

**Houston Yacht Club Open One-Design Regatta
J/24 Beasley Cup
J/22 Heritage Cup
Ensign Region IV Championship**

September 19 & 20, 2020

**Organizing Authority: The Houston Yacht Club
Shoreacres, Texas**

**SAILING INSTRUCTIONS – FINAL
Posted September 16, 2020**

1. RULES

- 1.1 This event will be governed by the rules as defined in the current edition of The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the Notice of Race (NOR), and these Sailing Instructions (SIs).
- 1.2 Addendum to these SI's for the **J/24 Class, only**, can be found in **Attachment A**.
- 1.3 In case of conflict between the NOR and these SIs, the SIs will prevail. This changes RRS 63.7.
- 1.4 RRS 87 is changed as follows for the IJ22CA: The SI's may change a class rule for the IJ22CA.
- 1.5 All classes racing with the J/24 class shall use the Scoring Penalty. See RRS 44.3.
- 1.6 **Protests:**
 - 1.6.1 Due to COVID-19 restrictions nationally, and in Harris County, there will be no after racing protest filings permitted or hearings held for any rule violations or requests for redress. Competitors are encouraged to handle all on-the-water rules violation incidents in a Corinthian manner by taking on the water penalties under RRS 44.
 - 1.6.2 Appendix V will apply.
 - 1.6.3 The last two sentences of RRS 2 shall not apply. RRS 60.1 (b), 60.2, 60.3, 60.4, 61.1(b), 61.1(c), 61.2, 61.3, 61.4, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, and Appendix M, shall all be deleted.
 - 1.6.4 By sailing and participating in the regatta, all boats, their owners, competitors shall agree that they waive their rights to after race protests and hearings.
- 1.7 **Discretionary Penalty [DP]:** Competitors and support persons shall comply with any reasonable request from event officials. Failure to comply may be considered misconduct.
- 1.8 Reasonable actions by event officials to implement COVID-19 guidance, protocols or legislation, even if they later prove to have been unnecessary, are not improper actions or omissions.

2. ENTRIES

- 2.1 Competitors may enter the regatta by registering on-line at <http://www.regattanetwork.com/event/20710> or at the Houston Yacht Club website <http://www.houstonyachtclub.com>

2.2 Only J/22 class yachts as defined by the IJ22CA may enter the J/22 class. J/22 entrants must meet all ownership, USSA membership and yacht measurement requirements, **except** Class rule 2.8 (requirement for class membership), Class rule 2.9 (requirement for a current measurement certificate) and Class rule 8.9 (combined crew weight not to exceed 275 kg), and must have completed registration and paid all fees with the regatta organizing authority before becoming official competitors.

3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to Competitors will be posted on-line at <http://www.regattanetwork.com/event/20710>.

4. CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

4.1 Any change to these SIs will be posted on-line at <http://www.regattanetwork.com/event/20710> before 0800 hours on the day it will take effect. Any change to the Schedule of Races will be posted on-line by 2000 hours on the day before it will take effect.

4.2 All changes to race documents shall be communicated to competitors *via* the email address provided at registration. If no email was provided by the competitors at registration, it is up to the competitor to check the regatta website.

5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

5.1 All signals made ashore shall be displayed from the signal staff on the lawn of the Houston Yacht Club, be virtually posted on-line and be communicated *via* email.

5.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore (or virtually), “1 minute” is replaced with “not less than 60 minutes” in the race signal AP.

5.3 Signal flags may be flown either alone or beneath one or more class flags.

6. SCHEDULE OF RACES

6.1

Friday	Sept 18	7:00 pm	Zoom Competitors Meeting
Saturday	Sept 19	11:00 am	First warning signal for both racing circles; more races to follow
Sunday	Sept 20	10:00 am	First warning signal for both racing circles; more races to follow
		3:00 pm	No initial warning signal may be made after this time
			Awards on HYC lawn approx. 1.5 hours after last RC boat docks. Skippers only, please.

6.2 The link for the Zoom Competitors Meeting is:

<https://bakerlaw.zoom.us/j/91519581781?pwd=Rk9WZzdMS2JUM29ZcytkNDRPYVYzQT09>

More options to log in may be found in **Attachment B**.

