

# CCSA Racing Rules

The racing rules are updated every four years following the Olympics. The current edition - the Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028 - govern competition at CCSA.

CCSA has adopted a few changes to the official RRS in deference to our unique sailing venue:

1. CCSA always runs “no penalty” starts - thus the “Papa” flag during the start sequence. This means that a boat which is over early is free to do whatever is needed to get back on the correct side of the line and start. (Either dip the line or go around one of the ends.) Remember, however, that a boat which is over early must keep clear of other boats while getting back to the correct side of the line to start.

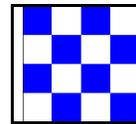
2. The zone for mark rounding is two hull lengths - not three.

3. The penalty turn for rule infractions is one 360° turn, including one tack and one jibe (in any order), instead of two turns.

4. A “Yankee” flag displayed by the race committee indicates that all sailors must wear an approved PFD.



5. As per the 25-28 RRS, a "November" flag displayed by the race committee indicates that the race has been cancelled (typically for a safety/weather reason) and all boats should return to the starting area or seek safety.



CCSA sailors are reminded that we don't do protests and that all are expected to behave in the spirit of good sportsmanship.

Mark roundings are full of opportunities for good sportsmanship. Leave enough room for an inside overlapped boat. If an outside boat fails to leave enough room for multiple inside overlapped boats, the boat(s) caught in the squeeze are exonerated if they can't provide room for other inside overlapped boat(s). The outside boat is expected to perform a penalty turn.

An occasional fur ball results when a number of boats approach a mark at the same time. The Racing Rules of Sailing establish right of way and obligations in Rule 18. The Rules provide for a “zone” at a mark (see item #2 above). A boat is considered in the “zone” when any part of her hull is in the zone. The hull length of the boat nearest to the mark sets the size of the zone.

If boats are overlapped and approaching a mark, when the first boat reaches the zone, the outside boat must give room to the inside boat. A boat cannot establish an overlap inside the zone and then claim room at the mark. (A faster boat can't force its way in at a mark.)

In light air, boats often stack up at the marks. The rule for room at the mark still applies and the boat furthest outside must allow enough room for all boats inside to round the mark. If contact is made or an inside boat(s) must alter course to avoid contact, the outside boat(s) must do a penalty turn for not allowing enough room. Boats sailing in a gaggle will be going slower and hydrodynamic effects between hulls will tend to draw boats together. Don't force your way inside and always allow enough room!

Sail fast, sail safe, have fun.