



THISTLE CLASS ASSOCIATION  
2018 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP



JULY 27 – AUGUST 3, 2018

CEDAR POINT YACHT CLUB  
WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT

## SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

**As Amended 7/25/18: SEE 8.2, 8.7, 8.9, 11.2, 12.1, 16.1, 18.1, 20 BELOW**

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 in the SI means that instruction is not grounds for protest or a request for redress by a boat. This changes rule 60.1.

### 1 RULES

- 1.1 The regatta is governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing for 2017-2020 (RRS).
- 1.2 The sailing instructions will take precedence over the notice of race in the event of conflict. This changes rule 63.7.

### 2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS AND INFORMATION MEETING(S)

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located on the southeast corner of the Cedar Point Yacht Club (CPYC) clubhouse exterior wall.
- 2.2 There will be a competitors' meeting at the CPYC clubhouse on Sunday, July 29 at 1230 hrs.

### 3 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1 Any change in the Sailing Instructions will be posted before 0900 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 1830 on the day before it will take effect or by the protest time limit, whichever is later.

### 4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the CPYC flagpole.
- 4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 60 minutes' in Race Signals AP.

### 5 SCHEDULE OF RACES

Date	Race	First Warning
Sunday, July 29	Practice race	1400
Monday, July 30	Qualifying Races 1 & 2	1130
Tuesday, July 31	Qualifying Race 3	1130
Wednesday, August 1	Championship Race 4 & 5, President Race 1 & 2	1130
Thursday, August 2	Championship Race 6, President Race 3	1130
Friday, August 3	Championship Race 7, President Race 4	1130

- 5.1 The RC may adjust the race schedule.
- 5.2 To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, the orange starting line flag will be displayed with one sound signal at least five minutes before a warning signal is made.
- 5.3 On the last scheduled day of racing, no warning signal will be made after 1530 for any race in the Championship Division, and 1540 for any race in the President Division.

### 6 CLASS FLAGS

- 6.1 The class flag for the first start (Division 1) in each race shall be the Thistle Class Association (TCA) logo on a white field.
- 6.2 The class flag for the second start (Division 2) in each race shall be the TCA logo on a yellow field.

### 7 RACING AREA

Races will be sailed in Long Island Sound approximately 1.8 nautical miles (NM) southeast of CPYC.

## 8 THE COURSES

- 8.1 The diagrams in Attachment A show the courses, 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.
- 8.2 The distance between Marks 1 and 3 will be a minimum of 0.8 nautical miles. The starting line will be located approximately 0.2 miles downwind of Mark 3.
- 8.3 No later than the warning signal, the RC signal vessel shall display the designated course number on a placard and the approximate compass bearing of the first leg.
- 8.4 An Offset Mark will be used after rounding Mark 1 or a New Mark at the completion of the 4th leg of the course. The distance between Mark 1 or a New Mark and the Offset Mark will be approximately 100 feet. The Offset Mark will not be a mark of the course on leg 2.
- 8.5 A Gate will be used at the end of the 5th leg of the course. The Gate will be located approximately 0.1 nautical mile upwind of Mark 3. Mark 3 will not be a mark of the course on legs 5 or 6. If one of the Gate Marks is missing, boats shall round the remaining mark to port.
- 8.6 The finishing line will be located approximately 0.3 to 0.5 nautical miles to windward of the Gate Marks.
- 8.7 Courses can be shortened provided that at least two windward legs have been completed.
- 8.8 Unless they are finishing or attempting to finish, boats shall not sail through the finish line but may pass it on either side. For boats not finishing or attempting to finish, the finish line is an obstruction. A boat which breaks this instruction may not correct her error. *This changes RRS 28.2.* A boat which breaks this instruction will be scored DNF without a hearing. *This changes RRS 63.1, A4, and A5.*
- 8.9 If a continuing (in excess of 5 minutes) wind shift of 30 degrees or more occurs after the start of the first Division, but before the first boat of both divisions pass the first mark, races for both Divisions shall be abandoned and restarted. If such a continuing wind shift occurs during the first leg of races of the National Championship and President's Divisions, only the race of the affected Division shall be abandoned. Determination of time and amount of shift is in the sole judgment of RC representative on the weather stake boat, and is not subject to redress. *This changes RRS 62.1. [NP]*

## 9 MARKS

- 9.1 Marks 1, 2 and 3 will be orange tetrahedrons.
- 9.2 Marks 4S and 4P (Gate Marks) will be yellow tetrahedrons.
- 9.3 Mark 1a (Offset Mark) will be a small inflatable orange mark.
- 9.4 A New Mark, as provided in instruction 12, will be a green tetrahedron.
- 9.5 The Starting Marks will be RC signal boats at both ends of the line.
- 9.6 The Finishing Marks will be a RC signal boat at the starboard end of the line and a buoy with a CPYC burgee on a staff at the port end of the line.

