



THISTLE CLASS ASSOCIATION
2024 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP



AUGUST 3 – AUGUST 9, 2024

TOMS RIVER YACHT CLUB
Toms River, New Jersey

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The notation '[DP]' in a rule in the SI means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification. 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. RULES

- 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. The prescription to RRS 63.1 is deleted

2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to the sailing instructions shall be posted by 0900 on the day it shall take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races shall be posted by 2000 on the day before it shall take effect.

3. COMMUNICATION WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board –located on a whiteboard on the rear patio of the TRYC– and on RegattaNetwork at <https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/28033>
- 3.2. Competitors are strongly encouraged to join the event WhatsApp group by clicking this [LINK](#) or scanning the QR code shown in Addendum B.
- 3.3. There will be a competitors' meeting at Toms River Yacht Club on Saturday, August 3rd at 1130 hrs.
- 3.4. Radio communications between boats and the Race Committee will be on VHF 6
- 3.5. [NP] The following communications may be made by the race committee using the designated VHF Channel in addition to any Race Signals (*this changes RRS 29, 32, 33 and 41*): Courses, including the bearing and distance to the first mark; postponements and abandonments; boats identified as OCS and general recalls; changing courses or marks and identify marks; shortening the course; time limits.
- 3.6. [DP] A boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones. Exception - competitors are encouraged to inform the race committee of a retirement or safety issue.

4. CODE OF CONDUCT

[NP][DP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.

5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1. Signals made ashore will be on the flagpole on the rear patio of TRYC.
- 5.2. When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes' in the race signal AP. *This changes RRS Race Signals.*

6. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 6.1. Saturday, August 3rd – Race 1 warning signal at 1300 hrs with additional races to follow.
- 6.2. A maximum of seven races are scheduled.
- 6.3. Women's and Junior competitors will sail together, in a single fleet.
- 6.4. Flag A displayed, with no sound, while boats are finishing means 'No more racing today.'

7. CLASS FLAG

The class flag will be a green, purple and white pennant with the Thistle logo.

8. RACING AREA

The racing area will be on Toms River to the south of Toms River Yacht Club.

9. COURSES

- 9.1. The diagrams in Addendum A show the course, 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.

10. MARKS

- 10.1. Marks 1 will be an orange inflatable mark.
- 10.2. Mark 1a (the offset mark) will be a small orange inflatable mark.
- 10.3. Marks 4S and 4P (the gate) will be bright green marks.
- 10.4. New marks, as provided in instruction 12, will be yellow inflatable marks.
- 10.5. The starting mark will be an inflatable mark or an anchored vessel displaying a staff with an orange flag.
- 10.6. The finishing mark will be an inflatable mark or an anchored vessel displaying a staff with an orange flag.

11. THE START

- 11.1. The starting line shall be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the signal boat and the course side of a mark or a staff displaying an orange flag as described in instruction 10.5.
- 11.2. [NP] After a postponement, general recall or abandonment is signaled by the RC Signal Boat, an RC Mark Boat may, as a courtesy, display code flags AP, 1st substitute or N to facilitate boats returning to the starting area. Only the signals displayed by the RC Signal Boat will govern the conduct of racing. *This changes RRS race signals.*
- 11.3. A boat starting later than five (5) minutes after her starting signal shall be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. *This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.*
- 11.4. The Signal boat may trail a substitute mark which will be considered part of the Signal boat

12. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will lay a new mark(s) (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark(s) as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.

13. THE FINISH

The finishing line shall be between a staff displaying a blue flag on the signal boat and the course side of the mark or the staff displaying a blue flag as described in SI 10.6.

14. TIME LIMITS

- 14.1. In accordance with RRS 35, the time limit for each division in each race is 1.5 hours.
- 14.2. Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat in their division sails the course and finishes will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) without a hearing. *This changes RRS 35, A5.1, A5.2 and A10.*

15. HEARING REQUESTS

- 15.1. The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the RC Signal Boat docks at the end of each racing day or 60 minutes after the RC signals 'No more racing today' ashore, whichever is later.
- 15.2. Hearing request forms are available at the official notice board on the rear patio of TRYC or online ([US Sailing Hearing Request Form](#)).
- 15.3. Notices shall be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings shall be held in the chartroom or upstairs dining room of TRYC.
- 15.4. Notices of Race Committee or Protest Committee protests shall be posted on the official notice board to inform boats under RRS 61.1(b).

16. SCORING

- 16.1. The series scores for boats will be the total of all their race scores with no races excluded.
- 16.2. A boat scored DNS, DSQ, DNC or OCS shall be scored points of one more than the number of boats registered. *This changes RRS A5.2.*
- 16.3. A boat scored DNF, RET or TLE are scored by adding the number of registered boats to the number of finishers, then divided by 2 (any resulting fraction shall be rounded up to the nearest whole number). *This changes RRS A5.2.* For the purposes of this calculation, boats scored UFD or BFD will be excluded from the number of finishers.

17. SAFETY REGULATIONS [NP][DP]

- 17.1. Upon arriving in the starting area, boats shall check-in with the race committee by sailing past the stern of the RC Signal Boat on starboard tack, hailing their sail number and receiving confirmation from the RC.
- 17.2. A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity.
- 17.3. When a race committee vessel displays flag "Y" afloat, RRS 40.1 applies at all times (except temporarily while adding or removing clothing), not just when racing. *This changes RRS 40.2(a).* When flag "Y" is removed afloat, RRS 40.1 no longer applies.

18. AWARDS

- 18.1. Trophies will be awarded at the Opening Ceremonies on Sunday, August 4th.

19. RISK STATEMENT

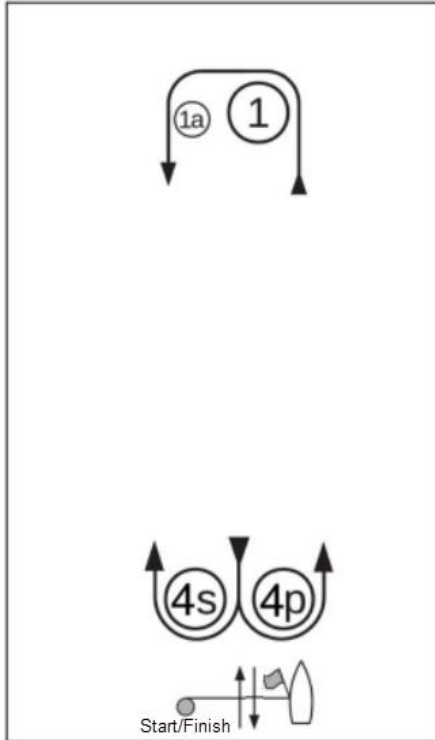
RRS 3 states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough 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.

20. 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.

ADDENDUM A – Course Illustrations

Not to Scale



Course – Windward/Leeward

<i>Mark Rounding Order</i>

Start – 1 – 1a – 4s/4p – 1 – 1a – Finish
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ADDENDUM B – WhatsApp Group QR Code

Scan here to join the group for updates during the regatta.

