



## THISTLE CLASS ASSOCIATION

# 2024 WOMEN'S & JUNIOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP



**AUGUST 3, 2024**

**TOMS RIVER YACHT CLUB  
Toms River, New Jersey**

## **NOTICE OF RACE – AMENDED 7/30/2024**

Organizing Authority: The 2024 Thistle Women's & Junior National Championship Regatta is organized by the Thistle Class Association (TCA) in conjunction with the Toms River Yacht Club (TRYC). The National Race Committee (NRC) is the Organizing Authority (OA) for the Women's & Junior 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. Other racing rules may be changed. These changes will appear in full in the Sailing Instructions.
- 1.4. 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.
- 1.5. 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 at <https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/28033> and the TRYC registration desk no later than Saturday August 3, 2024 at 0900 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 requirements. Sailors competing in the event may self-identify and compete as the gender that they identify with in their everyday life.
- 4.2. Junior Nationals: The TCA Junior Nationals is open to skipper and crew under twenty-one (21) years of age throughout the entire series.
- 4.3. Waivers: It is required that all participants under the age of 18 have documented parental permission. TCA By-Law Article XIV Section 16.
- 4.4. 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.
- 4.5. Eligible boats may enter by completing online registration and paying regatta fees by August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024.
- 4.6. Online registration can be found at <https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/28033>
- 4.7. Registration Fees are \$25.

## **5. SCHEDULE**

### **5.1. Women's & Junior National Championship: Saturday August 3rd**

1100 – Pre-race expert debrief

1130 – Skipper's Meeting

1300 – first warning signal, additional races to follow

Post-racing -- casual post-racing debrief / ask-me-anything session

5.2. 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.

5.3. A maximum of seven races will be scheduled.

## **6. MEASUREMENT**

6.1. Each boat shall have a valid measurement certificate.

6.2. Registrants will receive priority for measurement on the morning of August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Boats that have not completed the measurement process are still eligible to race in this regatta.

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

## **7. CLASS LEGAL COMPASS**

7.1. Per Article XIII of the Thistle Class Specifications and Chief Measurer Rulings all electronic compasses must have shift tracking disabled while racing. While racing is defined as from the time a boat leaves the dock to race until racing ends for the day or they are instructed to return to the dock by the RC.

## **8. VENUE**

8.1. The Regatta will be held at: Toms River Yacht Club 1464 Riviera, Toms River, NJ 08753.

8.2. Races will be sailed on Toms River.

## **9. THE COURSES**

9.1. The courses will be shown in the sailing instructions.

## **10. PENALTY SYSTEM**

10.1. 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.

## **11. SCORING**

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

## **12. SUPPORT BOATS**

12.1. Support boats must register with the OA during the registration hours and shall be marked with a TRYC-supplied identifier.

12.2. 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.

## **13. DRY SAIL AREA**

13.1. Dry sail spaces will be assigned for all competitors and be available beginning Friday August 2. For arrival before the 2<sup>nd</sup> please contact the Regatta Chairman to make arrangements.

## **14. 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.

**15. 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.

**16. AWARDS**

16.1. Awards will be presented on Sunday, August 4th during the Opening Ceremonies.

**17. FURTHER INFORMATION**

17.1. For any questions or further information, please contact:

Lloyd Kitchin, Regatta Chair at [kitchindmd@hotmail.com](mailto:kitchindmd@hotmail.com)

Pat Flinn, Registration Chair at [patrickjohnflinn@gmail.com](mailto:patrickjohnflinn@gmail.com)

Chris Murphy, National Race Committee Chair at [gmurph@gmail.com](mailto:gmurph@gmail.com)

Mark Foster, Principal Race Officer at [mfoster1053@gmail.com](mailto:mfoster1053@gmail.com)

Jim Walsh, Chief Judge at [support@networksupportllc.com](mailto:support@networksupportllc.com)