## 10 RACING FORMAT

- 10.1 **Practice Race** – the fleet will be split according to sail number.  
(a) Division 1 – Odd-numbered sails  
(b) Division 2 – Even numbered sails.
- 10.2 **Qualifying Races** (Races 1 – 3) – The fleet will be split into four (4) groups as per TCA Bylaw Article XIII, Section 11. Competitors shall fly a colored ribbon identifying their group from the mainsail clew: A (green), B (blue), C (yellow), and D (red). Two groups will start in the first start (Division 1) of each race; the other two groups (Division 2) will start in the second start:

Race	Division 1	Division 2
1	Group A (green) & Group B (blue)	Group C (yellow) & Group D (red)
2	Group A (green) & Group C (yellow)	Group B (blue) & Group D (red)
3	Group B (blue) & Group C (yellow)	Group A (green) & Group D (red)

Group assignments by boat will be posted on the official notice board no later than 1830 on Sunday, July 29.

- 10.3 **Championship / President's Division Races** (Races 4 – 7) – The fleet will be divided into Divisions in accordance with TCA Bylaw Article XIII, Section 13(a).  
(a) Division 1 – Championship Division  
(b) Division 2 – President's Division

Boats in the Championship Division shall remove their group ribbons; boats in the President's Division shall continue to fly their group ribbons.

## 11 THE START

- 11.1 The starting line shall be between staffs displaying orange flags on the RC boats as described in instruction 9.5.
- 11.2 The RC signal boats may trail **an orange buoy** five to ten feet to leeward. While starting or attempting to start, boats shall not touch these marks or cross a line between the mark and the RC boat to which it is attached. A boat breaking this rule shall have touched a mark as described in RRS 31.
- 11.3 A mid-line guide buoy may be used on the starting line. The buoy is not a mark of the course. While the RC will use its best efforts to ensure the buoy is on or slightly behind the starting line, the buoy serves only as a guide and is not part of the starting line. [NP]
- 11.4 Boats in a Division whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for the boats in the other Division. [DP]
- 11.5 A boat that does not start within five (5) minutes after her starting signal shall be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. *This changes RRS A4 and A5.*
- 11.6 If any part of a boat's hull, crew or equipment is on the course side of the starting line at her starting signal and she is identified, the RC will attempt to hail and to broadcast her sail number on VHF channel 72. The failure to hear the numbers and the timeliness or order of hails or broadcasts shall not constitute grounds for granting redress. *This changes RRS 62.1(a).* [NP]

## 12 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 12.1 The only marks whose positions may be changed are the mark ending leg 4, **the gate marks**, and the finish line. *This changes RRS 33.*
- 12.2 To change the position of the mark ending leg 4 or the finish line, the RC shall 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 shall be replaced by an original mark.

## 13 THE FINISH

- 13.1 The finishing line shall be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the RC boat at the starboard end of the line and the course side of the nearby Finishing Mark as described in instruction 9.6.
- 13.2 If the RC does not intend to start another race on the same day, it will display Code Flag A (with no sound) while boats are finishing.

## 14 PENALTY SYSTEM [DP]

A boat that takes a penalty or retires under RRS 44 shall sign the acknowledgement form posted on the official notice board within the protest time limit. *This changes RRS 44.*

## 15 TIME LIMITS

- 15.1 In accordance with RRS 35, the time limit for each Division in each race is 2.5 hours.
- 15.2 In the Qualifying Races only, if no boat sails the course and finishes within the time limit in a Division, the RC shall abandon the race for both Divisions. *This changes RRS 35.*
- 15.3 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, 63.1, A4 and A5.*

