



Sailing Instructions

2026 HBSC Open Regatta

Organized by the Hamilton Bay Sailing Club Hamilton, Ontario, Canada

1. RULES

- 1.1. The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 1.2. No national prescriptions will apply.
- 1.3. Section 5 of the HBSC Rules, Regulations and Procedures will apply.

2. Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located at HBSC. Notices will also be posted electronically through club email or other electronic means. Failure to receive electronic notification shall not be grounds for redress.

3. Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 9:00 AM on the day it will take effect.

4. Signals made ashore will be displayed at the HBSC.

5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 5.1. The regatta will be held on Saturday, July 25, 2026
- 5.2. There will be a minimum of one race and a maximum of five races. The Race Committee will attempt to complete three races within the time limit noted in 5.5,
- 5.3. The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race is 11:20 AM
- 5.4. To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, the Race Committee flag will be displayed with one sound at least ten minutes before a warning signal is made.
- 5.5. On the last scheduled day of racing no warning signal will be made after 3:30 PM.

6. Races will be started with the Albacore Class flag.
7. Racing shall be conducted in western end of the Hamilton Harbour.
8. The courses to be sailed will be Triangle-Windward-Leeward or Windward-Leeward.

9. MARKS

- 9.1. Marks 1, 2, and 3 will be orange tetrahedrons.
- 9.2. The starting and finishing marks will be the race committee signal vessel at the starboard end and an orange buoy at the port end.



10. THE START

- 10.1. Races will be started by using RRS 26 with the warning signal made five minutes before the starting signal.
- 10.2. The starting line will be the orange flag on the race committee signal vessel mast and the orange buoy on the port side of the committee signal vessel.
- 10.3. A boat that does not start within five minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This changes RRS A4 and A5.

11. To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will move the original mark or the finishing line to a new position.

12. The finishing line will be between the blue flag on the race committee signal vessel mast and the orange buoy on the port side of the committee signal vessel. Boats shall finish by crossing the finishing line from the course side.

13. TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES

- 13.1. Time limits and target times are as follows:

Time limit: 60 minutes

Mark 1 time limit: 30 minutes

If no boat has passed Mark 1 within the Mark 1 time limit the race will be abandoned.

If no boat has finished the race within the Time limit the race may be abandoned.

- 13.2. Boats failing to finish within 10 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5.

14. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 14.1. Protest forms are available from the race committee. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered to the race committee chair within the appropriate time limit.
- 14.2. The protest time limit is 20 minutes after the committee signal vessel has docked.
- 14.3. Protests, requests for redress, and requests for reopening shall be governed by Part 5 of the Racing Rules of Sailing 2025–2028.

15. SCORING

- 15.1. The scoring system is the Low Point System of Appendix A.
- 15.2. One race is required to be completed to constitute a series.
 - (a) When fewer than four races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
 - (b) When from four to five races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
- 15.3. Scoring abbreviations shall be as stated in RRS Appendix A.



16. SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 16.1. [DP] Rule 40.1 applies at all times while afloat.
- 16.2. [DP] Boats shall check-in with the race committee vessel prior to the first race.
- 16.3. [DP] Failure for an HBSC boat to sign out or sign in may result in a scoring penalty at the discretion of the race committee.
- 16.4. [DP] A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible.

17. REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

- 17.1. [DP] Substitution of competitors will not be allowed without prior approval of the race committee.
 - 17.2. [DP] Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed unless authorized by the race committee. Requests for substitution shall be made to the committee at the first reasonable opportunity.
- 18.** [DP] Except in an emergency, a boat that is racing shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.
- 19.** A perpetual trophy will be presented to the winning boat for the open class and to the highest placing boat from the HBSC. Additional prizes may be presented to the top three finishing boats at the discretion of the race committee.
- 20.** Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, 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.