

RVYC SKILLS CHALLENGE 2026

Regatta

May 30th & 31st 2026

Royal Vancouver Yacht Club

Vancouver Canada

Sailing Instructions

**Including Amendment 01, May 29 14:00
and Amendment 02, May 30 08:00**

1 RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 1.2 The prescriptions of Sail Canada will apply.
- 1.3 Racing rule 40 and the preamble to Part IV are amended so that competitors shall wear personal flotation devices at all times while on the water, except briefly for changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment. Wet suits or dry suits do not qualify as personal flotation devices.
- 1.4 RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by a One-Turn Penalty, except that if a judge signals a penalty identifying a boat, it shall be a Two-Turns Penalty.
- 1.5 After the warning signal for a race, the registered skipper shall not leave the helm, except in an emergency.
- 1.6 When a participant is unable to continue in the event, the race committee may make such arrangements as it deems equitable. These arrangements will not be grounds for redress.
- 1.7 When flag D is displayed before or with the warning signal, spinnakers may not be used.
- 1.8 Skippers and crews are responsible for complying with the Boat Conditions shown in Attachment A.
- 1.9 Appendix U "Direct Judging" applies as modified and reproduced below in SI 1.10:
- 1.10 Protests by a boat:
 - (a) A boat may protest another boat in accordance with RRS 60.2 and displaying flag Y (Yankee). However, if a judge signals a penalty as described herein, the protesting boat shall remove her Y flag and take no further action. A judge may respond by one of the following:

- (1) No signal and remains silent. The judge did not see the incident. The protesting boat may deliver a protest in accordance with RRS 60.3.
- (2) The display of a green flag with a sound signal means "No penalty."
- (3) The display of a red flag with a sound signal and identifying a boat by hailing means the identified boat shall take a TWO turns penalty in complying with SI 1.4. If the boat does not take the penalty, she shall be scored DSQ without a protest hearing. This changes RRS 60.5(c).
- (b) When a judge decides that a boat has broken RRS 31 and she is not exonerated, the judge will make one sound signal, display a red flag and identify the boat by hailing. The identified boat shall take a TWO turns penalty by complying with SI 1.4. If the boat does not take a penalty; she shall be scored DSQ without a protest hearing. This changes RRS 60.5(c).
- (c) Any non-action by a judge under SI 10 (a) or (b) shall not be grounds for a request for redress. Judge boats may be positioned anywhere in the course area and this positioning shall not be grounds for a request for redress. This changes RRS 6.1(a).

2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board: <http://royalvan.com/skills-challenge>

3 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0830 on the day it will take effect. Oral changes made afloat will be signaled by the display of flag L with three sound signals.

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed at the flagpole on the north side of the Royal Vancouver YC Jericho clubhouse.
- 4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes' in race signal AP.

5 RACING AREA

The racing area will be the south side of English Bay off the RVYC breakwater.

6 AREA THAT IS AN OBSTRUCTION

A line beginning at the northwest corner of the Royal Vancouver YC Jericho breakwater, through a series of orange and white can buoys, ending with the north end of the most westerly pier at Jericho Sailing Centre, delimits an obstruction. Boats may not pass south of this line.

7 SCHEDULE OF RACES - COMPETITORS BRIEFING

7.1 Dates of racing: May 30th & 31st 2026

7.2 On both Saturday and Sunday morning a competitors' briefing will be held at 9:00 AM in the RVYC Star & Dragon café. Attendance at these briefings is mandatory for all competitors.

7.4 Up to 24 races are scheduled.

7.5 The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race is 10:30 on both Saturday and Sunday.

7.6 On Sunday, May 31st no warning signal will be displayed after 16:30 hours.

8 CLASS FLAG

Class is the Elliott class flag.

9 THE COURSE

9.1 The diagram in Attachment B shows the course, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.

10 MARKS

10.1 The descriptions of the marks and their colours is listed in Attachment B.

11 THE START

11.1 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the race committee signal boat at the starboard end and the course side of mark S at the port end.

11.2 A boat starting later than 5 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes rules A4 and A5.

11.3 Sail numbers of OCS boats will be posted at the race committee signal boat at the conclusion of each race. Failure to post these sail numbers will not be grounds for redress. This changes rule 62.1(a).

