

2015 J/Fest Southwest Regatta – October 10 and 11, 2015
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2015 J/Fest Southwest Regatta

October 10 & 11, 2015

Organizing Authority : Bay Access

Hosted by Lakewood Yacht Club

Sailing Instructions

1. RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the *rules* as defined by *The Racing Rules of Sailing 2013-2016* (“RRS”), the prescriptions of US SAILING, the applicable class rules and Notice of Circuits, and the Notice of Race (NOR) except as any of these are modified by these Sailing Instructions, and by these Sailing Instructions.
- 1.2 J/24 Class only:
- A. All yachts must have a current, valid Measurement Certificate per Class Rule 2.5.3. Any yacht without a valid Measurement Certificate may only race with the prior approval of the USJCA District Governor or its designated representative. This changes class rule 2.5.3. However, all yachts must complete and carry aboard while racing the *Inventory of Required and Optional Equipment* per Class Rules 2.5.6 and 3.7.3.
 - B. Rule 42.3(c) is deleted and replaced by J/24 Class Rule 8.2.
 - C. The 2015 J/24 Texas Circuit Notice of Circuit shall apply.
- 1.3 Parts B & D of US Sailing Appendix T as modified herein shall apply.
- 1.4 The penalty for violating RRS 31 by touching an anchored Race Committee Boat shall be to retire, and no exoneration is available except under SI 1.6. This modifies RRS 44.1 and 64.1(c).
- 1.5 The penalty for violating a rule of Part 2 with the result that another boat touches an anchored Race Committee Boat shall be for the offending boat to retire. This modifies RRS 44.1 and 64.1(c).
- 1.6 For purposes of Sailing Instructions 1.4 and 1.5, touching a float and its line trailing from an anchored Race Committee Signal Boat will not be treated as touching an anchored Race Committee Boat, but will be treated as touching a mark in violation of RRS 31 and penalties and exoneration will be controlled by RRS 44.1 and 64.1(c).
- 1.7 J/70 Class only:
- J/70 competitors may carry a backup spinnaker onboard, and may utilize the backup spinnaker should the primary spinnaker be damaged.

2. ENTRIES

- 2.1 Only boats eligible per the Notice of Race may enter. Entrants must meet all ownership, respective Class membership and boat measurement requirements, and must have completed registration and paid all fees with the regatta organizing authority before becoming official competitors.

3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located in the vicinity of the west end of the pool at Lakewood Yacht Club.

4. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 4.1 Any written change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0900 hours on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 hours on the day before it will take effect.

5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the yardarm at Lakewood Yacht Club near the pool.
- 5.2 When "AP" is displayed ashore, the first warning signal will be made not less than 1 hour after the "AP" is lowered.
- 5.3 Signal flags may be flown either alone or over a LINE flag.
- Individual LINES will be designated by the following LINE flags:
- LINE A = Code flag A (J/80, J/105, J/109, J/PHRF classes)
 - LINE B = Code flag B (J/22, J/24 & J/70 classes)

If no code flag is displayed, the signal pertains to all LINES.

6. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 6.1 The Warning Signal for the first start each day will be no earlier than 1000 hours.
- 6.2 On Sunday, October 11th, no starting signals will be made after 1300 hours.
- 6.3 The Race Committee intends to run multiple races. The number of races conducted is at the sole discretion of the Race Committee except for the J/24 Class. The J/24 Class will have a maximum of six races.

7. CLASSES, LINE ASSIGNMENTS AND STARTING ORDER for first race each day

- 7.1 Line A – J/105, J/109 & J/PHRF (also J/80)
- A. J/80
 - B. Class Flag for the J/105 class will be a Pink flag with a blue J/105 insignia.
 - C. Class Flag for the J/109 class will be a White flag with a blue J/109 insignia.
 - D. Class Flag for the J/PHRF (SYM) class will be a solid Green flag
- 7.2 Line B – J/22, J/24 & J/70
- A. Class Flag for the J/22 class will be a Lt Green flag with a black J/22 insignia.
 - B. Class Flag for the J/24 class will be a Blue flag with a white J/24 insignia.
 - C. Class Flag for the J/70 class will be a White flag with a black J/70 insignia.

