed unless the course designation is followed by a numeral, which specifies the number of laps.



- 9.4** Any federal exclusion zones shall be honored as a keep out zone. These will be explicitly noted in the SI for applicable races. Traversing shall result in disqualification (DSQ without redress).

Specific Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Title 33 Zones are:

CFR, Title 33, Reference	Zone Type	Common Name
165.502	Safety and Security	Cove Point LNG Terminal
334.200	Prohibited Area	Hooper Target
334.200	Target Area	Hannibal Target

## 9.5 Drop Marks

- 9.5.1** Inflatable drop marks may be used in combination with fixed marks, bridge pilings and SMSA race marks. Drop marks will be assigned the letters “L”, “W”, or “X”, when used in conjunction with SMSA Patuxent or Chesapeake Bay Area Race Marks. Mark “L” is the leeward mark. Mark “W” is the windward mark. Mark “X” is the pin end of the start/finish line.

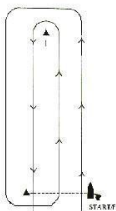
### 9.5.2 Course Designators and Descriptions

- For Drop Mark type courses, all marks will be left to port.
- The course designator, range and bearing of the first leg will be displayed before the warning signal.

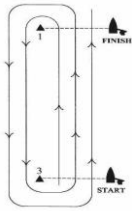
#### Designation

#### Description

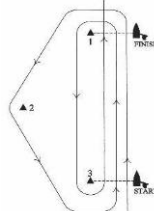
W	Windward/Leeward (5 legs, windward finish)
L	Windward/Leeward (4 legs, leeward finish)
O	Olympic triangle (6 legs, windward finish)
G	Triangle (5 legs, leeward finish)



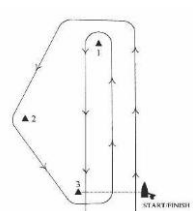
L  
(RED)



W  
(RED)



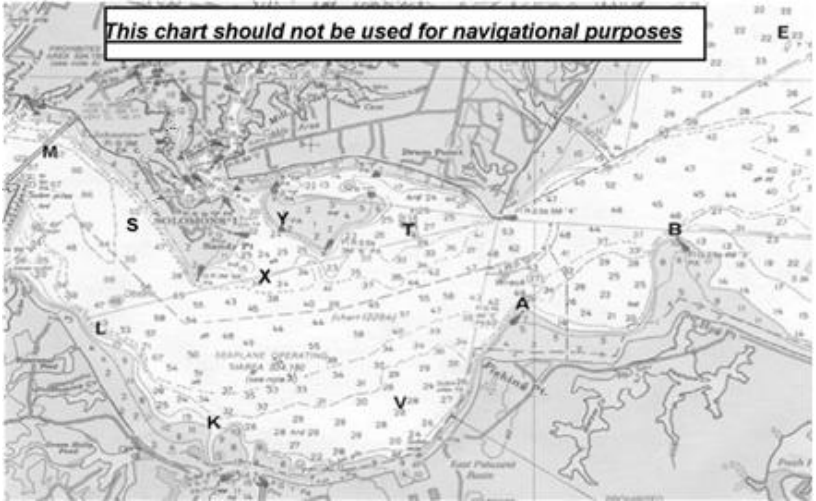
O  
(RED)



G  
(RED)



## 9.6 SMSA Patuxent River Race Marks



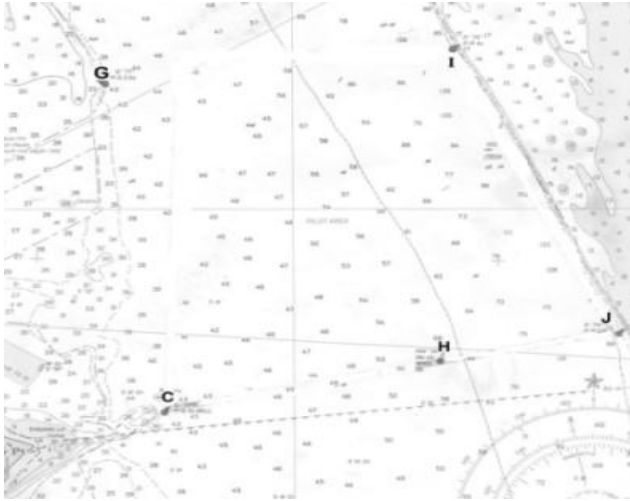
Mar	Designation	Description	Lat	Long
k				
A	"5"	PR#5, FI G 4sec	38 18.56'	076 25.09'
B	"3"	PR#3, FI G 2.5sec	38 19.04'	076 24.05'
K	West Basin	SMSA "K"	38 17.878'	076 27.307'
L	"L"	SMSA "L"	38 18.573'	076 28.030'
M	North Center Span	SMSA "M" Bridge Piling	38 19.53'	076 28.34'
S	Gazebo	SMSA "S" (no mark)	38 19.26'	076 27.73'
T	"T"	SMSA "T"	38 19.182'	076 26.027'
V	East Basin	SMSA "V" across from TPS	38 18.020'	076 25.962'
X	Pin End	Drop Mark	38 18.92'	076 26.74'
Y	"2" PA	Red Day Marker	38 19.09'	076.26.73

### SMSA Patuxent River Race Mark Distances (NM)

A	0.94	1.87	2.34	2.83	0.96	0.87	2.36	1.35	1.41
	B	2.80	3.19	3.71	1.56	1.82	3.19	2.15	2.17
		K	0.89	1.84	1.64	1.06	1.42	1.13	1.29
			L	1.01	1.72	1.73	0.76	1.11	1.20
				M	2.24	2.40	0.56	1.45	1.70
					T	1.16	1.73	0.65	0.69
						V	1.89	1.09	1.23
							S	1.11	1.20
								X	0.15
									Y



### 9.7 SMSA Chesapeake Bay Race Marks



This chart should not be used for navigational purposes

Mark	Designation	Description	Lat	Long
C	1PR	PR#1, FI G 4sec Bell	38 18.211'	076 21.177'
G	Green77	FI G 4sec Bell	38 21.088'	076 21.693'
H	Mo(A)	RW Center Channel Marker	38 18.656'	076 18.681'
I	Red 76	FI R 4sec	38 21.379'	076 18.532'
J	Red 74	FI R 2.5sec	38 18.935'	076 17.065'

#### Chesapeake Bay Race Mark Distances (NM)

A	0.94	3.09	3.67	5.03	5.86	6.30
	B	2.40	2.76	4.23	4.92	5.48
		C	2.89	2.00	3.78	3.30
			G	3.39	2.49	4.22
				H	2.72	1.30
					I	2.70
						J



## **10 Check-in**

Boats are required to hail Boat Name, sail number, which class to be sailed in (A,B,C or NS), and # of crew aboard while close abeam or astern of RC boat or via VHF Channel 72 to be considered checked in. At this time, any printed SI amendments will be handed out. Audible SI changes are possible, but not recommended. If audible SI changes are required, they will be repeated on VHF Channel 72, and RC will require a positive verbal (direct or via VHF) verification of receipt of the change from each participant prior to the Warning Signal. This complies with RRS 90.2c.

## **11 Start**

- 11.1** Races will be started in the order and at the times described in each Race's SIs. Times shall be taken from the visual signals; iaw RRS 26, the absence of a sound signal shall be disregarded.
- 11.2** The preparatory signal will be displayed one minute after the warning signal and will be removed, with one sound, one minute before the starting signal.
- 11.3** Succeeding classes sequences will be started at five-minute intervals by raising the next class flag simultaneously with the dropping the class flag for the preceding class (denoting their start) (Rolling Starts)
- 11.4** The starting line will be delineated in Special Race SIs. If the RC boat is on-station, the starting line will be between a yellow flag on the RC boat and the adjacent race mark. The RC may use a vertical string directly below the yellow flag to sight the line to the pin.
- 11.5** After the first warning signal of a race, boats whose warning signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area and all of the boats whose warning signal has been made.
- 11.6** The use of engines during pre-starts when RC is ashore: When RC is ashore and using Mark Y as starting line, engines may be used during preparatory segment of pre-start, only to maneuver to avoid, or unground from, the shallows adjacent to, or found within, the start box. It is incumbent on each competitor to ensure that the additional propulsion does not provide advancement to the starting line.

### **11.7 Mark Boats**

Failure of a mark boat to be on station or to display her signal will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.4(b)1.

## **12 Change of Course After the Start**

A change of course after the start will be signaled before the leading boat has begun the leg, although the new mark may not then be in position. Any mark to be rounded after rounding the new mark may be relocated to maintain the original course configuration. When a mark is replaced in a subsequent change of course, it will be replaced with an original mark.



## **13 Recalls**

### **13.1.1 Individual Recall**

When individual recalls are signaled, the race committee may (at its discretion) attempt to hail the sail numbers of the recalled boats by loudhailer or VHF on channel 72 while flying the individual recall flag. Failure of the race committee to hail or failure of a boat to hear the hail of its sail number shall not relieve the boat of its obligation to start correctly. This changes RRS 29.1 and 61.4(b)1.

### **13.1.2 General Recall**

General Recalls will be signaled in accordance with the RRS 29.2 as modified below. If a General Recall is made, classes following the recalled class will start in their scheduled start sequence. Recalled classes will start in the order they were recalled after the starting signal of the last scheduled start.

## **14 Finish Line**

**14.1.1** The finish line will be between a yellow flag on the RC boat and a designated *adjacent mark*, or as designated in the race's Special SIs.

### **14.2 FINISHING MARK MISSING; RACE COMMITTEE ABSENT**

U.S. Sailing Prescription to R34 will be in effect. US Sailing prescribes that, if a finishing mark is missing but another one remains in place, the finishing line is a line through the remaining mark at a 90° angle to the last leg and of the shortest practicable length. If the race committee is absent when a boat finishes, see section 16.2.

## **15 Multiple Races**

Deleted – addressed in specific race SI's

## **16 Finish Times**

**16.1** For point-to-point races (Middle Distance, etc.) where racers record their own finish times, each yacht will record the time of day to the nearest second using GPS time, to the nearest second, of its class start and its finish.

**16.2** If a race committee (RC) is not on station, each yacht must record its finishing time and the time of the next boat finishing within 20 minutes of its finish time to the nearest second using GPS time, and report this record to the scoring team, [score@smsa.com](mailto:score@smsa.com) as prescribed in each Race's SIs.

## **17 Time Limit**

Race time limits are listed in each Special Race's SIs.

## **18 Protests**

**18.1** Protests must be made in accordance with RRS 60.2(a) with the following addition:

**18.1.1** Immediately after finishing, a boat intending to protest must inform the RC of her intention to protest and identify the boat or party being protested. If RC is not on station at the finish, the boat intending to protest must inform the RC when reporting her finishing time.



