



**2024 J/24 North American Championship**  
**St Petersburg Yacht Club, the International J/24 Class Association**  
**and US J/24 Class Association**  
**April 10-14, 2024**  
**St Petersburg, Florida, USA**

[www.spyc.org](http://www.spyc.org)

**Sailing Instructions**

**Amended**

**04/10/24**

**1. Rules**

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
- 1.2 The Regatta Regulations of the International J/24 Class Association (IJCA) will apply.
- 1.3 Only US Sailing Prescriptions to RRS 60.3(b), 61.4, 67, and 76.1 apply and are stated in full in Attachment A.
- 1.4 If there is a conflict between languages, the English text will take precedence.
- 1.5 RRS Appendix T: Arbitration shall apply to this event, except as modified by SI 14.1.
- 1.6 RRS 60.4(a)(1) is changed to read: "but not rules 41, 42, 44, 46, and 49.2 sentences 1 and 2, or...."
- 1.7 The notation [NP] in a rule in the SI means that a boat may not protest another boat for a breach of this rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a).
- 1.8 Class rule C.2.1(b) is replaced with class rule H.4.3 that allows limited declared crew substitution. This changes NoR 10 (a).
- 1.9 Class rule C.10.2 is replaced by class rule J.2 that allows a spare spinnaker with restrictions.

**2. Notices to Competitors:**

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located at [Notice Board](#).
- 2.2 Any questions regarding these Sailing Instructions shall be submitted in writing to the Race Committee PRO. The questions and any answers will be posted on the official notice board as soon as possible.

### 3. Changes to Sailing Instructions:

- 3.1 Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted before 0800 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 1800 hours on the day before it will take effect.

### 4. Signals Made Ashore:

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagpole located at the St Pete Sailing Center.
- 4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 60 minutes' in the race signal AP.
- 4.3 When flag Y is displayed ashore with one sound, RRS 40.2(b) applies at all times while afloat.

### 5. Schedule of Races:

#### 5.1

Day	Date	Time	Event/Activity
Tuesday	April 9 <sup>th</sup>	0800	Venue open for arrival
Wednesday	April 10 <sup>th</sup>	0900-1800	Registration/ Crew weigh-in Equipment Inspection
Thursday	April 11 <sup>th</sup>	0900-1800 1400 1800 1800	Registration/ Crew weigh-in Equipment Inspection Practice Race All boats afloat Opening Ceremony/Skippers Meeting
Friday	April 12 <sup>th</sup>	0800 – 0830 0830 1000	Crew weigh-in* Competitors Briefing Warning for First Race of the Day
Saturday	April 13 <sup>th</sup>	0800 – 0830 0830 1000	Crew weigh-in* Competitors Briefing Warning for First Race of the Day
Sunday	April 14 <sup>th</sup>	0800 – 0830 0830 1000 1400 TBD	Crew weigh-in* Competitors Briefing Warning for First Race of the Day No Race Will Start after this Time Prize Giving

\*These scheduled crew weigh-ins are only for race committee approved replacements or crews specified per SI 1.13.

- 5.2 Eight (8) races are scheduled over three consecutive days.

5.3 Three races are scheduled per day. One extra race per day may be sailed provided that the regatta does not become more than one race ahead of schedule and the change is made according to the provisions of the Sailing Instructions. If the regatta is behind schedule, extra races to a maximum of four races may be sailed in a single day.

**6. Class Flag:**

The J/24 Class Flag (Blue insignia on a white background) shall be used in accordance with RRS 26.

**7. Racing Areas:**

Attachment B shows the location of the racing areas.