8. RACING AREA

- 8.1 The general race area will be between Clear Lake Channel Marker No. 2, Red Bluff, the Houston Ship Channel, and San Leon.
- 8.2 The Line A starting line will be approximately 1 - 1½ miles south/southeast of Clear Lake Channel Marker #1.
- 8.3 The Line B starting line will be approximately ½ - 1 mile northeast of Clear Lake Channel Marker #1.
- 8.4 A boat shall not enter the Houston Ship Channel. The Houston Ship Channel is designated as an *obstruction*.

9. RADIO COMMUNICATION

- 9.1 A yacht shall neither make radio transmissions while racing, nor receive special radio communications not available to all yachts. This restriction also applies to cell phones.
- 9.2 The Race Committee Signal boat will communicate with competitors on the following VHF channels:
 - Line A – VHF channel 68
 - Line B – VHF channel 72
- 9.3 Boats not having a VHF radio or one not operational will not use this as grounds for redress.

10. CHECK IN

- 10.1 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 number or bow number. A boat failing to do so will receive a scoring penalty of 20% for the first race of the day, applied as described in RRS 44.3(c). This modifies RRS A5.
- 10.2 Failure to check in is not subject to protest by another boat.

11. COURSES / MARKS / CHANGES

- 11.1 **Line A (J/80, J/105, J/109 & J/PHRF):** Courses will be windward-leeward courses. The original windward mark will be an 8' Orange tetrahedron. The leeward gate will be 4' Orange tetrahedrons. With the exception of the leeward gate, all marks shall be rounded to port. In the event one of the gate marks is not in place, round the remaining leeward gate mark to port.
- 11.2 **Line B (J/22, J/24 & J/70):** Courses will be windward-leeward courses, with an offset mark (orange hippity-hop) at the windward mark (Yellow tetrahedron – original mark) and a leeward gate (4' Yellow tetrahedrons). With the exception of the leeward gate, all marks shall be rounded to port. In the event one of the gate marks is not in place, round the remaining leeward gate mark to port.
- 11.3 The Course Number (pennant) indicates the number of legs to be sailed (windward mark to an offset mark is not a leg of the course for this purpose). Odd number courses finish to windward, even numbered courses will finish to leeward.

- 11.4 Course changes for Windward Marks will be made in accordance with RRS 33 with an Orange original mark being replaced by a Yellow mark, and a Yellow original mark being replaced by an Orange mark. If a subsequent course change is made, an original mark will be used. If a course change for the Leeward mark/gate is made, the original mark will be moved to a new location. This modifies RRS 33.
- 11.5 No later than the Warning Signal, the Race Committee will display a number pennant indicating the course number.
- 11.6 If a class flag is displayed with a C flag or an S flag, the visual signal applies only to that class.

12. THE START

- 12.1 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee Signal Boat at the starboard end and the course-side of an orange buoy at the port end.
- 12.2 A boat starting more than 5 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This changes RRS A4.1.
- 12.3 The races will be started in accordance with RRS 26.

13. RECALLS

- 13.1 As a courtesy only, the Race Committee may attempt to recall boats by broadcasting their sail or bow number on the appropriate VHF channel.
- 13.2 Failure by the Race Committee to make such hail, failure of a boat to hear her recall notification, or the order and timing of such hail shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1a

14. WITHDRAWING

- 14.1 A boat that retires from a race or that does not intend to start a scheduled race shall notify the Race Committee at the first opportunity.

15. THE FINISH

- 15.1 Except in the event of a Shortened course, the finish line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on a Race Committee boat and:
- A. When sailing Courses 2 & 4, the course-side of an orange buoy on the opposite side from the starting line. The RC Signal boat shall be left to Starboard.
 - B. When sailing Courses 3 & 5, the course-side of an orange buoy approximately 100 yards to windward of the windward mark. The RC Signal boat shall be left to Starboard.

16. TIME LIMIT

- 16.1 Any race in which no boat rounds the first windward mark within 45 minutes after its start, or finishes within 2 hours of the start, will be abandoned. For One Design classes, a boat failing to finish within thirty (30) minutes after the first boat will be scored "Time Limit Expired" (TLE). This changes RRS 35.