6.3 The starting order for each racing circle will be announced at the Zoom Competitor’s Meeting, and shall be posted on the on-line notice board following the end of that meeting.

7. CLASS FLAGS

Classes and class flags may be found in **Attachment C**.

8. RACING AREA

8.1 The races will be in that part of the Bay bounded by Morgan’s Point on the north, The Bayport Ship Channel on the south, The Houston Ship Channel on the east and the La Porte/Shoreacres shore line on the west.

8.2 The ship channels are obstructions and no boat may enter them while racing.

9. THE COURSES

- 9.1 The attached **Attachment D** shows the courses, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.
- 9.2 On the Keelboat Circle, the Ensign, Lightning and Sonar fleets shall round mark SM (an orange tetrahedron). All other fleets on this circle shall round the farther windward mark, mark 1 (a green tetrahedron), and the off-set mark, 1a.
- 9.3 If a course has a gate, and one of the gate marks is missing, the remaining mark in position shall be rounded to port.
- 9.4 On the Dinghy Circle, all marks shall be rounded to port.
- 9.5 No later than the warning signal, the race committee signal boat shall display the course to be sailed and bearing of the first leg.

10. MARKS

- 10.1 For the Keelboat Circle:
 - 10.1.1 Marks of the course will be **orange** tetrahedrons.
 - 10.1.2 Mark 1 will be a green tetrahedron. The off-set mark, 1a, will be a round buoy.
 - 10.1.3 Mark SM will be an orange tetrahedron.
- 10.2 For the Dinghy Circle, all marks of the course will be **yellow** tetrahedrons.

11. THE START

- 11.1 All races shall be started in accordance with Appendix U.
- 11.2 At three (3) minutes, the class flag/s of the fleet/s starting, and any start penalty flag, shall be displayed and shall come down at the start. This modifies Appendix U.
- 11.3 Before the warning signal of her first race each day, each boat shall sail on starboard tack past the stern of the race committee signal boat and hail her sail number or bow number until acknowledged by the race committee by repeating the boat's sail or bow number. A boat failing to do so may receive a scoring penalty of 20%, for that first race, without a hearing, applied as described in RRS 44.3(c). This modifies RRS A5. **NOTE:** RRS 63 is deleted. See SI 1.6.3.
- 11.4 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the race committee signal boat at the starboard end and a staff displaying an orange flag on a race committee boat or the course side of a mark or floating shape at the port end.
- 11.5 Boats whose preparatory signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area and of all boats whose preparatory signal has been made.
- 11.6 A boat starting more than three (3) minutes after her starting signal shall be scored DNS without a hearing.
- 11.7 The race committee may elect to trail a line (not to exceed 30') attached to a floating object, behind the signal boat. The floating object and its line shall be considered part of the race committee signal boat and hitting the floating object or running over the line shall be treated as hitting the race committee signal boat.

12. RECALLS

- 12.1 Recalls will be signaled in accordance with Appendix U. The race committee intends to hail the sail numbers or bow numbers of OCS boats after the starting signal. As a courtesy, the race committee may use VHF radios or loud hailer. The failure of any boat to hear the hail, an untimely hail of OCS boats, failure to hail any boats, and the order of the boats in the hail shall not be grounds for granting redress. This changes RRS 41. **NOTE:** RRS 62 is deleted. See SI 1.6.3.
- 12.2 Due to COVID-19, and in accordance with SI 1.6.3, there shall be no request for redress for an OCS.

13. CHANGE OF THE POSITION OF THE NEXT MARK

- 13.1 The race committee reserves the right to tweak the course (10 degrees or less) to maintain fairness during a race, without signaling a proper change of course. This modifies RRS 33.
- 13.2 To change the next leg of the course, the race committee shall move the original mark (or the finish

line) to a new position. The change will be signaled before the leading boat in a class has begun the leg, although the “new” mark may not yet be in position. New windward marks will not have an off-set mark.

- 13.3 The class flag will be displayed with the code flag C to indicate the class for which the change is being made. If there is no class flag, the change is made for all classes. This modifies RRS 33.