- 18.2** Protests shall be written on US Sailing forms available for download from US Sailing and SMSA websites. Completed protest forms must be delivered to the Race Committee or Race Chair within the protest time specified in each Race's SIs.
- 18.3** SMSA has appointed a Protest Committee (PC) chair and PC members as listed in the Points of Contact table of this circular. The PC chair will assign members to support races or series protests, and has the authority to appoint additional PC members, as required.
- 18.4** Protests will be heard in approximately the order of receipt, as soon as possible, which may be at a date after the race event has completed.
- 18.5** Protest notices will be posted on the SMSA website as soon as possible after being received and registered. Parties to or witnesses for a protest will be informed via the website and email or phone of the location and time of the hearing.
- 18.6** Appeals for SMSA races sanctioned by CBYRA will be handled by CBYRA in accordance with RRS 70, and modified as specified by the CBYRA Greenbook.

## **18.7 Hearings**

### **18.7.1 Normal Hearing Scheduling**

Hearing dates and times will be posted on the SMSA website. PC may also notify interested parties and witnesses via email or phone. The goals are to hold the hearing within 7 days from the race and to publish the decision on the SMSA website within 7 days from the hearing.

### **18.7.2 Arbitration**

For protests involving an alleged breach of RRS, Part 2, a short arbitration hearing may be held after the race, following proper filing of the protest and prior to any protest hearing. The arbitration hearing will be held if both parties to the protest are present and a member of the appointed and assigned PC who is authorized to hold such a hearing is present. After a written protest form is properly lodged, one representative from each boat will meet with the arbitrator unless the protester requests that the protest be withdrawn. No witnesses will be allowed. The acceptance of an arbitration decision cannot be grounds for redress or be appealed. Protests not resolved by arbitration will be forwarded to the PC.

### **18.7.3 Expedited Hearings**

- 18.7.3.1** If the PC is able to assemble the parties to a hearing before the scheduled protest hearing and the parties agree, it may begin the hearing and may waive the requirements of RRS 60.3a (protest in writing, etc,) and RRS 60.3b (delivery of the protest within the protest time limit). The rule changes in this section apply to expedited hearings only.
- 18.7.3.2** RRS 63.4(a) is changed to: "At the beginning of the hearing, if there is no objection, the protest or request is valid and the hearing



shall be continued. If an objection is made, the protest committee shall take any evidence ... (no further change).”

- 18.7.3.3** Insert a new sentence after the third sentence of RRS 63.4(b):  
“However, the protest committee may limit the number of witnesses, and the time during which parties may present evidence and ask questions.”
- 18.7.3.4** The first sentence of RRS 63.6(b) is changed to: “A party to the hearing is entitled to receive the above information in writing, provided the party asks the protest committee for it no later than 1 day after being informed of the decision or coming ashore following the last race of the day, whichever is later.”

## **19 Penalties**

### **19.1 Penalties at the Time of the Incident**

The first two sentences of RRS 44.1 are changed to: “A boat may take a One-Turn Penalty when she may have broken a rule of Part 2 or Rule 31 while racing. However, when she may have broken a rule of Part 2 while in the zone around a mark other than a starting mark, her penalty shall be a Two-Turns Penalty.” - Alternatively, a boat infringing a rule of RRS, Part 2 or Rule 31 may take a Scoring Penalty in accordance with the rules amended below:

- 19.1.1** The penalty shall be a 20% scoring penalty. The penalty shall be calculated as stated in RRS 44.3(c).
- 19.1.2** A boat that displays a penalty flag and complies with some but not all the requirements of paragraphs RRS 44.3 (a) and (b) shall be penalized places equal to 50% (rounding 0.5 upward) of the number of yachts entered, but not worse than the position of DNF. No hearing is required, but a boat may request a hearing on having met the requirements of paragraphs RRS 44.3 (a) and (b).

### **19.2 Penalties Taken after a Race**

- 19.2.1** A boat that may have broken a rule of Part 2 or RRS 31 may take a scoring penalty after a race by informing the Race Committee in writing, identifying the race number and when and where the incident occurred and according to the following, (This modifies RRS 44.3(a).):
- 19.2.2** If taken before the protest time limit, the penalty shall be a 20 percent Scoring Penalty. If taken after the protest time limit but before the start of a hearing of a protest involving the **incident**, the penalty shall be a 30-percent Scoring Penalty. The penalty shall be calculated as stated in RRS 44.3(c). This modifies RRS 44.3(c).

## **20 Race Results and Scoring**

Race results are considered final once verified by a member of the SMSA Scoring team other than the member who entered the results. This is expected to occur within six (6) days. This modifies RRS 90.3(e). Exceptions are race results that contain pending protests, erroneous ratings, mathematical errors and/or other administrative mistakes. These results will be amended and republished as required.



## 20.1 Scoring

**20.1.1** Unless otherwise noted in the Special Race SI or para 20.2, events will be scored with the Low Point scoring system, in accordance with RRS Appendix A. Series races will be scored with RRS A5.3 applied as modified below.

- RRS Appendix A5.3 is modified as follows:

If the notice of race or sailing instructions state that RRS A5.3 will apply, RRS [A5.2](#) is changed so that, a boat that came to the starting area (hailing distance of starting boat or visual if RC is ashore) but did not sail the course (*i.e. DNS, NSC, DNF, TLE*)\_retired or was disqualified shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats that came to the starting area, and a boat that did not come to the starting area shall be scored points for the finishing place **two more than the number of boats that came to the starting area**.

**20.1.2** To qualify for any SMSA series award, yachts must meet the requirements of section 2 of these General SIs. PHRF ratings are expressed in seconds per mile.

### 20.1.3 PHRF: Time on Time

Corrected time for each boat is calculated by using the following formula:

$$Time_{Corrected} = Time_{Elapsed} \left[ \frac{650}{550 + PHRF} \right]$$

For example, if your PHRF rating was 120 and it took you 63.5 minutes to finish the race your corrected time would be:

$$Time_{corr} = Time_{El} * \left( \frac{650}{550 + 120} \right) = 63.5 * \left( \frac{650}{670} \right) = 61.6 \text{ min}$$

**20.1.4** Random Circular (RC) PHRF ratings will be utilized for all race events which utilize pre-positioned SMSA race marks and/or government marks as marks of the course. Windward / Leeward (WL) ratings will be utilized for races which only utilize W and L drop marks as marks of the course, since they allow for RC to adjust (change) the location of windward marks if the wind shifts to maintain a fair W/L course.

**20.1.5** All boats (minimum of one) that have competed in a class will be scored. Whether a boat receives an award will be determined by the race's Special SIs. This modifies RRS 90.3.

**20.1.6** A boat/crew scheduled to serve RC duties is eligible to be scored and to receive an award that same date only if it can muster enough crew to properly perform RC duties.

## 20.2 SMSA Series Races

**20.2.1** A minimum of one race constitutes a series.

**20.2.2** All entries are counted in the number of competitors in a series.



### 20.2.2.1 SMSA Formal

20.2.2.2 RRS A2 as modified (see table):

<u>Series</u>	<u>Throw outs</u>
Middle Distance Series	1 if 4 races, 0 if 3 or less
Invitational Series	None

- Middle Distance Series Races: Sharps Island, Little Choptank, Smith Point, and Hooper Island/Point-No-Point Races
- Invitational Series Races: Spring, Summer, and Fall Invitational Races
- For the purposes of Invitational Series and SMSA High Point Scoring, if more than one race is conducted during any of the Invitational Race event days, the results from that sub-series will be rolled up as an individual race for series scoring purposes.

### 20.2.3 SMSA Informal Series

#### 20.2.3.1 SMSA Wednesday Night Series

- SMSA informal racing includes 3 series. Series awards are presented at the SMSA Clubhouse after one of the Fall Frostbite Races.
- Each SMSA Wednesday Night Series (A/B/C) includes 7 scheduled races
- RRS A2 as modified (see table):

<u>Series</u>	<u>Throw outs</u>
SMSA Wednesday Night Series (Alpha)	2 if 7 races, 1 if 6
SMSA Wednesday Night Series (Bravo)	2 if 7 races, 1 if 6
SMSA Wednesday Night Series (Charlie)	2 if 7 races, 1 if 6

#### 20.2.3.2 SMSA Frostbite Series

- Spring Frostbite Series includes 4 Sunday races in March/April
- Fall Frostbite Series includes 4 Sunday races in November
- RRS A2 as modified (see table):

<u>Series</u>	<u>Throw outs</u>
Spring Frostbite Series	1 if 4 races
Fall Frostbite Series	1 if 4 races

### 20.2.4 SMSA Season High Point Scoring

20.2.4.1 To qualify for an SMSA Season High Point score, a boat must compete in >50% (5) of the qualifying formal race events that are actually conducted for the class. One of which must be a Middle Distance Series race and one of which must be an Invitational Series race. Spinnaker and Non-Spinnaker class will be scored separately using the same methodology.

20.2.4.2 Season High Point will use the following High Point Percentage System. For each event a competitor will receive 1 point for starting each race, 1 point for finishing each race, and 1 point for each boat beat. Bonus points will not be awarded for distance races. A boat's top 5 finishes will be used to compute its score. This changes RRS Rule 90.3(a).



The High Point score is calculated as follows:

$$\text{Score} = \frac{\text{StartPoints} + \text{FinishPoints} + \text{BoatsBeat}}{\text{PossibleStartPoints} + \text{PossibleFinishPoints} + \text{PossibleBoatsBeat}}$$

**20.2.5** SMSA Season High Point qualifying races (8) are: Smith Point, Sharps Island, Little Choptank, Hooper Island/Point-No-Point, Spring Invitational, Summer Invitational, Fall Invitational, and Frost-Goode.

## **21 Awards**

**21.1** Awards are made to the owner(s) (or organizations representatives) and boat when considered as a single entity. Boats entered in SMSA races must be entered in the name of the owner(s) (or organizations representatives) to be eligible for awards.

**21.2** Race awards are made in accordance with the Special Race's SIs.

**21.3** Series and high point awards shall be provided for 1st place when at least two (2) boats qualify, for 1st and 2nd places when at least five (5) boats qualify, and for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places when at least seven (7) boats qualify. Other awards may be designated within the Special Race SIs.

## **22 Racing at Night**

**22.1** For determining the right of way between contestants, the RRS Part 2 shall govern except that between sunset and sunrise, the following shall be substituted for RRS 17: "When one of two boats is about to pass the other and they are on the same tack and within three overall lengths (of the longer boat) of each other, the boat being overtaken shall maintain her proper course, and the boat clear astern, if she elects to pass to windward, must do so at least three overall lengths (of the longer boat) from the leeward boat. Both boats shall sail their proper course when overlapped."

