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J/70 NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP

May 16-22, 2016
Seabrook, TX USA Hosted by Lakewood Yacht Club
Website: www.j70nac.com

The Organizing Authority is the Lakewood Yacht Club and the J/70 Class Association

PRELIMINARY SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

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1. RULES

- 1.1. The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing 2013-2016 (RRS).
- 1.2. Except for breaches of RRS 28 and RRS 2 the jury may impose suitable penalties (DPI), other than disqualification, for violations of non-Part 2 rules of RRS. This changes RRS 64.1.
- 1.3. The international J/70 Class Rules will apply. Class rules I.3 and I.4 of part III are invoked.
- 1.4. Bow numbers will be supplied by organizing authority and shall be displayed as forward as possible on both sides of the first 20% of the hull. (60 cm maximum from the bow).
- 1.5. Sponsor decals will be placed on the boom or in the cockpit as directed by the OA. If provided, flags / stickers / decals shall be displayed from 18 May 6:00pm through 22 May.
- 1.6. Only the US Sailing prescriptions to RRS 40, 67, 76.1, Appendix L, and added rules 61.4 and 82 will apply and are stated in full in Attachment C.
- 1.7. The Equipment Rules of Sailing will apply.
- 1.8. RRS 30.3 – the third sentence is modified so that in the event a General Recall is signaled during a Black Flag start, "...the RC shall display her bow number before the next warning signal for that race,...".



J/70 NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP PRELIMINARY SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located on the north exterior wall of the utility building immediately north of the docking area.
- 2.2. Safety and other information when afloat will be broadcast on VHF on channel "69". Call sign 'Race Committee'.

3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1. Any changes to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0900 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 or the end of protest time, whichever is later, on the day before it will take effect.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flag pole located at the southern tip of the club property immediately east of the docking area.
- 4.2. When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 60 minutes' in the race signal AP. This changes RRS race signal.
- 4.3. When flag Y is displayed ashore and/or on the Committee Boat, RRS 40 applies at all times while afloat. This changes RRS Part 4 preamble.

5. SCHEDULE

- 5.1. Eleven (11) races are scheduled with 3 per day except the last day when 2 are scheduled. If we are behind schedule no more than 4 races shall be raced on one day.

DAY	TIME	EVENT
Monday, May 16	0900 - 1700	Registration and Measurement
Tuesday, May 17	0900 - 1700	Registration and Measurement
Wednesday, May 18	0900 - 1700	Registration and Measurement
	1200	All Boats On-Site
	1300	Practice Race Warning
	1800	Competitor Meeting
	1800	Opening Ceremonies
Thursday, May 19	0900	Competitors Briefing
	1100	First Warning
Friday, May 20	0900	Competitor Briefing
	1100	First Warning



J/70 NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP PRELIMINARY SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Saturday, May 21	0900	Competitor Briefing
	1100	First Warning
Sunday, May 22	0900	Competitor Briefing
	1100	First Warning
	1800	Closing Ceremonies/Awards

- 5.2. When more than one race is held on the same day, the warning signal for the next race will be made as soon as possible after the end of the previous race. The finishing vessel may display code flag 'A' to indicate the intention of the Race Committee to conduct no more races on that day.
- 5.3. For all races, to alert boats that a race will begin soon, orange line flags will be displayed on the committee boats marking the line (with one long sound signal) for a minimum of 5 minutes before the warning signal is displayed.
- 5.4. On the last day of the regatta, no warning signal will be made after 1330 local time.

6. CLASS FLAG

- 6.1. 'J/70' logo on a white flag will be the class flag for the event.

7. RACE AREA

- 7.1. Attachment A shows the location of the racing area and harbor location.

8. THE COURSES

- 8.1. The course to be sailed will be windward-leeward. The diagrams in Attachment B shows the courses, including the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.
- 8.2. No later than the warning signal, the race committee boat will signal on a board the course to be sailed, approximate compass bearing and the length of the first leg.