14. THE FINISH

- 14.1 The finish line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on a race committee boat and the course side of a mark or floating shape.
- 14.2 For windward finishes, the finish line will be located approximately 0.1 NM to windward of the windward mark.

15. TIME LIMIT

- 15.1 Time limits are as follows:

<u>Classes</u>	<u>Time Limit</u>	<u>First Leg Time Limit</u>
Keelboat Circle	120 minutes	30 minutes
Dinghy Circle	60 minutes	30 minutes

If no boat in a class has completed the first leg within the First Leg Time Limit, the race shall be abandoned for that class.

- 15.2 Boats failing to finish within 20 minutes (the finishing window) after the first boat in its class sails the course and finishes will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE). The points awarded for boats scored TLE will be the number of finishers plus 2. This changes RRS 35, A4, A5 and A11.

16. PENALTIES

- 16.1 See SI 1.5 and 1.6. On the water penalties and Appendix V shall apply.
- 16.2 Any competitor taking an after-race scoring penalty of 30% under Appendix V is required to report the penalty to the scorer at 281-382-4789. The race number, sail number, class of boat accepting the penalty, as well as the sail number of the other boat involved in the incident, needs to be provided. The report must be delivered no later than one (1) hour after the last boat finishes the last race of the day on each racing circle. This time will be posted on-line.

17. PROTESTS, SCORING INQUIRIES, AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

See SI 1.6.

18. SCORING

- 18.1 Six (6) races are scheduled.
- 18.2 One (1) race will constitute a series. No scores will be excluded. This modifies RRS Appendix A 2.1.
- 18.3 For the J/24 Class, a minimum of three (3) races must be completed for this event to be considered a regatta for the purposes of scoring in the overall 2020 J/24 Texas Circuit.

19. SAFETY

Any boat that has checked in and then withdraws before finishing the race shall notify the race committee on the water, or, if that is not possible, the Houston Yacht Club office by telephone: 281-471-1255, or VHF Channel 68. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in disqualification from the event.

20. COACHING AND SUPPORT BOATS

- 20.1 Coach and support boats shall follow the instructions of race committee, safety, protest committee, and race management boats.
- 20.2 All coach and support boats shall stay clear of the racing area at all times while boats are racing, except where permitted in this instruction. All coach and support boats shall stay more than 100

yards away from any racing boat or 50 yards outside the racing area, whichever is greater and move slowly and with minimal wake.

- 20.3 All coach and support boats shall stay out of the starting finishing areas at all times and may not gather directly to windward of any mark or finish line, that may be impacted by their presence.

21. TRASH DISPOSAL

Trash may be placed aboard any support or official boats.

22. HAULOUT, CAREENING, PLASTIC POOLS AND DIVING EQUIPMENT

- 22.1 Careening by any means for the purposes of cleaning or inspecting the hull is prohibited. The hull may be cleaned by swimming or keelhauling using ropes or cloth.
- 22.2 Underwater breathing apparatus, plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used during the regatta.
- 22.3 No keelboats shall be hauled out during the regatta except with prior written permission of the Chief Judge. No J/22 boats shall remove their rudders without permission of the Chief Judge.

23. RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

- 23.1 A yacht shall neither make radio transmissions while racing, nor receive special radio communications not available to all yachts. This does not apply to situations that threaten safety of life and/or property.
- 23.2 The race committee shall monitor VHF channel 68 for the Keelboat Circle and VHF channel 72 for the Dinghy Circle.

24. PRIZES

- 24.1 Prizes for all HOOD classes will be awarded based on fleet size.
- 21.1.1 Fleets up to 4 boats will be awarded First place only.
 - 21.1.2 Fleets up to 7 boats will be awarded First and Second place only.
 - 21.1.3 Fleets of 8 or more will be awarded First, Second and Third places.
 - 21.1.4 The J-22 class shall be awarded First, Second and Third place, regardless of fleet size.
- 24.2 The Beasley Cup trophy will be awarded to the J/24 top finishing competitor.
- 24.3 The Heritage Cup trophy will be awarded to the top J/22 finisher.
- 24.4 The Arthur P. Nazro trophy and Region IV Championship trophy will be awarded to the top Ensign finisher.

25. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury, death or sickness due to COVID-19 sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during or after the regatta.

