



THAMES YACHT CLUB, INC.  
Force 5 and Finn

**2026 THURSDAY NIGHT RACING  
SERIES**



Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted on the Race Information bulletin board not later than 60 minutes prior to the First Warning on the evening it will take effect.

*SAILING INSTRUCTIONS*

1.0 RULES

- 1.1 The Series will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the prescriptions of US Sailing, Force 5 Class Rules, TYC Course Symbols and Marks handout and these Sailing Instructions. Advertising is restricted to Category A.

- 1.2 Rules of the Road provide commercial traffic with the right-of-way in a restricted channel. Failure of a racing boat to keep clear, whether intentional or not, may result in disqualification.

- 1.3 Sail numbers are not required.

- 1.4 A minimum of 2 boats per class must start a race in order for it to be scored.

2.0 ENTRIES

- 2.1 Entries will be accepted or rejected at the discretion of the Race Committee.

- 2.2 Guest racers will not be counted in the overall scoring for the season. However they will be counted in the nightly high point scoring.

3.0 CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

4.0 SCHEDULE

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- 4.1 There will be a Spring Series and a Summer Series. Spring race dates are, May 28, June 4, 11, 18, 25, July 2, and July 9. Summer race dates are July 16, 23, 30 Aug. 6 and Aug 13, 20, 27, and Sept 3.

- 4.2 The Race Committee will attempt to run four (4) races each evening.

5.0 FIRST WARNING

- 5.1 The First Warning will be made at 1810 each evening.

6.0 THE START

- 6.1 The Three Minute Dinghy Starting System of RRS App. S3, described as follows, will be used:

3 Minutes 3 standard blasts

2 Minutes 2 standard blasts

1 Minute 30 Seconds 1 standard blast and 3 short blasts 1 Minute 1 standard blast

30 Seconds 3 short blasts

20 Seconds 2 short blasts

10 Seconds 1 short blast

5 Seconds down 1 short blast for each second

Start 1 Long Blast

• 6.2 There will be a two (2) minute delay between class starts.

• 6.3 The starting line shall be between an orange flag on the committee boat and an inflatable buoy.

#### 7.0 THE COURSE

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• 7.1 The course will be posted on the committee boat or relayed verbally to the racers. Marks will be identified on the Course Symbols and Marks Handout. The course designation procedures, as given on its reverse side, will be followed. SPECIAL MARKS: The race committee may set as many as two special marks identified and positioned as follows: SPECIAL MARK “M” may be set southerly of the committee boat on the west side of the channel. SPECIAL MARK “B” may be set northerly of the committee boat on the west side of the channel.

#### 8.0 RECALLS

• 8.1 Individual Recalls will be signaled in accordance with Rule 29.1 and Race Signals. The race committee will attempt to hail each boat. A boat over early and not returning for a proper start will be scored OCS.

• 8.2 General Recall signals and procedures will be as specified in Rule 29.2 and Race Signals. The normal starting sequence will immediately resume.

#### 9.0 THE FINISH

• 9.1 The finish line shall be between an orange flag on the committee boat and an inflatable buoy.

#### 10.0 TIME LIMIT

The first boat in each race must finish within 60 minutes of the start.

#### 11.0 PROTESTS

• 11.1 A boat intending to protest need not display a red flag; however, all other aspects of Section A, Part 5 of the RRS shall be complied with. A written protest shall be delivered to a race official at the Clubhouse prior to one hour after the race committee comes ashore.

• 11.2 It is intended that any protest be heard as soon as feasible after the day’s racing. Failure of either party to appear may result in a judgment against the absentee.

#### 12.0 SCORING

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- 12.1 The Series will be scored using a [High Point Percentage Scoring system](#). For each race the skipper will receive points for the number of boats beaten in that race plus 1. To qualify for the series, a skipper must compete in at least 75% of the races in the series. The series percentage score will be calculated as the points earned divided by the total possible points for the races scored. Scoring may be modified at the discretion of a majority of the eligible Fleet 32 entered participants.

### 13.0 PRIZES

Prizes for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> will be awarded for classes with at least five (5) qualifying boats at Skippers' Night.

### 14.0 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate entirely at their own risk. See Rule 4, Decision to Race. 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 the series' conclusion.