

**Sailing Instructions**  
**January 13 – 14, 2018**  
**MLK Regatta**  
**St. Thomas Yacht Club**  
**St. Thomas, USVI**

**1 RULES**

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing 2017 - 2020
- 1.2 The class rules of the International Optimist Dinghy Association (IODA) will apply.
- 1.3 Classes will be divided by the age guidelines set in the USODA class rules.
- 1.4 Class Rules from Laser and Club 420 will apply

**2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS**

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located at St. Thomas Yacht Club.

**3 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

- 3.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0830 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect

**4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed at the masthead of St. Thomas Yacht Club.
- 4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 45 minutes'

**5 REGISTRATION AND SCHEDULE OF RACES**

- 5.1 Skippers Meeting 1030 Saturday January 13 Skippers Meeting 0900 Sunday January 15
- 5.2 First signal all classes following skippers meeting
- 5.3 Club 420, Optimist Red, White and Blue - Up to 6 races /day
- 5.4 On last day of racing no warning signal after 0130

**6.0 CLASS FLAGS**

Opti – Opti insignia  
420 - Pink

**7.0 RACING AREA**

- 7.1 To include, Great Bay and Cowpet Bay, waters north and south of Cow and Calf Rocks. You may not sail between the rocks.

## **8. THE COURSES**

- 8.1** The diagrams in Attachment A show the courses, including the approximate angles between legs, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.
- 8.2** When there is a gate, boats shall sail between the gate marks from the direction of the previous mark and round either gate mark.
- 8.3** Green Fleet will receive their course at the Skipper's Meeting each morning

## **9. MARKS**

All marks will be orange or yellow inflatable buoys.

## **10 THE START**

- 10.1** Opti Races will be started using rule 26 with the warning signal given 5 minutes before the starting signal.  
420 Races will use a three minute dinghy start
- 10.2** The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Signal Boat and a staff displaying an orange flag on a Pin Boat or an orange buoy set at the port end of the starting line. In the Green Fleet a buoy will replace the pin boat and serve as pin.
- 10.3** A boat starting later than 5 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS). This changes rule A4.
- 10.4** The Race Committee may blow a short series of sounds before the Warning Signal to gain the attention of competitors

## **11 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE**

To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will move the original mark (or the finishing line) to a new position.

## **12 THE FINISH**

The finishing line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Committee Boat and a pin. Opti finish is to port of the signal boat. 420 finish is starboard of the signal boat. On Green Fleet circle an orange buoy will replace the pin boat.

## **13 TIME LIMITS**

- 13.1** The time limit for each race will be 60 minutes
- 13.2** Boats failing to finish within 10 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish. This changes rules 35 and A5.

## **14 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**

- 14.1** Protest forms are available at the Yacht Club. Protests shall be delivered there within the protest time limit.
- 14.2** For each class, the protest time limit is 30 minutes after the Signal Boat reaches the STYC dock. The same time limit applies to protests by the Race Committee about incidents they observe in the racing area and to requests for redress. This changes rules 61.3 and 62.2.

## 15 SCORING

- 15.1 Opti Scoring** The Low Point Scoring System (A2) will apply, modified so that when 6 or more races have been completed, each boat's series scores will be a total of her race scores, excluding her worst score.

### Opti Scoring For Qualifiers

**1. MLK Regatta:** Qualifier for South Americans. Top 5 ISV Sailors qualify for South American Opti Championship. (Scoring is per the NOR)

1st of 3 qualifiers for Worlds. Worlds qualifier scoring is separate from event NOR. There is a discard after every 8th race.

**2. Crucian Open:** Qualifier for North Americans. Top 4 ISV Sailors qualify for North American Championship. (Scoring is per the NOR)

2nd of 3 qualifiers for Worlds. Worlds qualifier scoring is separate from event NOR. Races from MLK and Crucian Open are combined. There is a discard after every 8th race.

**Sunshine State:** 3rd of 3 Qualifiers for Worlds. Top 5 ISV sailors qualify for Worlds. Worlds qualifier is separate from event NOR. The overall place score from Sunshine State is added to the scores from MLK and Crucian Open.

- 15.2 420 Scoring** The Low Point Scoring System (A2) will apply.

- 15.3** One race is required to be completed to constitute a series.

- 15.4** Because the Caribbean Qualifier will include boats in the races that do not officially represent the schools, for scoring the qualifier we will only take into account how the "A" skippers do against the other "A" skippers, and how the "B" skippers do against the other "B" skippers.

- 15.5** Substitutions for the "A" boats and "B" boats may be made before any race, but the race committee must be informed of the substitutions before those races. It will be assumed that the new crews or skippers for the boats will remain the official "A" or "B" boats for subsequent races until the race committee is informed of a new substitution before the start of the race that the substitution is being made for.

## 16 SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 16.1** Government approved Life Jackets must be worn at all times while on water

- 16.2** A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible.

## 17 SUPPORT BOATS

- 17.1** Team leaders, coaches and other support personnel shall stay outside areas where boats are racing from the time of the preparatory signal for the first class to start until all boats have finished or the Race Committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment.

- 17.2** Support boats may not communicate in any way with competitors while racing, except in case of emergency. The penalty for failing to comply with this requirement will be at the discretion of the Jury after a hearing.

## 18 PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded in all fleets to top 2 places

**19    DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See rule 4, 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 the regatta.