

2020 Force 5 Midwinter Championship Race Week  
February 17-22, 2020  
Upper Keys Sailing Club-Key Largo, FL

## **SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

### **RULES**

- The entire regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing, 2017-2020*.
- All national (US Sailing) prescriptions will apply.
- The Force 5 class rules will apply, except as modified by the NOR or SI.
- Racing rule(s) Appendix A, will be changed as discussed in paragraph 7.1 of the NOR. The sailing instructions may also change other racing rule(s) when permitted to do so.
- The Midwinter Championship will be open to Standard Force 5 rigs and the “short rig.” Skippers choosing at registration to sail the short rig must sail with the short rig for the entire championship and will be eligible for separate awards. Skippers registered as sailing with standard rigs during the championship will be scored with the standard rigs even if they choose to use the short rig for some or all races.

- **NOTICES TO COMPETITORS**

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board(s) located at the Upper Keys Sailing Club.

- **CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

Any change 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 on the day before it will take effect.

- **SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

- Signals made ashore will be displayed at the Club’s main flag pole.
- Flag D with one sound means ‘The warning signal will be made not less

than 40 minutes after flag D is displayed.' Boats are requested not to leave the harbour until this signal is made.

- When flag Y is displayed ashore, rule 40 applies at all times while afloat. This changes the Part 4 preamble.

- **SCHEDULE OF RACES**

- **2/17/20 Monday**

Club Open for practice

- **2/18/20 Tuesday**

Nest Key Race and Rum Rendezvous

This is a fun race. Details will be handed out at the Club 09:00

10:00 First Warning for Nest Key Race

- **2/19/20 Wednesday**

Force 5 Double Handed Championship

10:00 – 11:00 Registration Open for Double Handed Championship only

12:00 noon Skipper's Meeting at the Clubhouse

13:00 First Warning for first race (3 races planned)

17:00 – 19:00 Jetty Party

- **2/20/20 Thursday**

Force 5 Midwinter Championship (day 1)

10:00- 1200 noon – Registration for Midwinter Championship

11:00 -12:00 noon – Lunch at Clubhouse

1200 noon – Skipper's Meeting

13:00 First Warning

16:30 Happy Hour

17:30-18:30 Force 5 Class Meeting

- **2/21/20 Friday**

Force 5 Midwinter Championship (day 2)

08:30 -9:30 Continental Breakfast

10:30 First Warning

## **2/22/20 Saturday**

Force 5 Midwinter Championship (day 3)

8:00 – 9:00 Continental Breakfast

9: 45 First Warning

No race will start after 11: 45

Awards as soon as possible after the last race

- **CLASS FLAGS**

Class flags will be a Force 5 class flag for the regular rig. The short rig class flag shall be a solid red flag.

- **RACING AREAS**

The racing area is directly in front of the UKSC.

- **THE COURSES**

- 7.1 The diagrams posted on the official regatta notice board 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.

- No later than the warning signal, the race committee signal boat will display the approximate compass bearing of the first leg and the course to be sailed.

7.3 The start/finish line will be in the center of the course.

Course “T” is a triangle with a finish to windward. If there is a “2” next to the “T”, that means 2 times around the triangle.

Course “W” is windward-leeward with a windward finish on the other side of the signal boat. If there is a “2” next to the W, that means windward and leeward 2 times before finishing.

Course “M” is a triangle, followed by a windward-leeward and a windward finish.

- **MARKS**

- Starting and finishing marks will be orange marks. All others will be orange or yellow marks. The other end of the start or finish line may be a boat (separate from the signal boat) displaying an orange flag.

- **THE START**

- Races will be started by using rule 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal.
- The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on signal boat and the adjacent starting mark (or boat displaying an orange flag).
- Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races.
- A boat starting later than 15 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes rule A4.
- If flag U has been displayed as the preparatory signal, no part of a boat's hull, crew, or equipment shall be in the triangle formed by the ends of the starting line and the first mark during the last minute before her starting signal. If a boat breaks this rule and is identified, she shall be disqualified without a hearing but not if the race is restarted or re-sailed or postponed or abandoned before the starting signal. This changes rule 26.
- If any part of a boat's hull, crew or equipment is on the course side of the starting line before her starting signal and she is identified, the race committee will attempt to announce her sail number. Failure to make an announcement or to time it accurately will not be grounds for a request for redress. This changes rule 62.1(a).

- **THE FINISH**

- The finishing line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the signal boat at one end of the finish line and an adjacent finish mark at the other end of the finish line.

- **TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES**

- The time limit will be 65 minutes. If no boat has finished within the time limit, the race shall be abandoned.
- Boats failing to finish within 20 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes rules 35, A4 and A5.

- **PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**

- Protest forms are available at the UKSC. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit.

- For each class, the protest time limit is 60 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day or the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later. On the last day of the midwinter championship, the time limit shall be 30 minutes.

- 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. Hearings will be held in the protest room, located at the UKSC in the dining room. Notices of protests by the race committee or protest committee will be posted to inform boats under rule 61.1(b).

- On the last scheduled day of racing a request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered

- (a) within the protest time limit if the requesting party was informed of the decision on the previous day;
- (b) no later than 30 minutes after the requesting party was informed of the decision on that day.

This changes rule 66.

- On the last scheduled day of racing a request for redress based on a protest committee decision shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the decision was posted. This changes rule 62.2.

- **SCORING**

- The scoring system is as follows: Appendix A, low point scoring system. Appendix A is modified so that when 6 or more races are completed in a midwinter championship series, a boat's series score will be the total of the boat's scores excluding the boat's worst score.

- 1 race is required to be completed to constitute a championship series.

- **SAFETY REGULATIONS**

- A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible.

- **TRASH DISPOSAL**

Trash may be placed aboard support or official boats.

- **RADIO COMMUNICATION**

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.

- **PRIZES**

Prizes will be given as follows:

Trophies will be awarded to the top 5 finishers in the standard rig division and top 3 in short rig division. Additionally, a first place will be awarded in the “challenger” division. The challenger division is any competitor who has never placed and received a trophy in a North American or Midwinter Championship.

Trophies for the double handed and Nest Key race will be explained at the skipper’s meeting.

- **DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See rule 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.

- **SAFETY**

- **Safety comes first. If you see someone in peril, stop and help. Nothing is more important than everyone’s safety.**