



Lake Pend Oreille Yacht Club

Sailing Instructions

Spring, Summer & Fall Series 2026

Version April 26, 2026

1. RULES

- 1.1. These Series are governed by the rules as defined in the current version of the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) for 2025-2028.
- 1.2. Spinnakers are defined in the current version of Equipment Rules of Sailing (ERS) for 2025-2028, Section G.1.3(f). A spinnaker is "Where the measurement between the half-luff point and the half-leech point is equal to or greater than 75% of the foot length."
- 1.3. Amendments to this SI shall be posted on the Race Documents page at lakependoreilleyachtclub.org. and on LPOYC's Google Groups page.

2. ELIGIBILITY

- 2.1. Boat owners and skippers must be Regular members in good standing of Lake Pend Oreille Yacht Club.
- 2.2. Non-members and unrated boats may participate in individual races but their scores will not be counted until Regular membership dues are paid and a rating assigned.
- 2.3. Crew members must be members in good standing of Lake Pend Oreille Yacht Club.
- 2.4. Membership applications and fees may be submitted on the Membership Page at lakependoreilleyachtclub.org.

3. CLASSES

- 3.1. There are two classes: Red Fleet and White Fleet.
- 3.2. The Red Fleet class flag will be a red rectangular flag.
- 3.3. The White Fleet class flag will be a white rectangular flag.
- 3.4. Red Fleet boats will be handicapped using a spinnaker whether or not they choose to fly one.
- 3.5. White Fleet boats will be handicapped without a spinnaker unless they choose to declare a spinnaker per Rule 3.6 below.
- 3.6. White Fleet boats may declare and use a defined spinnaker before the Series' first race, raising their handicap over their non-spinnaker handicap. Once declared, their spinnaker ruling will be in effect for the Series duration. Boats may drop the spinnaker declaration before starting a new Series, reverting the handicap to their non-spinnaker rating.

- 3.7. Appropriate adjustments to handicaps may be made based on available data of the vessel and racing environment determined by the Scorer.
- 3.8. If more fleets are added, the flags for those fleets will be announced at the Skippers' Meeting on the morning of the race.

4. SKIPPERS' MEETING

- 4.1. A Skippers' Meeting will be held at 9:00 AM on each race day. The location of the Skippers' Meeting is described in the schedule located on the Race Schedule page at lakependoreilleyachtclub.org.
- 4.2. Verbal instructions, restrictions and information pertaining to that race day will be announced at the Skippers' Meeting.
- 4.3. The Start/Finish area for the day's race will be announced at the Skippers' Meeting.
- 4.4. Course charts and Mark descriptions will be distributed at the Skippers' Meeting and are also available for printing from the LPOYC website Racing page at lakependoreilleyachtclub.org.

5. FEES

- 5.1. The entry fee is \$15 per day if one race is planned, \$25 if two races are planned; \$75 per yacht per Series; \$225 per yacht per season.
- 5.2. Entries and fees shall be submitted at the Skippers' Meeting on the morning of the race.
- 5.3. Entry fees are nonrefundable.

6. VENUE

- 6.1. Racing will take place on the waters of Lake Pend Oreille.

7. SCHEDULE OF RACE DATES

- 7.1. The dates of the Series races can be found on the Race Schedule page at lakependoreilleyachtclub.org.
- 7.2. Changes to the Race Schedule will be posted on the Race Schedule page at lakependoreilleyachtclub.org. and on LPOYC's Google Groups page.
- 7.3. Multiple races may be attempted each Race Day when wind conditions permit.
- 7.4. When multiple races are attempted on a Race Day, a class's subsequent race will be started as soon as possible following the conclusion of its first race.
- 7.5. No races will be started after 1:00 PM.

8. COURSE

- 8.1. Courses are available for printing from the LPOYC website Racing page at lakependoreilleyachtclub.org.
- 8.2. No later than the Warning signal, the Race Committee boat will display the course number to be sailed.
- 8.3. Prior to a class's Warning signal, any change to the course number will be broadcast by the Race Committee on VHF channel 72 and the new course number will be displayed on the Race Committee boat.

- 8.4. The legs of the course will not be changed after the preparatory signal. This changes RRS 33.

9. AREA OBSTRUCTIONS

- 9.1. The Start/Finish line is designated as an obstruction except when starting or finishing.
- 9.2. The Navy barge (Mark N) is designated as a continuing obstruction.