9. MARKS

- 9.1. Description of the marks:
 - Mark 1 and 2s/2p will be yellow inflatable tetrahedron buoys.
 - The Offset mark (OS) will be an Orange ball.
 - New mark(s), as provided in SI 11, will be orange inflatable tetrahedron buoy(s).
 - The starting marks will be two RC Boats.
 - The finishing line will be either two RC boats or an inflatable buoy and a RC Boat.

10. THE START

- 10.1. 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 the port end starting line boat.



TORQUEEDO



J/70 NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP PRELIMINARY SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 10.2. A boat starting later than 5 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A4 and A5.
- 10.3. Boats subject to individual recall (RRS 29.1) and boats disqualified under RRS 30.3 may be broadcast on the VHF channel using sail numbers or bow numbers. This is an addition to and changes RRS 29.1 and 30.3.
- 10.4. Individual and General Recall flags may also be displayed by the port end starting line boat.
- 10.5. After a general recall for a start that used starting penalty RRS 30.2 (Z Flag Rule), the RC will attempt to broadcast the sail numbers or bow numbers of boats that are observed to be ZFP.
- 10.6. Failure of the RC to make or boats to receive or hear a broadcast or to time it accurately or the order of boat(s) hailed shall not be grounds for granting a request for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

11. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 11.1. To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will lay a new mark (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.
- 11.2. If a change of course is made at mark OS or if one of the marks is no longer in position forming a gate, marks 2s/2p may be substituted by a single mark to be left to port.

12. THE FINISH

- 12.1. The finishing line will be either between staffs displaying orange flags on two RC boats or between a staff displaying an orange flag on the race committee boat and the course side of the nearby inflatable finishing mark as indicated in the Course chart.

13. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 13.1. If a member of the International Jury witnesses an infringement of class rule C3.3 (Crew Positioning) or RRS 49 or class rule C9.3(b)(1) (Bowsprit Use), he may indicate his observation by making a sound signal, pointing a yellow flag and hailing the boat sail or bow number. The boat may then exonerate herself by taking a One-Turn penalty. Action or lack of action by the International Jury under this instruction shall not be grounds for redress. This changes rule 62.1(a).
- 13.2. Appendix "P" will apply as changed by SI 13.3.
- 13.3. RRS P2.3 will not apply and RRS P2.2 is changed so that it will apply to any penalty after the first one.
- 13.4. US Sailing Appendix T ALTERNATIVE PROCEDURES FOR DISPUTE RESOLUTION Sections A, B and D will be in effect for alleged breach of rules of RRS Part 2 or rule 31. The details of Appendix T are in SI Attachment C.



TORQUEEDO



J/70 NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP PRELIMINARY SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 13.5. Unless the course is shortened to finish at the windward mark, penalties while in the zone of the windward mark or on the offset leg may be delayed and taken as soon as possible on the downwind leg. This changes RRS 44.2.

14. TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES

- 14.1. The target time for each race is 70-75 minutes. Failure to meet the target time shall not be grounds for granting redress. This changes RRS 60.1(b) and 62.1(a).
- 14.2. Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored DNF. This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5.
- 14.3. The RC will lower the orange flag with one sound to indicate that the finish line is closed. The time limit for the first boat to sail the course and finish is two hours.
- 14.4. If no boat has passed the first mark within 40 minutes, the race will be abandoned.

15. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 15.1. The jury desk will be located in the Dinghy Pavillion east of the docking area. The protest room will be located in the LYC Club House in the Commodore's Room.
- 15.2. Protests and requests for redress or reopening forms will be available at the jury desk.
- 15.3. Protests and requests for redress or reopening forms shall be delivered to the jury desk within the appropriate time limit.
- 15.4. The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the race committee signal boat docks. The protest time limit will be posted on the official notice board. The same time limit applies to protests by the race committee and jury about incidents they observe in the racing area and for requests for redress. This changes RRS 61.3 and 62.2.
- 15.5. Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses.
- 15.6. Notices of protests by the RC or jury will be posted to inform boats under RRs 61.1(b).
- 15.7. Breaches of SI 17, 18, 21, 22, 23, and 24 will not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a). Penalties for these breaches will be at the discretion of the jury (DPI: Discretionary Penalty Imposed).
- 15.8. On the last scheduled day of racing a request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered within the protest time limit if the requesting party was informed of the decision on the previous day; and no later than 30 minutes after the requesting party was informed of the decision on that day. This changes RRS 66.
- 15.9. On the last day of racing a request for redress based on a jury decision shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the decision was posted. This changes RRS 62.2.
- 15.10. Decisions of the International Jury will be final as provided in RRS 70.5.



