



Vancouver Rowing Club

Polar Bear Series

Sailing Instructions

2017 – 2018

(With Amendment #1 – posted 10 January 2018)

1 RULES

- 1.1. Races will be governed by the current *Racing Rules of Sailing*. The races will also be governed by the rules of PHRF BC, except where they are modified by these instructions.
- 1.2. All boats must comply with Transport Canada and Canadian Coast Guard regulations, and Pacific International Yachting Association (PIYA) Safety Equipment Requirements (SER) Category Nearshore+ or ISAF Off Shore Regulations Category 4.
- 1.3. All skippers must be a member of a club belonging to BC Sailing. Membership in Cascadia Yacht Club is available through BC Sailing for a nominal fee for one year.
- 1.4. Competing yachts must have a valid 2017 PHRF-BC certificate. Any boat that doesn't have a PHRF-BC rating may be assigned a temporary rating until a permanent certificate becomes available. Once the official certificate becomes available all races will be re-scored using the official rating. Any boat that fails to get an official certificate will not be eligible for series prizes or trophies. Temporary ratings are not subject to appeal.
- 1.5. The use of an Autopilot or self-steering gear is allowed for single handed skippers. This modifies rule 52.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1. Notices will be posted on the notice board at the east gate of the VRC by 0900h on race days.
- 2.2. Notices will also be posted to the VRC web site at vrcracing.ca and Twitter [@VRCRacing](https://twitter.com/VRCRacing) by 0900h on race days.

3. COMMUNICATION

- 3.1. Communication will be on VHF channel 68.
- 3.2. Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile phones.
- 3.3. All competitors will check-in prior to 10:45h on each racing day. Failure to do so may result in the boat being scored DNC for that day.
- 3.4. A boat that retires from a race shall notify the committee boat at the time of retiring and must confirm that the committee has received their notice of intent to retire.



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4. INSURANCE

- 4.1. All Yachts must carry a minimum liability insurance of \$1,000,000.00.

5. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 5.1. Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0900 on the day of the race. If any changes are made the committee will make an announcement on VHF channel 68 at 10:45h.

6. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 6.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed at the base of the VRC Mast tower.
- 6.2. When flag "AP" is displayed ashore '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 45 minutes'.

7. SCHEDULE

- 7.1. The warning signal for each race is scheduled for 1055h.
- 7.2. Races are scheduled for the following days:
November 5 & 19
December 3 & 17
January 14 & 28
February 11 & 25
March 11
- 7.3. At the discretion of the Race Committee additional races may be started for one or both divisions, provided that any additional races will start before 1400h and the time limit for the day's racing will not be changed (section 15).
- 7.4. Any additional races that are completed will be scored as part of the series.

8. DIVISIONS

- 8.1. Yachts are assigned to divisions based upon their PHRF rating and the division splits are as follows:
Division 1 – less than or equal to 99
Division 2 – 100 to 149
Division 3 – 150 to 194
Division 4 – greater than or equal to 195
- 8.2. A skipper may apply to be moved up or down by one division at the discretion of the Race Officer. The Race Officer will assign that skipper a PHRF rating within the range for the new division.
- 8.3. The division flag for each division will be the equivalent numeral pennant.

9. RACING AREA

- 9.1. The race will take place in the vicinity of English Bay/Burrard Inlet.



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10. RACE COURSE AND MARKS

- 10.1. The Marks are to be rounded in the sequence they appear on the course board, which will be displayed on the committee boat.
- 10.2. The race committee may fly signal flag “TANGO” indicating the course is to be sailed twice around.
- 10.3. The letters/marks will be as follows:

“A”	Point Grey Bell Buoy	49°17.35’ N	123°15.9’ W
“B”	Kits Barge Buoy	49°16.9 N	123°09.8 W
“D”	QC Buoy	49°18.2 N	123°10.0 W
“E”	VRC Anchored Mark	Committee will communicate position	
“F”	Race Finish Pin	On course as a blue flag	
“S”	Race Start Pin	On course as an orange flag	
“X”	Anchored Freighter	Committee will Communicate Position	
“Z”	Anchored Freighter	Committee will communicate Position	

11. MARKS

- 11.1. The start/ finish pin will be either a yellow inflatable tetrahedron or a “pin” with an orange flag. The finish pin may be a blue pin if denoted on the race board as an “F”.
- 11.2. VRC Anchored Marks will be yellow inflatable tetrahedrons.
- 11.3. All marks shall be left to port unless a green flag is flying indicating that the marks are to be left to starboard.

12. THE START

- 12.1. Races will be started using rule 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal.
- 12.2. The Start/Finish line will be between a staff on the race committee vessel displaying an orange flag and the start pin or mark.
- 12.3. A boat starting later than 5 minutes after the starting signal may be scored “Did Not Start”. This modifies rules A4 and A5.

13. RECALLS

- 13.1. Recalls shall be signaled in accordance with rule 29.
- 13.2. If any part of a boat’s hull, crew or equipment is on the course side of the starting line when the start signal goes the committee will attempt to broadcast her sail number on VHF Channel 68. Failure to do so will not be grounds for redress. This modifies rule 62.1(a).

14. THE FINISH

- 14.1. The finish will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the committee boat and the start/finish mark or a blue flag and the committee boat.



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14.2. The race committee may take times at any mark rounding and use them as a finish positions. This modifies rule 32.1 and 32.2.

15. TIME LIMITS AND PROTESTS

15.1. No finishes will be recorded after 1500h. If one boat in a division finishes within the time limit, there will be a 30 minute extension to 1530hrs for boats in that division.

15.2. Protests must be filed with the race committee by 1830h.

15.3. Protests will be heard by the protest committee as soon as is possible. If the protest is not heard on the day of the event involved boats and witnesses will be notified of the time and location at least 24 hours before the hearing.

16. PENALTIES

16.1. **In the Fall Series, RRS A4.2 and RRS A9** are modified. The following scoring will be used

- | | | |
|----------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| 16.1.1. | DNF (Did Not Finish) will be scored | # of registered boats racing that day + 2 |
| 16.1.2. | DNS (Did Not Start) will be scored | # of registered boats racing that day + 2 |
| 16.1.3. | DNC (Did Not Compete) will be scored | Number of registrants + 1 |
| 16.1.4. | DSQ (Disqualified) will be scored | Number of registrants + 1 |

16.2. **In the Winter Series, DNF, OCS, RAF, DSQ, and DNS boats will be scored one more than the number of boats that come to the start area in that division. DNC boats will be scored one more than the number of boats that have registered in the regatta for that boat's division. See RRS Appendix A 9.**

17. SCORING

17.1. Appendix A of the low point scoring system will apply.

17.2. One race is required to constitute a series **in each of the Fall Series and Winter Series.**

17.3. **In the Fall Series, for every five races scored in the series one "throw out" will be granted. This changes NOR 8.7 and preserves the SI 7.3 rule prior to Amendment 1.**

17.4. **In the Winter Series:**

- When fewer than five races have been completed, a boat's Winter Series score will be the total of her race scores**
- When from six to ten races have been completed, a boat's Winter Series score will be the total of her scores excluding her worst score.**
- When eleven or more races have been completed, a boat's Winter Series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her two worst scores.**

17.5 **The combined net scores of the Fall Series and Winter Series will constitute the standings for the Overall Series.**

18. RACE MANAGEMENT

19.1. A boat that is registered in the series and acts as a committee boat shall, in lieu of a "DNC", be given a finishing score of an average of her scores (before any throw-outs) at the end of the series.



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