



**Sailing Instructions**  
**2020 Circuit Regatta #6**  
October 24 & 25

**Organizing Authorities**  
**Houston Yacht Club, Shoreacres, Texas**  
**&**  
**J/22 Fleet 6 and District 5**

**1 RULES**

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in the current *Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS).
- 1.2 Rule 87 will be changed to read as follows: *These sailing instructions may change a class rule.*
- 1.3 Class Rule 8.9 (weight limit) of the IJ22CA Class Rules will not apply for eligibility to participate in this Regatta.
- 1.4 Appendix A Changes: A1 is changed so that two (2) races must be completed to constitute an event. A2.1 is changed so that no races shall be discarded.
- 1.5 Appendices V1 and T will apply.
- 1.6 **Discretionary Penalty [DP]:** Competitors and support persons shall comply with any reasonable request from event officials. Failure to comply may be considered misconduct.
- 1.8 Reasonable actions by event officials to implement COVID-19 guidance, protocols or legislation, even if they later prove to have been unnecessary, are not improper actions or omissions.

**2 ADVERTISING**

- 2.1 Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organizing authority.

**3 NOTICES TO COMPETITOR**

- 3.1 Notices to competitors and changes to the sailing instructions will be posted on the Notice Information Board located in the breezeway outside the HYC office.

**4 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

- 4.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0800 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.

- 4.2 All changes to race documents shall be communicated to competitors via the Notice Information Board.

## **5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the signal staff on the lawn of the Houston Yacht Club.
- 5.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 60 minutes' in the RRS 'Race Signals'. This changes in RRS Race Signal AP.

## **6 SCHEDULE**

### **6.1 Dates of Racing**

#### **Saturday, October 24**

0930 - Competitor's Briefing – Beachcomber

10:30 – All boats must be in the water

1100 – Warning signal for first race of day

After races - Winning Ways Debrief – Beachcomber

#### **Sunday, October 25**

1000 - Warning signal for first race of day

After Racing - Awards Ceremony

- 6.2 Warning signal for the final race will not be made after 1300 on Sunday, October 25, 2020.
- 6.3 Six (6) races are scheduled. RC may run fewer races at its discretion.

## **7 CLASS FLAGS**

- 7.1 The class flag will be a white flag with the J/22 insignia. Numeral pennant #1 may be substituted for the J/22 class flag.
- 7.2 Boats are not required to fly class flags.

## **8 RACING AREAS**

- 8.1 The races will be in that part of the Bay bounded by Morgan's Point on the north, The Bayport Ship Channel on the south, The Houston Ship Channel on the east and the La Porte/Shoreacres shore line on the west.
- 8.2 The ship channels are obstructions and no boat may enter them while racing.

## 9 THE COURSES

### 9.1 Course Designations:

COURSE #4: Start – 1 – 1a – Gate (2P 2S) – 1 – 1a – Finish

COURSE #5: Start – 1 – 1a – Gate (2P 2S) – 1 – 1a – Gate (2P 2S) – Finish

The diagrams in Addendum 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.

### 9.2 Mark 1 and the accompanying offset mark (1a) shall be left to port.

### 9.3 Courses will be posted on RC boat course board prior to the warning signal of each race. The number of the course to be sailed, the approximate magnetic compass bearing, and distance to the first mark will be displayed. This changes RRS 27.1. The courses will be as shown in Attachment A (not to scale).

## 10 MARKS

### 10.1 The original Mark 1 will be an orange inflatable tetrahedrons.

### 10.2 Offset mark (1a) will be a round buoy. The offset mark (1a) will be laid to port of Mark 1.

### 10.3 A gate will be used and the original gate marks (2P 2S) will be orange tetrahedrons.

### 10.4 When changing the next leg of the course (SI 11), the new mark, unless the change is for the final leg of the course, will be a yellow tetrahedrons.

### 10.5 Except when there is a change of course, the gate (2P 2S) will be located to windward of the start line. Gate mark(s) (2P 2S) may be set after the start signal.

### 10.6 If a gate mark is missing, boats shall round the existing mark to port.

## 11 THE START

### 11.1 Races will be started in accordance with RRS 26.

### 11.2 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 or bow number. A boat failing to do so may receive a scoring penalty of 20%, for that first race, without a hearing, applied as described in RRS 44.3(c). This modifies RRS A5. **NOTE:** RRS 63 is deleted. See SI 1.6.3.

### 11.3 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 a race committee boat or the course side of a mark or floating shape at the port end.

