



NOTICE OF RACE
2007 Rolex International Women's Keelboat
Championship
November 12-17, 2007
Houston Yacht Club, La Porte, Texas, USA



1 RULES

1.1 The regatta will be governed by the *rules* as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS).

1.2 In accordance with US SAILING prescription to RRS 87, only the following prescriptions of US SAILING will apply:

1.2.1 After RRS 68 add: "US SAILING prescribes that:

(a) A boat that retires from a race or accepts a penalty does not, by that action alone, admit liability for damages.

(b) A protest committee shall find facts and make decisions only in compliance with the rules. No protest committee or US SAILING appeal authority shall adjudicate any claim for damages. Such a claim is subject to the jurisdiction of the courts.

(c) A basic purpose of the rules is to prevent contact between boats. By participating in an event governed by the rules, a boat agrees that responsibility for damages arising from any breach of the rules shall be based on fault as determined by application of the rules, and that she shall not be governed by the legal doctrine of 'assumption of risk' for monetary damages resulting from contact with other boats."

1.2.2 After RRS 76.1 add: "US SAILING prescribes that an organizing authority or race committee shall not reject or cancel the entry of a boat or exclude a competitor eligible under the notice of race and sailing instructions for an arbitrary or capricious reason or for reason of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or age."

1.2.3 Add RRS 76.3: "US SAILING prescribes that a boat whose entry is rejected or cancelled or a competitor who is excluded from a race or series shall be, upon written request, entitled to a hearing conducted by the protest committee under rules 63.2, 63.3, 63.4 and 63.6."

1.3 Prescriptions to the J/22 class rules will not apply.

1.4 Appendix P will apply.

1.5 J/22 class rules 8.6, 8.7 and 8.8 (Prohibitions When Racing) will apply. These rules change RRS 42 and 49.

1.6 The organizing authority (OA) for this regatta is US SAILING in conjunction with the Houston Yacht Club.

2 ADVERTISING

2.1 Advertising will be in accordance with ISAF Regulation 20 Category C, as modified by J/22 class rule 2.9.8.

2.2 Advertising for timepieces other than for Rolex, our title sponsor, and advertising of tobacco products is strongly discouraged.

3 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

3.1 The regatta is open to all boats of the J/22 class sailed entirely by women and subject to the ISAF Eligibility Code, Regulation 19.

3.2 All U.S. competitors must be members of US SAILING. Competitors from other countries must be members of their country's National Authority. Members of a team do not have to be members of the same National Authority or affiliated organization.

3.3 Eligible boats may enter no later than 1 November 2007 by registering and paying the required entry fee online at www.ussailing.org/riwkc

3.4 No entries will be accepted after 1 November 2007.

3.5 The regatta will be sailed on a bring-your-own-boat basis. Assistance in finding a boat to charter will be provided. Competitors requiring assistance with chartering should contact: David Bethancourt, Ph: +1.281.744.1474 or email: davidbethancourt@gmail.com.

4 FEES

4.1 The fee for entries received by 12 October 2007 is US \$575 per boat, midnight Eastern Time. The fee for entries received after 12 October 2007 is US \$675 per boat. The entry fee includes all social activities for skippers and registered crew members. The fee is refundable up to 1 November 2007.

5 SCHEDULE

5.1 Registration and measurement will be conducted on Monday and Tuesday, 12 and 13 November 2007.

5.2 A practice race will be held on Tuesday, 13 November 2007 with the warning signal at 1300 hours.

5.3 Races will be conducted Wednesday through Saturday, 14 through 17 November 2007.

5.4 The warning signal for the first race of each day will be at 1100 hours.

5.5 Eleven races are scheduled.

5.6 No race will be started after 1500 on Saturday, 17 November 2007.

6 CREW (INCLUDING SKIPPER)

6.1 The number of crew shall not change during the regatta. Any substitution to the crew list submitted at registration requires prior written approval by the Organizing Authority (OA).

6.1.1 When a registered skipper is unable to continue in the event, the OA may authorize an original crewmember to substitute.

6.1.2 When a registered crewmember is unable to continue in the event, the OA may authorize a substitute, a temporary substitute or other adjustment.

