

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

2024 Division VI Hill Country Regatta

1 RULES

The regatta is governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS 2021-2024); the class rules of the one-design classes sailing, if any, except as indicated by these sailing instructions; the Notice of Race published for this event; and these Sailing Instructions.

2 SAFETY

- 2.1** Competitors must check in by sailing by the stern of the RC Signal Boat on starboard tack and hailing their starting class and sail numbers to the RC Signal Boat before the start of the first race each day (and the first race following any postponement ashore). A boat is checked in when the RC acknowledges her by repeating her sail number.
- 2.2** A competitor that retires from a race must notify the RC as soon as possible.
- 2.3** All competitors must wear a life jacket, at all times while on the afloat, except for brief periods while adding or removing clothing.
- 2.4** Boats in a class whose warning signal has not been made must keep clear of the starting area to allow boats within their starting sequence to maneuver without hindrance. Any boats in the starting area that are not within their starting sequence must keep clear of boats preparing to start.
- 2.5** Competitors are encouraged, but not required, to carry a VFH radio and monitor RC communications on Channel 69. Competitors are allowed to communicate on Channel 69 only during emergencies or to notify the RC of their intent to retire from the race or subsequent races.

3 ELIGIBILITY, REQUIREMENTS, AND RATINGS

- 3.1 ENTRY FORMS:** Each skipper must complete the online registration entry form at Regatta Network <https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/27723> prior to 10 am April 27, 2024.
- 3.2 SAIL NUMBERS:** Sail numbers must match the registration form and be readable from both sides of the sail.
- 3.3 RATINGS:**
- (a) The ratings will be taken from the Small Catamaran Handicap Rating System (SCHRS) Ratings tables <https://www.schrs.com/ratings/>. SCHRS ratings will be used as a basis for calculating corrected race times, unless noted in the NOR.
 - (b) When a modification to a boat has been made that is not allowed by the boat manufacturer's class rules, the boat owner must submit to the Organizing Authority at the time of registration, a SCHRS rating calculator, along with all required documentation, to support the requested provisional rating, unless a provisional rating for that modification has been previously accepted by Division VI. Note that sails not accepted by the Class association require measurements of specific sail dimensions for proper application of the SCHRS rating calculator. It is the responsibility of the owner to ensure that the provisional rating is accepted by the Organizing Authority prior to the event. A boat that races without a rating accepted by the Organizing Authority or Division VI will be scored did not compete (DNC) for all races.
 - (c) Similarly, if a boat model does not have a rating published on the SCHRS website or a provisional rating previously accepted by HCANA Division VI, the owner must

advise the Organizing Authority prior to the event. The Race Committee (RC) will either assign a provisional rating based on the information supplied by the boat owner, or consider a provisional rating requested by the owner that was determined using the SCHRS rating calculator (all required documentation is required). It is the responsibility of the owner to ensure that the provisional rating is accepted by the Organizing Authority prior to the event. A boat that races without a rating accepted by the Organizing Authority or Division VI will be scored DNC for all races.

- (d) Any appeal to an assigned provisional rating must be submitted in writing to the RC prior to the RC Signal Boat leaving shore on the second day of racing. The RC will review and approve/disapprove any rating change request prior posting final race results.

3.4 OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Refer to the Notice of Regatta, §2 for additional requirements.

4 CHANGES IN THE SAILING INSTRUCTION / NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

4.1 LOCATION: The location of the Official Regatta Notice Board will be announced at the event's Competitors Briefing.

4.2 CHANGES: Any changes to the Sailing Instructions will be posted on the Official Regatta Notice Board one hour before the first race on the day the changes take effect. Any schedule changes will be posted by 9:00 am each day. Verbal changes may be made on the water by the RC. The RC may, but is not obligated to, post changes online at Regatta Network <https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/27723>.

5.0 SCHEDULE OF RACES AND EVENTS

5.1 STARTING TIME: The planned time of the Warning Signal for the first race of each day will be announced at the Competitors Briefing and/or as posted on the Regatta Notice Board. No Warning Signal will be made after 1:00 PM on the last day of racing.

6 DESCRIPTION OF RACING LINES AND MARKS

6.1 START LINE: Looking upwind, the start line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the RC Signal Boat at the starboard end and a green ball buoy at the port (opposite) end.

6.2 FINISH LINE: Looking upwind, the finish line will be between a staff displaying an blue flag on the RC Signal Boat at the port end and a green ball buoy at the starboard (opposite) end.

6.3 MARKS: The description of the marks, including starting and finishing marks, will be described at the Competitors Briefing. Both the windward (A) mark and the leeward (C) mark must be left to port while racing.

6.4 BARGING BUOY: A barging buoy may be set to leeward of the RC Signal Boat as a warning to keep clear of the RC Signal Boat when starting or finishing a race. A barging buoy and its tether are an extension of the RC Signal Boat and are thus considered to be both an obstruction and a mark while racing in accordance with RRS 31 and the Definitions of Mark and Obstruction.

7 RACE STARTS AND STARTING SEQUENCE

7.1 STARTING CLASSES: The composition of starting classes, their class flags, and the class starting order will be announced at the Competitors Briefing. It is likely that different boat models (i.e., "fleets") will grouped together into starting classes.