J/70 NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP PRELIMINARY SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

16. SCORING

- 16.1. Scoring will be in accordance with RRS 90.3 and Appendix A2, except that if at least five (5) races have been completed each boat's worst score shall be excluded from the series score. This changes A2.
- 16.2. Three (3) completed races during the Series are required to constitute the championship.

17. SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 17.1. Safety equipment shall be carried in accordance with Class Rules.
- 17.2. Boats that retire from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible.
- 17.3. Boats not leaving the harbor for any of the day's racing shall so inform the RC.
- 17.4. Prior to the warning of her first race of each day, each boat shall check-in with, and be recognized by the Race Committee (R/C) located in the starting area and displaying the Code Flag L. Boats shall pass close aboard on starboard tack and hail her bow number. When a boat has been recognized, the R/C will hail the boat's bow number.

18. REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

- 18.1. Substitution of competitors will not be allowed without written approval of the race committee prior to racing on that day.
- 18.2. Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed unless authorized by the race committee prior to racing on that day. If the substitution occurs after the first race of the day, the race committee shall be informed of the equipment substitution before racing again that day and shall have the equipment substitutions form presented to the race committee before end of protest time.

19. EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

- 19.1. A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions. On the water, a boat can be instructed by a measurer or RC equipment inspector displaying an "Official" flag to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.

20. OFFICIAL BOATS

- 20.1. Official boats will be marked as follows:

Category	Flag
Race Committee Boats	Blue RC Flag
Jury Boats	Blue and white flag w/ red number
Measurer	Blue Flag with white "Official"
Press Boats	Red Flag with white "Press"
Coach and Support Boats	Green Flag with blue number



TORQUEEDO



J/70 NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP PRELIMINARY SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

21. SUPPORT BOATS

- 21.1. Support, including coach, press, private and spectator boats shall register at the Race Office during the registration period and be issued with an identity flag, such flag to be prominently displayed at all times when afloat. The person in charge of the competing boat(s) to which support boats are attached shall acknowledge the presence of a support boat on his registration form and pay any fee for the support boat decided by the OA.
- 21.2. Class rule Part III, Section I, I.3 (Support boats) will apply.
- 21.3. Violation of CR I.3 shall be considered a breach of rule 41. This changes rule 41.
- 21.4. Team leaders, coaches and other support boats shall stay more than 50 meters to leeward of the starting line, leeward marks and from any racing boats while racing.
- 21.5. Support boats shall comply with 21.2, 21.3 and 21.4 and in addition with any direction given by the Organizing Authority, the Race Committee or the Jury including requests for assisting with rescues. Failure to comply may result in the accreditation being withdrawn and all access to the club facilities, grounds and access to the docks to be denied.
- 21.6. Support boats must be on call on VHF channel 69 at all times.

22. BERTHING

Boats shall be kept in their assigned places as directed by the OA when either afloat or ashore.

23. HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS AND OTHER RESTRICTIONS

- 23.1. Boats shall be afloat by 1800 on Wednesday, May 18.
- 23.2. Boats shall not be hauled out during the regatta, except with and according to the terms of prior written permission of the race committee.
- 23.3. Boats shall not use dehumidifiers during the regatta between 1800 Wednesday, May 18 and 1300 Sunday, May 22.
- 23.4. Boats shall not remove their rudder during the regatta, except with and according to the terms of prior written permission of the race committee.

