



NO SWEAT! Annual Regatta for Lasers

At PORTAGE YACHT CLUB,
Portage Lake, Pinckney, Michigan
September 19, 2026



Sailing Instructions

1. RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in the *Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS) and all prescriptions of US Sailing.
- 1.2 Boats shall comply with Michigan State law, which requires a wearable USCG-approved PFD for each person on board. Competitors are encouraged to wear PFDs at all times while afloat.
- 1.3 Competitors are strongly encouraged to equip themselves with a whistle for attracting help, and to use four sharp blasts as an emergency signal.
- 1.4 Before, during, and after racing, a boat that sails between a swimming raft and the shoreline may be disqualified from the race sailed nearest the time of the infringement. We share Portage Lake with others, please be courteous.
- 1.5 Racing rules will be changed as follows:

Signals will be displayed as shapes and not code flags.

Rule 26 Starting Races: is modified to state that times will be taken from sound signals.

Rule 28.1 Sailing the Course: is modified to include that the last yet-to-finish boat may elect to notify the Service Boat or the Signal Boat, within the Time Limit for finishing, of her intention to not complete the course. The Principal Race Officer (PRO) shall then designate her as finished based on her position on the course (**PYC Mercy Rule**).

Rule 29.1 Individual Recall: is modified to provide that the PRO shall attempt to notify each boat, which has started prematurely by hailing her sail number. Code Flag X will not be used, but a single sound signal shall be utilized.

Rule 29.2 General Recall: is modified to provide that two sound signals with the re-hoisting of the Class Flag immediately following a class's Starting Signal, will signify a General Recall. A new starting sequence, including Attention short sound signals, will then be initiated for that same class.

Rule 33 Changing the Next Leg of the Course: is modified to provide that when displayed along with flag C, a green shape will indicate the course direction has moved starboard, and a red shape will indicate moved to port. If the leg length is changed, it will not be signaled.

Rule 44.2 One-Turn and Two-Turns Penalties is modified according to Appendix V1 of the US Sailing Racing Rules of Sailing, reprinted below:

“V1 PENALTY AT THE TIME OF AN INCIDENT The first two sentences of rule 44.1 are changed to: ‘A boat may take a One-Turn Penalty when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 or rule 31 in an incident while racing. However, when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 while in the zone around a mark other than a starting mark, her penalty shall be a Two-Turns Penalty.’”

Rule 60.4(a)(2) is changed to “if it alleges a breach of a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 and is from a boat that was neither involved in nor saw the incident, or”

2. NOTICE TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors shall be posted on the Official Notice Board located in the Clubhouse.

3. CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change in the sailing instructions shall be posted before 0900 on the day it will take effect, except that any change in the schedule of races shall be posted by 2000 on the day before it shall take effect.

2026 No Sweat Sailing Instructions

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore shall be displayed from the Signal Boat docked at Portage Yacht Club (PYC).
- 4.2 When AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes'.

5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 5.1 A total of six races will be attempted.
- 5.2 The first warning signal shall be made at 11:30 AM. No warning signal after 4:30 PM.

6. RACE COURSE AND MARKS

- 6.1 Shown on the Signal Boat by icons read left to right, which indicate the course legs and direction from the starting line to finish line. Background colors of icons indicate how marks are to be left, red to port, green to starboard. See Appendix 1.
- 6.2 Marks are to be rounded except start and finish marks, which are to be passed.
- 6.3 The minimum race shall consist of a three-legged windward/leeward course or a four-legged triangular course.
- 6.4 Starting and Rounding Marks consist of orange cylinders. Finishing mark will be a yellow cylinder. Yellow shall not be used as a turning mark.

7. CHECK-IN

All boats intending to race are requested to pass the stern of the Signal Boat and hail their sail number.

8. CLASS FLAG AND THE START

- 8.1 The Radial Rig Laser Class flag will be yellow and start first if there are five or more registered. The Full Rig Laser Class flag will be the Laser Class Flag and start second. If there are less than five registered Radial Rig Lasers, both classes shall start as one with the Laser Class Flag. There will still be separate scoring for the Full and Radial classes, as well as for Juniors.
- 8.2 All races will be started by using rule 26 with the warning signal made **3 minutes** before the starting signal. The sound signals described in rule U3 will be used.
Multiple short sounds will be made 15-20 seconds before the Warning Signal for each race.
- 8.3 The starting line will be between the course-side of the staff displaying an orange shape on the Signal Boat and the course-side of a nearby mark.
- 8.4 A boat that has not started within 3 minutes after her starting signal shall be scored DNS if she comes to the starting area or DNC if she does not. (This changes rule A5.)

9. THE FINISH

The finish line shall be between the course-side of the staff displaying a blue shape on the Signal Boat and the course-side of the nearby yellow mark.

10. TIME LIMIT

The time limit shall be 60 minutes. A boat failing to finish within 20 minutes after the first boat finishes will be scored DNF. This changes rules 35 and A5.

11. PROTESTS AND ALTERNATIVE PENALTIES

- 11.1 **Informing the Principal Race Officer (PRO).** In addition to the requirements of Rule 60.2, when reasonable opportunity occurs, a boat intending to protest shall inform the PRO immediately upon finishing the race and receive their acknowledgement.
- 11.2 **Forms.** Hearing Request and Penalty Acceptance in lieu of Disqualification forms are available at the PYC Office. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered to the Protest Committee within the appropriate time limit.

2026 No Sweat Sailing Instructions

11.3 **Alternative Penalties.** The provisions of Appendix V2 apply:

"V2 PENALTY TAKEN AFTER A RACE

After a race, a boat that may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 or rule 31 in an incident while racing may take a Post-Race Penalty for that incident. A boat takes the penalty by delivering a written notice to the race office that identifies the race number and when and where the incident occurred. The penalty shall be a 30% Scoring Penalty, calculated as stated in rule 44.3(c). However, rules 44.1(a) and (b) apply, and the penalty shall not be taken after a protest hearing involving the incident has begun."

11.4 **Protest Time Limits.** The protest time limit for each race is 30 minutes after the Signal Boat docks after the last race or the day or the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later. Protest hearings will be held immediately following the final race of the day. It is the responsibility of all parties to the protest to be available as scheduled.

11.5 The jury will hear protests, in approximately the order of receipt, as soon as possible.

12. **SCORING**

12.1 The low-point scoring system and A5.3 of Appendix A of the RRS shall apply except as modified in Sections 8.4, 10 and 12. No scores will be excluded unless all six races are completed. (This modifies rule A2.)

12.2 One race shall constitute a regatta.

13. **AWARDS**

13.1 One prize will be awarded for every four registrants.

13.2 Special prizes may also be awarded.

SPECIAL RULE FROM PORTAGE YACHT CLUB

Rigging buoys, which are intended for rigging use only, are for both racers *and* non-racers of Portage Yacht Club. Please do not leave your boat unattended on one of these buoys! Do not berth your boat to the docks at night.

Appendix 1 Course Placard Examples

