

Sailing Instructions

Sail Maine Regatta

June 6 2009

Updated 6/3/2009

1. Rules.

The races will be governed by the *Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS) published by the U.S. Sailing Association for 2009-2012 except as altered by these *Sailing Instructions*.

RRS Part 1-Fundamental Rule 4 states, "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone." SAIL MAINE shall not be liable for any damage to property or injury to persons in any way resulting from or connected with the SAIL MAINE Regatta.

RRS 75.3 does not apply.

2. Entries.

The races are open to all sound and seaworthy mono-hull and multi-hull yachts. Yachts must be sailed with a minimum crew of three (3). All Racing Division Class yachts must sail using the Racing handicap shown on their 2009 PHRF-NE certificate. All Cruising Division must sail using the Cruising handicap. All Multihull Division yachts must sail using their current NEMA handicap. One Design Division yachts are expected to race according to the rules that regulate racing in their respective classes. The Race Committee will assign a provisional rating to any yacht yet to join GMORA and receive a PHRF-NE certificate. All racers are asked to review the *U.S.C.G. Waterways Safety Bulletin* attached to these sailing instructions.

3. Notice to Competitors.

Notices to competitors will be posted on the Race Committee (R/C) bulletin board located at the notice desk (located in the SM sail shed). Any changes in these Sailing Instructions will be posted by 1000 on race day.

4. Signals.

All signals will be displayed on the R/C boat.

5. The Racing Area.

The area is bound by Fish Point, Ram Island and Clapboard Island. Marks for the races and their respective identifying code letters shown on the attached chart are as follows:

A	R"12" S.W. of Clapboard Is.	N.	G "5" Flash NE Spring Pt. boat ramp
B	G "11" N.E. of The Brothers	O.	G"1" entrance to Coast Guard base
C	R"4" N. of Cow Island	P.	G"1" Flash North of Spring Point
D.	R "10" N. of Great Diamond Is. Q.	G"1"	N.E. of House Island
E	R"10" Bell N.W. of Long Island	R.	Yellow Flash W. of House Is.
F.	G "9" can W. of Great Diamond Is.	S.	R"8" Bell/Flash Whitehead Passage
G.	R "4" N.E., of Pomeroy Rock	T.	R "12" Bell S.W. of Cushing Island H.
	R"4" N.W. of Diamond Island	Y.	Windward Drop Mark
I.	G"1" Flash Eastern Prom	Z.	Leeward Drop Mark
J.	R "2" S.W. of Little Diamond Is		
K.	Yellow Bell Flash North of House Is		
L	R"4" Flash S.W. of Fort Gorges		
M.	G"3" Flash N.E. of Bug Light		

The distance and bearing to drop marks from the R/C boat will be displayed on boards from the committee boat or mark boats.

The courses for the class racing will displayed from the R/C boat letter-board immediately before each Warning Signal.

All marks will be passed according to RRS 28.1 or as indicated by the code flag "P" (port) or code flag "S" (starboard) on the committee boat.

6. Restricted Areas.

Yachts may not sail between Great Diamond Island and Little Diamond Island.

7. The Start.

The starting line for the races will be announced at the skipper's meetings and, weather permitting, will be located in the area of G "1" off Fish Point. The starting line will be between the orange flag on the R/C signal boat and an inflatable mark.

RRS 30.1 ("Round the Ends") will apply to all starts, and code flag "I" will be flown during all starts.

The R/C signal boat will hoist code flag "F" with a horn sound 5 minutes before the first warning signal. RRS 26, will govern all starts. Times should be taken from visual signals.

Warning	Class Flag	1 Sound (horn)	5 minutes before start
Preparatory Code	Flag "P"	1 Sound (horn)	4 minutes before start
One-minute Code	Flag "P" down	1 Long Sound (horn)	1 minute before start
Start	Class Flag down	1 Sound (horn)	

The R/C may deploy a "keep-off" mark from the stern of the committee boat. If a yacht either touches the keep-off mark or passes between the committee boat and the "keep-off" mark, she shall for purposes of RRS 31 consider herself as having touched a mark before starting. Yachts not within 5 minutes of their scheduled start will stay clear of those yachts that are starting.

PHRF, One Design, and MH Class Racing.

Class breaks will reflect the registered fleet. It is the RC's intent to provide competitive classes and to select courses that will provide challenging and safe routes for the yachts.

Warning Signal, First Race 1100

The Warning for starts will occur shortly after the Start of each preceding class.

Racing Division One
Racing Division Two
Cruising Division One
Cruising Division Two

Warning Signals, Second Race

The warning signal for each class in the second and third race will be given as soon as all boats of the class have finished

8. Postponements and Abandoning Races.

The Code Flag "AP" with two (2) sound signals (horn) will mean that any race has been postponed. The "AP" flag will be lowered with one (1) sound signal (horn) one (1) minute prior to the Warning signal.

Code Flag "N" with 3 audible signals will be given by either the R/C signal boat or mark boats to abandon a race.

9. The Finish.

The finishes for all races will be between the Orange Flag on the R/C signal boat or a mark boat and an inflatable race mark.

10. Recalls.

Individual recalls will be signaled according to RRS 29.1 with one sound and code flag "X". The R/C will attempt to call OCS yachts on VHF channel 72 OCS or hail OCS yachts from the signal boat. It will be the responsibility of all skippers to assure that they have started correctly. Failure to respond to an OCS recall shall not be grounds for redress.

General recalls for class racing will be signaled according to RRS 29.2. There will be 2 sound signals (horns) and the First substitute will be flown. The new Warning Signal for the recalled class will be 1 minute from the drop of the first substitute.

11. Changing a Leg of the Course or Shortening the Course after the Start.

According to RRS 33, a change of course will be signaled by the R/C signal boat or by a mark boat near the mark beginning the leg being changed. The boat will make repetitive sounds, display code flag "C", and the direction and location the new or mark or mark(s). The change will be signaled before the lead yacht begins the new leg.

A course may be shortened according to RRS 32.2 with the display of code flag "S" and two sounds. The new finish will be between a rounding mark and the code flag "S".

12. Retirement.

A yacht that leaves the race course shall notify the R/C on VHF channel 72 before doing so.

13. Time Limit.

No races will start after 1600 on Saturday 6/6/09. There will be a two hour time limit for the first boat to finish each race. Yachts failing to finish within 30 minutes of the first yacht in their class will be scored "DNF".

14. Protests and Fouls.

Any yacht protesting another yacht must follow RRS 60-68. Handwritten protests must conform to the format shown on *USSA Protest Forms* and be lodged at the SM office shed within 30 minutes after the committee boat has returned to shore.

360° turns, defined in RRS 31.2, for touching a mark and 720° turns, defined in RRS 44.1 and 44.2, for breaches of RRS Part 2-When Boats Meet will apply.

