

GROSSE PONTE FARMS BOAT CLUB

2024 Thursday Night Spring Series

Sailing Instructions

Spring Series: May 30th, June 6th, June 13th, June 20st, and June 27th, 2024

1. RULES AND MANAGEMENT

The sailing and management of these sailing race series shall be governed by the "rules" as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing and the prescriptions of US Sailing for 2021 -2024 (RRS), except as modified by these sailing instructions. The US Sailing prescription to 63.2 shall not apply. The race series shall be under the management of the Race Committee, which shall have full and final authority in interpreting the and conditions of the races. These races shall be sailed and scored using PHRF handicaps and time-on-time scoring method. The use of elastic or wool bands when setting a sail is not protest-able by a boat. Any change to these sailing instructions will be posted on the online official notice board. The online official notice board is located at: <http://gpfbc.com/races-2024>.

2. AGREEMENT TO ASSUME RISK

In consideration of being permitted to enter this regatta and being fully knowledgeable of the risks of sailing as a competitive sport, all contestants including but not limited to, skippers, crew members and guests on board voluntarily assume all risks associated with participation in the event. It shall be the sole responsibility of the skipper and crew of each yacht to decide whether to start, to continue or to finish a race. The skipper and crew must assure that all U.S. Coast Guard required equipment and safety equipment is properly maintained, on board and stowed in a manner that is accessible when needed, and that the crew knows where the equipment is kept and how to use it.

3. ENTRY

Competitors may enter the race series by completing the entry form and paying the entry fee to the Race Committee at <http://gpfbc.com/races-2024>. Racing is open to any yacht with a PHRF rating from MWPHRF or the race committee may assign a rating based on its own evaluation. The race committee may deem a yacht inappropriate for the Thursday night venue.

4. IDENTIFICATION

Yachts shall carry proper sail numbers on mainsails, overlapping genoas and spinnakers. Any yacht that does not have the proper sail numbers shall notify the Race Committee of such and the Race Committee, may, in its sole discretion, elect not to score such yacht. This changes Rule 77.

5. MEASUREMENT AND RATING

Yachts shall be classed and rated in accordance with the latest measurements and DHCP PHRF rating issued by and on file with Midwest PHRF or upon assignment by the Race Committee.

The RC highly suggests that you obtain a rating certificate for 2024 from [MWPHRF](#).

(Without the MWPHRF certificate, your rating will be at the discretion of the RC.)

6. INTERFERENCE WITH SHIPPING

Yachts participating in these races shall not interfere with major shipping navigating within the shipping channel that is restricted in her ability to move in accordance with Federal law 89-764 and USCG Rule 18. Yachts violating these provisions shall be subject to protest by the Race Committee.

7. COURSES

Refer to the course diagram on page 7. The course diagram is not intended for navigational purposes. The course marks A and C are round inflatable buoys. Mark B is the green can channel marker G"11" on the west side of the Lake

St. Clair shipping channel. Mark X is an inflatable buoy or a **MarkSetBot** (<https://www.marksetbot.com>) south of the Grosse Pointe Farms water intake. There are three possible courses that may be selected by the Race Committee, and each of those courses may be designated as port or starboard.

The Regular Course length is approximately **6.1** nautical miles. Regular Course - Starboard shall be sailed **Start**, A, B, C and then to the finish line with each mark rounded to starboard. Regular Course - Port shall be sailed Start, C, B, A to finish with each mark rounded to port. Course direction flags will be displayed on the right-hand side of the yardarm on the outer break wall of the Grosse Pointe Farms Pier Park, as viewed from the water. Marks shall be rounded to port if a red flag is displayed on the Race Committee stand; marks shall be rounded to starboard if a green flag is displayed. All marks shall be in sequence with the course selected by the Race Committee.

The Modified Course length is approximately **4.7** nautical miles. Modified Course - Starboard shall be sailed Start, A, B, X, and then to the finish line, finishing upstream with each mark rounded to starboard. Modified Course - Port shall be sailed Start, X, B, A, and then to the finish line, finishing downstream with each mark rounded to port.

Cal 25 class will always sail the Modified Course. When a solid white flag is flown beneath the course direction flag, the Nonsuch and Catalina 27 classes shall also sail the Modified Course.

Spinnaker and Sport Boat classes will never sail the Modified Course.

The Short Course-Starboard shall be sailed Start to Mark A which shall be rounded to starboard, then to the finish line, finishing downstream leaving the start/finish mark to port.

The Short Course-Port shall be sailed Start to Mark X which shall be rounded to port, then to Mark B which shall be rounded to port, then to Mark X which shall be rounded to starboard, then to the finish line, finishing upstream leaving the start/finish mark to starboard.

8. SHORTENING THE COURSE

Before the Start, one of the Short Courses shall be designated by **Code Flag "S"** (Blue Square in White Field) displayed from the yardarm on shore together with a green flag for Short Course - Starboard or a red flag for Short Course-Port. **When one of the Short Courses is selected, all classes will sail it.** There is no provision for shortening the course after the start.

