

# J80 Fleet 1

## Sailing Instructions

### 2024

- 1. Rules:** The races in these series will be governed by the rules as defined in the current *Racing Rules of Sailing*, which, by definition, include the US Sailing Prescriptions, the *ISAF Recognized J/80 Class Rules* (available at [www.j80.org/rules.php](http://www.j80.org/rules.php)), the notice of race, and these sailing instructions.
- 2. Entries:** See the Notice of Race for full details on entrance requirements.
- 3. Notices to Competitors:** Notices to competitors shall be forwarded to all competitors via the email list. It is each competitor's responsibility to subscribe to receive notices via the email list and to check their email for notices. Failure to subscribe and review emails shall not be a basis for requesting redress.
- 4. Changes in Sailing Instructions:** Any change to these sailing instructions will be posted 12:00pm on the day it will take effect. Competitors shall be advised of all notices of change via the email list.
- 5. Signals Made Ashore:** In the event a regatta must be canceled in advance, Catherine McLaughlin or her designee will post a cancellation notice to the email list before 12:00pm on the regatta day. In case of bad weather on a regatta day, Catherine McLaughlin or her designee, may decide to cancel or delay the start no later than one hour before the scheduled start time. Catherine McLaughlin or her designee will email the list within fifteen minutes of this time, and arrange for calls or text message to skippers who have requested the same as soon as reasonably practicable.
  - 5.1** Should the race committee find it necessary to postpone, abandon or use an alternate racing area on a regatta day, they will broadcast a notice to competitors on the VHF radio (Ch 72) no later than 15 minutes prior to the scheduled first warning signal.
- 6. Schedule:** See the NOR. No race will be started after sunset.
- 7. Racing Area:** Racing will be held on *Lake Winnepesaukee*. The primary racing area will be on the *Broads*, south and/ or west of *Welch Island*. However, the race committee may choose to use *Sander's Bay* as an alternative racing area.
- 8. Courses:** The course will be announced on VHF channel 72 from the Race Committee signal boat. The courses will be windward/leeward. The windward mark will be rounded to port and may include an offset mark. The default number of legs shall be four; however, the race committee may designate any number of legs by hail or visual signal no later than the warning signal for the next race. An odd number of legs will mean a windward finish. Marks will be yellow inflatables, however, the race committee reserves the right to use whatever marks may be available. A race committee boat may be used as the replacement of a missing or out of position mark. An RC boat acting as a replacement mark will display flag M and make repetitive sound signals.

**9. The Start:** Races will be started by using rule 26 with the warning signal given five minutes prior to the start. A courtesy attention signal may proceed the warning signal. The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on a race Signal Boat and a nearby mark. The Signal boat may place a red ball in place of its intended starting line position and not be anchored in place. In this case, the starting line will be between the red ball and a nearby mark. The race committee boat may deploy a nearby “Keep-Away” buoy that shall be considered an integral part of that starting mark. A boat starting later than five minutes after its starting signal will be scored *Did Not Start*. This changes rule A4.1. A J80 Class flag or yellow flag will be used as the warning flag.

**10. Wind Speed Minimum:** Races will not be started with a wind speed average of fewer than four (4) knots, measured at the Signal Boat over five (5) minutes.

**11. Change of the Position of the Next Mark:** To change the position of the next mark, the race committee will move the original mark (or the finishing line) to a new position. The change will be signaled before the leading boat has begun the leg, although the mark may not yet be in the new position. Any mark to be rounded after rounding the moved mark may be relocated without further signaling to maintain course configuration.

**12. The Finish:** The finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on a race committee boat and a nearby mark.

**12.1 Shortening Course:** If the Race Committee signals a shortened course (displays S flag with two sounds), the finishing line shall be at a rounding mark between that mark and a near by “Red Ball” set to the course side of that mark. A near-by Race Committee vessel may not be anchored. A Race Committee vessel will display S Flag with two sounds. This changes RRS 32.2.

**12.2** In the absence of the race committee, a boat shall take its own finish by noting the boat that finishes previous and subsequent to it as well as the time and report to the race committee as soon as possible. If there is no longer an established finishing line, a boat shall finish as close to the remaining mark as practicable on a line extending from the required side at a 90 degree angle to the last leg.