**8. Courses:**

- 8.1 Courses will be windward/leeward with 5 legs (course 5) or four legs (course 4).
- 8.2 The diagrams in Attachment C show the courses.
- 8.3 No later than the warning signal, the race committee signal boat will display the course designator, the approximate compass bearing and the distance of the first leg. The RC will also broadcast this information. Failure to broadcast or to receive this information shall not constitute grounds for granting redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).
- 8.4 An offset mark (designated mark 1a) will be used in conjunction with mark 1. The offset mark will be placed to the left of the weather mark (looking up wind) at approximately a right angle to the weather leg and approximately 10 – 15 boat lengths to port of mark 1.
- 8.5 Mark 2 will be a gate consisting of two marks (mark 2P and mark 2S). If the gate is not present, mark 2 shall be rounded to port. Except when there is a change of course, the gate will be positioned approximately to windward of the RC signal boat at a distance to the discretion of the RC. The gate may be laid after the starting signal.
- 8.6 Except for a change of course, the finish for course 5 will be to windward of mark 1.
- 8.7 No 5-leg course will be shortened to less than four legs in length, and no 4-leg course will be shortened to less than three legs in length. For purpose of this SI only, the distance between mark 1 and the offset mark will not be regarded as a leg of the course. This changes RRS 33.

**9. Marks:**

9.1 Marks 1, 1a, 2s and 2p, start and finish will be:

Mark	Original	New Marks per SI 12.1
1	Orange Tetrahedron	Green Tetrahedron
1a (offset)	Orange Ball	<del>Orange Ball</del>
2s and 2p (GATE)	Orange Tetrahedron	Green Tetrahedron
Start	RC Boat with Orange Flag	
Finish	(Course 4) RC Boat and Yellow Cylinder	

9.2 ~~A race committee boat signalling a change of a leg of the course is a mark as provided in instruction 12.2.~~

## 10. Areas That Are Obstructions:

No areas are designated as obstructions.

## 11. Start:

- 11.1 Races will be started using RRS26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal.
- 11.2 The starting line will be between staffs displaying orange flags on the starboard end signal boat and the port end pin boat.
- 11.3 RC may broadcast starting information, countdowns and the sail numbers of any boats OCS on the VHF channel 63. Failure to make or receive such broadcasts will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).
- 11.4 The RC will attempt to broadcast twice the bow/sail numbers of all boats subject to individual recall (RRS 29.1), UFD (RRS 30.3), BFD (RRS 30.4); it will not alter the list based on a boat's actions subsequent to the start. Failure to make or receive such broadcasts will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).
- 11.5 [NP] A boat starting later than 6 minutes after her starting signal shall be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, 63.1, A4 and A5.

## 12. Change of the Next Leg of the Course:

- 12.1 A course change to the next leg of the course will be signaled according to RRS33.
- 12.2 To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will lay a new mark (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark. When mark 1 is replaced with a new mark, mark 1A will not be reset and is no longer a part of the course.

## 13. The Finish:

- 13.1 The finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on the finishing line boat and a staff displaying a blue flag on a nearby RC boat or an inflatable yellow mark.

## 14. Penalty System:

- 14.1 RRS Appendix T will apply, as modified below.
  - 14.1.1 A boat may accept a Post-Race scoring penalty of 30% only until the end of the Protest time Limit by completing a Penalty Acceptance Form available at the Protest Desk. This changes RRS App T.1.(a) and T.1.(b).
  - 14.1.2 A boat accepting a Post-Race scoring penalty after an arbitration hearing shall be penalized 40%. This changes RRS App T.1.(b).

- 14.2 The first two sentences of rule 44.1 are changed to: “A boat may take a One-Turn Penalty when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 or rule 31 in an incident while *racing*. However, when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 while in the *zone* around a *mark* other than a starting *mark*, her penalty shall be a Two-Turns Penalty.”
- 14.4 Except if the course is shortened to finish at the windward mark, penalties while in the zone of the windward mark or on the offset leg may be delayed and taken as soon as possible on the downwind leg. This changes RRS 44.2
- 14.5 RRS Appendix P applies, as below.
- 14.5.1 Rule P1.1 is changed to read, “Only members of the Jury may serve as observers and act in accordance with rule P1.2.”
- 14.5.2 P1.2 is changed to read “An observer appointed under rule P1.1 who sees a boat breaking rule 42 may penalize her by, as soon as reasonably possible, making a sound signal, pointing a yellow flag at her and hailing her sail number or bow number, even if she is no longer racing. A boat so penalized shall not be penalized a second time under rule 42 for the same incident.”
- 14.5.3 Rule P2.1 is changed to read, “two-turns penalty” is changed to “one-turn penalty”.
- 14.5.4 Rule P2.2, P2.3 shall not apply.

