

**WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS
THE RUST CUP
SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

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**Retired & Unemployed/Under-employed Sailors Trophy (RUST) Series
Every Wednesday May 24 – Oct 11**, 2023**

COMMODORE

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FLEET CAPTAIN

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RUST CUP COORDINATOR

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HOST

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SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

a. The race Series is governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing 2021-2024 (RRS). As a “Fun” event, protests are strongly discouraged & racers are expected to take proper penalties as per RRS 44.2 when necessary. The RUST Series provides a unique opportunity for all boat owners, of all classes, to compete in short races as a single fleet, on a regular basis during weekdays. The guiding principles of the RUST Series are to provide a relaxed and friendly racing environment, to be welcoming to novice or less experienced racers, while still remaining satisfying for all levels of racing skill. Accordingly, the Series’ details, as set out in this SI, are neither designed nor intended to create a serious, highly-competitive event.

b. The Series runs as a ‘zero-resource’ event, meaning that the entire Series is intended to be self-contained, requiring no support staff or equipment, utilizing already established race results databases, existing marks on the lake, or transit lines if needed. ‘Rabbit-Start’ techniques (see SI 1.f), & self-recording & reporting of finishing times at the established finish point for each race are standard procedure. Normally, one boat in the fleet will assume the Rabbit Boat duties for the season, however other skippers may volunteer for this, and if so shall contact the RUST Cup Coordinator for any necessary information and special equipment. All entrants should bear in mind the presence of Sailing School dinghies both in the area of BYC harbour mouth & the Eastern Britannia Bay areas during weekday afternoons, & remember that these dinghies may not behave in a predictable manner. Further, some dinghy groups may join the RUST race *en masse* on some days. See SI 4.

c. **Changes to the SI and Communications with Competitors.** The Rabbit Boat skipper will make decisions concerning abandonment owing to threatening weather conditions based solely on the safety of the Rabbit Boat & its crew; all competitors shall make their own decisions whether to race or not, see SI 4 and RRS 4. When feasible, the Rabbit Boat will broadcast abandonment on VHF Channel 06. Necessary communications with competitors, and any changes to this SI, will be made known by the Rabbit Boat during the 15-minute period prior to the Starting Sequence (see SI 1d). There will be no course changes made during a race. In the

event of a dying wind, a shortened course may be signalled by the Rabbit boat if feasible, using hails and VHF 06.

d. **Signal Ashore and Pre-Start.** There will normally be no signals made ashore. The Start Area is normally at S mark, visually confirmed by a series of manoeuvres by the Rabbit Boat for about 15 minutes (e.g.:1330 to 1345), well before the Rabbit Boat commences the actual Start Sequence at 1415. During the period prior to the Start Sequence, the Rabbit Boat will perform a continuing series of tacks & gybes in a small circular or oval pattern for at least 15 minutes, and display a brightly-coloured pennant from the region of her masthead or mainsail head (see the diagram and description at the end of this SI). Racers shall not impede the Rabbit Boat in any way until the end of the Starting Period (see Note 7 to the Rabbit Start diagram). In addition, the Rabbit Boat shall make every effort to record the entire race with the RaceQs smart-phone application, and all competitors are encouraged to do the same, to aid in accurate time reporting and general race learning. In the unlikely event that the designated Rabbit Boat fails to arrive at the start area in time for the race, the procedure at SI 1f iv shall be followed.

e. **The Start, Racing Area, Courses and Marks.** Normal start time is 1420. With the race Start Area normally at S Mark (but see SI 1d for exceptions), the remaining course marks may be any of the available Olympic Circle marks, which may require either Port or Starboard rounding, as needed to create a suitable course shape and length. In the event of a simple windward-leeward course, the windward mark will always be rounded to Port. When feasible, the Rabbit Boat will confirm the Start Area & all course marks on VHF Channel 06, and will also hail boats directly. . In the event of East or North winds, that Start Area may be moved to P or Q mark, and the start time will be delayed sufficiently for boats to make the additional transit. All boats are encouraged to pass on such information to other competitors while in the start area. Each race may utilize a different course shape, depending on wind direction & strength. See SI 1f iv for exceptions. The finish shall occur upon crossing the line between S Mark and the BYC flagstaff for the last time, not by rounding S Mark, the exception being if finishing from P mark, when S shall be rounded/passed to port, thus crossing the finish line at a narrow angle. Courses will be set such that races can be completed within 60-90 minutes. Other race formats, such as a longer up-river style race, or multiple races on a given day, will only occur if communicated at least 48 hours in advance, by email from the RUST Coordinator to all competitors.