**13. Penalty System:** Rule 44.2 is changed so that the Two-Turn Penalty is replaced by a One-Turn Penalty, which must include one tack and one jibe in the same direction.

**14. Time Limit:** If the first boat does not reach the first leeward mark rounding (or finish for a “once around” designated course) within forty-five (45) minutes of the start or the first boat to finish does not finish within ninety (90) minutes of the start, the race shall be abandoned. Boats failing to finish within fifteen (15) minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored *Time Limit Expired (TLE)* and will be scored one more point than the last finishing boat. This changes RRS A4. The race committee may hail the boat(s) on the radio. A boat so hailed

will be given five minutes to get to the starting area before the warning signal for its next race. Use of the motor to return to the starting area is encouraged in the interest of expediency and may be used up until one (1) minute before the start as long as the returning boat remains on the course side of the start line. A protest cannot be made alleging a breach of rule 42 when an engine is used as described above. This changes rule 60.

**15. Navigation Lights:** Class rules require a battery and working navigation lights. Any boats in or near the racing area after sunset must illuminate their navigation lights. Boats not so illuminating their navigation lights are subject to protest. Reference rule 48.

**16. Motors:** All boats must carry the class-required outboard motor mounted to the transom at all times.

**17. Protests:**

**17.1** The purpose of the One-Turn penalty provision is to reduce or eliminate off-the-water protests. Adjudication of protests is difficult and inconvenient for all parties, including those disinterested parties who need to assemble to hear the protest. The following protest protocol will be used:

**17.2 All protests must be properly initiated.** This includes immediate hail and display of the protest flag, display of the flag at the finish and prompt notification of the race committee prior to the start of the next race.

**17.3 Protests must be filed using official protest forms available from US Sailing.** (available at <http://ussailing.org/rules/ussapf2001.pdf>) a .pdf file of the completed protest form must be emailed to Catherine McLaughlin ([cat@lwsa.org](mailto:cat@lwsa.org)) no later than 1800 EDT hours the day after the incident. A copy of the protest must also be sent to the protested party(s) on the day after the incident.

**17.4 Protest hearings** will be held at the earliest convenience of all parties involved after the protest filing. The protest committee shall arrange a time and place or virtual meeting.

**17.5 The parties may agree to an alternate penalty at any time after the race.** The penalty will be a scoring penalty equal to one third of the number of the boats competing in the race rounded up to the next whole number. Both parties must sign a letter to the fleet captain informing her of the agreement.

**18. Scoring:**

**18.1** The Low Point Scoring System in Appendix A of the racing rules will be used.

**18.2** Four races shall constitute a series.

**18.3** The first three races of each day or night will be scored.

**18.4** Each boat's series score will be the total of all its scores, discarding the worst score if more than four races are held in the series. The maximum number of discards allowed in a series will be one. This changes rule A2.

**18.5** A boat that did not come to the starting area, did not start, did not finish, retired after finishing, or was disqualified shall be scored for the finishing place one more than the total number of boats that started or were OCS. This changes rule A4.2 and A.9

**18.6** Each boat will be entitled to receive her average score for the series (after 1 discard as described above) for all races of one regatta (night) in which she was scored DNC.

An additional bye per series for all races of one regatta will be granted to any boat that misses a regatta while away for a travel regatta and notifies the fleet captain via email ([cat@lwsa.org](mailto:cat@lwsa.org)) in advance.

**18.7** Abandoned races will not be rescheduled unless they are essential to meet the four race minimum requirement for a series.

**18.8** For a race to count in a series, a minimum of three registered boats intending to race must be in the vicinity of the starting area during one of the regatta's starting sequences.

**18.9** Boats that have not paid the fee or are not J80 North American Class and LWSA members as stated in the Notice of Race will be scored the same as a boat that did not come to the starting area.

**19. Communication:** The race committee will monitor and use VHF channel 72 to communicate with competitors. Note that class rules require a working VHF radio on all boats. For safety and organizational reasons, cell phones are allowed on board but must be stowed while racing.