10. MARKS

- 10.1. Mark descriptions are available for printing from the LPOYC website Racing page at lakependoreilleyachtclub.org.

11. START

- 11.1. Races will be started using RRS 26 except as follows:
 - 11.1.1. At approximately 4 minutes before the Warning signal for the first start, the Race Committee will announce it is "on station" by hoisting the AP flag and sounding multiple horns.
 - 11.1.2. At 1 minute before the Warning signal for the first start, the Race Committee will drop the AP flag and sound multiple horns.
- 11.2. The start line will be between a staff on the Race Committee boat and a GPS buoy.
- 11.3. The start order for the first race of the day shall be Red Fleet followed by White Fleet.
- 11.4. After a yacht starts, it may not sail through the Start/Finish line except to finish or when a course specifically uses a start mark as part of the course. The Race Committee shall disqualify any boat that violates this instruction.
- 11.5. If more than one race is attempted in a day, the starting order of classes for subsequent races will be announced by the Race Committee using VHF channel 72.
- 11.6. If more than one class is scheduled to start consecutively, the Start signal for a class shall serve as the Warning signal for the next class (aka "rolling" 5-minute start).
- 11.7. After a yacht starts, she shall stay clear of the start line for 5 minutes if there is another class start that follows.
- 11.8. Boats whose Warning signal has not sounded shall stay clear of the starting area.
- 11.9. A boat starting more than 15 minutes after her starting signal will be scored a Did Not Start (DNS) and receive points according to RRS A4 and A5.

12. RECALLS

- 12.1. Individual and General Recalls will be signaled in accordance with RRS 29.
- 12.2. As a courtesy, the Race Committee will make every effort to broadcast OCS notices to yachts using VHF channel 72. Failure of radio equipment or failure to hear a hail shall not be grounds for redress under RRS 62.1(a). It shall be each yacht's responsibility to ascertain if they are OCS at a start.

13. FINISH

- 13.1. The finish line will be between a staff on the Race Committee boat and a GPS buoy.
- 13.2. A boat shall cross the finish line in a direction coming from the last rounding mark.

14. SHORTENING OR ABANDONING A RACE

- 14.1. After the starting signal, the Race Committee may shorten or abandon a race in accordance with RRS 32.
- 14.2. If the Race Committee shortens a course, it will display code flag S with two sounds and use VHS channel 72 to announce which mark(s) of the course to eliminate.
- 14.3. Boats shall sail through the finish line in a direction coming from the last mark of the shortened course.
- 14.4. The shortened course shall apply to the class(es) whose flag(s) are displayed on the Race Committee boat. If no class flags are displayed, the shortened course applies to all classes.
- 14.5. These changes modify RRS 32.2.

15. TIME LIMITS

- 15.1. The finishing time limit for all yachts, if any, will be announced at the Skippers' Meeting. Any boat still racing after the expired time limit will be scored DNF. Four blasts by the Race Committee horn will indicate the time limit has expired. This changes RRS 35.

16. COMMUNICATIONS

- 16.1. The Race Committee will monitor VHS channel 72.
- 16.2. The Race Committee will attempt to notify competitors via VHS channel 72 of changes to the course, the Sailing Instructions or the verbal instructions announced at the Skippers' Meeting. It shall be the competitors' responsibility to monitor the Race Committee's radio transmissions.
- 16.3. If the Race Committee is unable to deliver radio transmissions or if a competitor is unable to receive radio transmissions, visual signals displayed on the Race Committee boat shall take precedence.
- 16.4. Without limiting the application of RRS 41, the transmission or receipt while racing of any communication for an individual boat's direct or indirect benefit is prohibited. This includes fee-for-service weather information and all routing information or advice. This does not include communication, including electronic communications, required to comply with the notice of race and sailing instructions or for personal messages not related to a boat's performance in the race.