9. START AND FINISH

The start and finish line shall be between the "RC" flag (Race Committee), on the center of the yardarm, and a buoy located east or southeast of the break wall. The start/finish buoy will be an inflatable red or orange ball or possibly a MarkSetBot! (<https://www.marksetbot.com>)

10. RADIO MONITORING

Radio monitoring is recommended but not required. The Race Committee shall use VHF channel 71. The Race Committee may report start time countdown and visual signals displayed by the Race Committee over channel 71. The information reported by the Race Committee is provided as a courtesy only and does not in any way alter the competitor's responsibility to observe the Race Committee's visual signals which govern the conduct of the race. Errors or omissions in such radio reports shall not be grounds for granting redress.

11. STARTING SEQUENCE

Races shall be started using the following signals. Times shall be taken from the visual signals. The absence or inaccurate sound signal shall be disregarded - refer to STARTING SEQUENCE CHART. Class designation flags will be flown from the left side of the yardarm, as viewed from the water. Class flags are not required to be flown by competitors.

6:54 Attention - Six short horn signals

6:55 Warning Signal - Gun, and first class flag raised



6:56 Preparatory - Prep flag raised with horn

6:59 One Minute - Prep flag lowered with horn

7:00 First Start - Class flag lowered with gun and next class flag raised.


Classes start at five-minute intervals in the following order:

<u>Start #</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Class Flag</u>	<u>Start Time</u>
	1. Cal 25	Blue	7:00
	2. Nonsuch	Red	7:05
	3. Catalina 27 Multi-Sail	Yellow	7:10
	4. Spinnaker B Multi-Sail	Code Flag "M"	7:15
	5. SPORT BOAT Multi-Sail	Orange/White	7:20
	6. Spinnaker A Multi-Sail	Green	7:25

12. RESTRICTED AREA

Yachts that are not starting (more than 5 minutes prior to its scheduled class start) shall avoid the area of the starting line. Yachts which have finished shall avoid the finish line and yachts that are still racing.

13. INDIVIDUAL RECALL

A sound signal (**one horn**) and **Code Flag-X**  shall be given for yachts over early and the sail numbers may be broadcast over VHF channel 71.

14. General

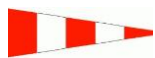


RECALL (Two Sound Signals - Horn)

When at the starting signal the race committee is unable to identify boats that are on the course side of the starting line or to which rule 30 applies, or there has been an error in the starting procedure, the race committee may signal a General Recall (display the First Substitute with two horns).

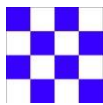
- The offending class shall immediately begin regrouping on the start side of the starting line.
- The class flag of the class that was to follow the recalled class will be lowered, signifying a delay of their starting sequence.
- The class that was to follow the recalled class will leave the starting area as soon as possible.
- When in the opinion of the Race Committee, all boats of the General Recall class are positioned to commence the starting sequence again, the first substitute for the offending class will be lowered simultaneously as their class flag is raised (with one horn signal). This signals their five-minute signal with the Prep flag being raised starting one minute later. The rolling start sequence will resume with the raising of the recalled class flag. All scheduled starts after the General Recall class will occur in the same sequence and at five-minute intervals from the start of the General Recall Class.
- If a class restarts from a General Recall and receives its second General Recall, it will rotate to the back of any remaining starts and follow the auto rotation starting scheme.
- A third General Recall will result in the cancellation of the race for the offending class and the race will not qualify to be a throw out. This changes Rule 29.2.

15. POSTPONEMENTS AND INTERRUPTED RACE



"AP" Code Answering Pennant indicates a Postponement. **One Horn when raised.**

The sequence will start or restart with the lowering of the AP pennant simultaneously with the raising of the appropriate class flag with one horn signal. This represents the five-minute start sequence for that class. The sequence will continue in the same order as specified in section 10.



"N" Code Flag "N" accompanied by three guns or sound signals. All races, including those in progress, are abandoned for the day.

16. TIME LIMIT

There shall be a 2.5-hour time limit for each class from its start. One boat completing the race within the time limit shall qualify a race for that class. Subsequent yachts continuing to race after the expiration of the time shall take their own time and report it to the Race Committee. Participants withdrawing from a race are requested to notify the Race Committee via VHF channel 71.

17. PROTESTS

A protesting yacht shall do so under Rule 60 of the RRS and shall submit a DRYA Hearing Request Form to the Race Committee. The DRYA Hearing Request Form must be submitted to sqglamont@outlook.com or dropped off at the Front Gate of the Grosse Pointe Farms Pier Park **within 2 hours** of the protesting yacht's finish of the race. The protesting boat shall inform the other boat at the first reasonable opportunity.

Protests shall comply with RRS 60 and 61.

