

Water Cats Fall Regatta 2026

September 19-20, 2026

Hosted by **Water Rat Sailing Club**

4 Regatta Road, Toronto, ON M5A 0B7, Canada

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

- 1.1. The regatta will be governed by the Rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing.
- 1.2. In case of conflict between these Sailing Instructions and any other Rule, these Sailing Instructions will prevail.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS & INFORMATION MEETING

- 2.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the Water Rat's bulletin board inside the Water Rat's club house.
- 2.2. There will be a competitors' meeting on Saturday, September 19, 2026, at 9:30 am. Other competitors' meetings may be scheduled as required.

3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1. Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted no less than 1 hour prior to the first scheduled race on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by the close of protest time (Instruction 15.2) on the day before it will take effect.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed on the club's flagpole by the clubhouse.
- 4.2. When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 mins in race signal AP. This changes Race Signal AP.

5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

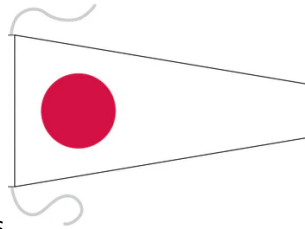
- 5.1. The scheduled race information is given in the table below.
- 5.2. On the second day of the regatta **no race is to start after 3:30 pm.**
- 5.3. One extra race per day may be sailed, provided that no class becomes more than one race ahead of schedule and the change is made according to Instruction 3.

Date	Class	First Warning Signal	Max Races per Day
Sat, Sep 19	All	11:00 AM	PRO's discretion
Sun, Sep 20	All	11:00 AM	PRO's discretion

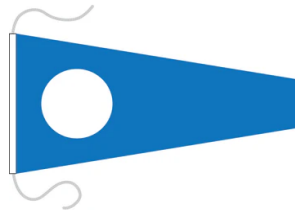
6. CLASS FLAGS

6.1. Class flag assignments will be as follows:

- Code flag "1" – **Spinnaker and Foiling Catamarans**



- Code flag "2" – **Standard Catamarans**



7. RACING AREA

7.1. The racing area will be on Lake Ontario, South of the Toronto Islands.

Figure 1: Racing Area



8. THE COURSE

- 8.1. The upwind/downwind course is illustrated in Appendix A (Pages 7 and 8).
- 8.2. All marks left to **Port** (except for the Finish, where the Start/Finish mark, which is a Pin with a red flag, is left to Starboard because of the downwind finish).

9. MARKS

- 9.1. The Weather Mark “A” and Leeward Mark “C” will be inflatable orange tetrahedrons.
- 9.2. The Start/Finish mark will be a Pin with a red flag (see Appendix B, page 9).
- 9.3. If a barging (keep away) buoy is used at the Race Committee signal boat, the buoy and its line shall rank as part of the boat and will be considered an obstruction.

10. THE START

- 10.1. The starting line will be between an orange flag on the Race Committee signal boat and the windward side of the start/finish mark (a Pin with a red flag).
- 10.2. Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races.
- 10.3. A boat starting later than four minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A4.
- 10.4. Minimum wind conditions: No race will be started in under 3 knots of wind at all marks of the course as determined by the Race Committee.
- 10.5. Order of the starts will be announced at the competitors’ meeting and will be posted on the official notice board if different than instruction 6.1. Multiple classes may be started together at the discretion of the Race Committee.

11. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 11.1. Course changes may be made in accordance with Rule 33.
- 11.2. Boats shall pass between the Race Committee boat signaling the change of the next leg and the nearby mark, leaving the mark to port and the Race Committee boat to starboard.

12. THE FINISH

- 12.1. The finishing line will be between an orange flag on the signal boat and the course side of the start/finish mark (a Pin with a red flag).

13. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 13.1. Rule 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

14. TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES

- 14.1. Time limits and target times for all classes are as follows:
 - Target race time limit: 45 minutes,
 - Mark “A” time limit: 20 minutes.
- 14.2. If no boat has passed Mark “A” within the Mark “A” time limit, the race will be abandoned.
- 14.3. Boats **failing to finish within 20 minutes** after the first boat in their division sails the course and finishes, **will be scored Did Not Finish** without a hearing. This changes RRS35, A4 and A5.
- 14.4. FINISHING ON THE WATER: Boats may be finished on the course at the discretion of the Race Committee. The Race Committee determines the method and order of finishing. This changes RRS 35 and A4.

15. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 15.1. Protest forms are available at the official notice board. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit.
- 15.2. The protest time limit is **60 minutes** after the Race Committee signal boat has docked after the last race of the day.
- 15.3. Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the protest room, the location of which shall be posted on the official notice board, beginning at the time posted on the official notice board.

16. SCORING

- 16.1. Boats shall be scored using the Small Catamaran Handicap Rating System (SCHRS). A SCHRS rating committee certificate is not required for non-standard boats.
- 16.2. One race is required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 16.3. (a) When fewer than 4 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores; and
(b) When four or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

17. SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 17.1. Boats must check in by hailing their sail number to the Race Committee signal boat before the start of the first race each day and the first race following any postponement ashore.
- 17.2. A boat that retires from a race shall notify the Race Committee as soon as possible.

18. REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

- 18.1. Substitution of competitors will not be allowed without prior written approval of the Race Committee, under the provisions of IHCA General Class Rule 17.
- 18.2. Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed unless authorized by the Race Committee as follows:
 - (a) Substitution of sails will not be allowed without prior written approval of the Race Committee, under the provision of IHCA General Class Rule 12.3; and
 - (b) Requests for substitution of equipment other than sails shall be made to the Race Committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

19. EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

- 19.1. A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and these sailing instructions. On the water, a boat can be instructed by a Race Committee equipment inspector or measurer to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.
- 19.2. All boat, crew weight, and equipment violations may additionally be protested under RRS 2 (Fair Sailing) and would be scored DNE – Disqualified Not Excludable. Whenever possible, competitors should be warned of potential equipment violations on the beach before racing when observed by other competitors, the protest committee, or regatta officials.

20. TRASH DISPOSAL

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

21. PRIZES

21.1. Prizes will be awarded at the conclusion of racing on the last day of the regatta.

22. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

22.1. Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk - see RRS 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority, regatta officials, volunteers and any others involved in the regatta, will not be liable in any way for any damage or personal injury, including death, sustained in conjunction with, prior to, during, or after the regatta.

23. INSURANCE

23.1. Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum coverage of \$1,000,000 (CAD) per event.

24. SPECIAL NOTES

- 24.1. On the water, the Race Committee will answer no questions.
- 24.2. Any boat receiving 'hands on' assistance from a Race Committee boat will be scored Did Not Finish. This changes RRS A5. The Race Committee will decide when a boat or crew needs assistance.
- 24.3. The Race Committee may request redress for competitors who exhibit extraordinary sportsmanship.

SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS TO ALL SAILORS

If wind, wave, or water conditions make you doubtful of your ability to handle the conditions, please retire from the race.

Appendix A – Illustrating the Courses

Start #1

HIGH PERFORMANCE CATAMARANS

Spinnaker and Foiling Catamarans

Start – A – C – A – C – A – (Downwind) Finish, where:

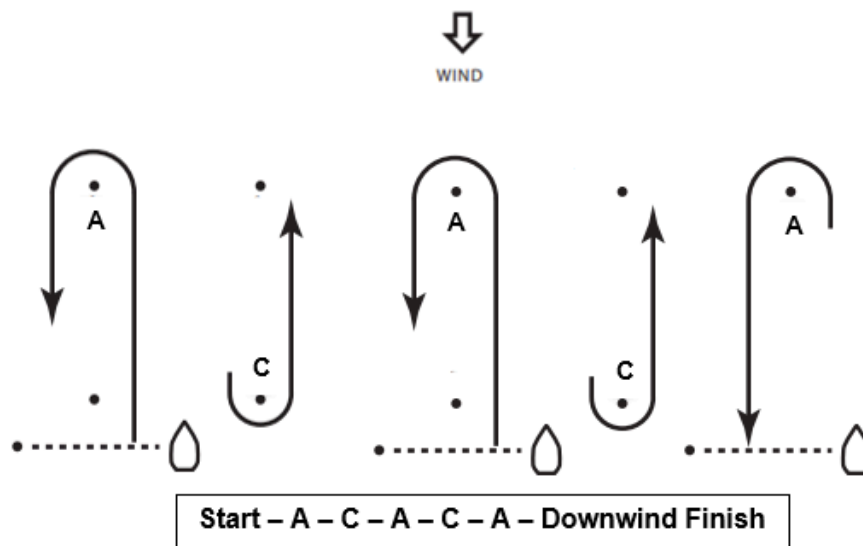
A = Weather Mark

C = Leeward Mark

Windward – Leeward Course

3 Laps with a Downwind Finish

Figure 2: *High Performance Course, Illustrated*



Start #2
STANDARD CATAMARANS

Beach Catamarans

Start – A – C – A – (Downwind) Finish, where:

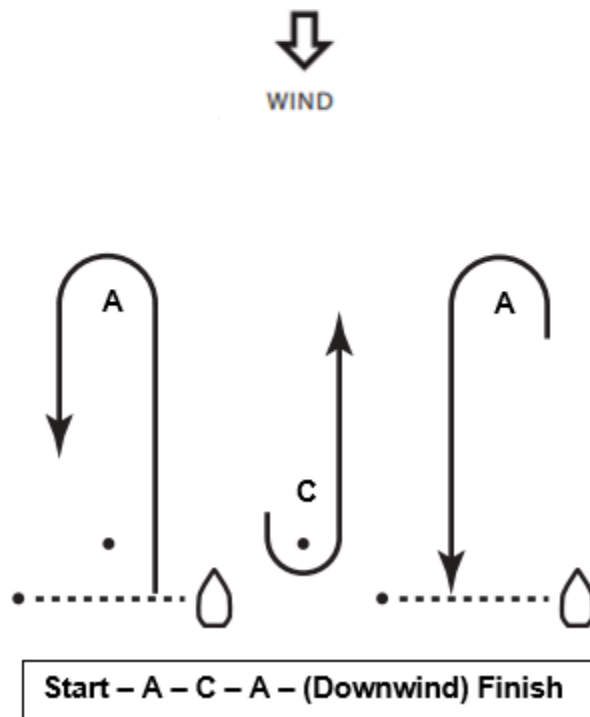
A = Weather Mark

C = Leeward Mark

Windward – Leeward Course

2 Laps with a Downwind Finish

Figure 3: Standard Course, Illustrated



Appendix B – Illustrating the Start Line

Figure 4: **Start Line**, Illustrated

The **Start Line** will be an imaginary line between an orange flag on the Race Committee signal boat (which is a large trimaran) and the windward side of the start/finish mark, which will be an anchored buoy or **pin** with a red *Mount Gay Barbados Rum* flag:

