



DENVER SAILING ASSOCIATION

2026 Fleet Sailing Instructions

For All Fleet Racing Series

EVENTS

The Denver Sailing Association (DSA) will conduct up to four (4) Series of Fleet Races in 2026 as the Organizing Authority (OA). These Race Series will be held on Cherry Creek Reservoir, Cherry Creek State Park, Aurora, CO.

1. NOTATIONS

- 1.1. The notation [DP] in a rule in the Sailing Instructions means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.
- 1.2. The notation [NP] in a rule in the Sailing Instructions means that breaches in this rule will not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1 (a).

2. RULES

- 2.1. These Series will be governed by rules as defined by the *2025-2028 Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)*, except as changed by each Series Sailing Instructions (SIs), the Notice of Series (NOS), the Boating Regulations of Colorado Parks & Wildlife, and of the Cherry Creek State Park.
- 2.2. Each Series SIs will be available two (2) days prior to the first race of each series on the DSA website, www.denversailing.org.
- 2.3. The following Racing rules will be changed as follows:
 - 2.3.1. SIs 1.2 changes RRS 60.1 (a).
 - 2.3.2. SIs 7.2 changes RRS Race Signal AP.
 - 2.3.3. SIs 16.1 changes RRS 35.
 - 2.3.4. SIs 18.1 changes A4.1.
 - 2.3.5. SIs 18.3 and 18.4 changes A4.2.

3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official DSA WhatsApp Group's Announcement board and the DSA notice board outside the clubhouse.

4. CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 4.1. Any change in these Sailing Instructions (SIs) will be approved by the Race Committee Chairperson and will be posted at least one (1) hour before the first signal on the day it will take effect. Except any changes to the schedule of races shall be posted by 1900 hours one week before when it will take effect.
- 4.2. In accordance with RRS 90.2, oral changes to the SIs may be made on the water. When the Race Committee (RC) Boat displays Code Flag "L" with one sound signal, this means come within hail of the RC Boat to receive the oral changes to the SIs.

5. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 5.1. There shall be no make-up races due to cancellations.
- 5.2. **Thawout Series:** Five (5) Saturdays April 11 – May 9, 2026. First Warning signal at 1300 hours. No race warning will be signaled after 1600.
- 5.3. **Spring Series:** Eight (8) Thursdays May 21 – July 9, 2026. First warning signal at 1820 hours.
- 5.4. **Summer Series:** Nine (9) Thursdays July 16 – September 10, 2026. First warning signal at 1820 hours until August 20. Races on August 27 and later will start at 1745 hours.
- 5.5. **Frostbite Series:** Five (5) Saturdays September 19 - October 17, 2026. First Warning signal at 1300 hours. No race warning will be signaled after 1600.
- 5.6. Two (2) races are scheduled for each evening series. Up to five (5) races are scheduled for each weekend afternoon. Additional unscored races may be run at the discretion of the race committee of the day.

6. VENUE

- 6.1. All races shall be held on Cherry Creek Reservoir, Cherry Creek State Park, Aurora, CO.

7. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 7.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed from the DSA Flagstaff adjacent to the DSA Clubhouse or the DSA Race Committee boat.
- 7.2. When Code Flag “AP” is displayed ashore, the starting time will be no sooner than 30 minutes after lowering the Code Flag “AP”. This changes RRS Race Signal AP.

8. CLASS FLAG

- 8.1. Fleet status will be given to four (4) or more One Design (OD) boats that have checked in on any racing date. Fleets may get their own start with their own class flag or be combined to maintain four (4) or fewer starting sequences.
- 8.2. The K flag will indicate a PHRF fleet of keelboats. The D flag will indicate a PHRF fleet of dinghies. The PHRF fleets will start after the OD fleets.
- 8.3. Community Sailing of Colorado will get their own start after all OD and PHRF fleets have started. The CSC Burgee will be used as their class flag.

9. RACING AREA

- 9.1. Attachment A, a Reference Map of Cherry Creek Reservoir, shows the Racing Area.

10. COURSES

- 10.1. The Race Committee will indicate the course to be sailed by displaying the marks to be rounded on a board displayed on the RC Boat. Temporary marks will be indicated by letters W (Windward) and L (Leeward). Marks 1 through 14 indicate permanent white cylinder DSA marks. All mark roundings will leave the mark to port except gates. The use of the placard X indicates a Starting Line gate which competitors must sail through. The use of the placard G (gate) indicates a Starting Line gate which competitors will round, with the start line pin and RC boat acting as the gate pins. All racers shall run these gates, in sequence, as part of the course.
- 10.2. A fleet’s race course will be the course displayed by their four (4) minute, P Flag up, signal.

11. MARKS

- 11.1. Marks 1 through 14 are white cylinders located approximately as shown on Attachment A. Marks W (Windward) and L (Leeward) are temporary buoys positioned by the RC. X and G shall be the gate between the Starting Pin and the Orange Flag posted on the RC Boat.

12. STARTS

- 12.1.** All Races will be started under RRS 26.

13. START & FINISH LINES

- 13.1.** The Start Line shall be a line between an inflatable or fixed race buoy in the vicinity of the RC Boat and an orange flag on the RC Boat.
- 13.2.** The Finish Line shall be a line between an inflatable or fixed race buoy in the vicinity of the RC Boat and an orange flag on the RC Boat.
- 13.3.** The RC Boat may move from the initial Start Area and establish the Finish Line at a new location.