**22.2** Boats in the vicinity of vessels with which they might collide should illuminate their sails at night by any available means to ensure that they can be clearly seen by other vessel(s). This is in addition to the display of required lights under USCG Inland Rules.

## **23 Radios**

**23.1** It is suggested that boats racing monitor VHF Channel 16 and 72 and make contact with commercial traffic on Channel 13 as required for safety. It is suggested that boats racing monitor and communicate with RC on VHF Channel 72. Postponements and/or cancellations by the RC for weather conditions may be announced on VHF channel 72. The RC will also make every effort to announce race course, individual recalls, shorten course and abandonments on channel 72.

## **24 Equipment**

**24.1** All equipment required by US Coast Guard, the RRS, Class Rules, PHRF of the Chesapeake, CRCA, these General SIs, and Race Special Race SIs shall be aboard and readily available. The Class or



SMSA has the right to inspect, without notice, any boat for the required equipment.

- 24.2** Class flags must be displayed from the backstay or stern pulpit during the race, and must be the same as the class declared at check-in and raced during the race. The vessel will be scored based on the class flag flown on the back-stay.

## **25 Commercial Traffic**

- 25.1** SMSA racers will comply with US Coast Guard Rule 9 Narrow Channels subsection (b) wherein **“A vessel of less than 20 meters in length or a sailing vessel shall not impede the passage of a vessel which can safely navigate only within a narrow channel or fairway”**. Any attempt by an SMSA race participant to exercise right of way, to cross in proximity to, or to interfere with reasonable transit of the race area by commercial freighters, tugs and tows or other commercial vessels that are unable to readily respond, will be grounds for protest. Should such a protest occur, the burden of proof is on the boat allegedly interfering. Contestants must take evasive action well in advance of any potentially dangerous situation.
- 25.1.1** A commercial vessel may use sound signals prescribed in Coast Guard Rule 34(c) to indicate her intention; one short blast to mean "I intend to overtake you on your starboard side" OR two short blasts to mean "I intend to overtake you on your port side". When vessels in sight of one another are approaching each other and for any cause either vessel fails to understand the intentions or actions of the other, or is in doubt whether sufficient action is being taken by the other to avoid collision, the vessel in doubt shall immediately indicate such doubt by giving at least five short and rapid blasts on the whistle.
- 25.1.2** If an SMSA racer is in the Chesapeake Shipping Channel and being approached by commercial traffic whose intent is not known it is suggested they establish Bridge-to-Bridge communications with the approaching vessel(s) on VHF Channel 13 to establish intent and ensure the racer is not violating Coast Guard Rule 9.
- 25.2** If an SMSA racer is without way in a ship channel and infringes RRS 42.1 by using an engine to clear the channel at the approach of commercial traffic, it shall either retire or, if the incident was unavoidable, continue racing and request redress.
- 25.2.1** RRS 42.3 (i) is amended by adding “A boat that is unavoidably without way in a ship channel may use any means of propulsion to clear the channel at the approach of commercial traffic provided that, when becoming clear of the commercial traffic, the boat has not improved their position as a result of this action.” A boat claiming this exception shall report the incident in writing to the protest committee within the protest time limit, with all the facts necessary to substantiate the boat’s speed and change of position during the incident including starting and ending positions, heading, propulsion duration, speed.



- 25.2.2** RRS 61.4 is modified to allow the consideration of this request by adding: "(e) clearing a ship channel in compliance with General SI 25.2 [RRS 42.3(i)]."

## **26 Disposal of Refuse**

All refuse must be disposed of in a proper manner upon returning ashore. Discharging refuse over the side is grounds for disqualification.

## **27 Race Committee**

SMSA Race Committees are made up of volunteers on a race-to-race basis. Race Committees are responsible for the conduct of the race and computing preliminary race results. All information needed by the Race Committee will be supplied prior to the race. Any questions regarding race conduct should be directed to the Keelboat Race Chair for clarification. The Race Committee shall transmit the completed score sheet as soon as possible after completion of the race to the scoring team at [score@SMSA.com](mailto:score@SMSA.com) as an attachment to an e-mail, with a designated RC POC identified. The scoring team will work with the designated RC POC to enter the results into the Clubspot scoring system and provide these preliminary results to the POC for review/verification. When the designated RC POC concurs, the SMSA Scoring team will post race results on the SMSA web site in a timely manner.

- 27.1** ALL race registered SMSA keelboat owners are required to serve as Race Committee for one or more keelboat races (1 minimum, 2 preferred). We cannot conduct a viable racing program without EVERYONE doing their part to make it successful.
- 27.2** At least one member of the RC must have attended or read the SMSA Race Management seminar. Contact Keelboat Chair if this requirement is an issue for your crew, and we will work on getting you training.
- 27.3** At least one member of the RC must have been checked out in the operation of the RC boat by the boat captain or Keelboat Race Chair. Contact Keelboat Chair if this requirement is an issue for your crew, and we will work on getting you training or provide a designated RC boat Operator.
- 27.4** Failure to serve as RC on at least one events per year **will result in a loss of a throw out within all low point series** and the throw out will be the highest point race value for all high point series in which the offending boat has participated. Failure to serve will also remove the offending boat/owner from Season High Point consideration.



## Wednesday Night Series

### DATES:

Alpha                                      Bravo                                      Charlie  
 April 8 -May 20                      June 3 – July 15                      July 29 - September 9

**FEE:** \$100.00/series                      **ENTRY DUE:** 1700 day before first race

**ELIGIBILITY:** All boats comply with US sailing “nearshore” sailing requirements and have a valid PHRF certificate.

**RACE AREA:** SMSA Patuxent River Race Area

**CHECKING IN:** See General SI Paragraph 10.

**STARTING LINE:** Between the yellow flag on the committee boat and the race buoy in the vicinity of SMSA ‘X’.

**COURSE:** Determined by RC using Patuxent River Race Marks, drop marks, or a combination.

**FINISH LINE:** Between yellow flag on RC boat and “X”.

**STARTING SIGNALS:** In accordance with RRS 26, Starting Races.

<u>CLASS</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>FLAG</u>	<u>SIGNAL</u>	<u>SOUND</u>	
N & C	1825	#5 & #7 Up		N & C Warning	gun/sound
	1826	Code “P” Up		N & C Prep	gun/sound
	1829	Code “P” Down			long horn
	1830	#5 & #7 Down		N & C Start	gun/sound
B		#6 Up		B Warning	
	1831	Code “P” up		B Prep	gun/sound
	1834	Code “P” Down			long horn
	1835	#6 Down		B Start	gun/sound
A		#9 Up		A Warning	
	1836	Code “P” Up		A Prep	gun/sound
	1839	Code “P” Down			long horn
	1840	#9 Down		A Start	gun/sound

**TIME LIMIT:** 2.0 hours. Any boat finishing 1 hour after the first boat in class will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) which will be equal to the number for finishers plus two. This changes RRS 35 and A5.2, A5.3(modified), and A10.

**SCORING:** PHRF Low Point scoring as described in SI section 20.

**PROTESTS:** Protests shall be lodged with the RC at SMSA clubhouse within one hour of the finish time of the last boat in class or at the time of RC arrival, whichever is later. Any protests not resolved after racing on the Wednesday in which they occurred will be heard at a later date.

**AWARDS & # BOATS STARTING:** 1st/2; 2nd/5; 3rd/7.

All classes will be scored and awarded separately. Results will be presented at clubhouse following the race. Results will be posted on [www.smsa.com](http://www.smsa.com). Awards will be presented at the SMSA Clubhouse after one of the Fall Frostbite Races.



## Little Choptank Race

**DATE:** Apr 11    **FEE:** \$45.00    **ENTRY DUE:** 1700 the day before

**ELIGIBILITY:** All boats comply with US sailing "nearshore" sailing requirements and have a valid PHRF certificate

**RACE AREA:** Mid Chesapeake Bay




**CHECKING IN:** See General SI Paragraph 10.

**STARTING LINE:** Between the yellow flag on the RC boat and adjacent drop mark in the vicinity of SMSA 'B' (# 3, FI G 2.5 sec). If RC is not on station, the line is defined when SMSA "B" bears 190 magnetic to starboard.

**COURSE:** Round SMSA "C" (**1PR**) and **R "78"** to **port**, and to the finish. If code flag "**R**" is displayed, the course will be sailed in **reverse with starboard roundings**. IAW SI 9.4 The Cove Point LNG Terminal exclusion zone must be honored as a keep out zone. The official distance is 32.8 nautical miles.

**FINISH LINE:** If RC is on station - between yellow flag on the RC boat and adjacent drop mark. If RC is **not** on station - boats are required to take their own finishing times when SMSA 'B' bears 120° magnetic to **port** and is within three overall boat lengths if the course was raced as described. If the course was reversed, finishing time should be taken when SMSA 'B' bears 210° magnetic to **port** and is within three overall boat lengths. Each boat will remain in the vicinity of the finish up to 20 minutes to record the finish time of the next boat. Times must be reported to [score@smsa.com](mailto:score@smsa.com) by 1700 the day after the race.

**STARTING SIGNALS:** RRS 26, Starting Races. If a class does not race, the same starting sequence will be followed, as if the class were racing.

<u>CLASS</u>	<u>TIME</u>		<u>FLAG</u>	<u>SIGNAL</u>	<u>SOUND</u>
	1000	#5 Up		N Warning	gun/sound
	1001	Code "P" Up		N Prep	gun/sound
	1004	Code "P" Down			long horn
N	1005	#5 Down		N Start	gun/sound
		#9 Up		A-C Warning	
	1006	Code "P" Up		A-C Prep	gun/sound
	1009	Code "P" Down			long horn
A-C	1010	#9 Down		A-C Start	gun/sound

**TIME LIMIT:** None

**SCORING:** PHRF Low Point scoring as described in SI section 20.

**PROTESTS:** Protests shall be filed with the RC or submitted to the Keelboat Race Chair by 1700, the day after the race. Protests will be heard at a later time.

**AWARDS & # BOATS STARTING:** 1st/2; 2nd/5; 3rd/7.  
Awards will be presented at annual banquet. Results will be posted on [www.smsa.com](http://www.smsa.com)



# Spring Invitational Race

**DATE:** Apr 12    **FEE:** \$25.00    **ENTRY DUE:** 1700 the day before

**ELIGIBILITY:** All boats comply with US sailing “nearshore” sailing requirements and have either a valid PHRF certificate (for PHRF Fleet), or ORR-ez certificate (for CRCA Fleet).

