

2012 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS FHYC Ensign Fleet 19

MANAGEMENT AND RULES: The FHYC Ensign Spring and Fall Series shall be conducted and managed by the Fairfield Harbour Yacht Club. The racing shall be governed by *The 2009 - 2012 Racing Rules of Sailing*, including the prescriptions of US Sailing, except as altered by these sailing instructions and by the Ensign Class Rules. Where there is conflict between the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions, the Sailing Instructions shall take precedence.

FLEET 19 RULE: All boats shall be “wet sailed” which means being in the water a minimum of two weeks prior to the start of scheduled racing. Outboards shall be removed from transom before starting.

PRERACE COMMUNICATION: There will be no skipper’s meeting prior to racing. The race committee may announce the general location of the course or any other notices on VHF Channel 71, by phone or by email.

CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS: Any changes to the Sailing Instructions will be made by email.

SCHEDULE OF RACES: The first scheduled start for each race day is 1:00 PM. Three races are scheduled each day, however no race shall start after 3:00 PM. Race days are as follows:

SPRING SERIES - March 22, 29 and April 5, 12, 18, 26
FALL SERIES - October 3, 11, 24 and November 1, 3, 8

CANCELLATIONS, POSTPONEMENTS AND ABANDONMENTS: No signals will be made ashore. However, decisions to cancel or postpone racing, if made before 10:30AM, will be announced by email or on the phone. In the event of cancellation or postponement after 10:30AM, announcements will be made on VHF Channel 71 at 11:30AM or as soon thereafter as decisions allow. Races will be abandoned or cancelled for the day if sustained winds greater than 18 knots are experienced or expected on the racecourse. Races shall not be started when winds are insufficient for fair racing. Final on the water weather related decisions are the responsibility of the race day PRO. He/She may gather input from the competitors by VHF or hailing before making a decision. Also, a race will not be started unless 3 boats are in the racing area and a race will not be scored unless 2 boats start.

RACING AREAS: The racing area will be on the Neuse River near marker “19” or in Upper Broad Creek.

THE COURSES: The courses will be WINDWARD/LEEWARD and will be signaled by displaying a green or red flag. Course diagrams can be found on page 2.

MARKS: All marks will be inflatable buoys.

THE START: Races will be started according to rule 26. Rule 30.1 will be in effect at all starts without the “I” flag being displayed. This changes Rule 30.1. The starting line will be between an orange flag on the Signal Boat and the Start/Finish pin. After the first race of the day the following starting sequence will begin about 5 minutes after the last boat has finished the previous race. The PRO may consider requests from boats that ask for additional time (not to exceed 5 minutes).

Signal	Flag and Sound	Time Before Starting
	A series of short blasts - no flag	5 Min. 30 Sec.
Warning	Ensign Flag up, 1 Sound	5 Min.
Preparatory	P Flag up: 1 Sound	4 Min.
One-Minute	P Flag removed; 1 long sound	1 Min.
Starting	Class flag removed; 1 sound	0

CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE: Marks (or the finishing line) may be moved without signal if no boat is on that leg. Expect to go upwind and downwind. This changes Rule 33.

FINISH: The finish will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the signal boat and the Start/finish pin. The finish may also be between a mark of the course and a staff on the mark boat displaying the "S" flag (shortened course).

TIME LIMIT: The time limit for each race will be 60 minutes. Boats not finishing within 15 minutes of the first boat to finish will be scored DNF. This changes Rule 35.

PROTESTS: In addition to the requirements of Rule 61.1, a protest shall be heard only if the protesting yacht notifies the Race Committee, by hail, immediately upon finishing the race and the hail is acknowledged by the Committee. All protests must be presented to the Race Committee in writing within 90 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day. All protests shall be heard on the same day, or as soon as practicable, at a time and place to be determined by the Protest Committee.

SCORING: The low point scoring system of Appendix A, paragraph A 4 will be used. Boats that did not finish shall be scored points equal to the number of boats that started. A series will be official if a minimum of one race is sailed. Series scores are calculated using throw-outs as follows: The highest score for one (1) race will be subtracted from that boat's total if 8 or 9 races are conducted, two (2) highest scores will be subtracted if 10 to 13 races are conducted and three (3) highest scores will be subtracted if 14 or more races are conducted. This changes Rules A 2 and A 9..

AWARDS: One award shall be presented for every three yachts entered. The Boat of the Year Award shall be determined by the sum of the spring, fall and invitational scores. The invitational results will be re-scored using only the Fleet 19 boats.

WITHDRAWAL FROM RACING: A yacht that retires from racing shall notify the Race Committee, if possible, before leaving the racing area. Skippers shall notify the Fleet Captain as early as possible if their boat will not be racing.

CHASE BOAT: All races must have a chase boat to set marks, provide a safety watch and recover persons overboard.

DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY: Competitors participate in the Series entirely at their own risk. See Rule 4, Decision to Race. Each Competitor is responsible for any and all liability claims, which may result from their participation, and should be adequately self-insured or covered by third party insurance. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during or after each day's racing.

