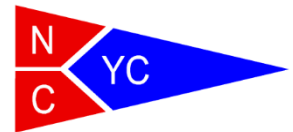




# FINN CLASS USA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

July 20 – 23, 2023

Organizing Authority:  
North Cape Yacht Club, LaSalle, Michigan



## SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The notation '[NP]' in a rule in the SI means that instruction is not grounds for protest or a request for redress by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1.

### 1 RULES

- 1.1 The regatta is governed by the rules as defined in the current *Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS).
- 1.2 US Sailing prescription to RRS 63.2 shall not apply.
- 1.3 RRS Appendix P will apply as modified in SI 14.

### 2 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to the sailing instructions shall be posted not less than one (1) hour prior to the first scheduled race on the day it shall take effect except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by the later of 1800 or the protest time limit on the day before it will take effect.

### 3 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board on YachtScoring (<https://www.yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eID=15851>). An unofficial notice board will be maintained on the clubhouse north entrance glass of North Cape Yacht Club (NCYC).
- 3.2 A competitors' meeting will be held at 1800 hrs on Thursday, July 20 on the patio of NCYC. *This changes NoR 4.2.* Informal competitors' briefings will be held each morning of competition two hours before the first scheduled warning signal (see SI 6).
- 3.3 On the water, the race committee intends to monitor and communicate with competitors on VHF channel 72.

### 4 CODE OF CONDUCT

[DP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.

### 5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flagpole southeast of the NCYC clubhouse.
- 5.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, "1 minute" is replaced with "not less than 45 minutes" in race signals AP.

### 6 SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 6.1 Thursday, July 20 - There may be a practice race(s) at 1400. Check the notice board for more details.
- 6.2 Friday, July 21 and Saturday, July 22 - The first warning signal will be at 1200.
- 6.3 Sunday, July 23 – The first warning signal will be at 1030.
- 6.4 Nine total races are scheduled. Races will be run back-to-back each day.
- 6.5 On the last scheduled day of racing, no warning signal will be made after 1500.

### 7 CLASS FLAG

The class flag is a white flag with a dark blue Finn Class insignia.

### 8 RACING AREA

The racing area will be approximately one mile east of NCYC on Lake Erie.

### 9 THE COURSES

- 9.1 The diagrams in SI Addendum A show the courses, including the order in which marks are to be rounded, and the side on which each mark is to be left.

## 2023 Finn Class USA National Championship Sailing Instructions

- 9.2 No later than the warning signal, the race committee signal vessel will display the approximate compass bearing and distance of the first leg.
- 9.3 The course number will be displayed on a placard on the starboard side of the race committee signal vessel.
- 9.4 The RC intends to set a gate at the leeward end of the course. However, a single leeward mark may be set, in which case it shall be left to port.

### 10 MARKS

- 10.1 Mark W will be an **orange** inflatable mark.
- 10.2 Mark Os (the offset mark) will be a smaller, **white** sphere.
- 10.3 Marks LG and RG (the gate) will be **orange** inflatable marks. If one of the gate marks is missing, the remaining mark shall be left to port.
- 10.4 The starting and finishing mark will be a **green** inflatable mark.
- 10.5 New marks, as provided in instruction 12 will be **yellow** inflatable marks.

### 11 THE START

- 11.1 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an **orange** flag on the signal vessel and the course side of the mark as described in instruction 10.4.
- 11.2 If any part of a boat's hull is on the course side of the starting line at her starting signal and she is identified, the race committee will attempt to hail her sail number. Failure to hail her number, failure of her to hear such a hail, or the order in which boats are hailed will not be grounds for a redress for request. *This changes RRS 62.1(a).*
- 11.3 A boat that does not start within five (5) minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. *This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.*

### 12 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will lay a new mark (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark. An offset mark will not be set with a changed weather mark.

### 13 THE FINISH

The finishing line shall be between a staff displaying a **blue** flag on the signal vessel and the course side of the mark as described in instruction 10.4.

