

**FINN NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP
FAIRHOPE YACHT CLUB
April 9-10, 2022**

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

1.1 The Regatta will be governed by the *Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)*, the *Prescriptions of U. S. Sailing Association (USSA)*, the rules of the USA Finn Association and the *Notice of Race*, except as any of these are changed by these Sailing Instructions.

1.2 The organizing authority is The United States Finn Association. Fairhope Yacht Club is the Host Club.

1.3 RRS 40 is changed as follows: All competitors are required to wear life jackets or other adequate personal buoyancy while racing; the “Y” flag will not be displayed.

1.4 Rule 42.2 is varied by Finn Class Rule C1:

(A) Code Flag O displayed with the warning signal or near a mark indicates that: “After starting or rounding the nearby mark, RRS 42 is varied in that except on a beat to windward, pumping, rocking, and ooching are permitted”.

(B) Code Flag R displayed with the warning signal or near a mark indicates that: “After starting or rounding the nearby mark, RRS 42 applies without variation”.

2. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

All competitors must meet the eligibility requirements as stated in the *Notice of Race* and have filed valid entries in accordance with the *Notice of Race*.

3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located beneath the Fairhope Yacht Club next to the Tiki Bar.

3.2 Any changes to the *Sailing Instructions* will be posted within thirty (30) minutes following the conclusion of the competitors’ meeting on the first day of racing (Friday April 8, 2022), or by 0930 hrs on the day they are to take effect, Saturday through Sunday, April 9-10, 2022.

3.3 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagpole located on the west side Fairhope Yacht Club, in front of the building.

3.4 Flag “AP” with two sounds (one when lowered) when made ashore means “the race is postponed.” The warning signal will be made not less than 45 minutes after “AP” is lowered.

3.5 Questions regarding the Sailing Instructions may be submitted in writing to the Race Committee prior to the competitors’ meeting. Questions and written responses will be posted on the Official Regatta Notice Board. This will not exclude questions from being asked at the competitors’ meeting.

4. SCHEDULE OF RACES

4.1 Eight races are scheduled for this series as follows:

Race Day & Date Warning Signal Race

Friday, April 8: Race 1 warning 1200 hours 2 & 3 – Immediately Following Race 1

Saturday, April 9: Race 4 warning 1200 hours 5 & 6 – Immediately Following Race 4

Sunday, April 10: Race 7 warning 1200 hours 8 – Immediately Following Race 7 (3 races may be sailed if less were sailed the previous day)

4.2 No more than three races will be run on any one day. The Race Committee reserves the right to run fewer races each day at its discretion or a third race on the last day.

4.3 If the Race Committee plans to run additional races it will display Code Flag “L” (with no sound) as Competitors are finishing.

4.4 No warning signal will be made after 1500 hours on the last day of racing.

5. CLASS FLAGS

The Class flag will show the Finn insignia.

6. RACING AREA

The racing area will be around inflatable marks on Mobile Bay, in front of Fairhope Yacht Club.

7. THE COURSE

7.1 The course will be LA2 as shown in Addendum S of the RRS. Depending on the wind conditions, each leg will be set or adjusted with the goal of running 45-60 minute races.

7.2 The course will be displayed from a board near the stern of the Race Committee signal boat.

8. MARKS

Marks will be orange tetrahedrons. Change of course marks after the start will be yellow tetrahedrons. There will be an offset mark (round orange buoy) at the weather mark but not if the weather mark has been changed per RRS 33. It is the intention of the Race Committee to have a gate (two marks) at the leeward rounding. If one of the two gate marks is missing, the remaining gate mark shall be rounded to port.

9. THE START

9.1 Races will be started using *RRS 26*. An attention signal with multiple sounds may be made approximately one minute before the warning signal.

9.2 The starting line will be between the course side of a staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee signal boat at the starboard end and the course side of an orange mark at the port end, or between staffs displaying orange flags on two RC boats.

9.3 A boat shall not start later than five (5) minutes after her starting signal.

10. RECALLS

The Race Committee may hail by loud hailer the sail number(s) of the boat(s) identified on the course side of the starting line after the starting signal. The failure of a hail, the failure of a boat to hear the hail or the order of the hail(s) shall not be grounds for redress.

11. SHORTENING OR CHANGE OF COURSE AFTER THE START

A change of course after the start will be in accordance with *RRS 32 & 33*.

12. THE FINISH

12.1 The finish line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on the Race Committee boat and the nearby mark, or between staffs displaying blue flags on two RC boats.

12.2 The Race Committee boat may or may not move at the finish line.

13. PENALTY SYSTEM

13.1 Rule 44.1 and 44.2 will apply.

13.2 Appendix P (Special Procedures for Rule 42) will apply if there are on the water judges, except that P2.2 is modified such that “when a boat is penalized a second time during the same **race**, her penalty shall be to promptly retire from that race. If she fails to retire she shall be disqualified without a hearing and her score shall not be excluded.” P2.3 is modified so that second, third and subsequent penalties during the **regatta** will continue to be a Two-Turns Penalty under rule 44.2 as per P2.1 or retirement as per P2.2 as modified above.

14. TIME LIMIT

The time limit for each race is 90 minutes or 25 minutes for the first weather leg. Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes shall be scored Did Not Finish (DNF). This changes *RRS 35*.

15. PROTESTS

15.1 Boats intending to protest another boat shall inform the Race Committee as soon as practical after they finish, or stop *Racing*, by telling the RC their intent and the sail number(s) of the protested boat(s).

15.1 Protest(s) shall be written on forms available at the official notice board and delivered to a race officer within the protest time which will begin when the Race Committee boat signals its return to the harbor and shall last sixty (60) minutes.

15.2 Protest(s) will be heard in the order in which they are received and at the first reasonable opportunity.

15.3 Protest(s) notices will be posted within fifteen minutes of expiration of the protest time to inform competitors when and where there is a hearing in which they are parties to a hearing or named as witnesses.

15.4 *RRS 66* is changed by adding this sentence: "On the last day of racing, a party to the hearing may ask for a reopening no later than one hour after being informed of the decision."

16. SCORING

16.1 The Low Point Scoring System will be used. One race shall constitute a series. The number of races completed to permit a throw-out shall be six (6). This changes *RRS A2*.

16.2 Ties will be broken in accordance to *RRS A8*.

17. SAFETY REGULATIONS

17.1 Check-in and check-out: Boats are requested to check in with the race committee by sailing by the committee boat, on starboard tack, prior to the first warning signal of the day, on each day of racing. Boats leaving the racing area prior to the conclusion of racing are requested to notify the race committee.

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

18. PRIZES

The Finn North American Masters Championship perpetual trophy will be awarded to the overall regatta winner and trophies will be awarded to the top five (5) overall finishers. A trophy will be awarded to the top finisher in each age division (Master, Grand Master, Grand Grand Master, and Legend). There will also be a prize for the top placing Vintage Finn (built prior to 2000), Farthest Traveled and Youngest competitor.

19. SUPPORT AND SPECTATOR BOATS

19.1 Coach boats shall register with the Race Committee. It is MANDATORY that all coach/support and spectator boats monitor VHF Channel 68 (Channels 69 or 71 may be used as alternates) for requests from the Race Committee to assist with fleet safety. Support and spectator boats may enter the race area at the request of the Race Committee.

19.2 Competitors may **not** drop off or retrieve gear from Race Committee boats.

19.3 Competitors may drop off trash on Race Committee boats.

20. RADIO COMMUNICATION

A boat shall neither make a radio transmission while racing, nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.