f. **The Rabbit Start Sequence.** This follows the Duluth Yacht Club instruction at: <https://www.duluthyachtclub.com/racing/racing-information/rabbit-start-intructions> modified as follows, and as per the description at the end of this SI. RRS 26 –Starting Races, does not apply. All boats shall give way to the Rabbit Boat until the end of the Starting Period. (see Note 5 to diagram below).

i. At 1-minute intervals, commencing from the 5-minute warning at 1415, to the Starting Period, the Rabbit Boat will make a series of sounds corresponding to the number of minutes remaining until the start (i.e. the beginning of the Starting Period);

ii. From the warning at 1415 to the end of the Rabbit's Starting Period, RRS 32 Abandonment Signals does not apply i.e.: 3 short sounds for Abandonment, 2 short sounds for Postponement.

iii. The Starting Period duration should normally last approximately 90 seconds: from the Start (1 prolonged sound), to when the Rabbit Boat alters course towards the first mark. Please read and understand the detailed description of the Starting Sequence and the Starting Period Duration, at the end of this SI. Once the allotted Starting Period Duration has expired the Rabbit Boat alters course and commences racing, and the Start Line ceases to exist. Boats attempting to start after this point shall pass through the area between where the Rabbit Boat altered course, and one of S, P or Q mark, in order to join the race.

iv. In the event that the Rabbit Boat fails to arrive in time for the race start, all boats will revert to the 'Time Trial' format, as used in several other race series in 2020 and 2021. The 'start time window' will be from 1420 to 1430, meaning all RUST racers must start within this time bracket. All boats shall then record their own start and finish times, and report them to the RUST Cup Scorer as per SI 1g. When the Rabbit Boat is not present, courses will be default courses as follows, intended to give a good probability of windward, reaching & running legs, under most wind conditions. The mark that is most downwind at 1420 will be the start area:

- i. Start at S - start at the line between S mark and the BYC Flagstaff, then A, E, P, finish at S mark-BYC Flagstaff line, all marks rounded to Port. (SAEP).
- ii. Start at P - start at the line formed between P and the large green K1 shoal mark, leaving P to Port, then S, A, E, finish at S mark-BYC Flagstaff line, all marks rounded to Port. (PSAE).
- iii. Start at Q - start at the line between Q mark and Blueberry Shoal's red mark, then P, E, A, finish at S mark-BYC Flagstaff line, all marks rounded to Starboard. (QPEA).

g. **Timing and Finishing the Race.** Boats shall synchronize their race timers or watches for 1420 at the start of the race (1 prolonged sound, see SI 1.f.iii.) unless otherwise advised by the Rabbit Boat, or ensure GPS time is used. See SI 1 f iv. for the exception to this. Boats shall then record & report the following by email to the volunteer RUST Cup Scorer within 24 hours of completing each race: (a) their finishing clock time (not elapsed time) plus their start time if following the Time Trial format, (b) whether racing FS or NFS, and (c) whenever possible the names of boats ahead or behind them when they finish. All boats are reminded to report a DNF, which will result in a better score than DNC (i.e. no report at all). The Scorer will enter results in Sailwave using "Time on Time" to avoid the need for accurate course distances. Results will be published separately from other official race series to avoid conflict with any automated scoring process. The Volunteer RUST Cup Scorer email address for reporting is: rustcupscorer@byc.ca.

2. SCHEDULE OF RACES

Before 1 st Race		Registration with Club Registrar & RUST Cup Registration
Every Wednesday Afternoon May 24 – Oct 11 (October races are 'non-counters')	1330-1345	Rabbit Boat conducts pre-start manoeuvres
	1415	First Warning Signal from 'Rabbit Boat' begins the Starting Sequence
	1420	Start: i.e. the Starting Period commences (see SI 1.f.iii)
	1600	Approximate race completion
Last Race of Season		This may be an extended up-river one-way race. Details will be announced one week in advance.

