



THISTLE CLASS ASSOCIATION GREAT LAKES CHAMPIONSHIP



JUNE 16-17, 2012
CHAUTAUQUA YACHT CLUB CHAUTAUQUA, NEW YORK
SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1 RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing, 2009-2012 Edition (RRS), the prescriptions of the United States Sailing Association, and the Thistle Class Association Constitution, By-Laws, and Specifications (Class Rules).
- 1.2 In case of conflict between the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions, the Sailing Instructions shall prevail. This changes RRS 63.7.
- 1.3 The Organizing Authority for this event is the Chautauqua Yacht Club.
- 1.4 Competitors shall not intentionally discharge waste material or trash into the waters or shores of Chautauqua Lake.

2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located inside the lakefront entrance of the Youth Athletic Center (YAC) and for convenience may be posted in the http://www.regattanetwork.com/event/4933#_newsroom online event Notice Board.

3 CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1 Any change in the sailing instructions will be posted before 1000 on Saturday and 0800 on Sunday, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 1900 on the day before it will take effect.

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the Race Committee Signal Boat located in or near the harbor.
- 4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, « 1 minute » is replaced with « not less than 30 minutes » in Race Signals AP. This changes Race Signals.

5 SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 5.1 Six races are scheduled for the series, with not more than four races per day.
- 5.2 Racing is scheduled as follows:

Date	Warning	Race
Friday, June 15	1400	Practice Race
Saturday, June 16	1000	Competitors Meeting
	1100	Race 1, additional races to follow as soon as possible
Sunday, June 17	0900	First Race of the day, additional races to follow
- 5.3 No warning signal will be made after 1300 on Sunday

6 DIVISION OF THE FLEET

- 6.1 All races will be sailed as one division unless more than 60 boats complete registration at which time the RC will have the option of separating the fleet into starts 1 and 2 for Saturday.
- 6.2 Should the fleet be divided, the Bordes System (TCA Bylaws Art. XIII, 12.) will be used to create 4 groups and the races conducted among the two Divisions. If any races are completed on Saturday, on Sunday, the top 50% of the previous day's results will make up the Gold Division and the balance the Silver Division. If no races are completed on Saturday, the fleet will sail the Bordes System on Sunday for the first three races; if there is opportunity for a fourth race, it will be sailed as one division.

7 RACING AREA

- 7.1 The racing area will be on the north basin of Chautauqua Lake, in the area generally between Prendergast Point to the south and Lighthouse Point to the north.

8 THE COURSES

- 8.1 The diagrams on Attachments A and B show the courses, including the order in which marks are to be passed, the identifying letter that will be posted, and the side on which each mark is to be rounded.
- 8.2 The starting line will be located approximately 0.1 to 0.3 nautical miles downwind of Mark 3. The distance between Marks 1 and 1 (a) will be approximately 100 feet.
- 8.3 No later than the warning signal, the race committee signal boat will display the course to be sailed and the approximate compass bearing from the start to Mark 1 on a white board.
- 8.4 A gate will be used at the end of the downwind leg. If one of the gate marks is missing, boats shall round the one existing mark to port.
- 8.5 Boats shall not pass through the finishing line except when finishing or attempting to finish. RRS 28.1 is changed to provide that a boat breaking this rule may not exonerate itself.

9 MARKS

- 9.1 Marks 1, 2 and 3 will be large red cylinders. The Offset Mark will be a small inflatable red ball
- 9.2 A new mark, as provided in instruction 13, will be a yellow cylinder with no offset mark.
- 9.3 The starting marks will be boats displaying an orange flag on a staff and may include a 2-foot red floating ball and line.
- 9.4 While racing, boats shall not touch these balls or the attached line nor pass between these balls and the boat to which they are attached. A boat breaking this rule shall have touched a mark as described in RRS 31.
- 9.5 The finishing marks will be a red cylinder and a staff on a boat displaying an orange flag.
- 9.6 The Gate Marks will be large red cylinders.

10 CHECK-IN

- 10.1 Prior to the first warning signal for the first race of the day in which it intends to compete, each boat shall sail by the stern of the committee boat on starboard tack, hail its sail number, and check in as a starter until acknowledged by the Race Committee
- 10.2 A boat that competes but fails to check in shall, without a hearing, receive a scoring penalty of 20% for the boat's first race of the day, applied as described in RRS 44.3. This modifies RRS A5.

