

# TAMPA SAILING SQUADRON

## 2024 Midwinter Championship Invitational

March 8–10, 2024

Organizing Authority, Tampa Sailing Squadron (TSS)

1250 Apollo Beach Blvd., Apollo Beach, Florida

## SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

## 1. RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.

## 2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 Changes to the sailing instructions will be posted immediately following the competitors' meeting on March 9 and before 0800 on March 10 except any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 1800 on the day before it will take effect.
- 2.2 Changes to the Sailing Instructions may be made on the water. The Signal Vessel will signal "Come within Hail" by displaying Signal Flag L with one sound. Each boat will receive and acknowledge the change.

### 3. COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board located by the flagpole at TSS.
- 3.2 [DP] Except in an emergency, a boat that is racing shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

#### 4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flagpole located at TSS.
- 4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced by 'not less than 45 minutes' in the race signal AP. This changes Race Signal AP.

## 5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- Saturday, March 9, 2024 0900 – Competitors’ Meeting.  
1100 – Warning signal for first race. Additional races follow. No race starts after 1600.
- Sunday, March 10, 2024 1000 - Warning signal for first race. Additional races follow. No race starts after 1400.

## 6. CLASS FLAGS

- 6.1 Class flags will be designated and displayed at the Competitors' Meeting and posted to the Official Notice Board immediately following the Competitors' Meeting.

## 7. RACING AREA

- 7.1 The racing area will be on Tampa Bay as shown in Attachment I.

## 8. COURSES

- 8.1 The diagrams in Attachment II show the courses, including the approximate angles between legs and the order in which marks are to be passed.
- 8.2 The course will be displayed from the Signal Vessel prior to the warning signal.

**9. MARKS**

- 9.1 Windward and leeward marks will be yellow tetrahedrons.
- 9.2 The windward offset mark will be a small red ball.
- 9.3 The Start/Finish line marks will be orange balls.
- 9.4 The Change mark will be an orange tetrahedron.

## **10. THE START**

- 10.1 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the race committee signal vessel at the starboard end and the course side of the starting mark at the port end.
- 10.2 The warning signal may be preceded by short repetitive sounds to alert competitors that a starting sequence is about to begin. This is not a timed signal.

## **11. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE**

- 11.1 To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will lay a new mark and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. There will be no offset mark with a new mark.

## **12. THE FINISH**

- 12.1 The finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on a race committee vessel and the course side of the finishing mark.
- 12.2 In the interest of starting another race or completing the day's racing in a timely fashion, the Race Committee may assign a finish position to any boat(s) still racing, provided their position(s) can be determined in a reasonable manner. Such boat(s) will be scored as finished. This changes RRS 28.1, 35, A3, and A4.
- 12.3 Flag A displayed, with no sound, while boats are finishing means 'No more racing today.'

## **13. TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES**

- 13.1 Boats failing to finish within 20 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored DNF without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, A5.1 and A5.2.

## **14. HEARING REQUESTS**

- 14.1 For each class the protest time limit is 30 minutes after the race committee signal vessel docks and will be posted on the Official Notice Board.
- 14.2 Hearing Request forms are available at the registration desk in the TSS clubhouse.
- 14.3 Notices will be posted not later than 15 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses.
- 14.4 Protests will be heard in the approximate order of receipt in the TSS clubhouse.

## **15. SCORING**

- 15.1 Three races must be completed to constitute a series.
- 15.2 (a) When 4 or fewer races are completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.  
(b) When 5 to 9 races are completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.  
(c) When 10 or more races are completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her two worst scores.

## **16. SAFETY REGULATIONS**

- 16.1 [DP] Prior to the warning signal for the first race of each day, each boat shall check in by sailing by the race committee signal vessel and hailing its sail number until acknowledged by the race committee.
- 16.2 [DP] A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

## **17. TRASH DISPOSAL**

- 17.1 Trash may be placed aboard any official vessel.

## **18. RISK STATEMENT**

- 30.1 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.**

Attachment I – Approximate Racing Area



## Attachment II – The Courses

[Red Dot is Mark 1a.]



### Windward / Leeward Courses

1	S-1-1a-2a/2b-1-1a-2b-F
2	S-1-1a-2a/2b-1-1a-2a/2b-1-1a-2b-F