

1 RULES

The Saturday cruising fleet races at Atwood Yacht Club (AYC) will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing 2017-2020 (RRS), Performance Handicap Racing Fleet-Atwood Lake (PHRF-AL), and these Sailing Instructions. The Sailing Instructions will take precedence should conflict(s) exist. All boats shall be equipped with the safety equipment necessary to comply with all Federal and State laws and regulations. All boats will fly a Quebec (Q) flag or a yellow streamer from her stern while racing. RRS Rule 77, Identification on Sails, shall not apply.

2 ENTRIES

The Saturday races are open to all AYC members in good standing who have paid the annual Sailing Fleet dues. A Skipper shall enter his/her boat in these races by signing up with the Fleet Captain or his designee prior to each race. The Skipper must own or be leasing the boat, and the Skipper (or spouse) must be aboard the boat for at least five of the seven scheduled races to be considered for Fleet Champion. Skippers shall declare the division in which their boat will sail prior to their first race, and that declaration shall not be revised for all subsequent 2018 Saturday races. Three boats must sign up for a division to establish that division. A Skipper may decide to compete in the next higher (faster) division, if the minimum number of entries for a given division is not met or if it is otherwise desired and approved by the Fleet Captain.

The three divisions are:

1. **Racer-Cruiser I** (Cruising boats wishing to compete with spinnakers)
2. **Cruiser II** (Cruising boats with an overall length of 25 or more feet; this is a main and jib only division)
3. **Cruiser III** (Cruising boats with an overall length of less than 25 feet; this is a main and jib only division)

Boats that are best described as "daysailors" will not have a division. The intent is to be inclusive of all AYC members and their boats; but for safety considerations, "daysailors" are excluded. The Fleet Captain's decision on boat classification and eligibility shall be final.

3 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

The Sailing Instructions will be posted on the AYC website <http://www.atwoodyachtclub.com/>. Notices to Competitors will be announced at the pre-race Skippers' Meeting and will be broadcast on VHF channel 68 prior to the Warning signal for the first division to start. Official notice of any pre-race Abandonment will be posted on the AYC Sailing Fleet's Facebook page.

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

Signals will not be made ashore; they will be made from the Race Committee boat.

5 SCHEDULE

Seven Saturday races shall be held in 2017:

- 19 May - Dam to Dellroy
- 02 June - AYC Classic
- 23 June - Trans-Atwood
- 07 July - Commodore's Cup
- 14 July - Memorial Race
- 28 July - Atwood 500
- 11 August - Rhumb Line Run

A Warm-up / Practice race will be conducted on 12 May. Scores for this race will not be included in the determination of Fleet Champions.

Two Make-Up races are scheduled. These will occur on 25 August and 15 September, as needed - if any of the seven races are Abandoned.

All races will start at 1300 hours with the Warning signal for the first division sounding five minutes prior to the



start time. A Skippers' Meeting will be conducted at 1200 hours each race day. The Skippers' Meeting will be conducted at the point overlooking the northeast corner of the Club's property or on the clubhouse porch.

6 STARTING SEQUENCE / CLASS FLAGS

For each race, the three divisions will start in the following order: Racer-Cruiser I, Cruiser II, and Cruiser III. The division flags for the Racer Cruiser I, Cruiser II, and Cruiser III divisions shall be Numerical Code pennants 1, 2, and 3, respectively. If deemed appropriate, the Race Committee may start multiple divisions in a combined start.

7 RACING AREA

Races will be conducted on Atwood Lake. The Appendix of these Sailing Instructions describes Atwood Lake and the location of the permanent buoys which may be used to establish the course.

Boats shall not enter marked swimming areas including the MCWD park beach, the two boaters' swim areas, or any other area marked by the MWCD with 'boats keep out' buoys; the penalty for entering these areas is disqualification with no opportunity for exoneration. These areas are considered obstructions. If a boat is forced to violate this rule because another boat violates a rule in Part 2 of the RRS, the boat entering the area shall be exonerated.

8 COURSES AND MARKS

The course for each division's race will be announced at the Skippers' Meeting and will be broadcast on VHF Channel 68 prior to the first division's Warning signal. The course will be designated using the nine permanent racing buoys (white cans with a red stripe and black numbers), and/or temporary marks (orange tetrahedrons).