7.2 STARTING SIGNALS: The starting signals will be in accordance with RRS 26.

7.3 RACE SEQUENCE: The RC Signal Boat may start races individually or sequentially on five minute intervals (i.e., rolling starts). In either case, the starting class flag will serve as the Warning Signal for the five minute starting sequence.

7.4 A boat starting later than 5 minutes after her starting signal will be scored did not start (DNS).

7.5 Racing will continue until the RC Signal Boat displays the N over A flags signaling that racing is concluded for the day.

8 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE:

- (a) Any race signals made ashore will conform to the RRS Race Signals. The location of race signals raised ashore will be announced at the Competitors Briefing and posted on the Regatta Notice Board.
- (b) A postponement ashore will be signaled by raising Answering Pennant (AP) with 2 sound signals to indicate that racing is temporarily postponed. In such case, the Warning Signal for the first race will be not less than 30 minutes after AP is lowered (with one sound signal).

9 RACE COURSES:

Any of the following courses may be used:

WINDWARD-LEEWARD COURSES

<u>Course No</u>	<u>Course</u>	<u>Direction to Finish</u>
W-1	(S) A (F)	Downwind
W-2	(S) A C A (F)	Downwind
W-3	(S) A C A C A (F)	Downwind

- (S) – Start line
- A – Windward mark
- C – Leeward mark
- (F) – Finish line

NOTE: The Start/Finish Line will be below C mark.

9.1 COURSE DISPLAY: The course to be will be displayed on the RC Signal Boat before, or closely following, the Warning Signal is raised for each starting class.

9.2 GATE MARKS: The RC may set a pair of marks (“gate”) at the Leeward Mark in lieu of a single C mark. Boats must sail between the two gate marks from the direction of the last mark, rounding to either port or starboard. The RC will announce at the Competitors Briefing whether a race course will utilize gate marks.

10 RETIRING FROM A RACE

Any boat that retires from a race must notify either the RC Signal Boat before leaving the course area or the designated Beach Captain immediately upon arriving ashore. Failure to do so may lead to disqualification from the regatta.

11 ALTERNATE FINISHES, TIME LIMIT, AND RACE VALIDITY

11.1 SHORTENING OR ABANDONING AFTER THE START: Courses may be shortened or abandoned at the RC's discretion in accordance with RRS 32.

11.2 TIME LIMITS:

- (a) The RC may indicate at the Competitor Briefing whether they intend to place limits on the maximum elapsed time allowed for all competitors to finish a race or the maximum time allowed for competitors to finish a race once the lead boat has finished. For scoring purposes for one-design classes, only, the RC will attempt to

identify the order of boats that have not finished. For other classes, boats that have not finished within the time limits will be scored did not finish (DNF).

- (b) The RC may abandon a race at its discretion in accordance with RRS rules 32 and 35.

11.3 FINISHING ON THE WATER: After at least half of the boats in a race have completed a race, the RC may finish the balance of the boats at the final mark or at their position on the course. The RC will determine finish positions awarded to each boat.

12 PROTESTS

12.1 SIGNALING A PROTEST: A boat protesting another boat must follow RRS 61.1 (a) with the following provisions and modifications:

- (a) All boats, regardless of hull length, must immediately hail the word PROTEST loudly and clearly to notify the boat she is protesting.
- (b) Boats are not required to display a red flag (this includes boats longer than 6 meters). This modifies RRS 61.1 (a)(2).
- (c) A competitor who intends to file a protest should notify the RC Signal Boat upon finishing that race. If a boat that intends to protest is unable to notify the RC Signal Boat, they must notify the RC ashore within the protest time lime of their intention to protest.

12.2 PROTEST TIME LIMIT: The intention to protest must be reported to either the RC Signal Boat or Beach Captain ashore upon conclusion of that day's races no later than one-half hour after the RC Signal Boat has arrived in the harbor or ashore. The RC Signal Boat will signal their arrival by an audible blast once ashore after the last race of the day. The RC may extend the protest time at their discretion. This modifies RRS 61.3. Protests must be written legibly on a regatta supplied protest form or a reasonable equivalent. Arbitration may be used prior to a protest hearing, as described by Appendix T.

13 ALTERNATE PENALTIES

ONE TURN RULE: A boat that has broken a rule of Part 2 while racing is required to take a penalty as soon as practical following the incident. The required penalty is a one complete turn in either direction, including a tack and gybe in the same direction. This modifies RRS rules 44.1 and 44.2.

14 SCORING

14.1 METHOD: The Low Point Scoring System will be followed in accordance with RRS Appendix A.

14.2 NUMBER OF RACES: A minimum of one race must be completed to constitute a regatta.

14.3 EXCLUDED SCORE: When four (4) or more races are completed, a boat's series score shall be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score. When eight (8) or more races are completed, a boat's series score shall be the total of her race scores excluding her two worst scores.

14.4 PENALTIES AND SCORING PENALTIES: Are as described in RRS Appendix A, except that DNF will be scored the number of finishers plus one (1). This changes RRS Appendix A, rule A5.2.