ATTACHMENT A -

Addendum to Sailing Instructions J/24 Class Only

The Sailing Instructions for the J/24 Class Only shall be amended as follows. Where there is conflict between the Sailing Instructions and this addendum, this addendum shall govern.

1. Rules

1.1. The regatta is also governed by the Notice of Circuit for the 2020 J/24 Texas Circuit and the 2019 International J/24 Class Rules (“Class Rule”). **Please see the HOOD regatta site for updated 2020 Texas Circuit rules.**

1.2. In accordance with Class Rule A.11.1, all boats must have a current, valid Measurement Certificate issued by the J/24 Class and current (completed annually) Inventory of Required and Optional Equipment. A boat without a Measurement Certificate is granted a waiver for the 2020 Circuit season. This changes Class Rule A.11.1.

1.3. Bow numbers assigned to each boat pursuant to the J/24 Texas Notice of Circuit and will be used as the identification for the boat during the regatta.

1.4. RRS 42.3(b) and (c) are replaced as follows:

C.1.1(a) states that RRS 42.3(b) is modified by adding “A boat’s crew shall not hang on the mast or shrouds to promote roll tacking or gybing.”

C.1.1(b) states that RRS 42.3(c) is modified to allow all parts of the mainsheet to be pulled simultaneously when this rule applies.

1.5. Boats may use mobile telephones during racing if use of same is provided for in Sailing Instructions as means to communicate with race officials. This changes Class Rule C.5.2(b)(1).

1.6. Pursuant to Class Rule Section C, boats shall comply with all Class Rules while racing, as amended or waived herein.

2. Protests

2.1 RRS 61.1(a) is modified such that a protesting boat shall conspicuously display a red flag (Code Flag B is acceptable) with a hoist of at least 150mm and a fly of at least 200mm and shall be flown from a leg of the backstay adjuster above the deck at its first opportunity.

2.2 The boat being protested shall respond by conducting the necessary penalty turns pursuant to the RRS sections governing the infraction. Competitors shall make every good faith effort to resolve any protests on the water.

2.3 The official protest process shall be at the discretion of the regatta organizer. Please see SI 1.6.

3. Haul-Out Restrictions

Boats shall not be hauled out during the regatta except with prior written permission by submitting a request in writing to the race officials. However, in the case of emergency, permission may be granted retroactively. Any replies to haul-outs shall be emailed to the PRO for posting on-line on the Official Notice Board.

4. Diving Equipment, Plastic Pools and Careening Restrictions

4.1. Underwater breathing apparatus and plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used around boats between the time they are launched and the end of the regatta.

4.2. Careening by any means for the purposes of cleaning or inspecting the hull is prohibited.

4.3. The hull may be cleaned by swimming or keelhauling using ropes or cloth.

5. Crew Substitution or Sail Replacement

5.1. Pursuant to Class Rule C.2.1, all crews must consist of at least three (3) persons with weight not exceeding 400 kg (882 lbs). Crew will not be weighed; however, boats should still achieve to not exceed the 400 kg (882 lbs) weight limit and crew shall remain the same for all races of a single regatta. Any crew substitution shall be given only in exceptional cases and by submitting a written request to the race officials at least 2 hours prior to racing on the day in which the substitution is requested.

5.2. Not more than one mainsail, one jib and one genoa shall be carried aboard. In the event a mainsail, jib or genoa is damaged beyond repair during the regatta, boats may request a sail replacement by submitting a request in writing to the race officials. Said request may be made at the first reasonable opportunity. Replacement sails shall comply with Class Rules.

5.3. Class Rule C.10.2 is changed to allow boats to carry aboard two (2) spinnakers, subject to the following:

5.3.1. The Sail/Royalty Tag Nos. for all sails used during each regatta must be declared in permanent writing on the Inventory of Required and Optional Equipment.

5.3.2. Spinnakers may be used interchangeably during a regatta; however, in the event one of the declared spinnakers is lost or damaged beyond repair during a regatta, a replacement spinnaker is not allowed and the boat must sail only with the remaining declared spinnaker.