**FLEET:** Boats may choose to race either PHRF Fleet or CRCA Fleet based on the rating certificate they present to Race Committee at sign-up. RC will start a CRCA fleet (combined racer and cruiser) if 5 or more boats register for the event. If fewer than 5 boats, CRCA fleet will start along with PHRF Spinnaker. Notification will be made prior to start sequence by RC on the water.

**RACE AREA:** SMSA Patuxent River or Chesapeake Bay Race Area

**STARTING AREA:** Rendezvous with the RC boat in the vicinity of SMSA ‘X’ . Race Committee shall announce intentions to use Chesapeake Bay or Patuxent River marks as soon as reasonable on channel 72. If conditions warrant, the RC boat will fly Code “L” and proceed to a better starting area.

**CHECKING IN:** See General SI Paragraph 10

**RADIO:** Boats should monitor VHF 72 for courtesy communications from the Race Committee.













**SCHEDULE:** The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race of the invitational is 1300. Additional races will be at the discretion of the race committee. The Race Committee will signal its intention to start another race by flying Flag “R” from the Signal Boat at the finish of a race. No warning signal will be made after 1530.

**STARTING LINE:** Between the RC boat yellow flag and adjacent mark.

**COURSE:** Determined by RC using SMSA Patuxent River or Chesapeake Bay Area Race Marks, drop marks or a combination.

**FINISH LINE:** Between the RC boat yellow flag and the adjacent mark.

**STARTING SIGNALS:** RRS 26, Starting Races. If a class does not race, the same starting sequence will be followed, as if the class were racing.

<u>CLASS</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>FLAG</u>	<u>SIGNAL</u>	<u>SOUND</u>	
N	1300	#5 Up		N Warning	gun/sound
	1301	Code “P” Up		N Prep	gun/sound
	1304	Code “P” Down			long horn
	1305	#5 Down		N Start	gun/sound
A-C		#9 Up		A-C Warning	
	1306	Code “P” Up		A-C Prep	gun/sound
	1309	Code “P” Down			long horn
	1310	#9 Down		A-C Start	gun/sound
CRCA		CRCA Up		CRCA Warning	
	1311	Code “P” Up		CRCA Prep	gun/sound
	1314	Code “P” Down			long horn
	1315	CRCA Down		CRCA Start	gun/sound

**TIME LIMIT:** The length of the race divided by 2, expressed in hours. Any boat finishing 1 hour after the first boat in class will be scored Time



Limit Expired (TLE) which will be equal to the number of finishers plus two. This changes RRS 35 and A5.2, and A10.

**SCORING:** One (1) scored race is required to constitute a series. A boat's series score for this event will be the total of all of her race scores, this changes RRS A2. CRCA fleet participants will be scored separately from the Non-Spinnaker and the A-C Spinnaker Fleet. CBYRA High Point inclusion requires a 4 mile course. An event consisting of multiple races with a total distance greater than four (4) nautical miles satisfies this requirement. CBYRA inclusion also requires that the first boat to finish averages greater than a 2 knot average boat speed

**PROTESTS:** Protests shall be lodged with the RC within one hour of either the finishing time of the last boat of the race or the RC boat's docking time, whichever is later. Protests will be heard at a later time.

**AWARDS & # BOATS STARTING:** 1st/2; 2nd/5; 3rd/7.

Informal results will be announced at clubhouse following the race. Awards will be presented at the annual SMSA banquet. Results will be posted on [www.smsa.com](http://www.smsa.com).



## Double Handed Race

**DATE:** Apr 25    **FEE:** \$45.00    **ENTRY DUE:** 1700 previous day

**ELIGIBILITY:** Only two people are allowed per yacht. Cruisers without a PHRF certificate will be assigned a PHRF rating by the scoring team. All entrants are eligible for trophies. All boats comply with US sailing “nearshore” sailing requirements and have a valid PHRF certificate

**RACE AREA:** SMSA Chesapeake Bay Area

**STARTING AREA:** Vicinity SMSA “B” (# 3,FI G 2.5 sec).









**CHECKING IN:** See General SI Paragraph 10.

**STARTING LINE:** Between the yellow flag on the committee boat and the race buoy in the vicinity of SMSA ‘B’

**COURSE:** From starting line, round Chesapeake Bay Race Marks C, H, I, G to **Port** and back to finish line. If code flag “R” is displayed, the course will be sailed in reverse with starboard roundings. Official distance is 12.37nm. If RC moves course to river marks, the course will be as determined by RC.

**FINISH LINE:** If RC is on station (or if river racing course is used)- between yellow flag on the RC boat and adjacent drop mark. If RC is **not** on station - boats are required to take their own finishing times when SMSA ‘B’ bears 120° magnetic to **port** and is within three overall boat lengths if the course was raced as described. If the course was reversed, finishing time should be taken when SMSA ‘B’ bears 210° magnetic to **port** and is within three overall boat lengths. Each boat will remain in the vicinity of the finish up to 20 minutes to record the finish time of the next boat. Times must be reported to [score@smsa.com](mailto:score@smsa.com) by 1700 the day after the race.

**STARTING SIGNALS:** Starts shall be in accordance with RRS 26, Starting Races.

<u>CLASS</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>FLAG</u>	<u>SIGNAL</u>	<u>SOUND</u>	
	1000	#5 Up		N Warning	gun/sound
	1001	Code “P” Up		N Prep	gun/sound
	1004	Code “P” Down			long horn
N	1005	#5 Down		N Start	gun/sound
		#9 Up		A-C Warning	
	1006	Code “P” Up		A-C Prep	gun/sound
	1009	Code “P” Down			long horn
A-C	1010	#9 Down		A-C Start	gun/sound

**TIME LIMIT:** If the bay courses are run, there is no time limit, and the finish times are as recorded and reported described in the Finish line section above without RC on station. If the course is moved to in the river, the time limit is the length of the course divided by 2 expressed in hours. Any boat finishing 1 hour after the first boat in class will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) which will be equal to the number of finishers plus two. This changes RRS 35 and A5.2, and A10.

**SCORING:** PHRF Low Point scoring as described in SI section 20.



**PROTESTS:** Protests shall be lodged with the RC within one hour of either the finishing time of the last boat of the race or the RC boat's docking time, whichever is later. Protests will be heard at a later time.

**AWARDS & # BOATS STARTING:** 1st/2; 2nd/5; 3rd/7.

Awards will be presented at the annual SMSA banquet. Results will be posted on [www.smsa.com](http://www.smsa.com).



## Vice Commodore's Cup

**DATE:** May 9    **FEE:** none    **ENTRY DUE:** 1700 previous day

**OVERVIEW:** This race will be run as a pursuit-style (reverse-start racing with your handicap determining your start time, slower boats start earlier.) This is intended as a fun warm-up for this summer's The Patuxent Pursuit regatta. An SI amendment will be published by 1 May 2026 with additional details on the course and individual start times.

**ELIGIBILITY:** This race is open to keelboats/cruisers (PHRF) and dinghies (Portsmouth).

**RACE AREA:** SMSA Patuxent River and Chesapeake Bay Race Area.

**STARTING AREA:** Vicinity SMSA "B" (# 3,FI G 2.5 sec).

**CHECKING IN:** See General SI Paragraph 10.

**RADIO:** Boats should monitor VHF 72 for courtesy communications from the Race Committee.

**SCHEDULE:** Slowest boat will start at 1100. Each boat will have an assigned start time based on her PHRF handicap. This time is computed so that she is given her time allowance for the race at the start. Slower boats start before faster boats. Note that all classes will start in a single, merged sequence but will be scored separately. Specific start times will be published as part of SI Amendment for this race.

**STARTING LINE:** Between the RC boat yellow flag and the adjacent mark.

**FINISH LINE:** Between the RC boat yellow flag and the adjacent mark.

**COURSE:** The specific course(s) will be published as part of SI Amendment for this race. Intended distance will be 10.67 miles or less.

**STARTING SIGNALS:** There will be no official sounds, flags or signals. Each boat is responsible for starting at its assigned time. This replaces RRS #26.

**TIME LIMIT:** The Time Limit will be 15:30.

**SCORING:** The Low Point Scoring System of Appendix A of the Racing Rules of Sailing will apply

**PROTESTS:** Protests shall be lodged with the RC within one hour of either the finishing time of the last boat of the race or the RC boat's docking time, whichever is later. Protests will be heard at a later time.

**AWARDS & # BOATS STARTING:** 1st/2; 2nd/5; 3rd/7.

Awards will be presented at the annual SMSA banquet. Results will be posted on [www.smsa.com](http://www.smsa.com).



## Frost-Goode Race

**DATE:** May 16    **FEES:** none    **ENTRY DUE:** 1700 previous day

**ELIGIBILITY:** This race is open to keelboats/cruisers (PHRF) and dinghies (Portsmouth). All PHRF boats comply with US sailing “nearshore” sailing requirements.

**RACE AREA:** SMSA Patuxent River Race Area and mid Patuxent River

**STARTING AREA:** Vicinity of SMSA “S” (race circular lat/long).

**CHECKING IN:** See General SI Paragraph 10.













**STARTING LINE:** Between yellow flag on RC boat and a pin mark in the vicinity of SMSA “S”.

**FINISH LINE:** If RC is on station - between yellow flag on the RC boat and an inflatable mark in the vicinity of SMSA “L” (race circular lat/long). If RC is not on station - boats are required to take their own finishing times when SMSA ‘L’ bears 210° magnetic to Starboard and is within three overall boat lengths. Each boat will remain in the vicinity of the finish up to 20 minutes to record the finish time of the next boat.

Times must be reported to [score@smsa.com](mailto:score@smsa.com) by 1700 the day after the race.

**COURSE:** Up the Patuxent River to the vicinity of St Leonard Creek Mark 1 Green at (38° 23.053N, 76° 30.166W). Boats must pass to the north side of St Leonard Creek Mark within **3 boat lengths** and turn around either port or starboard. There is no need to “round the mark”. Rule 18 does not apply for mark rounding, but standard “right of way” rules do still apply. The T. Johnson Bridge must be traversed between any of the three highest spans in both directions. All river marks must be honored. Official distance is 9.70NM.

**STARTING SIGNALS:** RRS 26, Starting Races. If a class does not race, the same starting sequence will be followed, as if the class were racing.

