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# OCSA Sailing Instructions

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**1. RULES:** Races shall be governed by the current ISAF Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) and the national prescriptions of US Sailing, except as modified by the OCSA Sailing Instructions, the rules of any one design, level or PHRF fleet participating in the event, the Notice of Race for the event, or by the Supplemental Sailing Instructions for the event.

**2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS:** Any changes to the OCSA Sailing Instructions shall be printed and distributed as Supplemental Sailing Instructions by the Race Committee.

**3. SCHEDULE OF RACES:** Dates of racing, number of races & scheduled time of the warning signal for each day of racing will be in the Notice of Race.

**4. CLASS DIVISIONS AND CLASS FLAGS:** Class divisions and class flags will be provided to competitors by the Race Committee.

**5. COURSES:**

**5.1 STARTING ORDER:** The starting order and course for each race shall be displayed by the Race Committee.

**5.2 COURSES:** Courses may be designated by reference to an OCSA course number, or by listing OCSA marks. Courses listed by OCSA marks shall begin with a starting mark and end with a finishing mark.

**5.3 MARK ROUNDINGS:** Except for starting or finishing, marks shall be left to port unless otherwise clearly designated by the displayed course. An (S) BEFORE a displayed COURSE indicates that ALL marks shall be left to starboard. An (S) AFTER a displayed MARK indicates that the INDIVIDUAL mark shall be left to starboard.

**5.4 SHORTENED & ABANDONED RACES:** When start flag(s) are displayed with a shortened course or abandonment signal, the shortened course or abandonment shall apply only to the starts indicated; this modifies RRS 32.

**6. MARKS:** Race marks, including starting and finishing marks, shall be any navigational mark, or temporary inflatable mark set by the Race Committee. Competitors should refer to the OCSA Course Charts.

**7. AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS:** Infractions of OCSA Sailing Instructions 7.1, 7.2, or 7.3, shall be subject to the same protest provisions as infractions incurred under Part 2 of the Racing Rules of Sailing. A boat that may have committed an infraction may exonerate herself by taking a two-turns penalty in compliance with RRS 44.1 & 44.2.

**7.1 RESTRICTED AREA:** The area between McCuddy's Moorage and the 42<sup>nd</sup> Street boat ramp is restricted. A boat shall not sail inside the boundaries that are between the lighted DM "2" at McCuddy's Moorage and the end of the east dock of the public boat ramp at 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, and inside the county marker buoys which designate the restricted area. County marker buoys upriver or downriver of the restricted area do not designate an area restricted to racing.

**7.2 PILING:** Between the I-5 & the I-205 bridges, all boats shall pass on the channel side of any piling, buoy marking a missing piling, or log raft or barge secured to a piling.

**7.3 WING DAMS:** For determining right-of-way, the shoreline obstruction and the wing dam obstruction shall be considered separate obstructions.

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**8. THE START:** Races shall be started in compliance with RRS 26; the warning signal shall be five minutes before the starting signal.

**8.1 STARTING LINE:** The starting line shall be between an orange flag or shape displayed by the Race Committee and the starting mark. The Race Committee may be stationed on either end of the starting line.

**8.2 STARTING AREA:** The starting area extends 200 feet on both sides of the starting line and in a 200-foot radius from both ends of the starting line. Boats that have not received a preparatory signal shall stay clear of this area. A boat that violates this sailing instruction, either by obstructing the Race Committee's view of the start or by interfering with a boat that has received her preparatory signal, shall be subject to disqualification upon protest.

**8.3 PROPULSION:** A boat which has not started, whether or not racing, may use propulsion without penalty as long as the boat does not start for at least 4 minutes after discontinuing propulsion; this modifies RRS 42.

**8.4 DISTANCE MARKS:** Any mark placed between the committee boat and the starting mark shall be regarded as a distance mark. Boats shall pass between the distance mark and the starting mark.

**8.5 CONTACT WITH COMMITTEE BOAT:** A boat which makes contact with the committee boat or anything attached to the committee boat, including the anchor line, shall be subject to protest by the Race Committee.

**9. THE FINISH:**

**9.1 FINISHING LINE:** The finishing line shall be between an orange flag or shape displayed by the Race Committee and the finishing mark. The Race Committee may be stationed on either end of the finishing line. A boat shall finish in the direction from the preceding mark of the course. The Race Committee may have a separate starting and finishing line.

**9.2 RESTRICTED FINISHING LINES:** When a boat not finishing crosses a restricted finishing line she may exonerate herself by taking a two-turns penalty, in compliance with RRS 44.1 & 44.2.

**10. TIME LIMITS:** The first boat in each class must finish within 2 hours of her starting signal. Any boat not finishing within 2.5 hours of her starting signal will be scored DNF.

**11. PROTESTS & REQUESTS FOR REDRESS:** Protests shall be filed promptly and in writing in accordance with the Racing Rules of Sailing, unless otherwise prescribed by the Notice of Race and/or Supplemental Sailing Instructions for the event.

**12. SCORING:** Races shall be scored and ties broken per RRS Appendix A. Races shall be scored using the Low Point Scoring System unless otherwise stated in the Notice of Race and/or Supplemental Sailing Instructions.

**13. SAFETY REGULATIONS:**

**13.1 COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC:** Competitors have the responsibility of keeping clear of all commercial traffic and shall not interfere with commercial traffic. A boat shall be subject to disqualification upon protest for failing to comply with this sailing instruction.

**13.2 DANGER AREA:** A boat in a position where she may interfere with commercial traffic must clear the danger area, and may use propulsion if necessary to do so, provided she does not improve her competitive position.