

**Sailing Instructions  
October 8 & 9  
Columbus Day Regatta  
St. Thomas Yacht Club  
Cowpet Bay St. Thomas, USVI**

**1 RULES**

1. The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing 2013 -2016*
- 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**

Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 08:30 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 20:00 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 10:30 Saturday October 8  
Skippers Meeting 09:00 Sunday October 9
- 5.2 First signal all classes following skippers meeting
- 5.3 Laser (all types) Club 420 Optimist Red , White and Blue Up to 5 races / day
- 5.4 On last day of racing no warning signal after 01:00

**6.0 Class Flags**

Opti – Opti insignia  
Laser –Lt Green  
420 - Turquoise

- 7.0 Racing Area** –Cowper Bay and 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** Races will be started using rule 26 with the warning signal given 5 minutes before the starting signal.
- 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 staff displaying an orange flag on a pin boat or an orange buoy set at the port end of the finish line. 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** 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.
- 15.2** One race is required to be completed to constitute a series.

## **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 organising 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.