11.4 Vakaros systems will be supplied for each boat.

11.5 Vakaros systems shall not be moved or adjusted except by the OA.

12 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

12.1 To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will lay Mark C (or move the finishing line) and remove the original marks as soon as practicable. Mark C replaces both Marks 1 and 1a or 2s and 2p, as applies. When in a subsequent change Mark C is replaced, it will be replaced by a single original Mark. When only one mark is replacing Marks 2s and 2p, it shall be rounded to port

13 THE FINISH

The finishing line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the race committee signal boat at the port end and the course side of Mark S at the starboard end.

14 TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES

14.1 The time limit is 40 minutes.

14.2 Target time is 20 minutes. Failure to meet the target time will not be grounds for redress. This changes rule 62.1(a).

14.3 The finish window is 8 minutes. 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, and not subsequently retiring, penalized, or given redress, will be scored 'Did not finish' (DNF) without a hearing.

15 SCORING

15.1 One race is required to be completed to constitute a series.

~~15.2 For scoring purposes each boat's series score shall be the total of her race scores with no exclusions.~~

15.3 Skills Format Scoring will be used, as described in Attachment E

16 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

16.1 The protest time limit is 45 minutes after the Race Committee signal boat has returned to the harbour. This time will be posted on the Official Notice Board.

16.2 Hearing requests shall be filed online using the link on the Official Notice Board

16.3 Hearing Notices will be posted online on the Official Notice Board no later than 15 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties.

16.4 A request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the requesting party was informed of the decision. This changes rule 66.

16.5 A request for redress based on a protest committee decision shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the decision is posted. This changes rule 62.2.

16.6 Penalties for breaches of a rule other than part 2 may be less than disqualification if the protest committee so decides. This changes rule 64.2. The scoring abbreviation for a discretionary penalty imposed under this instruction will be DPI.

17 SAFETY REGULATIONS

17.1 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible.

17.2 Boats must obey all warning signals and directions from, and shall not obstruct, commercial traffic.

18 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

Substitution of competitors will not be allowed without prior approval of the race committee.

19 DAMAGE

Each helmsperson is responsible for the damage or loss to their boat unless responsibility is otherwise assigned by the protest committee.

20 TRASH DISPOSAL

Boats shall not put trash in the water. Trash may be placed aboard support and race committee boats.

21 RADIO COMMUNICATION

Competitors are encouraged to bring handheld VHF's. The Race Committee will be broadcasting on Channel 68. Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.

22 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See rule 3, 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 regatta.

23 BOAT ROTATION

See Attachment C regarding boat rotation.

ATTACHMENT A – BOAT CONDITIONS

1 GENERAL

While all reasonable steps are taken to equalize the boats, variations will not be grounds for redress. This changes rule 62.

2 PROHIBITED ITEMS and ACTIONS

Except in an emergency or in order to prevent damage or injury, or when directed by the race committee otherwise, the following are prohibited:

2.1 Adding, omitting or altering the equipment supplied.

2.2 Using any equipment for a purpose other than that intended or specifically permitted.

2.3 Replacing any equipment without the sanction of the race committee.

2.4 Sailing the boat in a manner that it is reasonable to predict that significant further damage would result.

2.5 Moving equipment from its normal stowage position except when being used.

2.6 Boarding a boat without prior permission.

2.7 Taking a boat from its berth or mooring without having permission from the race committee.

2.8 Hauling out a boat or cleaning surfaces below the waterline.

2.9 Attaching lines to the fabric of spinnakers.

2.10 Perforating sails, even to attach tell tales.

2.11 Radio transmission (including mobile telephones), except to report damage or in response to a request from the race committee.

2.12 Adjusting or altering the tension of standing rigging.

2.13 Using electronic instruments other than handheld VHF's & watches unless they are supplied by the OA.

2.14 Marking directly on the hull or deck with permanent ink.

2.15 Use of any tape that leaves a residue or any use of duct tape.

2.16 Using the spinnaker pole to wing out the foresail.

2.17 After the starting signal and while sailing close hauled for more than a few seconds, controlling the main boom position by any means other than by the mainsheet as it exits the block on the cockpit floor, the traveller, the vang, or by changing the number of mainsheet purchases.

