

Attachment B: Resumption of Sailing under COVID-19 Restrictions

Guidelines for CSC Members

Preamble

Safety of all participants in CSC events is overriding. The guidelines below are designed to minimize risk to individuals by using social distancing and by eliminating any meetings at the event site. Individual members should evaluate both their own risk and the risk they pose to other participants taking into account the Governor's executive orders, NC Park regulations, and guidance from NCDHHS and the CDC. Members might want to consider sailing single-handed or within their household or "social bubble". The changes we've made to our normal procedures are listed below in the order that sailors attending a CSC racing event would experience.

I. Actions and Procedures for Competitors

Registration

Registration of boat, skipper, and crew will be through the regular scratch sheet. Please fill in the scratch sheet by 8 pm the Friday before the weekend event so the PRO can plan accordingly. Participation by non-members and guests is discouraged. Non-members and guests will need to sign the CSC waiver before they can participate in club events. Late registration may be made by email to the PRO before 10 am on the Saturday or on the water at the signal boat.

RC Commitments are suspended for this season. We will use two volunteers from the same household to crew the Signal and Mark boats. (In light winds, the mark boat can be operated by a single, RC experienced, power boater.)

Before you go

Things to consider bringing along in addition to your sailing gear: masks, sanitary wipes, hand sanitizer, personal drink bottles, and utensils. Please bring a VHF radio if you have one or take note of the PRO's phone number for distanced communication with RC.

At the Event

Please leave an empty lane between boat trailers for 6' of social distancing during setup and knock-down. US Sailing suggests wearing masks on land especially where social distancing is difficult to maintain (e.g. any indoor bathrooms, on the docks and ramps, etc.). For multi-handed boats, buffs (neck-gaiters) might be appropriate on the water.

Sailors are discouraged from helping set up other boats in the parking lots. (For example: please avoid the common courtesy of helping others with their lines or accepting help unless there is an immediate need to avoid injury or damage.)

Once your boat is launched, please sail away from the dock as quickly as possible, to clear the ramps for other launchings.

Competitors' Meeting

There will be no on-site competitors' meeting. Competitors will not be allowed to gather in groups of more than 25 people (NC Parks COVID-19 regulations). The PRO will email members any changes to the SIs and additional instructions by 8 pm on the Friday before the weekend event. If no PRO email is received by 8 pm Friday, competitors shall assume the SIs, as published on the website will be used. Updates to the SIs may be necessary as the season and COVID-19 pandemic evolve. These will be announced on the website well before the event.

On the Water

Races will proceed according to the SIs (with any changes announced by the PRO). If a postponement on shore is needed, the AP flag will be displayed on the signal boat at or near the dock. Boats will check in by hail each day on the water. PROs are encouraged to use our regular Rule 26 start sequence (standard 5-minute sequence with flags); however, the PRO will have the option of using Appendix U of RRS (3-minute sound system). If the PRO wants separate starts under Appendix U rules (a minimum of 5 boats in a class may qualify for a separate start), the appropriate class flags will be displayed before the warning signal; please note that flags will not necessarily be lowered at the start. If numeric flag 9 is displayed at the start (under both systems), all classes that have not started will start (this may be all boats).

Use of Life Jackets (unless made mandatory by display of the Y flag) is encouraged.

Sailors are encouraged to arbitrate all rule disputes on the water so protest committee meetings can be avoided as much as possible. In the event that a protest committee is absolutely required, it will be held, at the PRO's discretion either by Zoom meetings off-site following the event or by a scheduled on-site meeting with more than 6-foot distance between persons. Notification of a protest to the PRO will be done by VHF Radio (Channel 78) or by mobile phone.

After Racing

There will be no after-racing social meeting.

Please maintain social distancing and wear masks while packing up your boat.

II. Race Management

The PRO principal responsibility is to run races (with a likely reduced RC staff) in a safe and efficient manner with minimal contact with competitors and sailing boats. The SIs have many changes from past seasons to attempt to make RC easier under COVID-19 conditions. The PRO has the ability to modify the SIs, but if he or she does so it must be done by email to the members by 8 pm on the Friday before the weekend event. For example, changes could include Appendix U starting or use of an offset buoy at the windward mark. The club will encourage all boats to carry a VHF radio (use Channel 78) or smart phone to communicate safety information to the PRO. Where Class rules do not allow radios, the club is asking fleet Captains to waive those limits for this year. To facilitate social distancing, communication with competitors will be primarily by signal flags (e.g., the new numeric 9 flag for All (Remaining) Boats to start), or secondarily by hail or VHF Radio.

Cancelling the Event

Based on bad weather forecasts, either one or both days of the event may be cancelled by the PRO. This must be done by the Friday 8 pm email to the members. Because of social distancing, it will be difficult to cancel racing at the site, though flags N over A could be flown from the Signal boat. The PRO might want to consider RC boat capabilities (and health preferences) when he or she decides under what conditions to sail under.

RC Staffing

The club is waiving RC service requirements this year. To maximize safety of the staff, the RC boats will be staffed by volunteers from the same household; a minimum of 2 on the Signal boat, and 1 or 2 on the Mark boat. The Mark boat may be operated by 1 person if he or she is experienced in setting marks and operating the power boat single-handed. Please have the RC staff use the social distancing guidelines given in Part I. The PRO will be the point of contact for all safety-related issues.

Races

The PRO has the option to use Appendix U (with modifications) starting. The default is RRS rule 26. The default in the SI's is not to use offsets as the number boats is likely to small; leeward gates have been eliminated as a course option. It is suggested that starting lines be longer than usual to promote social distancing between boats. Separate class starts are can be accommodated by both starting systems (as modified by the SIs).