### 11.4 *Individual Recalls:* RC will attempt to hail (and may announce via radio) boats identified as OCS by announcing her bow or sail number on VHF channel 68. Failure or delay to make or hear such hails or announcements, timeliness of broadcast, or the

order of numbers announced, will NOT be grounds for a request for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

- 11.5 A boat starting later than 10 minutes after her start signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This changes RRS A4 and A5.
- 11.6 A race committee starting or finishing boat may set a stand-off buoy. When present, this stand-off buoy, the line attaching it to the race committee boat, and the race committee boat are all part of the starting or finishing mark.

## 12 RECALLS

- 12.1 Recalls will be signaled in accordance with RRS 29. The race committee intends to hail the sail numbers or bow numbers of OCS boats after the starting signal. As a courtesy, the race committee may use VHF radios or loud haler. The failure of any boat to hear the hail, an untimely hail of OCS boats, failure to hail any boats, and the order of the boats in the hail shall not be grounds for granting redress. This changes RRS 41. NOTE: RRS 62 is deleted. See SI 1.6.3.

## 13 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 13.1 The race committee reserves the right to tweak the course (10 degrees or less) to maintain fairness during a race, without signaling a change of course. This modifies RRS 33
- 13.2 If the change is for Mark 1, the new mark will be a **yellow** tetrahedrons, unless the change is for the final leg of Course 5, in which case the finish line will be in the new position. New windward marks will not have an off-set mark.
- 13.3 If the change is for a gate mark(s) (2P and/or 2S), the new marks will be **yellow** tetrahedrons, unless the change is for the final leg of Course 4, in which case the finish line will be in the new position.

## 14 THE FINISH

- 14.1 *Course 4 Finish:* The finish line for Course 4 will be on the opposite side of the RC boat from the start line. The finish line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on a RC boat and the course side of an inflatable mark. While sailing the last leg of Course 4 to the finish line, gate marks (2P and 2S) are not marks of the course and may be passed on either side.
- 14.2 *Course 5 Finish:* The finish line for Course 5 will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on a RC boat and the course side of an inflatable mark to port of the RC boat, or between staffs displaying blue flags on RC boats.
- 14.3 RC will attempt to signal its intent to start another race that day by displaying Flag R at the finish of a race. Flag R will be lowered with one sound, one minute before the next warning signal is made.

## 15 TIME LIMITS

- 15.1 Race will be abandoned if no boat has rounded Mark 1 within 30 minutes after the start signal.
- 15.2 In accordance with RRS 35, time limit for a race will be 90 minutes.
- 15.3 Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored Time Limit Expired (“TLE”) without a hearing. A “TLE” score will be one (1) more point than the number of boats that have finished within the time limit. This changes RRS 35, A4, A5 and A11.
- 15.4 Failure to meet any time limit(s) in this SI #15 will NOT be grounds for request for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

## 16 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 16.1 Competitors are encouraged to take on the water penalties and Appendix V1 shall apply.
- 16.2 Any competitor taking an after-race scoring penalty of 30% under Appendix T1 is required to do so in writing. The race number, sail number, class of boat accepting the penalty, as well as the sail number of the other boat involved in the incident, needs to be provided. The report must be delivered to the protest desk within the protest time limit..

## 17 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 17.1 Intent to protest shall be signaled in accordance with RRS 61.1. The protesting boat shall also notify the Race Committee at the first reasonable opportunity and be acknowledged before leaving the finish area. This changes RRS 61.1.
- 17.2 Protests shall be written. Forms will be available at the office of the Houston Yacht Club. Protests must be delivered to the protest desk within the Protest Time Limit.
- 17.3 The Protest Time Limit is (45) minutes after the arrival of the Race Committee in the harbor. This time will be posted on the Notice Information Board.
- 17.3 The times and locations of the protest hearings, along with the names of the boats involved will be posted no later than thirty (30) minutes after the protest time period.
- 17.4 For the purpose of meeting obligations under US Sailing prescriptions concerning redress, notification of a redress hearing shall be by posting on the notice board for thirty (30) minutes. The requirement for written requests for attendance of the hearing will be satisfied by a signup sheet at the official protest table. No more than one person per boat may attend. **No request for reopening a hearing will be accepted more than thirty (30) minutes after**

**the parties are notified of the decision orally or in writing on October 25, 2020.** This changes RRS Appendix S13.5 and RRS 62.2.

## **18 SCORING**

- 18.1 Six (6) races are scheduled
- 18.2 Two (2) races are required to be completed to constitute a Regatta Series.
- 18.3 RRS Appendix A4, Low Point System, will apply.
- 18.4 There are no throw outs for this event.

## **19 SAFETY REGULATIONS**

- 19.1 All boats are required to carry an operating VHF marine-band radio.
- 19.2 Any boat that has checked in and then withdraws before finishing the race shall notify the race committee on the water, or, if that is not possible, the Houston Yacht Club office by telephone: 281-471-1255, or VHF Channel 68. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in disqualification from the event.