<u>CLASS</u>	<u>TIME</u>		<u>FLAG</u>		<u>SIGNAL</u>	<u>SOUND</u>
	1245	Port Up (#4)			Port Warning	gun/sound
	1246	Code “P” Up			Prop Prep	gun/sound
	1249	Code “P” Down				long horn
Port	1250	Port Down			Port Start	gun/sound
	1300	#5 Up			N Warning	gun/sound
	1301	Code “P” Up			N Prep	gun/sound
	1304	Code “P” Down				long horn
N	1305	#5 Down			N Start	gun/sound
		#9 Up			A-C Warning	
	1306	Code “P” Up			A-C Prep	gun/sound
	1309	Code “P” Down				long horn
A-C	1310	#9 Down			A-C Start	gun/sound

**TIME LIMIT:** None

**SCORING:** PHRF Low Point scoring as described in SI section 20. Boats will be scored using Portsmouth or PHRF handicap.



**PROTESTS:** Protests shall be lodged with the RC within one hour of either the finishing time of the last boat of the race or the RC boat's docking time, whichever is later. Protests will be heard at a later time.

**AWARDS & # BOATS STARTING:** 1st/2; 2nd/5; 3rd/7.

Informal results will be announced at the clubhouse following the race. Awards will be presented at the annual SMSA banquet. Results will be posted on [www.smsa.com](http://www.smsa.com).



# Fleet Building / Mentoring Wednesday Night Race

**DATE:** May 27    **FEE:** None    **ENTRY DUE:** 1700 day before race

**ELIGIBILITY:** All boats. Any SMSA Member, PHRF cert not required. Out of town or visiting boats are encouraged to contact Keelboat Chair for exception and inclusion into the entry list. (SMSA race circular onboard encouraged)

**RACE AREA:** SMSA Patuxent River Race Area

**CHECKING IN:** See General SI Paragraph 10.

**STARTING LINE:** Between yellow flag on the RC boat and “X” or between a yellow 2’ x 3’ “rigid flag” along the waterfront with a recommended bearing to “Y” of 117 – 122 degrees if RC is on shore. If RC is on shore, the starting line will be defined by the course side edge of the “rigid flag”.

**COURSE:** Determined by RC using Patuxent River Race Marks, drop marks, or a combination.

**FINISH LINE:** At SMSA “Y” as per SMSA SI 14.2; U.S. sailing prescription to Rule 34 (no RC boat) or between yellow flag on RC boat and “X”

**STARTING SIGNALS:** In accordance with RRS 26, Starting Races. Class flags will be used but any boat may start in any/all starts. A boat returning for subsequent starts shall not foul a boat racing.

<u>CLASS</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>FLAG</u>	<u>SIGNAL</u>	<u>SOUND</u>	
	1810	Port Up (#4)		Port Warning	gun/sound
	1811	Code “P” Up		Prop Prep	gun/sound
	1814	Code “P” Down			long horn
Port	1815	Port Down		Port Start	gun/sound
	1825	#5 & #7 Up		N & C Warning	gun/sound
	1826	Code “P” Up		N & C Prep	gun/sound
	1829	Code “P” Down			long horn
N & C	1830	#5 & #7 Down		N & C Start	gun/sound
		#6 Up		B Warning	
	1831	Code “P” up		B Prep	gun/sound
	1834	Code “P” Down			long horn
B	1835	#6 Down		B Start	gun/sound
		#9 Up		A Warning	
	1836	Code “P” Up		A Prep	gun/sound
	1839	Code “P” Down			long horn
A	1840	#9 Down		A Start	gun/sound

**TIME LIMIT:** 2.0 hours.

**SCORING:** Boats will be scored using Portsmouth or PHRF handicap (if they have one) from their (final) start to their finish.

**PROTESTS:** Protestable infractions are encouraged to be discussed in open forum at results. Formal/filed Protests will be heard at a later date only if protest results in damage between boats.

**AWARDS:** Awards will be presented at results at the discretion of the RC following the race. Results will be posted on [www.smsa.com](http://www.smsa.com).



## Women's Marcy Series

**DATE:** Jun 13    **FEE:** \$45.00    **ENTRY DUE:** 1700 previous day

**SKIPPER MEETING:** Preceding Friday at 1800 at SMSA

**ELIGIBILITY:** SMSA Member boats only. All boats comply with US sailing "nearshore" sailing requirements and have a valid PHRF certificate. A female shall command and steer from the prep signal to the finish. Any male onboard after the prep signal will disqualify the boat from the race.

**RACE AREA:** Patuxent River

**STARTING AREA:** Vicinity of SMSA "X" (drop pin). If conditions warrant, the RC boat will fly Code "L" and proceed to a better starting area,

**CHECKING IN:** See General SI Paragraph 10.









**SCHEDULE:** The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race of the invitational is 1000. Additional races will be at the discretion of the race committee. The Race Committee will signal its intention to start another race by flying Flag "R" from the Signal Boat at the finish of a race. No warning signal will be made after 1500.

**STARTING LINE:** Between the yellow flag on the RC boat and adjacent drop mark.

**COURSE:** Determined by RC using Patuxent River Race Marks, drop marks, or a combination.

**FINISH LINE:** Between the yellow flag on the RC boat and adjacent drop mark.

**STARTING SIGNALS:** RRS 26, Starting Races. If a class does not race, the same starting sequence will be followed, as if the class were racing.

<u>CLASS</u>	<u>TIME</u>		<u>FLAG</u>	<u>SIGNAL</u>	<u>SOUND</u>
	1000	#5 Up		N Warning	gun/sound
	1001	Code "P" Up		N Prep	gun/sound
	1004	Code "P" Down			long horn
N	1005	#5 Down		N Start	gun/sound
		#9 Up		A-C Warning	
	1006	Code "P" Up		A-C Prep	gun/sound
	1009	Code "P" Down			long horn
A-C	1010	#9 Down		A-C Start	gun/sound

**TIME LIMIT:** The length of the race divided by 2, expressed in hours if the course is more than 5 miles. otherwise 2.5 hours. Any boat finishing 1 hour after the first boat in class will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) which will be equal to the number of finishers plus two. This changes RRS 35 and A5.2, and A10.

**SCORING:** One (1) scored race is required to constitute a series. A boat's series score for this event will be the total of all of her race scores, this changes RRS A2.



**PROTESTS:** Protests shall be filed with the RC or submitted to the Keelboat Race Chair by 1700, the day after the race. Protests will be heard at a later time.

**AWARDS & # BOATS STARTING:** 1st/2; 2nd/5; 3rd/7  
Awards will be presented at the annual banquet. Results will be posted on [www.smsa.com](http://www.smsa.com)



## Smith Point Race

**DATE:** Jun 27    **SEE:** \$45.00    **ENTRY DUE:** 1700 previous day

**ELIGIBILITY:** All boats comply with US sailing "nearshore" sailing requirements and have a valid PHRF certificate.

**RACE AREA:** Mid Chesapeake Bay

**STARTING AREA:** Vicinity SMSA 'B' (# 3, FI G 2.5 sec)









**CHECKING IN:** See General SI Paragraph 10.

**STARTING LINE:** Between the yellow flag on the RC boat and adjacent drop mark in the vicinity of SMSA 'B'. If RC is not on station, the line is defined when SMSA "B" bears 190 magnetic to starboard.

**COURSE:** Round navigational **Buoy "70" (FI R 4 sec) to port** and to the finish line. SMSA 'C' ("1PR", FI G 4 sec.) is to be passed on channel side at all times. The official distance is 42.0nm. IAW SI 9.4 The Hooper and Hannibal Target exclusion zones must be honored as a keep out zone.

**FINISH LINE:** If RC is on station - between yellow flag on the RC boat and adjacent drop mark. If RC is not on station - boats are required to take their own finishing times when SMSA 'B' bears 210° magnetic to port and is within three overall boat lengths. Each boat will remain in the vicinity of the finish up to 20 minutes to record the finish time of the next boat. Times must be reported to [score@smsa.com](mailto:score@smsa.com) by 1700 the day after the race.

**STARTING SIGNALS:** RRS 26, Starting Races. If a class does not race, the same starting sequence will be followed, as if the class were racing.

<u>CLASS</u>	<u>TIME</u>		<u>FLAG</u>	<u>SIGNAL</u>	<u>SOUND</u>
	1000	#5 Up		N Warning	gun/sound
	1001	Code "P" Up		N Prep	gun/sound
	1004	Code "P" Down			long horn
N	1005	#5 Down		N Start	gun/sound
		#9 Up		A-C Warning	
	1006	Code "P" Up		A-C Prep	gun/sound
	1009	Code "P" Down			long horn
A-C	1010	#9 Down		A-C Start	gun/sound

**TIME LIMIT:** None

**SCORING:** PHRF Low Point scoring as described in SI section 20.

**PROTESTS:** Protests shall be filed with the RC or submitted to the Keelboat Race Chair by 1700, the day after the race. Protests will be heard at a later time.

**AWARDS & # BOATS STARTING:** 1st/2; 2nd/5; 3rd/7.

Awards will be presented at annual banquet. Results will be posted on [www.smsa.com](http://www.smsa.com)



## Summer Invitational Race

**DATE:** Jun 28    **FEE:** \$25.00    **ENTRY DUE:** 1700 the day before

**ELIGIBILITY:** All boats comply with US sailing “nearshore” sailing requirements and have either a valid PHRF certificate (for PHRF Fleet), or ORR-ez certificate (for CRCA Fleet).

**FLEET:** Boats may choose to race either PHRF Fleet or CRCA Fleet based on the rating certificate they present to Race Committee at sign-up. RC will start a CRCA fleet (combined racer and cruiser) if 5 or more boats register for the event. If fewer than 5 boats, CRCA fleet will start along with PHRF Spinnaker. Notification will be made prior to start sequence by RC on the water.

**RACE AREA:** SMSA Patuxent River or Chesapeake Bay Race Area

**STARTING AREA:** Rendezvous with the RC boat in the vicinity of SMSA ‘X’. Race Committee shall announce intentions to use Chesapeake Bay or Patuxent River marks as soon as reasonable on channel 72. If conditions warrant, the RC boat will fly Code “L” and proceed to a better starting area.

**CHECKING IN:** See General SI Paragraph 10

**RADIO:** Boats should monitor VHF 72 for courtesy communications from the Race Committee.













**SCHEDULE:** The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race of the invitational is 1300. Additional races will be at the discretion of the race committee. The Race Committee will signal its intention to start another race by flying Flag “R” from the Signal Boat at the finish of a race. No warning signal will be made after 1530.

**STARTING LINE:** Between the RC boat yellow flag and adjacent mark.

**COURSE:** Determined by RC using SMSA Patuxent River or Chesapeake Bay Area Race Marks, drop marks or a combination.

**FINISH LINE:** Between the RC boat yellow flag and the adjacent mark.

**STARTING SIGNALS:** RRS 26, Starting Races. If a class does not race, the same starting sequence will be followed, as if the class were racing.