6.2 J/22 class rule 8.9 states a maximum total crew weight of 275 kg (606 pounds) while racing. Crews will be weighed (wearing at least shorts and shirt or swimsuit) during registration, and may be re-weighed at any time during the event.

7 MEASUREMENTS

7.1 Each boat must present a valid Measurement Certificate at registration.

7.2 Boats and sails will be subject to inspection and/or re-measurement to insure compliance with the J/22 class rules as provided by RRS 78.

7.3 Boats requiring measurement to obtain or modify a Measurement Certificate must make advance arrangements with the Class Measurement Committee (Terry Flynn, Ph: +1.281.474.4168 or email: tflynn@quantumsails.com).

8 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The sailing instructions will be available at registration and will be available on the US SAILING website: www.ussailing.org/riwkc

9 VENUE

The racing venue will be in Galveston Bay NE of the club. The regatta harbor will be Houston Yacht Club in La Porte, Texas.

10 THE COURSES

Courses may be windward-leeward or triangle courses, or a combination of both. Gates and offset marks may be used.

11 PENALTY SYSTEM

11.1 Arbitration will be used for eligible protests.

11.2 Decisions of the international jury will be final as provided in RRS 70.4.

12 SCORING

12.1 Three races are required to be completed to constitute a series.

12.2 (a) When fewer than five races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of all her race scores;

(b) When five or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

13 SUPPORT BOATS

Support boats shall register at the registration desk and will display an identification flag to be provided by the OA.

14 BERTHING

Boats shall be kept in their assigned places at Houston Yacht Club.

15 HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS

Boats shall not be hauled out during the regatta except in accordance with the sailing instructions.

16 DIVING EQUIPMENT AND PLASTIC POOLS

Underwater breathing apparatus and plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used between the preparatory signal of the first race and the end of the regatta.

17 RADIO COMMUNICATION

17.1 The race committee intends to use standard US VHF marine radio frequencies to broadcast information to competitors, including OCS hails after starts.

17.2 A boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to cell phones.

18 PRIZES

First-place prizes for each race and prizes for 1st through 10th place overall will be awarded to skippers and crews.

19 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race. The OA 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.

20 INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum coverage of US \$300,000 per event or the equivalent.

21 SAFETY

21.1 All competitors shall wear, while on the water (other than brief periods while adding or removing clothing) a personal flotation device. In addition, all boats must have aboard at least one US Coast Guard approved Type III personal flotation device for each person aboard the boat.

21.2 A boat retiring from a race, where practical, shall notify a Race Committee vessel before leaving the course, or the Regatta Office immediately after arrival ashore.

22 PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES

22.1 For US SAILING Championship events, no competitor shall use, either on or off the water: marijuana or any other controlled substance (as defined in 21 U.S. Code 802) the possession of which is unlawful under 21 U.S. Code 841.

22.2 For Junior and Youth events or for junior or youth competitors in any US SAILING Championship, no participant or competitor shall use, either on or off the water: marijuana or any other controlled substance (as defined in 21 U.S. Code 802) the possession of which is unlawful under 21 U.S. Code 841, or alcoholic beverages (distilled spirits, wine and beer, each as defined in chapter 51 of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code and intended for beverage use).

22.3 An alleged breach of one of these regulations shall not be grounds for a protest. However, when the protest committee believes that a competitor may have breached one of these regulations, it shall follow the process described in racing rule 69.1, and a competitor found to have breached one of these regulations shall be excluded from the remaining races of the series and, where practicable, removed from the regatta venue and sent home. The competitor's boat shall be disqualified from all races of the series.

23 FURTHER INFORMATION

For further regatta information please contact event chairman, Ginny Garrett, Ph: +1.281.471.6131, Fax: +1.281.471.6966 or email: rolex07@houstonyachtclub.com.

24 MEDIA RIGHTS

Competitors give absolute right and permission to US SAILING, Rolex Watch U.S.A., Inc. and the Houston Yacht Club for any photography and video footage taken of persons and boats during the event, to be published in any media worldwide whatsoever for any editorial, promotional and advertising purposes and to be used in press information.

25 MEDIA RELATIONS

Media representatives wishing to cover the event are requested to contact: Media Pro International, 41 Memorial Boulevard, Newport, RI 02840, USA. Ph: +1.401.849.0220, Fax: +1.401.847.4535, or email: Info@MediaProNewport.com