14.5 EXCLUSION OF PENALTY SCORES: If an excluded score (i.e., throw-out) is allowed, a penalty score (e.g., DNS, DNF, OCS, etc.) can be excluded from the final score, except for DNE (Disqualification Not Excludable). This penalty may be awarded by the Protest Committee for equipment violations, unsportsmanlike conduct, abusive profanity, fouls causing injury, material prejudice, or serious damage. The next-worse score will be

excluded instead. Awarding a DNE does not preclude the Protest Committee from taking action under RRS Section C - Misconduct, Rule 69.

15 OTHER RULES AND POLICIES

15.1 QUESTIONS: Personnel on the RC Signal Boat and other Race Officials are not obliged to answer competitors' questions while on the water.

15.2 OBSTRUCTIONS: The RC Signal Boat, RC Boats stationed at marks carrying Race Officials, rescue/chase boats, and line-sighting boats are considered Obstructions.

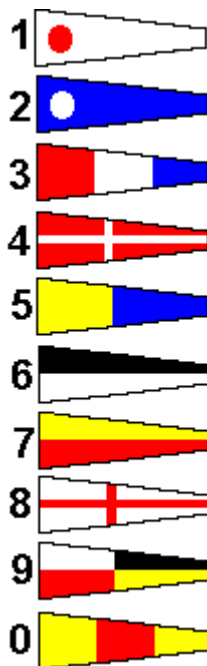
15.3 ASSISTANCE: Any boat receiving hands on assistance from rescue/chase boats will be scored DSQ. The Race Officials may decide when a boat or crew needs assistance.

15.4 EQUIPMENT: Trapezes are permitted. This modifies RRS 49.1.

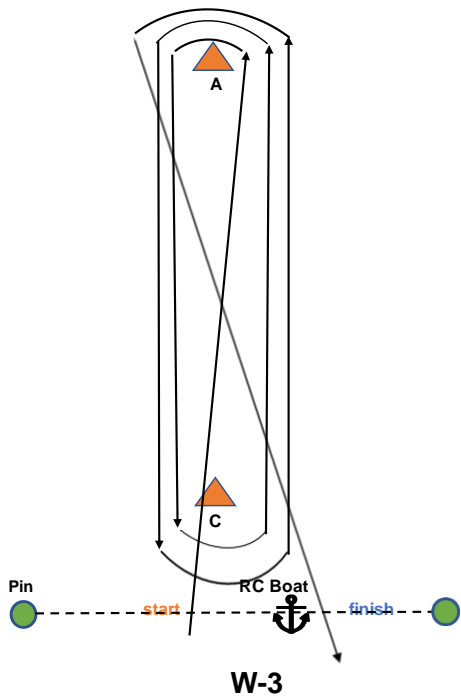
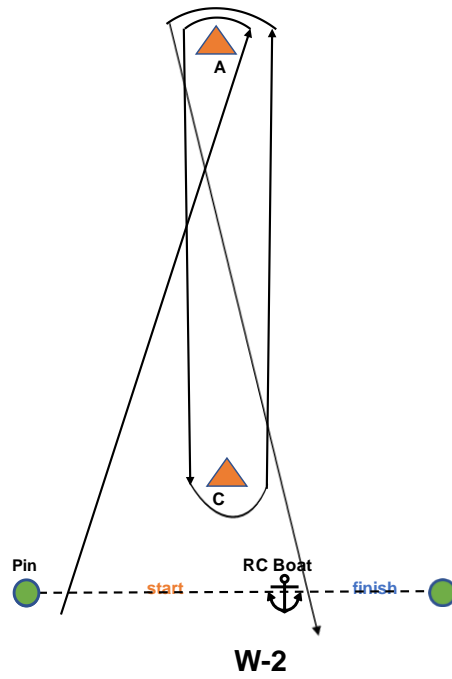
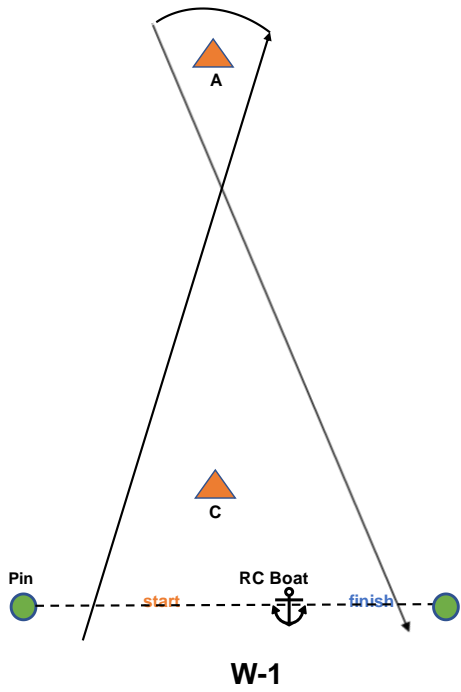
APPENDIX A

FLAGS AND COURSES

STARTING CLASS FLAGS



WIND



SIGNAL BOAT ON-STATION FLAG