<u>CLASS</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>FLAG</u>	<u>SIGNAL</u>	<u>SOUND</u>	
	1300	#5 Up		N Warning	gun/sound
	1301	Code “P” Up		N Prep	gun/sound
	1304	Code “P” Down			long horn
N	1305	#5 Down		N Start	gun/sound
		#9 Up		A-C Warning	
	1306	Code “P” Up		A-C Prep	gun/sound
	1309	Code “P” Down			long horn
A-C	1310	#9 Down		A-C Start	gun/sound
		CRCA Up		CRCA Warning	
	1311	Code “P” Up		CRCA Prep	gun/sound
	1314	Code “P” Down			long horn
CRCA	1315	CRCA Down		CRCA Start	gun/sound

**TIME LIMIT:** The length of the race divided by 2, expressed in hours. Any boat finishing 1 hour after the first boat in class will be scored Time



Limit Expired (TLE) which will be equal to the number of finishers plus two. This changes RRS 35 and A5.2, and A10.

**SCORING:** One (1) scored race is required to constitute a series. A boat's series score for this event will be the total of all of her race scores, this changes RRS A2. CRCA fleet participants will be scored separately from the Non-Spinnaker and the A-C Spinnaker Fleet. CBYRA High Point inclusion requires a 4 mile course. An event consisting of multiple races with a total distance greater than four (4) nautical miles satisfies this requirement. CBYRA inclusion also requires that the first boat to finish averages greater than a 2 knot average boat speed

**PROTESTS:** Protests shall be lodged with the RC within one hour of either the finishing time of the last boat of the race or the RC boat's docking time, whichever is later. Protests will be heard at a later time.

**AWARDS & # BOATS STARTING:** 1st/2; 2nd/5; 3rd/7.

Informal results will be announced at clubhouse following the race. Awards will be presented at the annual SMSA banquet. Results will be posted on [www.smsa.com](http://www.smsa.com).



# Sharps Island Race

**DATE:** July 11    **FEES:** \$45.00    **ENTRY DUE:** 1700 previous day

**ELIGIBILITY:** All boats comply with US sailing "nearshore" sailing requirements and have a valid PHRF certificate.

**RACE AREA:** Mid Chesapeake Bay

**STARTING AREA:** Vicinity SMSA 'B' (# 3, FI G 2.5 sec)

**CHECKING IN:** See General SI Paragraph 10.

**STARTING LINE:** Between the RC and adjacent drop mark if the RC is on-station. If it is not, the line is defined when SMSA "B" bears 190 magnetic to starboard.

**COURSE:** Round [RW "CR" Mo(A) whist], located approximately 2 nmi WNW of Sharps Island Light, to **port**, then back to the finish line. IAW SI 9.4 The Cove Point LNG Terminal exclusion zone must be honored as a keep out zone. The official distance is 38.9 nautical miles.

**FINISH LINE:** If RC is on station - between yellow flag on the RC boat and adjacent drop mark. If RC is **not** on station - boats are required to take their own finishing times when SMSA 'B' bears 120° magnetic to **port** and is within three overall boat lengths if the course was raced as described. Each boat will remain in the vicinity of the finish up to 20 minutes to record the finish time of the next boat. Times must be reported to [score@smsa.com](mailto:score@smsa.com) by 1700 the day after the race.

**STARTING SIGNALS:** RRS 26, Starting Races. If a class does not race, the same starting sequence will be followed, as if the class were racing.

<u>CLASS</u>	<u>TIME</u>		<u>FLAG</u>	<u>SIGNAL</u>	<u>SOUND</u>
	1000	#5 Up		N Warning	gun/sound
	1001	Code "P" Up		N Prep	gun/sound
	1004	Code "P" Down			long horn
N	1005	#5 Down		N Start	gun/sound
		#9 Up		A-C Warning	
	1006	Code "P" Up		A-C Prep	gun/sound
	1009	Code "P" Down			long horn
A-C	1010	#9 Down		A-C Start	gun/sound

**TIME LIMIT:** None

**SCORING:** PHRF Low Point scoring as described in SI section 20.

**PROTESTS:** Protests shall be filed with the RC or submitted to the Keelboat Race Chair by 1700, the day after the race. Protests will be heard at a later time.

**AWARDS & # BOATS STARTING:** 1st/2; 2nd/5; 3rd/7.

Awards will be presented at annual banquet. Results will be posted on [www.smsa.com](http://www.smsa.com)



## Mini Pursuit Wednesday Night Fun Race

**DATE:** July 22 (1 stand-alone event) **FEE:** None **ENTRY DUE:** 1700 day before race

**ELIGIBILITY:** All boats. Any SMSA Membership, PHRF cert not required. Out of town or visiting boats are encouraged to contact Keelboat Chair for exception and inclusion into the entry list. (SMSA race circular onboard encouraged)

**RACE AREA:** SMSA Patuxent River Race Area

**CHECKING IN:** See General SI Paragraph 10

**STARTING LINE:** Between yellow flag on the RC boat and "X" or between a yellow 2' x 3' "rigid flag" along the waterfront with a recommended bearing to "Y" of 117 – 122 degrees if RC is on shore. If RC is on shore, the starting line will be defined by the course side edge of the "rigid flag".

**COURSE:** Determined by RC using Patuxent River Race Marks or a drop mark. The goal is for RC to set a 2 or 4 mile course based on wind conditions with 1 or 2 turning marks. Each boat will have an assigned starting time provided in a SI amendment. First boat to cross the finish line wins. RC will record order of finish and attempt to capture epic photos of the very tight finish

**FINISH LINE:** : Between yellow flag on the RC boat and "X" or between a yellow 2' x 3' "rigid flag" along the waterfront with a recommended bearing to "Y" of 117 – 122 degrees if RC is on shore. If RC is on shore, the finish line will be defined by the course side edge of the "rigid flag".

**STARTING SIGNALS:** In accordance with posted start time, Starting Races. **All classes start together... keep a look-out for the small boats! There will not be any meaningful signals from the RC**

**TIME LIMIT:** 2.0 hours.

**SCORING:** Boats will be scored order of finish. If time expires, boats will be scored with positions established.

**PROTESTS:** Protests will only be logged with RC if a boat has been damaged during racing (for insurance purposes only). Protest infractions are encouraged to be discussed in open forum at results. Formal/ filed Protests will be heard at a later date. Protests must be filed within 1 hour of completion of race..

**AWARDS & # BOATS STARTING:** Results will be presented at clubhouse following the race.



## Mixed Couples Race

**DATE:** Aug 15    **FEE:** \$0.00    **ENTRY:** 1700 previous day

**ELIGIBILITY:** Co-ed (male/female) race open to racing or cruising keelboats as well as dinghies. Provisional ratings should be requested from the scoring team. Boats will be scored by PHRF and Portsmouth. Only two people may sail the boat, but other people may be on-board and may serve as “Gofers/Cabana Boys/BBs” or galley hands, but they may not in any way assist in the sailing of the boat. Report start and finish times to the RC after finish.

**RACE AREA:** SMSA Patuxent River Race Area and mid Patuxent River

**STARTING AREA:** Vicinity Sandy Point

**CHECKING IN:** See General SI Paragraph 10.

**STARTING TIME:** The starting window will be between 10:00 am and 10:30 am. Each participant shall record his or her own time as defined by General Sailing Instructions. If RC is on station, notify them of your start so they are aware, but this is a non-protestable infraction if you don't.

**STARTING LINE:** When Red #6A (Sandy Point) bears 40° off the bow within three boat lengths, or between #6A and RC boat if on station.

**COURSE:** Sandy Point “6A” to “18” off Battle Creek. Official course length is 10.40nm.

**FINISH LINE:** Red #18 off Battle Creek. Each boat shall record its own finish time in accordance with General Sailing Instruction 16 when Red #18 bears 070° off the bow and is within three boat lengths.

**STARTING SIGNALS:** None – Self-start between 1000-1030 with time recorded. If RC is on station, say hi.

**TIME LIMIT:** None

**SCORING:** PHRF rating may be used for scoring the racing (spin) keelboats, Portsmouth used for dinghies, and Cruisers may be assigned a provisional rating (if they care).

**PROTESTS:** Protests will only be logged with RC if a boat has been damaged during racing (for insurance purposes only). All other protesters will be told to relax a little. Protests must be filed within an hour of race finish.

**AWARDS & # BOATS STARTING:** 1st/2; 2nd/5; 3rd/7  
Spin and non-spin. Results may be announced at raft-up following the race. Awards will be a crisp high five at the annual banquet. Results will be posted on [www.smsa.com](http://www.smsa.com).



# Hooper/Point-No-Point Race

**DATE:** Oct 10    **FEES:** \$45.00    **ENTRY DUE:** 1700 previous day

**ELIGIBILITY:** All boats comply with US sailing "nearshore" sailing requirements and have a valid PHRF certificate.

**RACE AREA:** Mid Chesapeake Bay

**STARTING AREA:** Vicinity of SMSA "B" (# 3, FI G 2.5 sec)









**CHECKING IN:** See General SI Paragraph 10.

**STARTING LINE:** Between the yellow flag on the RC boat and adjacent drop mark, if the RC is on station. If RC is not on station, the line is defined when SMSA "B" (# 3, FI G 2.5 sec) bears 190 magnetic to starboard.

**COURSE:** Round Hooper Island Light and Point-No-Point Light to starboard, and to the finish line. If code flag "R" (red with yellow cross) is displayed on the committee boat, the course is to be sailed in reverse order with port roundings. SMSA 'C' ("1PR", FI G 4 sec) is to be passed on channel side at all times. The official distance is 29.4nm. IAW SI 9.4 The Hooper and Hannibal Target exclusion zones must be honored as a keep out zone.

**FINISH LINE:** If RC is on station - between yellow flag on the RC boat and adjacent drop mark. If RC is **not** on station, boats will take their own finish times when SMSA 'B' bears 210° magnetic to **port** and is within three overall boat lengths. Each boat will remain in the vicinity of the finish up to 20 minutes to record the finish time of the next boat. Times must be reported to [score@smsa.com](mailto:score@smsa.com) 1700 the day after the race.

**STARTING SIGNALS:** RRS 26, Starting Races. If a class does not race, the same starting sequence will be followed, as if the class were racing.

<u>CLASS</u>	<u>TIME</u>		<u>FLAG</u>	<u>SIGNAL</u>	<u>SOUND</u>
	1000	#5 Up		N Warning	gun/sound
	1001	Code "P" Up		N Prep	gun/sound
	1004	Code "P" Down			long horn
N	1005	#5 Down		N Start	gun/sound
		#9 Up		A-C Warning	
	1006	Code "P" Up		A-C Prep	gun/sound
	1009	Code "P" Down			long horn
A-C	1010	#9 Down		A-C Start	gun/sound

**TIME LIMIT:** None

**SCORING:** PHRF Low Point scoring as described in SI section 20.

**PROTESTS:** Protests shall be filed with the RC or submitted to the Keelboat Race Chair by 1700, the day after the race. Protests will be heard at a later time.