5.4. Pursuant to Class Rule A.9.1., the mainsail, 150% genoa and spinnaker shall make a valid attempt to have the same sail numbers as their boat's hull number. Any boat whose sail numbers do not match their hull number may race in the regatta without a written request, unless the Sailing Instructions state otherwise.

5.5. Any requests and replies to sail number changes, crew substitution or sail replacement shall be posted on-line on the Official Notice Board.

6. Shorthanded J/24 Racing, if available

In the event the race officials have provided for a shorthanded fleet in which a J/24 will compete with one (1) to two (2) persons, or three (3) persons if not competing on the Texas Circuit racecourse, those boats will not be scored in the overall Texas Circuit scores. Further, while these boats should endeavor to comply with the Class Rules, they may not be protested or penalized for not doing so.

7. Texas Circuit Representative

For this regatta, Tonja E. (Sanchez) Holmes-Moon is designated to be the Texas Circuit Representative.

ATTACHMENT B – Zoom Competitor’s Meeting Log-in Information

<https://bakerlaw.zoom.us/j/91519581781?pwd=Rk9WZzdMS2JUM29ZcytkNDRPYVYzQT09>

If required to join the meeting manually:

Meeting ID: 915 1958 1781

Password: HOOD2020!!

Or you can dial in to the meeting

Click to dial in automatically from your mobile phone:

+16699006833,,91519581781#,,1#,9214645251# US (San Jose)

+19292056099,,91519581781#,,1#,9214645251# US (New York)

Or you can dial in manually:

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 915 1958 1781

Password: 9214645251

Find your local number: <https://bakerlaw.zoom.us/u/aepBDGLhQH>

Join by SIP

91519581781.9214645251@zoomcrc.com

Join by H.323

162.255.37.11 (US West)

162.255.36.11 (US East)

Meeting ID: 915 1958 1781

Password: 9214645251

ATTACHMENT C - Class Flags

**** The order of starts will be announced at the Competitor's Meeting****

Keelboat Circle:

Ensign – white flag with class insignia (red E with blue stars)

Lightning – white flag with red lightning

J/22 – red flag with white 22

J/24 – light blue flag with royal blue J24

J/105 – yellow flag with blue 105

VX One – solid yellow flag

Sonar – white flag with red class insignia

Dinghy Circle:

Laser Standard Rig – white flag with red class insignia

Laser Radial Rig – yellow flag with red class insignia

Laser 4.7 Rig – red flag with black class insignia

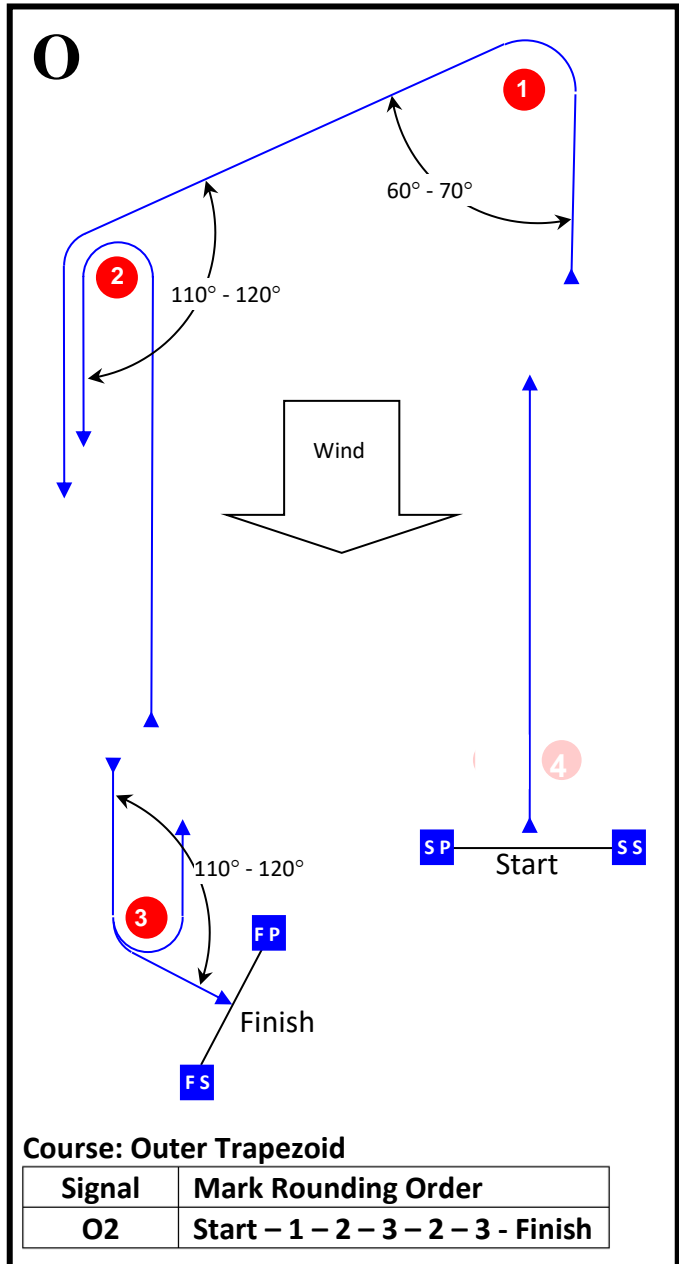
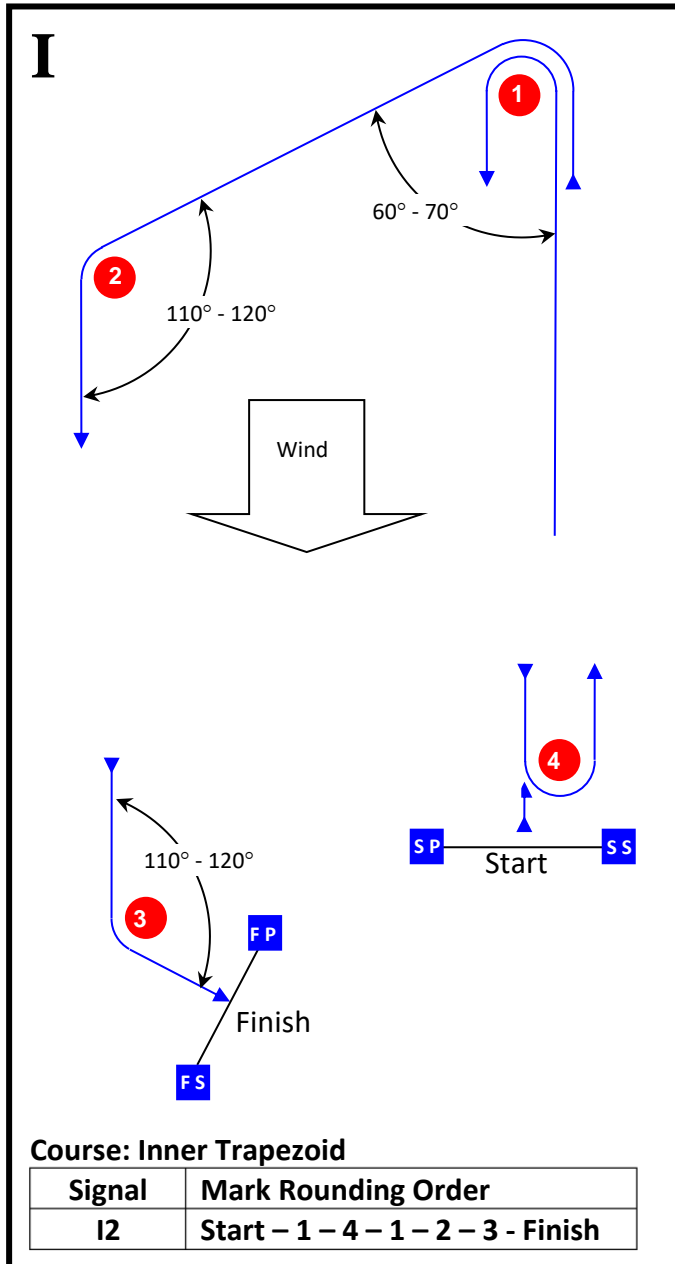
Opti RWB – white flag with blue class insignia