Required participants shall be notified of the time and date for the protest hearing. The link to the Hearing Request Form can be found on the <https://www.drya.org> website under ->Racing->Racing Info->Hearing Request Form or from the <http://gpfb.com> website under ->Races 2023->**DRYA Hearing Request Form**.

18. Scoring

Each race shall be scored utilizing the PHRF time-on-time scoring method and formula adopted by the DRYA. Classes identified in Section 11 will use the Multi-Sail Rule described on page 6 of these Sailing Instructions. Each series shall be scored using the Low Point Scoring System. A boat that did not start shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats entered in the series. A boat that did not finish, retired or was disqualified shall be scored points for the finishing place equal to the number of boats entered in the series. This changes Rule A5.2. Results will be posted on the Grosse Pointe Farms Boat Club web site <http://gpfb.com/races-2024> and may be emailed to each participant. In the event of a tie the RRS shall apply as provided in Appendix A8. The race series consists of the best four (4) out of five (5) races. If a race is not completed, the best three (3) out of four (4) shall be used. If more than one race is not completed, no score shall be excluded.

19. AWARDS

All participants are invited to Grosse Pointe Farms Pier Park following the last race of the Spring Series and the last race of the Summer Series for the awarding of flags. The number of flags awarded will be at the discretion of the Race Committee and will depend on the number of boats participating. Your entry fee includes refreshments. All participants and crew are invited. The George Gerow Trophy may be awarded to the yacht with the best combined score for both series and the Doug Moran Trophy may be awarded to the yacht from Grosse Pointe Farms Pier Park with the best combined score for both series. These two awards may be subject to the judgement of the Race Committee.

20. HAZARD TO NAVIGATION

Care should be taken to avoid the Grosse Pointe Farms municipal water intake crib marked by a small white buoy approximately 100-yard SE of the starting line.

The Multi-Sail Concept

For 2024, Grosse Pointe Farms Boat Club will use the Multi-Sail Rule (originally copied from Lake Shore Sail Club) for the classes announced by the Race Committee from time to time. At the beginning of the season, it is our intent to use the Multi-Sail Rule for Spinnaker A, SPORT BOAT, Spinnaker B, and Catalina 27 classes only. The following "rating adjustment for headsail usage" will be applied:

If a symmetrical spinnaker was "**flown**" during the race, the boat's primary spinnaker rating will be used as its rating for that race. **This will be the MWPHRF DHCP rating if that rating was issued for a symmetrical spinnaker**. Otherwise, the rating assigned by the GPFBC RC for the boats symmetrical spinnaker will be used.

If a symmetrical spinnaker was **NOT "flown"** and an asymmetrical spinnaker was "**flown**" during the race, the boat's primary spinnaker rating will be used as its rating for that race. **This will be the MWPHRF DHCP rating if that rating was issued for an asymmetrical spinnaker**. Otherwise, the rating assigned by the GPFBC RC for the asymmetrical spinnaker will be used.

If a boat chooses to sail JAM for the entire race, it will be scored accordingly using the JAM (MWPHRF - NSHCP) rating of the boat. MWPHRF issues either a Spinnaker rating or an ASYM rating but not both. Prior to each series, a boat that does not have a Spinnaker Rating or ASYM Rating from MWPHRF, and has the potential to use either configuration, the unspecified rating will be determined and assigned at the sole discretion of the GPFBC RC. The ratings will be published before each series and the onus is on the skipper of each boat to be aware of their own ratings. A default rating will be specified for each boat which should reflect the sail configuration that you expect to use most frequently. This reduces required "Notifications" of configuration changes to the race committee. The applied rating will be the lowest rating of the sail configuration "**flown**" during the race.

Flown is defined as hoisted and trimmed.

The applied rating will then be converted to a Time Correction Factor for **time-on-time scoring** using the formula:

$$\text{TCF} = 650 / (\text{PHRF rating} + 557).$$

This is the same formula currently used by the GPFBC and the DRYA.

To receive a credit, a boat must notify the Race Committee before the start of their class.

The PREFERRED METHOD of notification is via text message to Steve LaMont at (586) 322-1077.

Next best is email sgramont@outlook.com.

Hailing the RC via VHF radio **Channel 71** or directly notifying the RC at the seawall can be done but please ensure you receive confirmation from the RC!!!

This plan is DYNAMIC. There is no need to re-configure your boat, purchase or install new equipment, or get re-measured. EACH race day, before the race, **YOU** decide which combination of sails to use, then notify the race committee before the race only if you plan on using a sail-plan other than the one you specified as your default on the registration form.

Multi-Sail is flexible! With multi-sail you are not confined to a spinnaker class when you're shorthanded, nor are you confined to a JAM class when it's blowing 8-10 and you, for once, have six crew aboard.

GPS COORDINATES FOR COURSE MARKS		
Mark	Latitude	Longitude
A	N42°25.53'	W82°51.83'
B	N42°24.17'	W82°50.75'
C	N42°23.31'	W82°53.18'
X	N42°24.14'	W82°52.73'

