



SHIELDS CLASS SAILING ASSOCIATION NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP REGATTA

Wednesday, September 22 through Saturday, September 25, 2010

Hosted by Mason's Island Yacht Club and Shields Fleet 19, Mystic, CT.

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

- 1.1. The regatta will be governed by the *rules* as defined by the *Racing Rules of Sailing for 2009-2012*, Including US Sailing Prescriptions (*RRS*).
- 1.2. In the event of conflict between the *Notice of Race* and the *Sailing Instructions*, the *Sailing Instructions* take precedence. This modifies *RRS* 63.7.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on a Bulletin Board at the Mason's Island Yacht Club (MIYC), Mystic, CT.

3. CHANGES IN THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Changes to the *Sailing Instructions* will be posted before 0800 on the day they will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted before 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed from the yardarm of the mast at MIYC.
- 4.2. When Flag "AP" is displayed ashore with two guns, the harbor start is postponed.
- 4.3. When code flags "N" over "A" are displayed with three guns, racing is abandoned for the day.

5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

Wednesday, September 22	1400 – 1600	Practice starts and race
Thursday, September 23	1100	Warning signal for first race of the day
Friday, September 24	1100	Warning signal for first race of the day
Saturday, September 25	1100	Warning signal for first race of the day

- 5.1.** No more than three races will be run on any day. The warning signal for each succeeding race will be made as soon as possible after completion of the prior race.
- 5.2.** The Race Committee (RC) signal boat will fly Code Flag R to indicate additional race(s) will be sailed that day.
- 5.3.** On Saturday no warning signal will be made after 1400.
- 5.4.** Harbor start will be at 0930 with one gun.

6. RACING AREA

- 6.1.** Racing will be held on the waters of eastern Long Island Sound and western Fishers Island Sound.
- 6.2.** The racing area will be a circle centered approximately 1.5 nm west of North Dumpling Island.

7. CHECK IN PRIOR TO THE START

Each boat is required to check in with the RC signal boat prior to the first warning signal on each day of racing by sailing on starboard tack astern of the committee boat and hailing your number. The RC will acknowledge your hail. Failure to check in may result in the RC assigning a 20% scoring penalty without a hearing. This changes *RRS* 63.1, A4 and A5.

8. COURSES

- 8.1.** The course will be windward leeward with an offset at the windward mark and a leeward gate.
- 8.2.** The RC signal boat will display the approximate magnetic bearing and distance in nautical miles to the weather mark (Mark 1) and the number of legs on a white board.
- 8.3.** If an odd number of legs are signaled, the finish will be to windward of the windward mark, and if an even number of legs is signaled, the finish will be to leeward of the leeward gate. See course diagrams in Appendices A and B. The “leg” between the windward mark and the offset mark is not considered a “leg” for the purpose of the number of legs signaled.
- 8.4.** In the absence of one of the gate marks, the remaining mark shall be rounded to port.

9. MARKS

- 9.1.** Marks will be yellow tetrahedrons.
- 9.2.** The offset mark will be an orange sphere.
- 9.3.** In the event of a course change, the change mark will be an orange tetrahedron. In the event of a subsequent change, an original mark will be used.

10. THE START

10.1. The starting line will be between an orange flag on the RC signal boat and a yellow cylinder to port.

10.2. A boat starting later than 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored “DNS” without a hearing. This changes *RRS* 63.1, A4 and A5.

11. RECALLS

11.1. The race committee will attempt to hail OCS boats on Ch 01 VHF.

11.2. Failure to hail, failure of a boat to hear her hail or the order in which boats are hailed shall not be grounds for redress.

12. THE FINISH

12.1. For downwind finishes, the finish line will be between an orange flag on the RC signal boat and the finish mark, a nearby yellow cylinder mark.

12.2. For upwind finishes, the finish line will be between an orange flag on the RC signal boat and the finishing mark, a nearby yellow cylinder mark.

13. RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

13.1. Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to cell phones.

13.2. The Race Committee intends to use VHF Channel 01 to supplement signaled information to all boats. The Race Committee may change channels by posting a signboard on the RC signal boat prior to the warning signal for each race.

13.3. Competitors are responsible for having a functioning VHF radio aboard.

14. TIME LIMIT

14.1. The time limit for the first boat to finish will be three hours.

14.2. Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored “DNF” without a hearing. This changes *RRS* 35, 63.1, A4 & A5.

15. PROTESTS

15.1. A boat intending to protest must notify the RC of its intention and the identity of the protested boat(s) as soon as possible after finishing the contested race and be acknowledged by the race committee.

15.2. Completed protests shall be delivered to the PC secretary as soon as possible but not later than one hour after the RC signal boat has docked. The RC signal boat docking time will be posted on the Bulletin Board in the MIYC breezeway.