**AWARDS:** & # BOATS STARTING:                    1st/2;    2nd/5;    3rd/7  
Awards will be presented at annual banquet. Results will be posted on [www.smsa.com](http://www.smsa.com)



## Fall Invitational Race

**DATE:** Oct 11    **FEE:** \$25.00    **ENTRY DUE:** 1700 the day before

**ELIGIBILITY:** All boats comply with US sailing "nearshore" sailing requirements and have either a valid PHRF certificate (for PHRF Fleet), or ORR-ez certificate (for CRCA Fleet).

**FLEET:** Boats may choose to race either PHRF Fleet or CRCA Fleet based on the rating certificate they present to Race Committee at sign-up. RC will start a CRCA fleet (combined racer and cruiser) if 5 or more boats register for the event. If fewer than 5 boats, CRCA fleet will start along with PHRF Spinnaker. Notification will be made prior to start sequence by RC on the water.

**RACE AREA:** SMSA Patuxent River or Chesapeake Bay Race Area

**STARTING AREA:** Rendezvous with the RC boat in the vicinity of SMSA 'X'. Race Committee shall announce intentions to use Chesapeake Bay or Patuxent River marks as soon as reasonable on channel 72. If conditions warrant, the RC boat will fly Code "L" and proceed to a better starting area.

**CHECKING IN:** See General SI Paragraph 10

**RADIO:** Boats should monitor VHF 72 for courtesy communications from the Race Committee.













**SCHEDULE:** The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race of the invitational is 1300. Additional races will be at the discretion of the race committee. The Race Committee will signal its intention to start another race by flying Flag "R" from the Signal Boat at the finish of a race. No warning signal will be made after 1530.

**STARTING LINE:** Between the RC boat yellow flag and adjacent mark.

**COURSE:** Determined by RC using SMSA Patuxent River or Chesapeake Bay Area Race Marks, drop marks or a combination.

**FINISH LINE:** Between the RC boat yellow flag and the adjacent mark.

**STARTING SIGNALS:** RRS 26, Starting Races. If a class does not race, the same starting sequence will be followed, as if the class were racing.

<u>CLASS</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>FLAG</u>	<u>SIGNAL</u>	<u>SOUND</u>	
	1300	#5 Up		N Warning	gun/sound
	1301	Code "P" Up		N Prep	gun/sound
	1304	Code "P" Down			long horn
N	1305	#5 Down		N Start	gun/sound
		#9 Up		A-C Warning	
	1306	Code "P" Up		A-C Prep	gun/sound
	1309	Code "P" Down			long horn
A-C	1310	#9 Down		A-C Start	gun/sound
		CRCA Up		CRCA Warning	
	1311	Code "P" Up		CRCA Prep	gun/sound
	1314	Code "P" Down			long horn
CRCA	1315	CRCA Down		CRCA Start	gun/sound

**TIME LIMIT:** The length of the race divided by 2, expressed in hours. Any boat finishing 1 hour after the first boat in class will be scored Time



Limit Expired (TLE) which will be equal to the number of finishers plus two. This changes RRS 35 and A5.2, and A10.

**SCORING:** One (1) scored race is required to constitute a series. A boat's series score for this event will be the total of all of her race scores, this changes RRS A2. CRCA fleet participants will be scored separately from the Non-Spinnaker and the A-C Spinnaker Fleet. CBYRA High Point inclusion requires a 4 mile course. An event consisting of multiple races with a total distance greater than four (4) nautical miles satisfies this requirement. CBYRA inclusion also requires that the first boat to finish averages greater than a 2 knot average boat speed

**PROTESTS:** Protests shall be lodged with the RC within one hour of either the finishing time of the last boat of the race or the RC boat's docking time, whichever is later. Protests will be heard at a later time.

**AWARDS & # BOATS STARTING:** 1st/2; 2nd/5; 3rd/7.

Informal results will be announced at clubhouse following the race. Awards will be presented at the annual SMSA banquet. Results will be posted on [www.smsa.com](http://www.smsa.com).



# Fall & Spring Frostbite Races

## DATES:

Fall 2026	Spring 2027	Fee
Nov 1, 8, 15, 22	Mar 7, 14, 21, 28	\$20/race

**ENTRY DUE:** 1700 day before race

**ELIGIBILITY:** All boats comply with US sailing “nearshore” sailing requirements and have a valid PHRF certificate. All crew must wear PFDs.

Spin class will **only** be offered during the Fall Frostbite series.

**RACE AREA:** SMSA Patuxent River Race Area








**CHECKING IN:** See General SI Paragraph 10. The RC will use VHF Channel 72 extensively especially if running races from shore.

**STARTING LINE:** Between yellow flag on the RC boat and “X” or between a yellow 2’ x 3’ “rigid flag” along the waterfront with a recommended bearing to “Y” of 117 – 122 degrees if RC is on shore. If RC is on shore, the starting line will be defined by the course side edge of the “rigid flag”.

**COURSE:** Determined by RC using Patuxent River Race Marks, drop marks, or a combination. Mark “K” must be the first mark if RC is on shore. It is encouraged that RC use the RC boat when possible.

**FINISH LINE:** Between yellow flag on RC boat and “X”, or between a yellow 2’ x 3’ “rigid flag” along the waterfront with a recommended bearing to “Y” of 117 – 122 degrees if RC is on shore. If RC is on shore, the finish line will be defined by the course side edge of the “rigid flag”.

**STARTING SIGNALS:** RRS 26, Starting Races.

CLASS	TIME	FLAG	SIGNAL	SOUND
N	1300	#5 Up 	N Warning	gun/sound
	1301	Code “P” Up 	N Prep	gun/sound
	1304	Code “P” Down 		long horn
	1305	#5 Down 	N Start	gun/sound
	1306	Code “P” Up 	A-C Warning	
A-C	1309	Code “P” Down 	A-C Prep	gun/sound
	1310	#9 Down 	A-C Start	long horn
				gun/sound

**TIME LIMIT:** 2.0 hours. Any boat finishing 1 hour after the first boat in class will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) which will be equal to the number of finishers plus two. This changes RRS 35 and A5.2, and A10.

**SCORING:** PHRF Low Point scoring as described in SI section 20.

**PROTESTS:** Protests shall be lodged with the RC at SMSA clubhouse within one hour of the finish time of the last boat in class or at the time of RC arrival, whichever is later. Protests will be heard at a later date.

**AWARDS & # BOATS STARTING:** 1st/2; 2nd/5; 3rd/7

All classes will be scored and awarded separately. Awards to be presented at clubhouse following the race. Results will be posted on [www.smsa.com](http://www.smsa.com). Series awards at annual banquet.



Remaining material in this Keelboat Circular is informational in nature and is not to be considered part of the General nor Specific Sailing Instructions.

## **Race Management Instructions**

### **Three Days In Advance:**

- Confirm all RC personnel (minimum 4, Maximum 10) – make sure to include someone trained to drive
- Begin tracking the weather predictions
- Review the RC Equipment and RC Boat sections
- Reread pertinent sections of the following
  - SMSA General Race Instructions
  - Special SMSA Race Instructions for your event
  - The Racing Rules of Sailing - Part 3 – Conduct of a Race
- Gather Equipment:
  - Hand-held GPS (not required, but good back-up to boat's GPS)
  - Backup Supplies – pencils/scratch paper
- Contact the Keelboat Race Chair by telephone with any questions. See SMSA Keelboat Race Points of Contact

### **Day of the Race:**

- For Wednesday Night Races, arrive at the boat by 1715, start the boat at the dock, allow it to warm up, and push off by no later than 1730.
- For Weekend Race Events, arrive at the boat 30 minutes before leaving the dock to allow for setup, starting, and warm up. Arrive at the boat at least 2 hours before the event's first start and leave dock 90 minutes before first signal (45 mins before published rendezvous time.)
- Check the weather report for the day. Bring a weather tracking device if available.
- Follow the RC Boat section. While the RC boat is warming up, follow the RC Equipment section and prepare the Flags as described in the Flags/Signals section.




## RC Boat

- Located on “TBD” Dock, Zahniser’s Marina, Solomons. Keys to engine are in cabin on a hook next to the hatch. Please leave them there.
- This boat runs on DIESEL fuel and should always have sufficient fuel for the event (Race Committee Boat Captain or Race Chair responsibility). The Engine cooling raw water intake is always open. If you have any mechanical problems, call Race Committee Boat Captain, Race Chair or Vice Commodore; See SMSA Keelboat Race Points of Contact
- Prior to starting check the RC Boat usage log for any pre-existing issues with the boat. Start a RC Boat usage log entry for your trip.
- Set the battery to “ALL.” Let the engine warm up for a few minutes before leaving or the engine will die when you put the boat into gear. Walking the boat out of the slip is **highly** recommended.
- Please remember to turn the battery to “OFF” when leaving the boat!!
- Inform the RC Boat Captain or the Keelboat Race Chair, of any discrepancies on the RC Boat.
- Complete a close your trip entry in the RC Boat usage log before leaving the boat. Note any issues or abnormal things.

### **Check RC Equipment:**

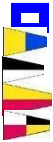
- Check the RC Boat for sound operations and equipment. Flags and course markers are in a bag in the cabin.
- Race Committees are encouraged to use the SMSA start box. It should be sufficiently charged for your use. It has a manual activation and a sequence activation. The sequence is set inside the box and can be either a 3 min (dinghies), a 5 min (rule 26), and a rolling R26. Detailed instructions can be found in a document protector on the RC boat, and in the SMSA Policy Manual.
- Race Circular, Horns, electric inflation pump, and other race items are in a box on the port side.