## **15. Time Limits and Target Times:**

- 15.1 The target time for races is 60 to 80 minutes. Failure to meet the target time will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).
- 15.2 Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored TLE (Time Limit Expired) without a hearing. A TLE score shall be two more points than the number of boats that have finished within the time limit. This changes RRS 35, 63.1, A4 and A5. The RC will lower the blue finish flag with a long sound when the finishing window is closed.

## **16. Protests and Requests for Redress**

- 16.1 Hearing request forms are available at the protest desk located in Bay 1 of the St Pete Sailing Center. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit.
- 16.2 The protest time limit is 45 minutes after the signal boat docks. The same time limit applies to protests by the RC, TC and jury about incidents they observe in the racing area and to requests for redress. This changes rules 61.3 and 62.2.
- 16.3 Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearing in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the protest room, located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the St Pete Sailing Center.

- 16.4 The race committee will post a list of penalties being assigned by the race committee or jury including RRS 42 violations under Appendix P prior to the end of the protest time limit. The deadline for requests for redress based on these assigned penalties will be either 30 minutes after posting or the protest time limit, whichever is later.
- 16.5 Notices of protests by the race committee, technical committee or jury will be posted to inform boats under RRS 61.1(b).
- 16.6 On the last scheduled day of racing, a request for redress based on a protest committee decision shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the decision was posted. This changes RRS 62.2.
- 16.7 Decisions of the international jury will be final as provided in RRS 70.5.

### **17. Scoring:**

- 17.1 Four races are required to be completed to constitute a championship.
- 17.2 When fewer than five races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores. When five or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores, excluding her worst score.

### **18. Safety Regulations:**

- 18.1 [NP][DP] A boat that retires from a race or does not intend to compete in a race or returns to the racing area shall notify the race committee as soon as possible.
- 18.2 [NP][DP] Before the warning signal of the first race each day, each boat shall sail on starboard tack past the stern of a designated race committee boat displaying flag L and hail her sail number until acknowledged by the race committee repeating her bow number.

### **19. Replacement of Crew or Equipment:**

- 19.1 Crew replacements are limited to those allowed by SI 1.13 and class rule H.4.3. The ~~Jury~~ RC may approve a crew substitution during the event in cases of illness or emergency.
- 19.2 Even if replacement or crew substitution is allowed, the number of crew shall not change during the event.
- 19.3 Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed unless authorized by the technical committee. Requests for substitution shall be made to the technical committee at the first reasonable opportunity. Substitution of spinnaker poles or rudders with spares that have been measured and carry event limitation marks for this event may be done without notification.

### **20. Equipment and Measurement Checks:**

- 20.1 On the water, a boat can be instructed by a member of the race committee or the technical committee to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection by the technical committee.





20.2 Ashore, equipment may be inspected or measured at times specified in the class rules, the notice of race, or at any time by a member of the technical committee.

**21. Event Advertising:**

[NP][DP] Boats shall display event advertising that is supplied by the organizing authority. Such advertising shall be installed according to the instructions supplied with them and shall remain in place for the duration of the regatta.