11 THE START

- 11.1 The Class Flag will be the Thistle Class Flag and if the fleet is split, code flag numeral 2 will be used for the second start.
- 11.2 Races will be started by using RRS 26.
- 11.3 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the committee boat at the starboard end and a staff displaying an orange flag on the port end boat.
- 11.4 The starting area is defined as 4 boat lengths above and below the starting line and 8 boat lengths outside of the starting marks. A boat not in her starting sequence shall remain outside the starting area,
- 11.5 A boat not starting within 5 minutes after her starting signal will be scored DNS. This changes rule 63.1, A4 and A5.

12 RECALLS

- 12.1 Individual recalls will be signaled in accordance with RRS 29.1 In addition, the RC may attempt to hail the sail number of each recalled boat.
- 12.2 The following shall not be grounds for redress: Failure of a boat to receive the hail, failure of the RC to hail the recall numbers, a boat's position in the sequence of the hailed numbers, promptness of a hail.

13 CHANGE OF THE POSITION OF THE WEATHER MARK

- 13.1 A change of the course for the second weather mark or the finish will be signaled in accordance with RRS 33. The offset mark will not be repositioned for the changed weather mark.

14 THE FINISH

- 14.1 The finishing line will be a line between a staff displaying an orange flag on a race committee boat at the starboard end and the course side of the nearby finishing mark.
- 14.2 If the RC plans a subsequent race the finish boat will display the Second Substitute without a sound while boats are finishing.

15 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 15.1 A boat that takes a penalty or retires under 44.1 shall sign the acknowledgement form posted in the vicinity of the official notice board within the protest time limit

16 TIME LIMIT

- 16.1 If no boat has passed mark 1 within 45 minutes, or if no boat has finished within 2 hours, the race will be abandoned. Failure to meet the target time prior to abandonment will not be grounds for redress. This changes Rule 62.1(a).
- 16.2 Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat that sailed the course finishes will be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes Rules 35, A4 and A5.

17 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 17.1 A boat intending to protest about an incident that occurs in the racing area shall notify the race committee finish boat of her intention, including the sail number(s) of the boat(s) being protested. This changes RRS 61.1(a).
- 17.2 The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the race committee signal boat docks. Docking time will be posted on the official notice board.
- 17.3 Protest forms will be available from the Protest Committee (PC) on the second floor of the YAC.
- 17.4 Within the protest time, the Race Committee will post the sail numbers of all boats that are penalized under RRS 29, 30, and SI 11 on the Official Notice Board. A boat so notified may only file a request for a redress hearing within 60 minutes of the end of the Protest Time Limit. This changes RRS 62.2.
- 17.5 Notices of protests by the race committee or PC will be posted to inform boats under RRS 61.1(b).
- 17.6 A notice indicating the parties, time, and order of hearings fulfilling the requirements of RRS 63.2 and its prescriptions will be posted not later than 30 minutes following the expiration of the protest time limit.
- 17.7 A list of boats that, under sailing instruction 15, have taken a penalty or retired will be posted within 30 minutes after the protest time limit.
- 17.8 For the purpose of RRS 64.3(b) the "authority responsible" is the Chief Measurer appointed by the Thistle Class Association.
- 17.9 Breaches of instructions 1.4,8.5,10.2, 11.4,11.5,15,19 and 20 will not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a). Penalties for these breaches may be less than disqualification if the PC so decides. The scoring abbreviation for a discretionary penalty imposed under this instruction will be DPI.
- 17.10 On the last day of the regatta a request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered within the protest time limit if the party requesting reopening was informed of the decision on the previous day; no later than 30 minutes after the party requesting reopening was informed of the decision on that day. This changes RRS 66.

18 SCORING

- 18.1 The Low Point scoring system of RRS Appendix A will apply.
- 18.2 The series score for boats will be the total of all their race scores. This changes RRS A2
- 18.3 Six races are scheduled. One race must be completed to constitute a series.

19 SAFETY

- 19.1 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible. Sign in sheets will be located at the YAC for competitors to notify the race committee that they are off the water. All contestants are to sign in each time that boats come into harbor after completion of races.

20 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

- 20.1 Any substitution of crew not declared at registration requires prior written permission of the Race Committee.
- 20.2 Requests for substitutions not declared shall be made in writing to the Race Committee, not later than 1 ½ hours prior to the warning signal, but in the case of an emergency may be retroactively after that time. The number of crew shall not change.
- 20.3 No substitution of skippers is permitted.
- 20.4 The same boat, equipment and sails approved during the measurement shall be used throughout the regatta. Substitutions will not be permitted without the prior written approval of the Race Committee.