2.18 Using the shrouds (including any inner shrouds) above the lower turnbuckle to facilitate tacking or gybing, or to aid the projection of a crew member outboard is prohibited.

2.19 Hiking off halyards or any control lines or sheets other than working sheets.

2.20 When hiking, placing any part of the crew's body between the middle of the thigh and the feet outboard of the sheerline.

2.21 Changing the tension of any batten in the mainsail.

2.22 Changing the position or attachment of the bow numbers.

3 PERMITTED ITEMS and ACTIONS The following are permitted.

3.1 Taking on board the following equipment:

- (a) basic hand tools
- (b) adhesive tape excluding duct tape
- (c) line (elastic or otherwise of 4 mm diameter or less)
- (d) marking pens
- (e) tell tale material
- (f) watch, timers and hand held compass
- (g) shackles and clevis pins
- (h) velcro tape

3.2 Using the items in 3.1 to:

- (a) prevent fouling of lines, sails and sheets
- (b) attach tell tales
- (c) prevent sails being damaged or falling overboard
- (d) mark control settings
- (e) make minor repairs and permitted adjustments
- (f) maintain personal safety

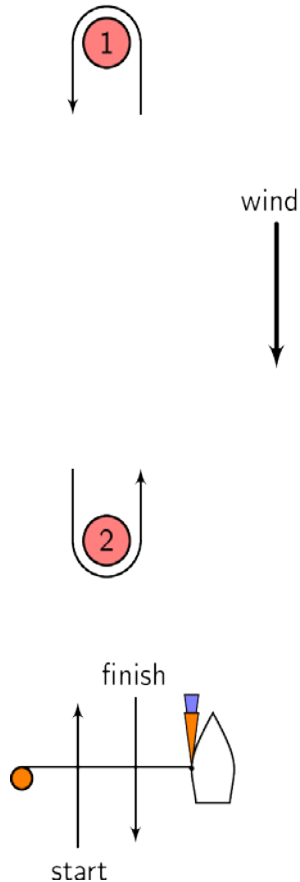
3.3 Fixing a spinnaker sheet catcher at the bow, providing that it does not extend the length of the boat more than 100 mm and does not require any repair after removal.

4 MANDATORY ITEMS and ACTIONS The following are mandatory.

4.1 At the end of each sailing day:

- (a) folding, bagging and placement of the sails as directed
- (b) leaving the boat in the same state of cleanliness as when first boarded that day
- (d) cleaning the boat, removing all trash and removing all tape and marks

ATTACHMENT B - Course



Marks are to be rounded in the order:
Start–1– 2 –1– Finish

Mark S: Orange inflatable

Mark 1 (and Mark 1a if set): Pink Inflatable

Mark 2 (or 2s/2p if set): Yellow Inflatable

Mark C (change mark): Green Inflatable

NOTE: Mark 1a (windward offset) may be used. It shall be rounded after mark 1 .

Also, Mark 2 may be replaced by a gate:

Marks 2s & 2p

ATTACHMENT C - Boat Rotation

1. An initial boat assignment and rotation sheet will be posted on the Official Notice Board and distributed to all competitors at the competitor's briefing each morning.
2. The Race Committee may change the boat rotation system on the water by issuing oral instructions and signalling with code flag L from the Signal boat.
3. Crew teams will stay with their initially assigned boat throughout the series.
5. The Race Committee will provide a RIB for transferring helms from boat to boat. Skippers shall not change boats without using the RIB unless directed to do so by the Race Committee.

ATTACHMENT D – Vakaros RaceSense System

D1. RRS 26 is changed. The countdown to the start on the Atlas 2 / Atlas Edge from RaceSense will be the official time. Signal flags will only be used for information purposes.

D2. The visual identification of boats infringing RRS 29 and RRS 30 by the RC is replaced with electronic identification through the Vakaros RaceSense system, modifying RRS 29.1, 30.1, 30.2, 30.3, and 30.4. In the event a start needs to be abandoned, for fairness or safety reasons, the RC will display code flag N with three sounds and the race will be abandoned.