**22. Official Boats:**

Official Vessels shall be marked as follows: *(describe all official boats and the flags they will be flying - RC, Measurement, Jury, Press, VIP, etc.)*

VESSEL	FLAG
RC Boats	
Jury	
Technical Committee/Measurement	
Safety	

**23. Support Vessels:**

- 23.1 [NP][DP] Support vessels shall comply with **S** NOR 1.4.
- 23.2 [NP][DP] Support vessels shall register during scheduled registration, declaring to which boat or boats they are attached. They may be required to display an identification flag supplied by the organizing authority.
- 23.3 [NP][DP] Support vessels and support persons shall remain no less than 150m from the race course from the warning signal until all boats have finished or retired or the race committee has signaled a postponement, general recall or abandonment.
- 23.4 [NP][DP] Support boat drivers shall have valid third-party liability insurance in the same amount as is required of each participating boat and provide proof of that insurance at registration.

**24. Trash Handling:**

24.1 [NP][DP] Competitors shall not **intentionally** dispose of trash in the water. Trash shall be held for proper disposal.

#### **25. Afloat and Haul-out Restrictions:**

25.1 [NP][DP] Boats shall be afloat with rudders mounted by 1800 hours on Thursday April 11<sup>th</sup> and shall not be hauled out during the regatta except with, and according to the terms of prior written permission of the technical committee.

#### **26. Diving Equipment, Plastic Pools and Other Prohibited Actions:**

26.1 [DP] Underwater breathing apparatus and plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used between the time the boat is afloat and the end of the regatta. The hull may be cleaned at any time by swimming or keelhauling using ropes, cloth or other equipment designed for that use.

26.2 [DP] Careening by any means for the purpose of cleaning or inspecting the hull is prohibited during the regatta.

26.3 [DP] Use of dehumidifiers or electric fans are prohibited at all times while boats are afloat.

#### **27. Communication:**

27.1 [DP] Except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats. This shall apply from the time she leaves her mooring for the first race of the day until racing for the day is complete.

27.2 The race committee (RC) will use VHF radio to communicate to the fleet as a courtesy to all competitors. Failure to make broadcasts or failure to hear broadcasts shall not constitute grounds for granting redress. This changes rules 62.1

27.3 The RC will use VHF radio to communicate to the fleet, including the location of the starting area, countdown to the start, OCS sail numbers, general recalls and postponements. Failure to make broadcasts or failure to hear broadcasts shall not constitute grounds for granting redress. This changes rules 62.1(a)

27.4 VHF channel 63 will be used to communicate with competitors.

#### **28. Prizes:**

28.1 The top entry from a country in **(insert continent)** will be the **(insert year) J/24 (insert continent)** Champion.

28.2 Prizes will be awarded to the top 3 entries.

28.3 Prizes will be awarded to the top 3 placing Corinthian entries.

#### **29. Disclaimer of Liability:**



- 29.1 Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during or after the regatta.
- 29.2 All competitors will be required to sign a Competitor Liability Waiver form to be provided in the registration package.

**30. Insurance:**

- 30.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third party insurance with a minimum coverage of \$300,000 per incident or the equivalent.

## Attachment A- Applicable US Sailing Prescriptions:

**Rule 60.3** After rule 60.3 add:

*US Sailing prescribes that rule 60.3(b) is changed to:*

*(b) request redress for a boat or call a hearing to consider redress;*

**Rule 61** Add at the end of rule 61:

*61.4 Fees for Protests and Requests for Redress*

*US Sailing prescribes that no fees shall be charged for protests or requests for redress.*