14. CHECK IN

- 14.1.** Each boat shall sail by the RC Boat while RC is flying the Code Flag L, hail her boat type, sail number, and scored DSA member name and be acknowledged by RC with a return hail of her sail number. This shall be done before the first race in which a boat competes on each day. Any boat failing to check-in and failing to finish will be scored as DNC. [DP]
- 14.2.** Competitors must have and sail under a unique/non-duplicated mainsail number. Failure to do so may compromise scoring. In the event two (2) or more boats are sailing under the same mainsail number, all boats with that number may be listed as DNF until duplication is identified and resolved.

15. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 15.1.** RRS Appendix V1 (Alternative Penalties) applies and is in effect.
- 15.2.** RRS Appendix T (Arbitration) applies.

16. TIME LIMIT

- 16.1.** The time limit for each Fleet race is 90 minutes. The Race will be abandoned if no boat from a fleet finishes within 90 minutes of its start signal. Once a boat finishes within the time limit, all other boats in the fleet have 15 minutes to finish or they will be scored as TLE. This changes RRS 35.
- 16.2.** RC may, at its discretion, finish racers from any qualified OD fleet, in their current positions, if the race is not abandoned and at least one boat meets the time limit.
- 16.3.** OOK and PHRF fleets cannot be finished in place.

17. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 17.1.** Any boat intending to protest must notify the RC upon finishing or within the protest time if they do not finish. Protests must be filed with the RC of the day, an attending DSA officer after RC returns to shore, or submitted to info@denversailing.org before 1800 the day following the incident. The Protest filed must be in accordance with the RRS.
- 17.2.** Appendix T of the RRS (Arbitration) shall be in effect for all Series Fleet Races. Arbitration will be available to all parties in protests. The penalized boat shall not be scored worse than DNF. The full protest committee will hear unresolved Arbitration hearings. Arbitration may be heard immediately following the conclusion of races that evening, if agreeable to all parties involved. It may also be delayed until prior to the Protest Hearing.
- 17.3.** Protest Schedule: Any protests filed following Series races, will be scheduled within the week following the date of the incident, on an agreed to schedule, in a virtual session. This affects only the protest hearing schedule.

18. SCORING

- 18.1.** Rule 90.3(a) and Appendix A 4 shall be modified to use the High Point Scoring System described as CHIP3, with the modifications stated in this NOS and the Series SIs.
- 18.2.** Rule 90.3(a) shall be modified to a race shall be scored if more than one boat starts the race.
- 18.3.** Appendix A 4.2 is modified so that for every five (5) races completed per Series, a successively worse score will be thrown out. Rule 90.3(b) is not modified. A DSQ is not eligible to be thrown out and will be listed as DNE, this changes A2.1.
- 18.4.** Appendix A 4.2 is further modified as follows:
- DNF, RET** = scored as number of finishers plus 1.
 - DNS** = CHIPS3 Finish Score of 5
 - OCS, DNC, NORC** = 0
 - DSQ, DNE** = 0
 - RC** = scored as the average of all their series finish scores, after throw outs, plus 5
 - NORC** = a DSA score designation reserved for competitors that have not scheduled or have not met their RC Requirements in section 19. RACE COMMITTEE REQUIREMENTS. All races sailed prior to scheduling or meeting their RC Requirements will be recorded as NORC. A limit of four (4) races will be reinstated when RC Requirements have not been met.
 - RCP** is a score designation if redress is filed by a competitor and the hearing results are that the RC did not adhere to the SIs.
- Note: Additional Finishing Codes based on **sections 2.1, 2.2***
A detailed explanation of the CHIPS3 High Point Scoring System is available on the DSA website.
- 18.5.** All Races sailed prior to becoming an active 2026 member will be scored as DNC.

19. RACE COMMITTEE REQUIREMENTS

- 19.1.** Each DSA member being scored must serve on RC two (2) days/evenings during any of the Series Fleet Races of the season.
- 19.2.** If RC duties are not met by end of season, all races sailed will be recorded as **NORC**.
- 19.3.** Completing RC duties for a canceled, postponed, delayed, or abandoned race will meet this requirement.
- 19.4.** Competitors who serve as RC on their normal day of racing will be scored for the races that they serve as described in section 18.4. RC.
- 19.5.** CSC race boats are exempt from RC duties.

20. RADIO COMMUNICATION

- 20.1.** All official radio communication will be made on VHF radio on channel 69.
- 20.2.** Except in an emergency, a boat that is racing shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones, tablets, computers, and similar devices. [NP] [DP]
- 20.3.** The RC may attempt to report visual signals displayed, and other pertinent information, over VHF radio for the races. This information is provided as a courtesy to the competitors and does not in any way alter their responsibility to observe the RC's visual signals which govern the conduct of the race. Errors or omission involving such courtesy broadcasts shall not be grounds for redress.

21. TROPHIES

- 21.1.** The number of year-end series trophies to be awarded will depend on the number of competitors in each fleet, in each series.

21.2. To be eligible for a year-end trophy, each skipper must have met their RC Requirements in section **19. RACE COMMITTEE REQUIREMENTS.**

21.3. CSC race boats are not eligible for awards.

22. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate entirely at their own risk. (See RRS Rule 3 Decision to Race) Denver Sailing Association, as the organizing authority, will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with, prior to, during, or after the series.

23. INFORMATION

For further information contact DSA at info@denversailing.org.

Attachment A: Reference Map of Cherry Creek Reservoir