## **20 REPLACEMENT OF CREW AND EQUIPMENT**

- 20.1 Substitution of skipper or crew will not be allowed without prior written approval of the protest committee. In case of emergency, this approval may be granted retroactively.
- 20.2 Competitors must use the same boat, measured equipment, and only one suit of sails for the entire regatta unless the item is so severely damaged as to make it unusable. All requests to replace equipment must be submitted to the race committee or the protest committee in writing and all such equipment must pass measurement.

## **21 HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS**

- 21.1 All boats must be in the water before 1030 hours on Saturday, October 24, 2020 and shall not be hauled out during the Regatta, except with and according to the terms of prior written permission of the RC. Rudders shall remain affixed during the time after launching.

## **22 RADIO COMMUNICATION**

- 22.1 Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communication not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones. Boats may use mobile phones to record races while racing; however, must not upload data while racing.

## **23 DIVING EQUIPMENT AND PLASTIC POOLS**

- 23.1 Diving Equipment and Plastic Pools. Underwater breathing apparatus (including snorkels) and plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used around boats from the time of launching and the end of the regatta.

## **24 PRIZES**

24.1 Prizes will be awarded to the top 3 competitors.

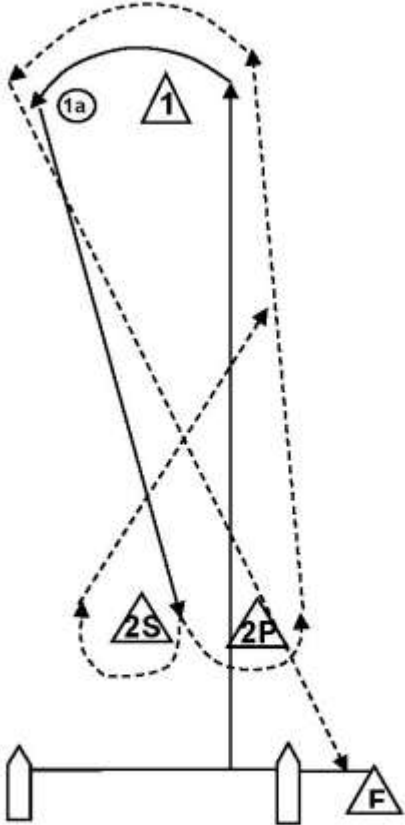
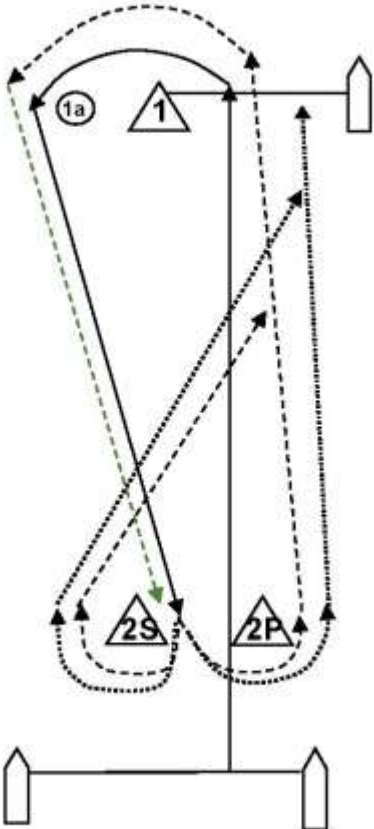
## **25 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

25.1 COMPETITORS PARTICIPATE IN THE REGATTA AND ASSOCIATED ACTIVITIES SOLELY AT THEIR OWN RISK. *SEE RRS RULE 4, DECISION TO RACE.* TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW, ORGANIZING AUTHORITY AND ORGANIZERS, DEFINED BELOW, WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE OR ACCEPT LIABILITY FOR MATERIAL DAMAGE OR PERSONAL INJURY, DEATH OR **SICKNESS DUE TO COVID-19** SUSTAINED IN CONJUNCTION WITH OR PRIOR TO, DURING, OR AFTER THE REGATTA.

## **26 INSURANCE.**

26.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance (covering bodily injury, personal injury and property damage) with a minimum coverage of US \$300,000 per incident or equivalent.

**Addendum A**  
**Course Diagrams**

Course 4		Course 5
		
<p>Start, 1 (port), 1a (port), between 2S and 2P, 1(port), 1a (port), finish</p>		<p>Start, 1 (port), 1a (port), between 2S and 2P, 1(port), 1a (port), between 2S and 2P, finish</p>