24. RADIO COMMUNICATION

- 24.1. Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.
- 24.2. The RC will use VHF channel 69 to communicate with the fleet. It is strongly encouraged that each boat has a VHF radio on board capable of receiving additional channels 16 and 68.

25. PRIZES

- 25.1. Prizes will be given in accordance with the Notice of Race.
- 25.2. Additional prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the Organizing Authority.



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J/70 NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP PRELIMINARY SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

26. LIABILITY & MEDIA WAIVER

- 26.1. 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.
- 26.2. Each person racing on board a boat entered in the regatta shall complete the online liability & media waiver available on the regatta website.

27. INSURANCE

- 27.1. Each participating crew shall hold a valid insurance certificate showing proof of third-party liability coverage of at least \$300,000 (or equivalent) per incident.

28. RACE OFFICIALS

Jury Chairman: Leo Reise IJ-CAN (Chief Judge)
Race Committee PRO: Jim Tichenor (IRO-USA)

29. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please contact:

Regatta Chair: Al Goethe	j70nac2016@lakewoodyachtclub.com
LYC Club Management: Terry Chapman	tchapman@lakewoodyachtclub.com
Media Contact: Troy Wise	twise@lakewoodyachtclub.com
Harbor Master: Lynda Hall	lhall@lakewoodyachtclub.com
Lakewood Yacht Club:	281-474-2511