### **Flags & Signals:**

- Inflate the Large Yellow or Orange race marks with the electric inflation pump provided. There should be a second inflator if the first is non-operational.
- A Back-up round orange fender (Hippity-Hop) may be used as a back-up in the event that the inflatable is damaged.
- Tie anchors to the race marks.
- Place “RC” flag in stbd flag holder on cabin top..
- Ready the Race Management Flags on the start-side of the boat
- Code Flag “L” (come within hail/follow me). Raise when  moving away from designated areas. Lower once anchored.
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- Code Flag “AP” (postponement, red & white pennant)
- Code Flag “X” (individual recall, white & blue cross)
- Code Flag “1st substitute” (general recall, blue & yellow pennant)
- Ready the Class Start Signals as required by the Event’s SIs.
- Code flag “P” (Prep signal, Blue w/white square)
- #5 pennant (Non-Spin/PHRF N, Blue and Yellow)
- #6 pennant (PHRF B, Black and White)
- #7 pennant (PHRF C, Red and Yellow)
- #9 pennant (Spin-start/ PHRF A)



### Set the Start Line

- RC boat should always be on the proper hand side of the starting line based upon the direction of the wind and the first mark.
- Starting line should be 1.5 – 2 times the sum of all boat lengths of the largest class.
- Place “yellow” flag in port flag holder on cabin top. Yellow flag should be in the holder with the starting/finish line string and should be on the start/finish side of the boat for the start/finish
- Don’t rush...if you run into problems, raise the postpone signal instead of the first start pennant until you are ready.
  - Use 2 sounds for postponement along with “AP” (red/white stripe pennant).
  - Set the pin end of the start line, anchor the boat, set the course, then when ready, drop the postponement pennant with one long horn and begin the start sequence exactly 1 minute later.



### Weekend Events

- Proceed to the rendezvous as defined in SIs
- Check wind direction and strength.
- Select probable course and committee boat location.
- Set up in the start vicinity
- Use a drop mark as the pin. **Do not use “B”**
- If relocation is needed, hoist “L” and proceed to better starting area.



- If a course change is needed, proceed to better starting area:
  - Fly code flag “L” - (follow me) if moving from start area
  - Set starting mark, if required.
  - If the first leg is going to be a beat, set committee boat anchor well to windward (approx 75 yards) of a line 90° (square) to the wind direction. The line should be 90° to the average wind direction, NOT 90° to the course. Adjust the anchor scope to fine tune the angle until the first warning signal, or after a postponement signal. Use of a hand-bearing compass will help.



- If the first leg does not require tacking to get to the first mark, set the starting line 90° to the direction to the first mark.

### **Informal Race Series**

- Attempt to have the RC boat anchored early enough to give boats time to check in.
- Set drop mark “X” using the Lat / Long positions as noted on the SMSA Patuxent River Race Mark table in the General SIs.
- Use the Bearings (magnetic) as listed in the General Sailing Instructions to the other marks to verify your location.
- Use of large inflatable drop marks is strongly encouraged.
- Anchor committee boat so starting line is square to FIRST COURSE MARK (either first Race mark or Sandy Point if racing to the bridge).

### **Boat Check-in**

- Record the BOAT NAME, SAIL #, CLASS (A,B,C or NS), # of crew onboard.
- Classes are A, B, C and N for all races.
- All boats will declare their class intentions and will display the proper class pennant.

### **Determine, Set and Announce the Course**

#### **Weekend Events**

- If wind is west or southwest, consider dropping a large inflatable drop mark for “W” approximately 1.5 miles directly to windward of desired starting area on the way out to the rendezvous spot.
- For days with multiple races scheduled, aim for two, two-hour races or to have more than two, set shorter course windward/leeward if possible. Plan to get your races in earlier when possible. Update your weather information when possible.
- Give NS class a shorter course whenever possible, so all competitors finish in close proximity. This is especially helpful on the first race of a multiple race day.

#### **Wednesday Race Series**

- Choose a course that will provide a beat during at least one leg of the race, and has an appropriate length for the evening’s conditions. Choose mark rounding directions such that “the string doesn’t cross” minimizing adverse crossing situations.
- Finish the race at “X” depending on wind conditions. A race can be shortened at any turning or shortening mark listed on the course or in the SIs.
- Once the course is determined, post it as soon as practical, when RC boat is anchored.



- Attach the letters to the boat to read left to right on the side of the RC boat away from the starting line. Red letters for port roundings, green for starboard roundings.



## Start Sequence

- Recommendation: Drop postponement on the 4's or 9's of the clock to start sequence on a 5 minute interval for easier tracking – (ex. Drop “AP” at 1834 and start sequence at 1835 or drop “AP” at 1839 and start sequence at 1840)
- Monitor the angle of the starting line. Postpone using the “AP” and reset if the angle becomes poor. Consult with someone “on the water” if angle appears incorrect.
- Begin the starting signal sequence, following the SIs.
- Record the actual time of the start for each class.
- The starting line will be between a yellow flag on the RC boat and a designated adjacent mark, or as designated in the Race SIs.



**Note:** the start mark color does not matter. The start line is, as stated above, between the RC boat and the designated adjacent mark. Per RRS definitions, “Start: A boat starts when, her hull having been entirely on the pre-start side of the starting line at or after her starting signal, and having complied with rule 30.1 if it applies, any part of her hull crosses the starting line from the pre-start side to the course side.”

### Over Early - Individual Recall

- For boats that are over early, as soon as possible set the individual recall flag, code flag “X”, white with blue cross, (with a sound signal, usually a horn held for ~3 seconds) and hail the sail number.



If boats do not re-start, lower flag at 4 minutes after that start. DO NOT lower or dip the individual recall flag when a boat clears. ONLY lower the flag when ALL boats have cleared the start or 4 minutes after start.

### General Recall

- Use the Code flag “first substitute” (blue & yellow pennant) and 2 gun/ sounds within 15 seconds of start. The recalled class will start after all other classes have started using the last start flag and gun/ sound as their 5 minute warning signal.





## During the Race

- After all starts; tally all classes on the race forms, record course and winds with speed and direction.
- Record course distance from the table in the race circular.
- Record all distances to hundredths of a mile.
- Enter individual boat corrections for distance.
- Watch for changes in the wind and weather
- Monitor the progress of the race:

### Modifications to Racing

- **Shorten Course:** Shorten course if you have given a long course, the wind has lightened, and the race is still good.
  - Use Code flag "S" (white w/ blue square) and 2 gun/ sounds before first boat before reaches shortened finish line (~100 yards from finish). Also fly class flags of class to be shortened, if required. (i.e. Fly #5 for shortening of non-spin fleet only while allowing spin class to complete original course.) Recalculate the course distance and individual boat corrections.
- **Abandon Race: DO NOT SHORTEN** if the wind dies completely and no boats have finished. Better to abandon and restart if time allows



- Signal "N", with 3 gun/ sounds, (All races abandoned, further signals to be in the starting area). If the wind dies completely, prepare for a good race in the new wind, when it arrives. You can restart the race if only one race was scheduled (aka can you abandon and then re-start a single race event) - ex: Wed night.
- Signal "N" over "H" to abandon and note that further signals will be made ashore. This tells the fleet to go back to the harbor. Used when significant weather may occur and waiting for changes on shore is safer or better than waiting on the water for wind to fill in.
- Signal "N" over "A" to abandon all races and signal that there will be no more racing today.
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- **Change of Course:** when wind shifts significantly, and when the course is around stationary, non-moving marks, the option to change the route is available.
  - Use Code flag "C" and multiple short horn blasts to draw attention as boats pass mark. Display new compass bearing on chalk/white board. This should be done at the turning mark prior to the relocated, 'new' mark. Recalculate the course distance and individual boat corrections.



## Set the Finish Line

- Reposition RC Boat at finishing mark, if required. The finish line is usually shorter than the starting line, but don't make extra work for yourself if the wind holds. Attempt to position finish line 90° to wind direction for an upwind or downwind finish, or 90° from last mark if a reach leg finish (it is recommended to have an upwind or downwind finish when running windward/leeward type courses.)
- For the first race on multiple race days it is recommended to use the same mark for starting and finishing, facilitating quicker starting of the second race.
- The finish line will be between a yellow flag on the RC boat and a designated adjacent mark, or as designated in the Race SIs. **Note:** the finish mark color does not matter. The finish line is, as stated above, between the RC boat and the designated adjacent mark. Per RRS definitions, "Finish: A boat finishes when, after her starting signal, any part of her hull crosses the finishing line from the course side." "After finishing she need not cross the finishing line completely."

## Finish

- SPOTTER - Calls sail numbers as boats approach the finish line.
- SIGHTER - Calls sail numbers and "over" when hull crosses the finish line.
- TIMER - Calls time out when a boat is called "over"
- RECORDER - Records finish times for each boat.
- SOUNDER - Signals with a gun/sound for the first in class "over" and sound (horn) for rest of that class.
- PROTEST RECORDER - Records finishers flying a protest, any penalty flags (code flag "I"), or oral intentions to protest.

## On Return to Dock

- Return RC Boat to its slip.
- Turn the battery to "OFF" when leaving the boat!!
- Fill out the RC Boat usage log before leaving the boat.
- Inform the RC Boat Captain or the Race Chair of any discrepancies or supply shortages on the RC Boat. Include this list when submitting the race results. See the Contacts Page.
- Be available to accept protests at location designated in Special SIs.
- Report any protests filed to the Keelboat Race Chair, Protest Committee Chair, and scoring team IMMEDIATELY either via email or phone. See the Contacts Page.
- Email results to and/or call the Keelboat Race Chair and scoring team to make arrangements to drop off results and any pending protest paperwork. See the Contacts Page.



- On days with a scheduled full or mini-*rendezvous* at the SMSA Clubhouse, make every attempt to announce provisional results. A member of the scoring team will be designated to be onsite to assist.

### **After Race**

- Coordinate with Keelboat Race Chair for awards.
- Coordinate with Scoring team to compute race results using the ClubSpot online scoring system.
- Email raw results and notes with times to the Keelboat Race Chair and scoring team along with a designated RC POC for questions. See the Contacts Page.
- THE LOWEST CORRECTED TIME GETS FIRST PLACE, etc.



## **RRS Rules Related to RC Functions**

### **Definitions**

Abandon, Finish, Mark, Postpone, Racing, Sail the Course, Start,

### **PART 3 CONDUCT OF A RACE**

26 Starting Races

27 Other Race Committee Actions Before the Starting Signal

28 Sailing the Course

29 Recalls

32 Shortening or Abandoning After the Start

33 Changing the Next Leg of the Course

34 Mark Missing

35 Race Time Limits and Scores

44.3 Scoring Penalty

### **PART 5 PROTESTS, REDRESS, HEARINGS, MISCONDUCT AND APPEALS**

60 Protests

61 Redress

63 Conduct of Hearings

### **PART 7 EVENT ORGANIZATION**

90 Race Committee; Sailing Instructions; Scoring

90.3 Scoring

91 Protest Committee

### **APPENDIX A SCORING**

A2 Series Scores

A4 SCORING SYSTEM (Low Point)

A5 Scores Determined by the Race Committee

A6 Changes in Places and Scores of Other Boats

A7 Race Ties

A8 Series Ties

A9 Guidance on Redress

A10 SCORING ABBREVIATIONS