D3. Any failure of the Atlas 2 / Atlas Edge, RaceSense system, or communication systems will not constitute grounds to request redress by a boat or the Protest Committee. This changes RRS 41(c), 61.1(a), 61.1(c).

D4. If the RC vessel displays flag O with a sound signal before the warning signal of a race, D1 to D3 inclusive will not apply to that race.

D5. If the RC vessel displays flag R with a sound signal before the warning signal of a race, competitors shall restart their Vakaros Atlas 2 / Atlas Edge unit by switching it off, waiting 10 seconds and then switching it back on to reconnect to the RaceSense network. Flag R will remain displayed for a minimum of 2 minutes and will be removed with the next warning signal

ATTACHMENT E - Skills Format Scoring

1. At least one round robin series is required to be completed to constitute a series.
2. RRS A2.1 is amended so that each boat's series score shall be the total of her race scores with no exclusions.
3. Skipper and crews shall be ranked independently, in different divisions with separate trophies for Top Skipper and Top Crew Team.
4. If an equipment breakdown occurs prior to racing, which prevents a boat from taking part in that race, the skipper and crew teams prevented from racing shall be awarded average points for that race (this changes RRS A5.1-A5.3).
 - . Average points for the skipper shall be calculated by that skipper's results only.
 - . Average points for the crew team shall be calculated by that crew results only.
 - . A scoring adjustment factor shall be added to the average points of the skipper and crew teams in accordance with section 6 below. The scoring adjustment shall be based on the calculation from the last completed round robin. The scoring adjustment shall apply regardless of if that round robin is completed.
- . If a skipper or crew team intentionally damages equipment, that skipper or crew team shall be disqualified from the regatta. A hearing will be required to apply this penalty.
5. If a crew team or skipper team is unable to sail, they shall look for a suitable replacement. Should they be unable to find a suitable replacement in time, their associated skipper/crew pair for the race assigned shall be awarded average points for that race (this changes RRS A5.1-A5.3).
 - . The skipper or crew team who is unable to compete in a race shall be scored DNC.
 - . Average points for the skipper shall be calculated by that skipper's results only.
 - . Average points for the crew team shall be calculated by that crew results only.
 - . A scoring adjustment factor shall be added to the average points of the skipper and crew teams in accordance with section 6 below. The scoring adjustment shall be based on the calculation from the last completed round robin. The scoring adjustment shall apply regardless of if that round robin is completed.
 - . If a skipper or crew team does not sail, or makes a substitution which is intended to substantially

increase the teams performance mid-regatta, that skipper or crew team shall be disqualified from the regatta. A hearing will be required to apply this penalty.

6. INCOMPLETE ROUND ROBIN SCORING ADJUSTMENT FACTOR

The intention of the following scoring adjustment is to allow all races sailed to be counted, regardless of if a full subsequent round robin has been sailed. RRS A4 shall be modified accordingly:

- . After the completion of each round robin series, for subsequent races until the completion of that round robin series, a correction factor shall be added to each teams score for each race completed.
 - . Should the full round robin for which these corrections apply be completed the correction factor shall be discarded.
 - . The correction factor for the crew team shall be added to the points of skipper for the race they sail together.
 - . The correction factor for the skipper shall be added to the points of the crew team for the race they sail together.

- . The correction factor shall be calculated at the conclusion of the last round robin, and applied to the next round robin. It shall not be adjusted until the conclusion of the next round robin.
- . The correction factor for the skipper shall be calculated as follows:

$$\frac{(\#of\ competitors)}{(2)} - \frac{(Skipper\ total\ points)}{(\#\ of\ races\ completed)}$$

- . The correction factor for the crew team shall be calculated as follows:

$$\frac{(\#of\ competitors)}{(2)} - \frac{(crew\ total\ points)}{(\#\ of\ races\ completed)}$$

- . If a subsequent round robin series is completed in full the correction factors shall be discarded.
- . If a round robin series is only partially completed, the correction factors for the partially completed round robin races shall count towards the teams final scores.