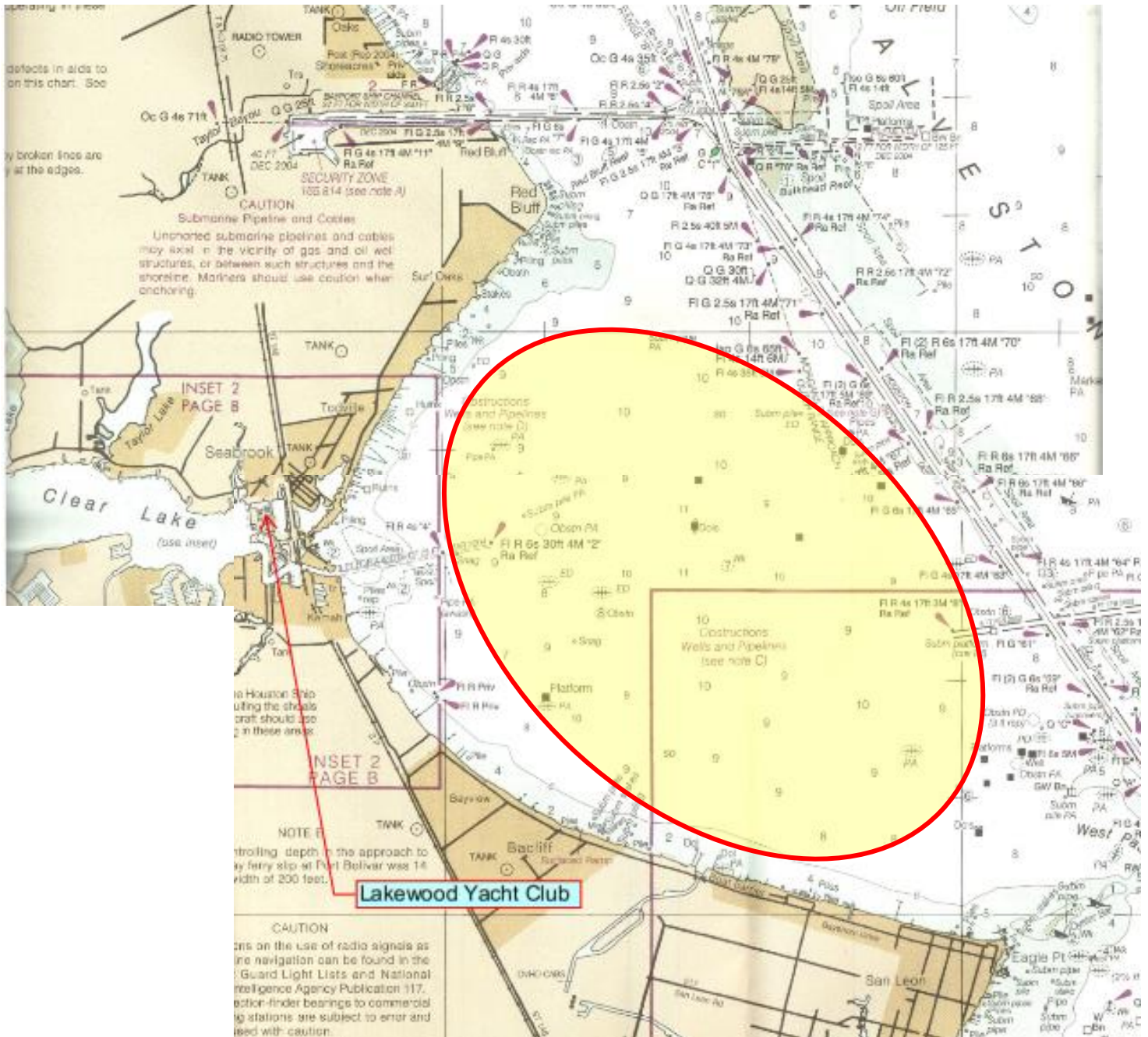


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J/70 NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP PRELIMINARY SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Attachment A Race Area



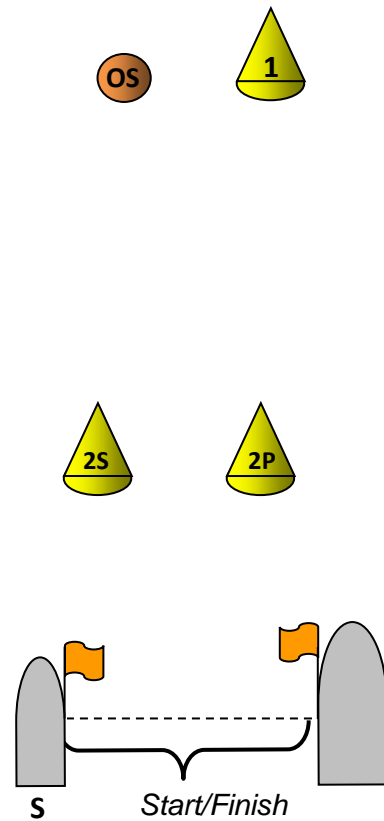
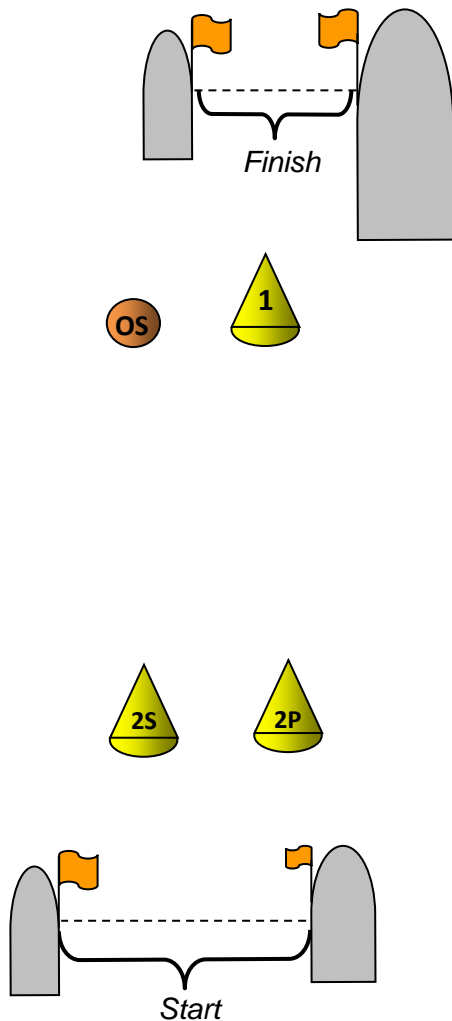