21 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

- 21.1 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions.

22 SUPPORT BOATS

- 22.1 Support boats are not permitted. Competitors may not receive or exchange equipment or supplies or assistance from other boats except in an emergency until after the conclusion of racing for the day.

23 Haul-Out Restrictions

- 23.1 Boats shall not be hauled out from initial launching until the conclusion of their participation in the regatta except with prior permission of the race committee.

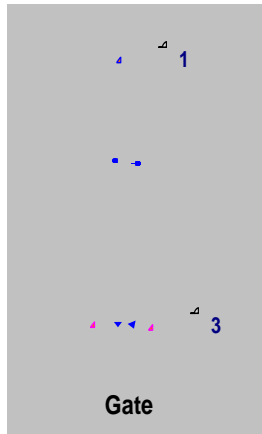
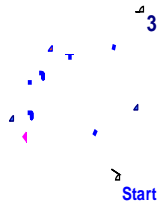
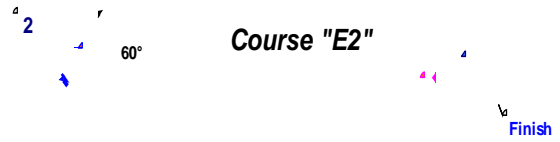
24 RADIO COMMUNICATION

- 24.1 VHF radios or other communication devices may be used only for emergencies after leaving the dock for the racing area until after finishing the last race of the day. This restriction also applies to mobile (cell) telephones.

25 SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 25.1 Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See Rule 4. 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.

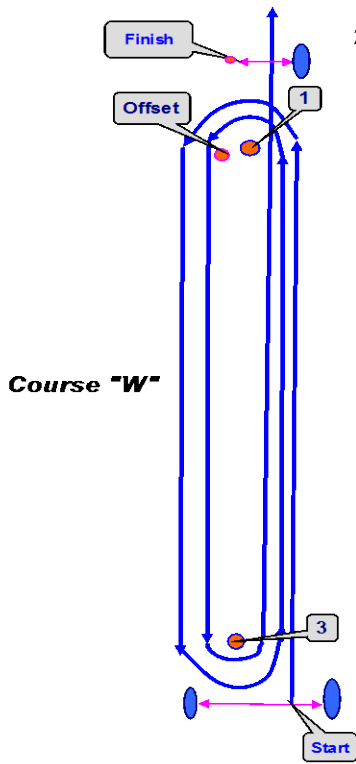
Attachment A
 Description of Courses R2 & E2
 2012 Great Lakes Championship



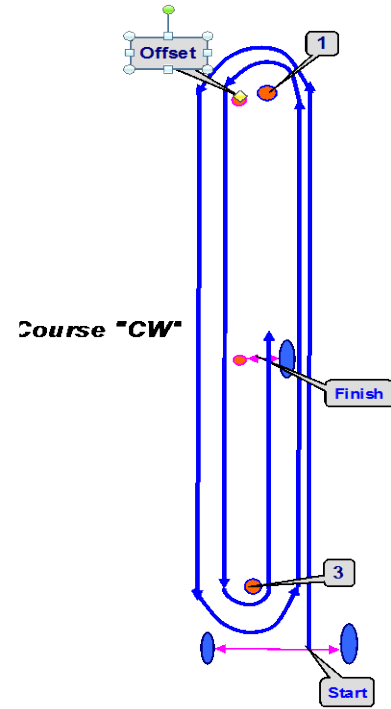
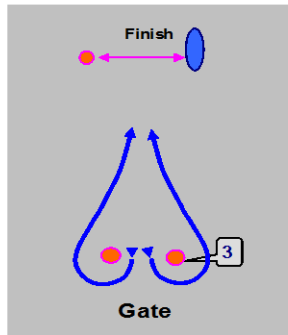
Course "R2" : Start, 1, Offset, Gate, 1, 2, 3, Finish.

Course "E2" : Start, 1, Offset, Gate, 1, 2, 3, Finish.

Attachment B
Windward Leeward Courses
2012 Great Lakes Championship



Course "W" : Start, 1, Offset, Gate, 1, Offset, Gate, Finish.



Course "CW" : Start, 1, Offset, Gate, 1, Offset, Gate, Finish.