



2026 Devils Backbone Regatta

August 8 and 15, 2026
Loveland, Colorado



Sailing Instructions

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

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)

1. RULES

- 1.1 This event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing for 2025-2028* and its prescriptions
- 1.2 Each boat shall comply with all U.S. Coast Guard, Colorado Parks, and Larimer County governmental laws, rules, or regulations. [DP]
- 1.3 The following racing rules will be changed as follows:
 - 1.3.1 SI 5.2 changes RRS Race Signal AP
 - 1.3.2 SI 11.4 changes RRS 61.4 (b)(1)
 - 1.3.3 SI 11.5 changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2
 - 1.3.4 SI 12.1 changes RACE SIGNALS, Other Signals, Orange Flag, and Blue Flag
 - 1.3.5 SI 12.2 changes RRS 60.2
 - 1.3.6 SI 14.2 changes RRS 35, A5.1, A5.2, and A10
 - 1.3.7 SI 14.3 changes RRS 61.1(a)
 - 1.3.8 SI 15.1 changes RRS 60.4(a)(2)
 - 1.3.9 SI 18.4 changes RRS 41(a) and (b)

2. CHANGES TO THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 Any change in these Sailing Instructions (SI's) will be posted at www.sailcarter.org before 09:00 or after the Skipper's Meeting on the day it will take effect. Any change in the Schedule of races will be posted by 20:00 on the day before it will take effect.
- 2.2 In accordance with RRS 90.2, oral changes to the SI's may be made on the water by hail or by VHF transmission. When the Race Committee (RC) Signal 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 SI's.

3. COMMUNICATION

- 3.1 Notices to Competitors will be posted on the official CLSC notice board located at www.sailcarter.org.
- 3.2 On the water, the Race Committee intends to monitor and communicate on VHF channel 69.

4. CODE OF CONDUCT

- 4.1 [DP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from Race officials.

5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the CLSC RC boat on South Dock.
- 5.2 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.

6. SCHEDULE

- 6.1 Dates of racing:

Date	Time	Event
8/8/26	12:00 PM	Skippers Meeting
8/8/26	12:55 AM	First Warning
8/15/26	11:00 AM	Skippers Meeting
8/15/26	11:55 AM	First Warning

- 6.2 **No starts after 4PM on 8/8/26 and no starts after 2PM on 8/15/26.**
- 6.3 As many races as practical shall be run each day. Races will be back to back, and RC may utilize rolling starts between classes. Order of starts may be random after the first start sequence of the day.

7. CLASS FLAGS

- 7.1 Classes and Class Flags will be announced at the Skipper's Meeting

8. RACING AREA, Courses, and Marks

- 8.1 The racing area is shown in the attached map of Carter Lake

9. COURSES

- 9.1 The Race Committee will indicate the course to be sailed by displaying the marks to be rounded on a magnetic whiteboard displayed on the starboard side of the RC boat. The course will be designated by indicating the order in which marks are to be passed, beginning with the first mark and ending with the last turning mark.
- 9.2 All marks are left to port

10. MARKS

- 10.1 Marks 1 through 7 are white cylinders located approximately as shown on the attached map of Carter Lake.

11. THE START

- 11.1 All Races will be started under RRS 26.
- 11.2 The starting line will be between the staff displaying an orange flag on the RC Signal Boat and the Starting Mark (orange drone pin).
- 11.3 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races.
- 11.4 If any part of a boat's hull is on the course side of the starting line at her starting signal and she is identified; the RC may attempt to hail her sail number. Failure to hail her number, failure of her to hear such a hail, or the order in which boats are hailed will not be grounds for a redress request. This changes RRS 61.4(b)(1).

- 11.5 A boat that does not start within 5 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.

12. THE FINISH

- 12.1 The finish line will be between the staff displaying an Orange Flag on the RC Signal Boat and the Finish Mark (orange drone pin). This changes Race Signals, Other Signals, Orange Flag, and Blue Flag.
- 12.2 Protesting boats must inform the RC Signal boat of their intention as soon as practical upon finishing or the RC Signal boat within the protest time if they do not finish. RRS 60.2 is changed by adding: (3) If the protestor is a boat and the incident occurs in the racing area, she shall report her intention to protest to the race committee as soon as possible after finishing and receiving its' acknowledgement.

13. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 13.1 RRS Appendix V shall be in effect.

14. TIME LIMIT

- 14.1 The time limit for any race is 90 minutes. and 45 minutes from the time the first boat in their class finishes. Boats failing to finish within 90 minutes of their start or within 45 minutes after the first boat in their class sailed the course and finished, will be scored TLE (Time Limit Expired). One boat finishing within the Time Limit makes the race for their fleet.
- 14.2 The Finishing Window shall be 45 minutes. The finishing Window is the time for boats to finish after the first boat sails the course and finishes. Boats failing to finish within the Finishing Window, and not subsequently retiring, penalized or given redress, will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) without a hearing. A boat scored TLE shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the points scored by the last boat that finished within the Finishing Window. This changes RRS 35, A5.1, A5.2, and A10.
- 14.3 Failure to meet the Time Limit will not be grounds for Redress. This Changes RRS 61.1 (a)

15. HEARING REQUESTS

- 15.1 RRS 60.4(a)(2) is changed as follows: "(2) if it alleges a breach of a rule of Part 2 or RRS 31 and is from a boat that was not involved in, and did not see, the incident, or".
- 15.2 The protest time limit is 30 minutes after the RC boat returns to the dock.
- 15.3 Hearing Request forms are available from the Race Committee and online via the US Sailing website.

16. SCORING

- 16.1 The Low Point Scoring System RRS Appendix A.5 will be used with the following changes:
- (a) TLE: Finishing place of last finisher plus 1
 - (b) OCS, DNF, DNS, RAF: Number of starters plus 1
 - (c) DSQ and DNE: Number of starters plus 2.
- 16.2 One (1) race shall constitute a regatta
- 16.3 RRS A5.3 shall apply.

17. PRIZES

- 17.1 No prizes are planned for this regatta.

18. SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 18.1 Boats shall check-in on the water each race day. Race Committee will fly the code "L" flag, competitors shall sail by RC Signal Boat on starboard tack and hailing sail number and number of souls on board.
- 18.2 Boats must meet U.S. Coast Guard and State of Colorado safety requirements.
- 18.3 [DP] A boat that retires from a race shall notify the Race Committee at the first reasonable opportunity.
- 18.4 A boat that capsizes or has crew overboard shall accept outside help, this modifies RRS 41 (a)(b).

19. RISK STATMENT

- 19.1 RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. **Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.**

20. INSURANCE

- 20.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with appropriate liability coverage.

21. PHOTOGRAPHY

- 21.1 Competitors entering the regatta accept that they may be photographed and/or videotaped participating in the regatta and/or on shore. They consent to the taking of such images and to the use, reuse, publication, republication of such images in any media. This is in conjunction with competitors name, without compensation, and without competitors' approval of such images or any use thereof.