A race may be Shortened by the Race Committee by flying the Sierra (S) flag, sounding two (2) horn blasts, and making an announcement on VHF channel 68. The next leg (relative to the lead boat) will be the last leg to the finish line. The finish line will be between the Race Committee boat's race flag(s) and either a permanent or a temporary mark.

9 START / FINISH LINES AND STARTING SEQUENCE

The start and finish lines will be between the Race Committee Boat's race flag(s) and either a permanent or a temporary mark.

The starting sequence will be:

<u>Signal</u>	<u>Minutes before Start</u>	<u>Flag</u>	<u>Sound(s)</u>
General Alert	Approximately 6	None	4
Warning	5	Division flag raised	1
Preparatory	4	P flag raised	1
One-Minute	1	P flag removed	1 long
Start	0	Division flag removed	1
		Next Division flag raised	

After the start of the last division, a red flag will be flown while boats are racing unless replaced by the Sierra (S) flag. This is a change to the RRS 2017-2020 Race Signals.

The starting sequence for the Cruiser II, Cruiser III, and any recalled Divisions will begin with a Warning signal which was the Start signal for the preceding Division.

Before the start signal for the first division, the Race Committee may signal a Postponement of the race using two (2) sounds and making an announcement on VHF channel 68 or may signal an abandonment of the race using three (3) sounds and making an announcement on VHF channel 68. This modifies Rule 27.3.

Boats on the course side of the starting line at their Start signal will be responsible for assuring proper return to the pre-start side of the line and restarting. The Race Committee may attempt an oral notification of offending boat(s) with no flag, but the responsibility to properly restart is upon the offending boat(s). This modifies Rule 29.1.



A General Recall for a division will be signaled by two (2) sounds and no flag, this modifies Rule 29.2. The recalled division will then restart after the last division in the scheduled start sequence and after any preceding recalled divisions.

A race may be shortened by the Race Committee by flying the S flag, providing two (2) sounds and making an announcement on VHF radio channel 68. The next leg (relative to the lead boat) will be the last leg to the finish line. The finish line will be between the Race Committee Boat's race flag(s) and either a permanent or a temporary mark.

10 TIME LIMIT

The time limit for each division's race will be 120 minutes for the first boat in each division to Finish. Races exceeding this time limit will be Abandoned. If any boats in a division have finished within the 120 minute time limit but not all boats have finished, an additional 30 minute time limit extension will be added to allow the remaining boats to finish. Any boat in a division not finishing within the 30 minute time limit extension will be scored as Did Not Finish (DNF). This modifies RRS Rule 35.

11 PROTESTS

Written protests will be delivered to the Race Committee, Fleet Captain or his designee within 30 minutes after the Race Committee docks. Hearings will be held as soon as possible after racing each day at a location determined by the Fleet Captain or his designee.

12 SCORING

Each race shall be scored individually (not as a series) using the Low Point Scoring System as prescribed by RRS, Appendix A. Finishing places will be determined by using the Time-on-Distance handicap method and handicaps determined by PHRF-AL.

13 AWARDS

A plaque will be presented at the Club's end-of-year banquet to boats scoring First, Second or Third in their division in any of the seven races. Additionally, the winners in each division of the Memorial Race will have their names inscribed on the Memorial Race plaque located in the Clubhouse.

14 FLEET CHAMPION

The annual designation of Fleet Champions for each of the three divisions shall be determined by considering the seven Saturday races as a Series (not a "Long Series") and computing the scores for that Series in accordance with RRS, Appendix A. This will be done solely to determine the Fleet Champions and not the placement for the other boats during the season. The Fleet Champions for each division will have their names inscribed on the Fleet Champion plaque located in the Clubhouse.

15 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors agree to participate in this event at their own risk (see RRS Rule 4: Decision to Race). Competitors agree that AYC; PHRF-AL; and any officers, members, committees or affiliates of these organizations will not be responsible for equipment damage, personal injury, injury to any other competitor or death sustained in conjunction with, prior to, during, or after the races.