J/70 NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP
PRELIMINARY SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Attachment B
Course Chart

Course	Marks	Course	Marks
1	Start, 1, OS, 2P/2S, 1, OS, 2P/2S, Upwind Finish	2	Start, 1, OS, 2P/2S, 1, OS, Downwind Finish

Marks of the course shall be left to port





TORQUEEDO



**J/70 NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP
PRELIMINARY SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

Attachment C

Applicable US Sailing Prescriptions

Rule 40 Change rule 40 title to: **PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICES; LIFE-SAVING EQUIPMENT**

After rule 40 add

US Sailing prescribes that every boat shall carry life-saving equipment conforming to government regulations that apply in the racing area. Go to ussailing.org/racingrules/documents and click the 'PFD' link for more information.

Rule 61.4 Add rule 61.4

61.4 Fees for Protests and Requests for Redress

US Sailing prescribes that no fees shall be charged for protests or requests for redress.

Rule 67 After rule 67 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.***

Rule 76.1 After rule 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.



J/70 NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP PRELIMINARY SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Rule 82 Add rule 82

82 INDEMNIFICATION OR HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENTS

US Sailing prescribes that the organizing authority shall not require a competitor to assume any liabilities of the organizing authority, race committee, protest committee, host club, sponsors, or any other organization or official involved with the event. (This is commonly referred to as an ‘indemnification’ or ‘hold harmless’ agreement.) Go to ussailing.org/racingrules/documents and click the ‘Indemnification’ link for more information.

Appendix L Use of Code Flag A

Flag A displayed with no sound, while boats are finishing means “No more racing today.”

Appendix T

SECTION A - PENALTIES WHILE RACING

T1 PENALTIES AT THE TIME OF THE INCIDENT

The first two sentences of rule 44.1 are 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.’

SECTION B - POST-RACE PENALTIES

T2 PENALTIES TAKEN AFTER A RACE

T2.1: After a race, a boat that may have broken a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 while *racing* may take a Post-Race Penalty for that incident. The penalty shall be a Scoring Penalty, calculated as stated in rule 44.3(c). However, rules 44.1(a) and (b) apply. A boat takes a Post-Race Penalty by informing the race committee in writing and identifying the race number and when and where the incident occurred.

T2.2: The Post-Race Penalty shall be

- (a) 20%, if taken before the protest time limit, or
- (b) 30%, if taken after the protest time limit but before the beginning of a hearing involving the incident.



TORQUEEDO



J/70 NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP PRELIMINARY SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

SECTION D - ARBITRATION

When Section D applies, a boat may take the applicable Post-Race Penalty in Section B without participating in an arbitration meeting.

T5 PROTEST ARBITRATION

- T5.1: An arbitration meeting will be held prior to a protest hearing for each incident resulting in a *protest* by a boat involving a rule of Part 2 or rule 31, but only if each *party* is represented by a person who was on board at the time of the incident. No witnesses will be permitted. However, if the arbitrator decides that rule 44.1(b) may apply or that arbitration is not appropriate, the meeting will not be held, and if a meeting is in progress, it will be closed.
- T5.2: Based on the evidence given by the representatives, the arbitrator will offer an opinion as to what the protest committee is likely to decide:
- (a) the *protest* is invalid,
 - (b) no boat will be penalized for breaking a rule, or
 - (c) one or more boats will be penalized for breaking a rule, identifying the boats and the penalties.
- T5.3: A boat that may have broken a rule may take a Post-Race Penalty as provided in Section B. However, the penalty in rule T2.2(a) is available only until the protest time limit or until the beginning of the arbitration meeting, whichever is earlier. During a meeting, a boat may take a penalty by acknowledging her acceptance of the penalty in writing.
- T5.4: If a boat asks to withdraw her *protest*, the arbitrator may act on behalf of the protest committee in accordance with rule 63.1 to accept the