**Rule 67** After rule 67 add:

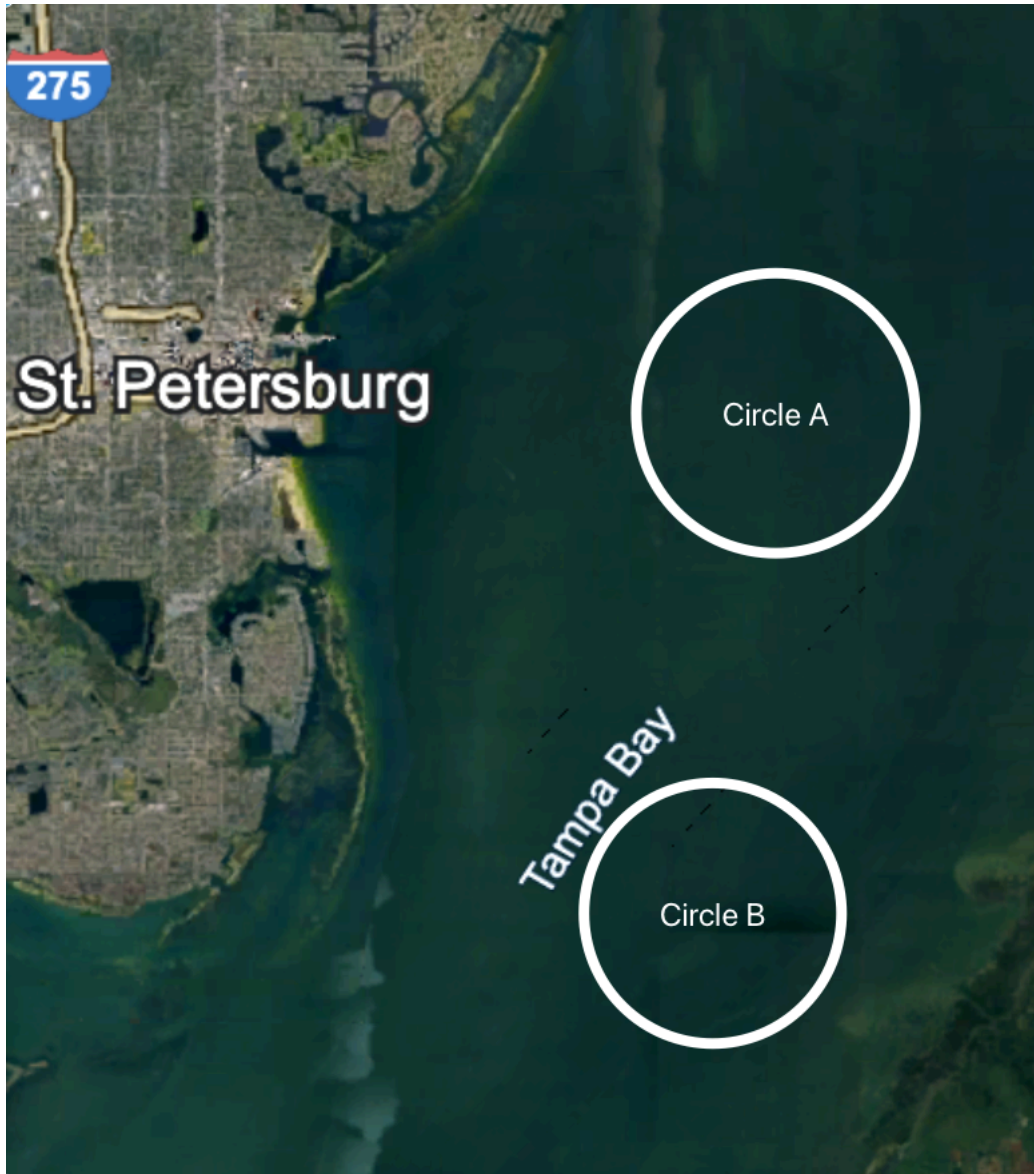
*US Sailing prescribes that:*

- (a) A boat that retires from a race or accepts a penalty does not, by that action alone, admit liability for damages.*
- (b) A protest committee shall find facts and make decisions only in compliance with the rules. No protest committee or US Sailing appeal authority shall adjudicate any claim for damages. Such a claim is subject to the jurisdiction of the courts.*
- (c) A basic purpose of the rules is to prevent contact between boats. By participating in an event governed by the rules, a boat agrees that responsibility for damages arising from any breach of the rules shall be based on fault as determined by application of the rules, and that she shall not be governed by the legal doctrine of 'assumption of risk' for monetary damages resulting from contact with other boats.*

