



**NWISA Keelboat Championship
2026 Qualifier for ISSA Keelboat Invitational
October 3-4, 2026
Port Madison Yacht Club & Bainbridge High School Sailing**

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES:

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the 2025-2028 Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the Prescriptions of US SAILING, the ISSA Procedural Rules, the NWISA District Rules, the Notice of Race, and these Sailing Instructions.
- 1.2 RRS Appendix P will apply, except P2.2 and P2.3 are deleted and will not apply. This is a change from the NOR.
- 1.3 The US Sailing Prescription to Rule 63.1 is deleted and will not apply.
- 1.4 The J/70 Class Rules will not apply except that Class Rules C.3.3 concerning crew positioning and C.9.4(b) concerning bowsprits shall apply. The application of Class Rule C.3.3 is a change from the NOR.
- 1.5 Under ISSA Procedural Rule 18(a), the right of appeal is denied.
- 1.6 Electronic instruments, including but not limited to compasses, shall not be used and shall remain turned off for the duration of the event.

2. ELIGIBILITY & QUALIFICATION:

- 2.1 For eligibility and qualification requirements, refer to the NOR.

3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS:

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official regatta notice board located online at the NWISA Keelboat Championship's TechScore page.

4. CHANGES TO THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS:

- 4.1 These Sailing Instructions may be amended as necessary. Any change to these Sailing Instructions will be posted before 10:00 am on Saturday or 7:00 am Sunday, except that any change in the schedule of races will be posted by 7:00 pm on the day before it will take effect.
- 4.2 The race committee has the authority to extend racing time on Sunday in order to complete the first or second round robin.

5. DAMAGE:

- 5.1 Per the NOR, teams shall comply with the damage deposit requirements or they will not be allowed to race.
- 5.2 Taking care of these boats and avoiding damage will facilitate our ability to use these boats for future events.

6. BOATS AND FORMAT:

- 6.1 There is one fleet and one division. One boat will be provided for each team.
- 6.2 Per the NOR, boats shall be sailed as provided. Teams SHALL NOT make alterations to the standing rigging unless explicit consent is obtained from the race officials. The "base" leg of the backstage bridle is included in standing rigging and must not be adjusted. RACE COMMITTEE MAY CHANGE SHROUD SETTINGS ON ALL BOATS IF WIND STRENGTH CHANGES SIGNIFICANTLY.
- 6.3 While all reasonable steps are taken to equalize the boats, variations will not be grounds for granting redress. This changes RRS 61.
- 6.4 Teams will rotate boats as directed in the coaching area after each race. Coach boats will be responsible for assisting with rotations.
- 6.5 There will be a maximum of two round-robin rotations.
- 6.6 All races sailed shall count toward each team's final score up until the first round robin is completed. Upon the completion of the first round robin, race scores from the second round robin will not count toward a team's final score until the second round robin is completed.

7. RACING AREA AND COURSES:

- 7.1 All races will be sailed in greater Port Madison Bay.
- 7.2 The diagram in Appendix A displays the courses that may be used.
- 7.3 The course will be indicated by Numeral Pennants flown by the signal boat.
- 7.4 The windward, offset, and gate marks will be yellow inflatable marks.
- 7.5 The start/finish line will be between a staff displaying both an orange flag and a blue RC flag on the signal boat at the starboard end and a pin with a red/orange flag at the top of a staff on the port end.
- 7.6 Races will be started in accordance with RRS 26.
- 7.7 Boats starting later than four (4) minutes after their starting signal will be scored as DNS. This changes RRS A5.1
- 7.8 If a boat is delaying the finish of a race, the race committee may end the race and score the boat in its current position or score the boat DNF at its discretion. This changes RRS A5.1.
- 7.9 After finishing, sailors should immediately furl their headsail and stay in the coaching area to facilitate rotations.

8. PENALTIES:

- 8.1 A boat may take a One-Turn Penalty when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 in an incident while racing. This changes RRS 44.1

9. RECALLS:

- 9.1 Individual recalls will be signaled in accordance with ISSA PR 7.9(b). The failure to hail any or all OCS boats or to hail some but not all OCS boats, the untimely hail of some or all OCS boats, or the failure of any boat to hear the hail shall not be grounds for granting redress. This changes RRS 62.1.
- 9.2 General recalls will be signaled in accordance with ISSA PR 7.9(c). The Race Committee intends to display the 1st Substitute.

10. PROTESTS AND HEARING REQUESTS:

- 10.1 Protest procedure will be in accordance with ISSA PR Part VI and the team shall additionally hail sail number and “protest” over VHF on channel 69.
- 10.2 Per ISSA Procedural Rule 8(b), competitors shall not communicate with a coach before reporting to the race committee their intent to protest.

11. COACHING:

- 11.1 On the water coaching is permitted at this event. The race committee will designate an area on the water where a competitor may receive coaching. Coaching may not be given while a competitor is racing except to maintain competitors’ safety.
- 11.2 Coaches shall comply with all reasonable instructions given by the Race Committee or a Judge.
- 11.3 Coaches will have to supply their own coach boats.
- 11.4 All coach boats will double as safety boats. Each coach shall bring a working VHF radio and monitor channel 69. All coaches are expected to assist the Race Officer as directed.

12. SAFETY:

- 12.1 All sailboats will carry a VHF which will be locked to channel 69. They shall only use the VHF to request assistance, retire, or to notify the race committee of a part failure. Any communication with coaches or other competitors over VHF while racing is strictly prohibited.
- 12.2 If the Y Flag is flown by the signal boat, spinnakers shall not be flown.
- 12.3 All competitors shall wear, while on the water, other than brief periods while adding or removing clothing, a US Coast Guard approved life jacket. This changes RRS 40.1.
- 12.4 A boat retiring from a race shall attempt to notify a race committee vessel via VHF on channel 69 before leaving the course or, when that is not possible, a race official, immediately after arriving on shore.
- 12.5 The Race Committee reserves the right to send any boat ashore who poses a risk to itself or others.

13. BREAKDOWNS:

- 13.1 If a breakdown occurs, the boat will hail the race committee over VHF at the soonest possible opportunity and notify them of the breakdown.
- 13.2 Breakdown redress requests shall be filed in the same manner as protests.

- 13.3 Breakdown redress, if awarded, shall be scored in accordance with ISSA PR 9(e). The protest committee will follow the guidelines in ISSA PR Appendix 3.
- 13.4 The award of breakdown points (BKD) to a boat shall be limited to one race when less than six races are sailed and two races when six or more races are sailed. This changes ISSA PR 9.e.

APPENDIX A
(Course Diagram)

Course 1: S, W, O, F

Course 2: S, W, O, G, W, O, F

Course 3: S, W, O, G, W, O, G, W, O, F

Notes: Diagram is not to scale. Diagram marks may differ from actual marks used.