17. PROTESTS, PENALTIES, and PENALTY SYSTEM

- 17.1 Parts B (Post-Race Penalties) & D (Arbitration) of US Sailing RRS Prescription T shall apply for all classes.
- 17.2 In accordance with RRS Appendix T section A, the first two sentences of rule 44.1 will be changed to: "A boat may take a One- Turn Penalty when she may have broken a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 while *racing*. However, when she may have broken a rule of Part 2 while in the zone around a mark other than a starting mark, her penalty shall be a Two-Turns Penalty".
- 17.3 J/24 class only:
- A. RRS 61(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.
 - B. The 20% Scoring Penalty, as provided in RRS 44.3 as modified herein, will apply to boats that may have broken one or more rules of Part 2. The One-turn as provided in RRS 44.1 will apply to boats that may have broken RRS 31.
 - C. RRS 44.3(a) is modified such that the boat taking a Scoring Penalty shall conspicuously display a yellow flag (Code Flag I acceptable), and the flag shall have a hoist of at least than 150mm and a fly of at least than 200mm and shall be flown from a leg of the backstay adjuster above the deck.
 - D. After Race Scoring Penalty:
 - 1) The Post-Race Penalty for Appendix T2.2(a) shall be 30%. This modifies Appendix T2.2(a).
 - 2) The Post-Race Penalty for Appendix T2.2(b) shall be 40%. This modifies Appendix T2.2(b) .
- 17.4 A boat intending to protest another boat shall notify the Race Committee at the first reasonable opportunity after finishing that race.
- 17.5 Protest forms are available in the foyer of the LYC Clubhouse Office. Completed protest forms shall be delivered there within the protest time limit, which will be one hour after Race Committee comes ashore.
- 17.6 For each LINE, the protest time limit is sixty-minutes (60) after the Race Committee Signal Boat returns to the Lakewood Inner Harbor. This time will be noted by one long blast of the horn and will be posted on the official notice board. In the event the Race Committee Signal Boat does not return to the harbor, the protest time limit will be one hour after notice of that fact is posted on the official notice board.
- 17.7 The protest time limit will be posted on the official notice board.
- 17.8 Notices of scheduled hearing times and locations will be posted within thirty (30) minutes of the expiration of the protest time limit. Hearings may be scheduled as soon as both parties are contacted

17.9 Notice of a protest by the Race Committee will be posted on the official notice board.

17.10 For the purpose of meeting obligations under US Sailing prescriptions concerning redress, notification of a redress hearing shall be by announcement at the main party area and by posting on the official notice board for thirty minutes. The requirement for written requests for attendance of the hearing will be satisfied by a signup sheet at the office and at the hearing. No more than one person per boat may attend. No request for reopening a hearing will be accepted after 6 PM Sunday, 10/11/2015.

18. SCORING

18.1 One race is required to be completed to constitute a regatta. However, for the J/24 class three races are required to be completed to for the regatta to be scored in the Texas Circuit.

18.2 The Low Point Scoring System of Appendix A will apply. Each boat's total score shall be the sum of her scores for all races. No races will be excluded. This modifies RRS A2.

18.3 A boat scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) will be given two (2) points more than the number of finishers within the time limit, except that she shall not be scored worse than DNF. This modifies RRS 35.

19. HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS

19.1 Boats shall not be hauled out during the regatta except with and according to the terms of prior written permission of the Protest Committee. However, in the case of an emergency, permission may be granted retroactively.

20. DIVING EQUIPMENT AND PLASTIC POOLS

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

21. CREW SUBSTITUTION, SAIL REPLACEMENT & INSPECTION – J/24 Class Only

21.1 All crews must consist of at least three (3) persons with weight not exceeding 400 kg (882 lbs). All competitors will be weighed during registration and the crew shall remain the same for all races. Any crew substitution requires written permission of the Governor or his designated representative, which will be given only in exceptional cases.

21.2 Replacement of damaged sails will not be allowed unless authorized by the Governor or his designated representative. Requests for sail replacement shall be made to the Governor at the first reasonable opportunity.

- 21.3 Replacement sails shall comply with IJCA Class Rules.
- 21.4 Any replies to crew substitution or sail replacement shall be posted on the Official Notice Board.
- 21.5 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with Class Rules and Sailing Instructions.

22. CAREENING – J/24 Class Only

- 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.

23. PRIZES

- 23.1 Awards will be presented to approximately the top third of each class. Additional prizes may be awarded to participants by sponsors.

24. INSURANCE

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

25. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 25.1 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 or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.