3. SERIES SCORING, FORMAT AND HANDICAP SYSTEM

a. The Series will consist of all races which can be run on every Wednesday afternoon, commencing 24 May until 11 Oct (see table above). Each boat will be permitted to drop 1/3 (rounded up) of the total number of races run in the entire Series. Thus if 18 races were run, boats would be able to drop their 6 worst scores. Series ties will be resolved via RRS A8. Any races run after 27 Sept will be 'fun' only, and will not be included in the final series scoring.

b. Competitors shall be scored according to finishing time, adjusted by their assigned NHC handicap. In order to achieve the fairest possible overall corrected finish order, handicap corrections will be applied to all boats via the NHC handicap method, as for the 2018-2022 RUST Series. Spinnakers may be used once per season, which use must be reported as per SI 1g. See also SI 1g concerning finish time reporting. NHC overcomes inherent limitations of other handicap systems, addresses a wide variety of boat classes, & allows boats having no PHRF or Portsmouth certificate to compete. Each boat's NHC Base Number handicap will be calculated anew for the first race of each season, so that the previous year's performance does not affect the subsequent year.

4. SAFETY REGULATIONS AND DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the Series entirely at their own risk, as per RRS 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 racing. Insurance and safety standards require that the RUST Cup Registration Information Format at SI 12 be completed. NB: the RUST Fleet will always keep clear of any Sailing School or Youth Program boats which may be in the vicinity of S Mark. In the event of a conflict with a major sailing event, an alternative RUST start location may be announced by the Rabbit Boat. See SI 1c and 1d.

5. ADVERTISING

Advertising for geriatric products & treatments is permitted (e.g.: Boost®, Ensure®, Depends®, etc ;-)).

6. ELIGIBILITY & ENTRY

Eligible competitors must register by notifying their Club's racing registrar & the Volunteer RUST Cup Scorer of their intention to participate, (see SI 12). Skippers must have reached the age of retirement, or unemployment, or under-employment* by the Series start date. (* Anyone free to race mid-week, during normal working hours, will be granted "under-employed" status.)

7. CLASSES

The Series is open to all boats, of all classes from dinghies to large keel boats, solo or fully crewed, with or without spinnaker (see SI 1.g and SI 3 for details). The results of the RUST Cup Series will not be aggregated with any other race or series which leads to an award at any club, since the mid-week, working hours schedule could unfairly penalize other racers.

8. ENTRY FEES

There are no fees other than those required to register for racing, see SI 6.

9. REGISTRATION

All competitors must be current Club members, already registered for racing in a Series or Event, at one of the Clubs participating in Club or Interclub Races held on Lac Deschenes. Failure to register may result in your results not being posted. Racing registration is necessary in order for proper boat, skipper & handicap data to be applied to the race results. As a racer registered with any Club, proper marine insurance is always required, and is the responsibility of that registered entrant. The RUST Cup Registration Information at SI 12 shall be submitted to the Volunteer RUST Cup Scorer.

10. NOTICE OF RACE

This Sailing Instruction also constitutes the Notice of Race.

11. PRIZES

The Rust Cup & a Keeper will be presented to the overall winner at the BYC Awards Night. Keepers will be presented to the 2nd and 3rd place finishers.

12. RUST CUP REGISTRATION INFORMATION

(to be submitted to the Volunteer RUST Cup Scorer at rustcupscorer@byc.ca

Skipper Information

First Name:
Last Name:
Phone Number:
Cell Phone Number:
Email Address:
Yacht Club Affiliation:

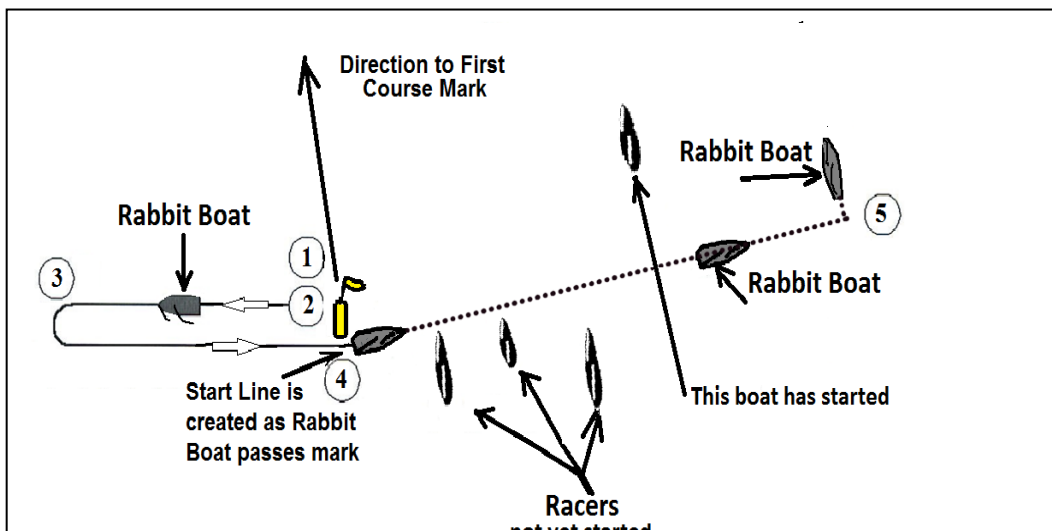
Vessel Information

Boat Class or Design name: (include any design variants which will assist in identifying the correct initial NHC handicap number for the boat):
Sail Number:
Current Handicap System & Number (if available):

Certification

By providing and submitting the above information to the RUST Cup Volunteer Scorer, the above named Skipper certifies that:

- a. the boat is already registered for racing in a Series or Event, at one of the Clubs participating in Club or Interclub Races held on Lac Deschenes;
- b. safety requirements as specified by the relevant yacht club have been met; and
- c. proper marine insurance for racing is in force for the named vessel.



Position	Signal	Minutes before Starting signal	Sound	Rabbit's Actions
	Warning Signal		5 short sounds (to attract attention)	In the immediate vicinity and on the course side of the start mark for ~1 minute
1	Beginning of Starting Sequence	5	5 prolonged sounds	
2	Preparatory	4	4 short sounds	From the start mark, proceed directly away from the start mark for 2 minutes
		3	3 short sounds	
3		2	2 short sounds	Tack or jibe; sail directly back to the start mark
		1	1 short sound	
4	Start (beginning of Starting Period)	0	1 prolonged sound	Pass the start mark, leaving it close abeam to port, then sail a close-hauled port-tack course for the windward mark, or a course 90 degrees from the direction to the first mark, if a reach. This is the start time for the race.
5	End of Starting Period & Starting Sequence		1 prolonged sound	At the end of the Starting Period, alter course towards the first mark (see Note).
<p>Note: Approximate "Starting Period Duration" = the number of starters multiplied by six seconds (i.e. five boats at 6 seconds = 30 seconds). A longer period of up to 10 seconds per boat may be used, depending on conditions & the number of starters. The Starting Period Duration will be hailed or broadcast on VHF Channel 06 when feasible; otherwise racers can use this paragraph to estimate the Starting Period Duration.</p>				

1. The starting line is the line between the Port-end starting mark & the Rabbit (in effect the wake of the

Rabbit). A boat starts when it crosses the starting line. Boats crossing an extension of this line, i.e. beyond the Rabbit Boat, have not started. See para. 5 below.

2. Once the Rabbit Start Sequence above has commenced, RRS Abandonment/ Postponement Signals no longer apply: i.e.: 3 short sounds for Abandonment, 2 short sounds for Postponement.
3. After starting, all boats shall maintain their current starboard tack until the Rabbit has altered course towards the first mark.
4. Once the Rabbit Boat has completed its alteration towards the first mark it relinquishes all authority & responsibility for the race, and reverts to the status of competitor only.
5. A boat failing to start properly (e.g.: OCS) may do so by sailing to the approximate position the Rabbit altered towards the first mark, making a 360 degree turn, and resuming its first leg.
6. All times are approximate. The absence of sound signals shall be disregarded.
7. A boat making contact with or interfering with the Rabbit prior to the Rabbit's alteration towards the first mark is disqualified & shall retire.