

THISTLE CLASS ASSOCIATION

2023 JUNIOR/WOMEN'S NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

July 16, 2023

North Flathead Yacht Club

Somers, MT

NOTICE OF RACE

Organizing Authority: The 2023 Thistle National Championship Regatta is organized by the Thistle Class Association (TCA) in conjunction with The North Flathead Yacht Club (NFYC). The National Race Committee (NRC) is the Organizing Authority (OA) for the National Championship Regatta. The notation (NP) in a rule means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1 (a).

1. RULE

- 1.1 The regatta is governed by the rules as defined in the *Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 1.2 The US Sailing prescription to RRS63.2 will not apply.
- 1.3 Racing Rule 60.1 (a) is changed to add: Boats failing to display required advertising may not be protested by another boat.
- 1.4 Other racing rules may be changed. These changes will appear in full in the Sailing Instructions.
- 1.5 Alcohol consumption by persons under 21 years of age, the use of illegal substances and the abuse of prescription-only drugs shall be considered "misconduct" for the purposes of RRS 69.
- 1.6 It is each skipper's responsibility to ensure they and their crew adhere to all state and county health regulations. [NP]

2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 Sailing Instructions will be available [here](#) and the NFYC registration desk no later than Saturday July 15, 2023 at 1700 hrs. In order to conduct a more green regatta, printed paper copies of the SI's will only be available upon request.

3. RADIO COMMUNICATION

- 3.1 The RC may transmit via VHF radio information concerning safety, OCS boats, and general information to assist in the management of the event. Except in an emergency, a boat that is racing shall not make or receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats. VHF Channel will be available in the sailing instructions.

4. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1 Women's Nationals: The TCA Women's Nationals is open to women skippers and crew. There are no age restrictions. A woman who will be under twenty-one (21) years of age throughout the entire event can elect to sail the Junior Nationals or the Women's Nationals provided that her crew meets the same age requirements. Sailors competing in the event may self-identify and compete as the gender that they identify with in their "everyday life". Waivers: It is required that all participants under the age of 18 have documented parental permission. TCA By-Law Article XIV Section 17
- 4.2 Junior Nationals: The competitors (skipper and crew) must be under twenty-one (21) years of age throughout the entire series. Waivers: It is required that all participants under the age of 18 have documented parental permission. TCA By-Law Article XIV Section 16
- 4.3 No competitor may be paid to sail in this event, and private coaching is not allowed in this event, as per TCA Bylaw Article X, Section 3.
- 4.4 Online registration can be found [here](#) and must be completed prior to Saturday July 15, 2023 at 1700 hrs.

4.5 Competitors must complete on-site registration and the measurement process during times specified in the schedule; any extension requires written permission from the Regatta Chairman and National Race Committee.

5. FEES

5.1 Registration is \$50

6. ADVERTISING

6.1 Boats may be required to display advertising which will be supplied by NFYC.

8. SCHEDULE

8.1 National Championship Race Series
Sunday, July 16 0800

8.2 The RC, with guidance from the NRC Chair, may adjust the race schedule to provide the optimum sailing conditions for the selection of a National Champion per TCA Bylaws, Article XIV Section 5.

8.3 Number of Races: A maximum of seven races will be scheduled.

9. MEASUREMENT

9.1 Each boat shall have a valid measurement certificate.

9.2 Boat, equipment, and sails may be measured, inspected or spot-checked as specified in the TCA rules, RRS or the Sailing Instructions.

10. VENUE

10.1 The Regatta will be held at: North Flathead Yacht Club 200 Lesley Ave, Somers, MT 59932.

10.2 Races will be sailed on Flathead Lake in Somer, MT southeast of the North Flathead Yacht Club

10.3 Housing: Camping will be available at Somers Middle School. Additional information about camping and local hotel information will be available at www.thistleclass.com/flathead-lake-thistle-nationals-2023.

11. THE COURSES

11.1 The courses will be shown in the sailing instructions.

12. PENALTY SYSTEM

12.1 A boat that takes a penalty or retires under RRS 44 shall sign the acknowledgement form posted in the vicinity of the official notice board within the protest time limit.

13. SCORING

13.1 The series scores will be the total for all races sailed, with no races excluded.

14. SUPPORT BOATS

14.1 Support Boats shall be registered and marked with an NFYC supplied identifier.

14.2 Due to limited open berthing spaces, anyone planning on bringing an additional boat of any kind to the event must contact the Regatta Chair to make arrangements for use of hoists and slips.

15. DRY SAIL AREA

15.1 Dry sail spaces will be assigned for all competitors and be available beginning Friday July 14. For arrival before the 14th please contact the Regatta Chairman to make arrangements.

16. RISK STATEMENT

RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a

potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury.

Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes. Each competitor shall be required to sign a waiver for loss, damage, or injury to persons or property incurred in connection with the Regatta that occurs as a result of a competitor's actions.

17. INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum value of \$100,000 USD. Registrants must show proof of insurance at Registration.

18. AWARDS

18.1 Awards will be presented on Sunday, July 16th during the Opening Ceremonies of the Nationals.

19. FURTHER INFORMATION

19.1 For any questions or further information, please contact:

ASHLI SLAWTER, Regatta Chair at ashli.slawter@gmail.com

Jesse Shedden, National Race Committee Chair at jesseshedden@gmail.com