Sunfish – solid blue

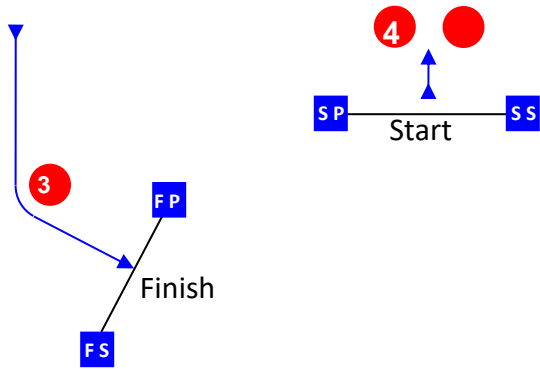
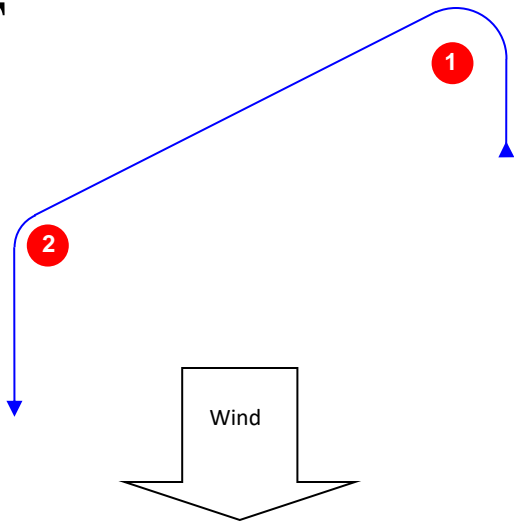
VX EVO – solid pink flag

ATTACHMENT D – COURSE DIAGRAMS

DINGHY CIRCLE ONLY



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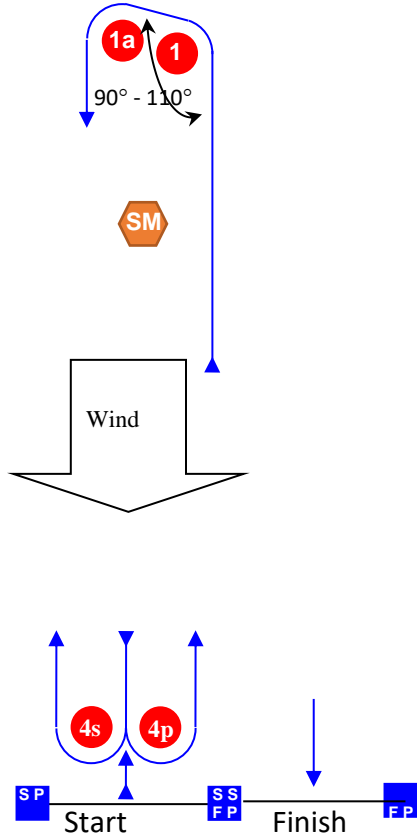


Course: Triangle-Once Around

Signal	Mark Rounding Order
T	Start - 1 - 2 - 3 - Finish

KEELBOAT CIRCLE and DINGHY CIRCLE

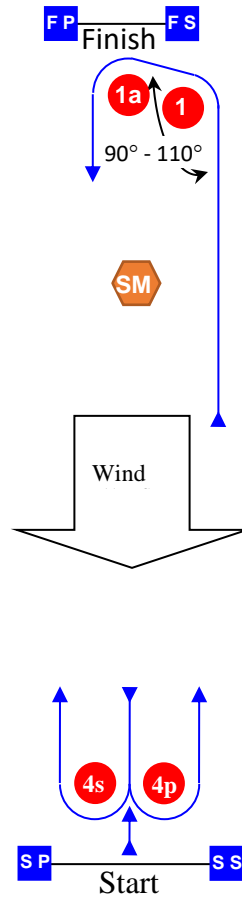
L4



Course: Leeward finish

Signal	Mark Rounding Order
L4	Start – 1 – 1a – 4s/4p – 1 – 1a – Finish
SM4	Start – SM – 4s/4p – SM – Finish

W3



Course: Windward Finish

Signal	Mark Rounding Order
W3	Start – 1 – 1a – 4s/4p – Finish
SM3	Start – SM – 4s/4p – Finish