**Rule 76.1** After rule 76.1 add:

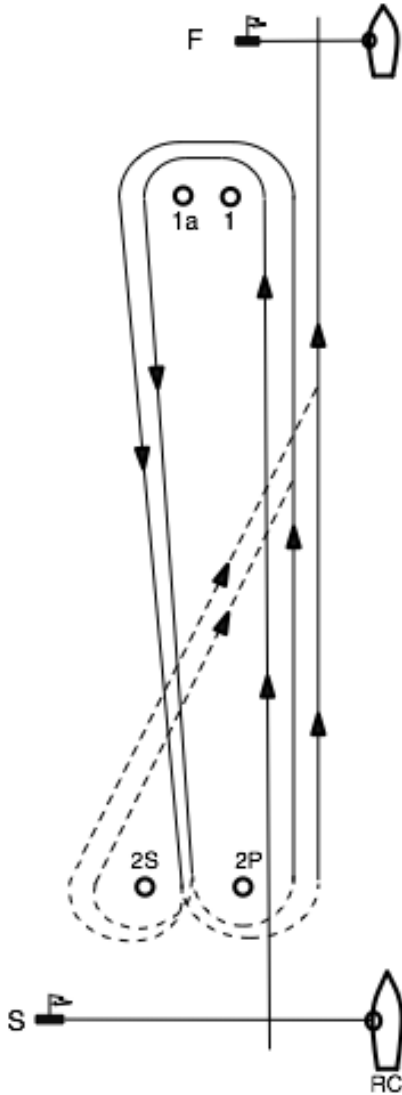
*US Sailing prescribes that an organizing authority or race committee shall not reject or cancel the entry of a boat or exclude a competitor eligible under the notice of race and sailing instructions for an arbitrary or capricious reason or for reason of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or age.*

ATTACHMENT B - RACING AREA LOCATION

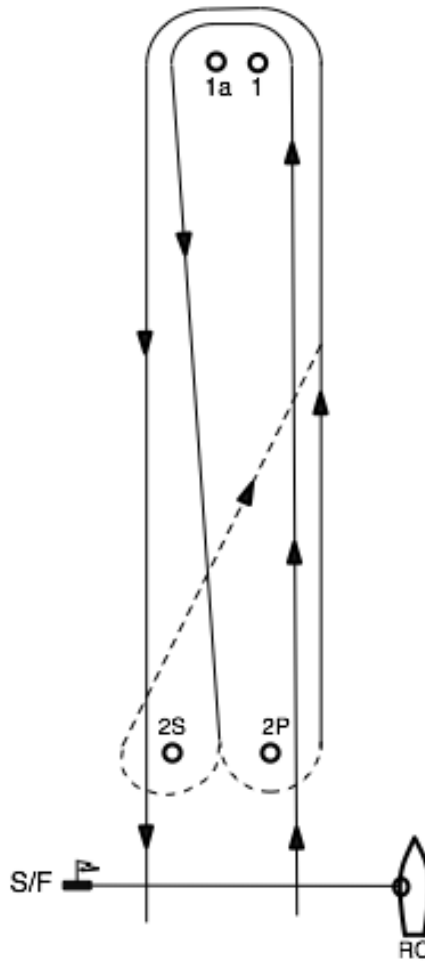


**ATTACHMENT C – COURSE DIAGRAMS**

**COURSE 5**  
**START - 1 - 1a - 2S/2P - 1 - 1a - 2S/2P - FINISH**



**COURSE 4**  
**START - 1 - 1a - 2S/2P - 1 - 1a - FINISH**



NOTE: If the gate (mark 2p and mark 2s) is not present, mark 2 will be set in place of marks 2p and 2s, and shall be rounded to port. 2S/2P in the rounding sequence for the courses is replaced by 2.