17. SCORING

- 17.1. Races will be scored as provided in Rule 90.3 and Appendix A2 of the current version of the RRS.
- 17.2. The Red Fleet shall be scored using a TCF handicapping system. A Red Fleet boat's TCF rating will be adjusted at the end of each season.
- 17.3. The White Fleet shall be scored using the NHC (National Handicap for Cruisers), expressed as TCF. A White Fleet boat's TCF rating will be adjusted at the end of each season.
- 17.4. White Fleet boats are restricted to those with a TCF of 0.960 or lower.
- 17.5. Red Fleet boats may move to White Fleet but must complete one Series without declaring or flying a spinnaker. After this period, these boats may declare a spinnaker as any other White Fleet boat. Their TCF rating will remain or be recalculated based on their non-spinnaker rating, whichever is higher.

- 17.6. The Spring, Summer, and Fall Series each will attempt to complete at least six (6) races. One (1) completed race constitutes a Series. If 6 races are completed, each boat's Series score shall be the total of her race scores excluding her worst race. If 5 or fewer races are completed, no scores shall be excluded. If 8 or more races are completed, each boat's Series score shall be the total of her race scores excluding her 2 worst races.
- 17.7. A volunteer race steward may be required if a designated race steward is unavailable. If this requirement precludes a boat from racing in that race, it will receive a score of OOD (Officer of the Day). The OOD score will equal the average of that boat's other results in a Series.

18. TIES AND OTHER RULES

- 18.1. Series ties shall be resolved as provided in RRS A8.1 and A8.2.

19. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 19.1. As provided in RRS 67, the Protest Committee may, without a hearing, penalize a boat that has broken RRS 42.

20. PROTESTS

- 20.1. [Protest Forms](#) are available at the Bitter End Marina clubhouse and the Skippers' Meeting preceding the race. The protest time limit for each class is 90 minutes after the last boat has finished the day's final race.

21. SERIOUS COLLISIONS

- 21.1. A collision causing damage requiring more than routine maintenance is considered a serious incident. When such damage occurs, the Protest Committee shall hold a hearing under RRS 60.2, 60.3 & 63 to determine the facts and consider whether those involved exercised reasonable care in handling their boats. When the Protest Committee finds that either or both boat(s) did not, one or both shall be disqualified, regardless of any alternative penalties accepted under RRS 44.1. In extreme cases, either boat(s) may be excluded from the rest of the regatta or Series (this enhances RRS 64.2).

22. SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 22.1. A boat that retires from a race shall notify the Race Committee immediately. In addition, boats shall carry all legally required safety equipment. Consult [The Handbook of Idaho Boating Laws and Responsibilities](#).

23. PRIZES

- 23.1. Trophies will be awarded at the annual banquet for the top three places in the Spring Series, Summer Series and Fall Series.

24. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 24.1. Competitors participate in racing entirely at their own risk. See RRS Rule 3, Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage, personal injury, or death sustained in conjunction with, before, during, or after racing.

25. VIDEO AND PHOTOGRAPHY RIGHTS

- 25.1. All marks, pictures, audio, video recordings, graphic logos and service names contained herein or produced during the season by or on behalf of the LPOYC are the properties of the LPOYC. No rights are granted to use pictures, graphics, logos and service names without permission. Competitors give absolute rights and licenses for video footage or photographs of themselves or their boats to be published in any media for press, editorial, or advertising purposes.

26. INSURANCE

- 26.1. Each participating boat shall maintain valid third-party liability insurance.

27. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- 27.1. For additional information, email the LPOYC Race Administrator at lpoycrc@gmail.com

Challenge Cup

CHALLENGE CUP ELIGIBILITY

Challenge Cup standings are based on the scores of boats that compete in the Spring, Summer and Fall Series. A boat must participate in at least one race per series in the same Fleet to be eligible to win the Challenge Cup.

CHALLENGE CUP SCORING

Each boat will receive points towards the Challenge Cup using a high-point system. First place in each race will earn points equal to the number of boats finishing. Second place will receive points equal to the number of finishers minus one. Challenge Cup points accumulate throughout the year and are carried forward from Series to Series.

Non-member and unrated boats that compete in a race, including any that finish and afterwards retire or are disqualified, will score 0 points. Boats must complete a race to receive a score.

TOTAL SCORES

The sum of scores earned by each boat in the three Series shall constitute its total. Scores will be totaled for the Fleet in which a boat competes. The qualified boat with the highest score in each Fleet shall be the respective Fleet's winner.

The table below shows the number of scores earned by each boat to count toward the Challenge Cup:

<u>Number of races</u>	<u>Races to count</u>
1-3	0

4-12	8
13-15	10
16-18	12
19-21	14