### 14 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 14.1 RRS Appendix V (Alternative Penalties) will apply.
- 14.2 Appendix P applies with the following changes:
- RRS P2.1 is replaced with: "First and Subsequent Penalties – When a boat is penalized under rule P1.2 her penalty shall be a Two-Turns Penalty under rule 44.2. If she fails to take it she shall then be disqualified without a hearing.
  - If a penalty is signaled after a boat has crossed the finish line, the penalty will be a 10% Scoring Penalty calculated as stated in RRS 44.3(c).
  - RRS P4 is replaced with: "An action by the jury under RRS P1.2 shall not be grounds for a request for redress by a boat under RRS 60.1(b). The jury may initiate a redress hearing and may give redress for an action under RRS P1.2 by a member of the jury or its designated observer."
- 14.3 Penalties within three (3) boat lengths of Mark W or on the leg from Mark W to Mark Os may be delayed and taken as soon as possible on the downwind leg. *This changes RRS 44.2.*

### 15 TIME LIMITS

- 15.1 The Mark W Time Limit, Target Time, Race Time Limit, and the Finishing Window are shown in the table below:

First Mark W Time Limit	Target Time	Race Time Limit	Finishing Window
20 minutes	45 minutes	90 minutes	20 minutes

## 2023 Finn Class USA National Championship Sailing Instructions

- 15.2 If no boat has passed the first mark within the Mark W Time Limit, the race will be abandoned.
- 15.3 The Finishing Window is the time for boats to finish after the first boat sails the course and finishes. Boats failing to finish within the finishing window after the first boat in a race sails the course and finishes and not subsequently retiring, penalized, or given redress will be scored TLE, "Time Limit Expired." The score for TLE will equal two more points than the place of the last boat to finish within the time limit, but not worse than DNF. *This changes RRS 35, A5.1, A5.2 and A10.*
- 15.4 Failure to meet the Target Time will not be grounds for redress. *This changes RRS 62.1(a).*

### 16 HEARING REQUESTS

- 16.1 The protest time limit is sixty (60) minutes after the race committee signal vessel docks after the last race of the day or the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later. The time will be posted on the official notice board.
- 16.2 Hearing Request forms are available at the protest desk in the NCYC clubhouse.
- 16.3 Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the protest room, the location of which shall be posted on the official notice board, beginning at the time posted.
- 16.4 Protests by the RC, Technical Committee (TC) or Protest Committee (PC) shall be posted to inform boats under RRS 61.1(b).
- 16.5 If the RC posts a list of boats scored OCS, ZFP, UFD, BFD or TLE on the official notice board before the protest time limit, a request for redress based on such a posted score shall be made no later than one (1) hour after the after the penalties are posted. *This changes RRS 62.2.*

### 17 SCORING

- 17.1 Three (3) races are required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 17.2 In accordance with RRS A2.1, a boat's series score is the total of her race scores with one race excluded after five races have been completed.

### 18 SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 18.1 **Check-In** - All boats shall check-in with the Race Committee boat displaying the "L" flag before the first warning signal of the day. Each boat shall sail past the committee boat on starboard tack and hail her sail number until acknowledged by the Race Committee. [DP][NP]
- 18.2 **Retirement** - A boat that retires from a race shall notify the RC as soon as possible. [DP][NP]

### 19 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

- 19.1 Substitution of competitors beyond the final entry list shall not be allowed without prior written approval of the RC. [DP]
- 19.2 Substitution of damaged or lost equipment shall not be allowed unless authorized by the RC. Request for substitution shall be made to the committee at the first reasonable opportunity. [DP]

### 20 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

On the water, a boat can be instructed by a member of the RC or TC to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection. Ashore, equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules, notice of race, and sailing instructions.

### 21 RADIO COMMUNICATION

- 21.1 Various race information, including notification of OCS boats after the start, may be provided by the RC as a courtesy to competitors. This does not in any way alter the competitor's responsibility to observe the RC's visual signals which shall govern the conduct of the racing. [NP]
- 21.2 Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. [DP][NP]