15.3. A list of protests received will be posted as soon as possible indicating the time and order in which the protests will be heard.

15.4. Representatives of the boats who are parties to a hearing and their witnesses shall remain in the vicinity of the MIYC Commodore’s Room.

15.5. Arbitration.

15.6. For protests involving a breach of *RRS Part 2*, a short arbitration hearing will be held prior to a protest hearing.

15.7. After a written protest is filed, one representative from each boat conforming to *RRS 63.3(a)* will meet with an arbitrator. No witnesses will be allowed.

15.8. A boat that accepts fault at arbitration shall receive a penalty of 40% of the boats entered. The 40% scoring penalty shall be a whole number (rounding 0.5 upward), computed according to *RRS 44.3(c)*.

15.9. Decisions accepted at arbitration cannot be appealed, reopened, or be grounds for redress.

15.10. The arbitrator will not be a member of the jury that hears the protest but may observe the hearing and give testimony.

16. ALTERNATIVE PENALTIES

Taking a Penalty, *RRS 44.1*, is altered as follows: A boat that may have broken a rule of *RRS Part 2* while racing may take a penalty by making ONE TURN including one tack and one gybe that, in all other respects, complies with *RRS 44.2*. However, if a boat breaks a rule of *RRS Part 2* within the zone of any rounding or passing marks, her penalty shall be a TWO TURNS penalty in compliance with *RRS 44.2*.

17. SCORING

17.1. A maximum of seven races is scheduled. Four completed races will constitute the regatta.

17.2. If fewer than five races are completed, a boat's score will be the total of her race scores. If five or more races are completed, a boat's score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score subject to *RRS 90.3(b)*. This modifies *RRS A2*.

18. SAFETY

18.1. Competitors are strongly encouraged to wear a USCG approved PFD while racing.

18.2. Boats retiring from a race, or the race day, shall notify the RC on the water, either by hailing or calling on VHF Channel 01 radio. If a boat cannot contact the RC by voice or VHF radio, she shall call the RC Chairman, Mike Cavanaugh, via telephone, 860-573-1725, as soon as she reaches shore.

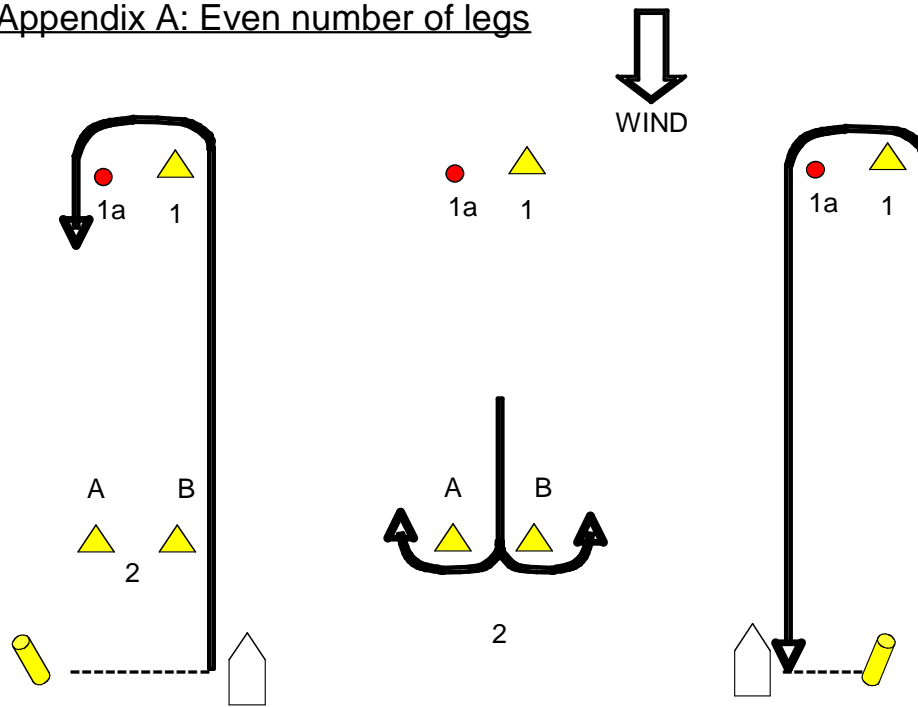
19. COMPETITORS' SUPPORT BOATS

19.1. Support boats shall display the sail number(s) of the boat(s) she is supporting.

19.2. Other than outside help defined in *RRS 41*, no assistance shall be given or gear transferred between support boats and competing boats from the first warning signal until the completion of the final race of each day without prior approval of the Principal Race Officer or Protest Committee Chair.

19.3. Support boats shall be at least 50 yards outside of the starting area from the alert signal given by the RC through the finish of racing for the day. Support boats shall at least 50 yards outside the racing area at all times during a race.

Appendix A: Even number of legs



Appendix B: Odd number of legs