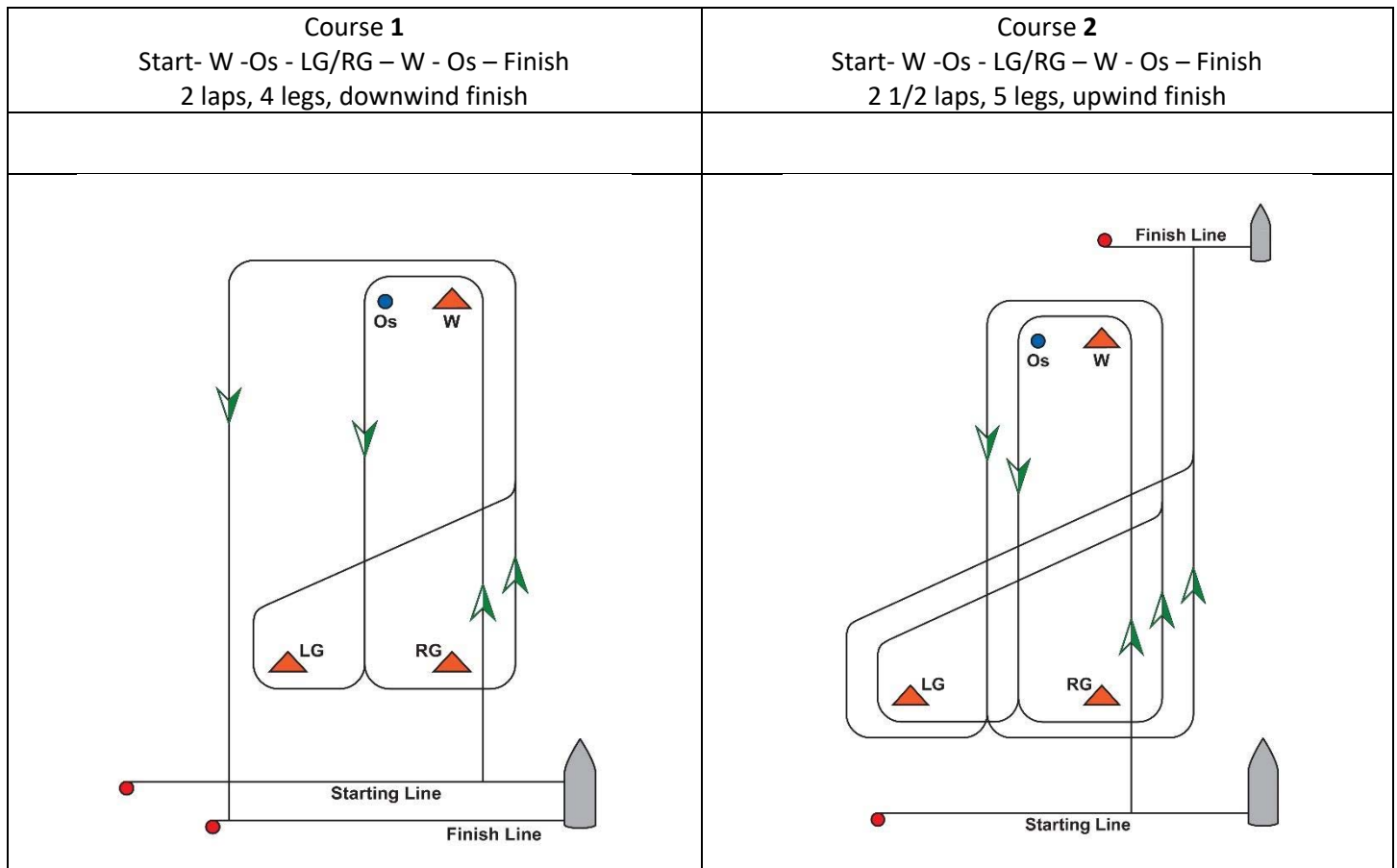
**22 AWARDS**

Trophies for first through fifth will places be presented. The first-place finisher will be declared the “USA Finn Class National Champion.” Other awards may be given – see NoR 10.1

**23 RISK STATEMENT**

RRS 3 states: ‘The responsibility for a boat’s decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.’ By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. **Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia, or other causes.**

**ADDENDUM A**  
*ILLUSTRATING THE COURSES*



Mark Os (the offset mark) will not be used with a changed mark.

Mark colors and shapes are only for illustration purposes, refer to SI 10 for actual shapes and colors.

If one of the gate marks is missing, the remaining mark shall be left to port.