## 16 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 16.1 Add the following to rule 61: A boat intending to submit a protest about an incident that occurs in the racing area shall notify the RC upon finishing **(or as soon as practical, if retiring)** of her intention, including the sail number(s) of the boat(s) being protested.
- 16.2 Protest forms are available in the breezeway of the CPYC clubhouse. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered to the jury secretary at the clubhouse within the appropriate time limit.
- 16.3 The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the RC boat docks after the last race of the day or 60 minutes after the RC signals no more racing today, whichever is later.
- 16.4 Notices will 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 downstairs meeting room at the clubhouse beginning at the time posted on the official notice board.
- 16.5 If the Race Committee posts a list of boats scored OCS, ZFP, UFD, or BFD on the official notice board before the protest time limit, a request for redress based on such a posted score shall be made no later than one hour after the protest time limit. *This changes rule 62.2.*
- 16.6 Notices of protests by the RC, TCA National Race Committee (NRC), Technical Committee (TC) or Protest Committee (PC) shall be posted to inform boats under RRS 61.1(b).
- 16.7 In accordance with RRS 70.5(a), decisions of the PC are final. US Sailing's permission has been granted. If the requirements shown on <http://www.ussailing.org/race-officials/rules-and-appeals/new-no-appeals-page/> are not

met, the decisions of the PC may be appealed. US Sailing's permission is limited to the qualifying series. Competitors may appeal decisions of the PC in the Championship and President's series.

- 16.7 On the last scheduled day of racing, a request for redress based on a PC decision shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the decision was posted. *This changes RRS 62.2.*

## **17 SCORING**

- 17.1 The series scores for boats in the Championship Division will be the total of all their race scores, including the Qualifying Races, with no races excluded. *This changes RRS A2.1.*
- 17.2 The series scores for boats in the President's Division will be the total of their race scores, excluding the Qualifying Races.
- 17.3 Four (4) races inclusive of the Qualifying Races are required to be completed to constitute a series for the Championship Division.
- 17.4 One (1) race exclusive of the Qualifying Races is required to be completed to constitute a series for the President's Division.
- 17.5 A boat scored DNS, DSQ, DNC or OCS shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats registered in that Division's race. *This changes RRS A4.2.*
- 17.6 A boat scored DNF, RET or TLE shall be scored points equal to one half the sum of the number of registered boats in that Division's race plus the number of finishers, with any resulting fraction being rounded up to the nearest whole number. *This changes RRS A4.2.*
- 17.7 The divisional assignments will be based on the scores for races 1 to 3 after protest and redress hearings for those races have concluded. Changes to the scores in the first three races after racing has commenced in the final series will not change divisional assignments and shall not constitute grounds for granting redress with regard to divisional assignments [This changes rule 62][NP] but they will be factored into the scoring for the event.

## **18 SAFETY REGULATIONS [DP]**

- 18.1 Before the warning signal of the first race of the day, and after any postponement ashore, competitors are required to sail on starboard tack past the stern of the starboard-end RC signal boat, hail their sail numbers **and receive acknowledgement from the RC to check in.**
- 18.2 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the RC on the water as soon as possible. If on the water notification is not possible, a boat that retires shall notify the CPYC Club Manager on return to shore.

## **19 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT [DP]**

- 19.1 Substitution of crew(s) will not be permitted without the prior written approval of the NRC. No substitution of skipper is permitted.
- 19.2 Unless lost or damaged, the same boat, spars, blades, and sails presented during the measurement process shall be used throughout the regatta. Substitutions will not be permitted unless the replacement meets TCA specifications and is authorized in writing by the NRC. Requests for substitution shall be made in writing to the NRC at the first reasonable opportunity.

## **20 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS**

A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with class rules and sailing instructions. On the water, a boat can be instructed by a member of the TC to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection. The penalty for a breach of a class rule or sailing instruction regarding equipment or measurement shall be at the discretion of the protest committee, and may be less than disqualification.

## **21 RADIO COMMUNICATION [DP]**

- 21.1 All radio communications between the RC and the competitors shall be on VHF channel 72.
- 21.2 Competitors may receive VHF radio transmissions from the RC concerning safety and general information to assist in the management of the event. This does not in any way alter a competitor's responsibility to observe the RC's visual signals which shall govern the conduct of the racing.
- 21.3 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.

## **22 AWARDS**

- 22.1 The National Championship and "Louis Carron Perpetual Trophy" will be awarded to the winning boat in the Championship Division.
- 22.2 Other awards will be made at the discretion of the Organizing Authority.

## **23 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

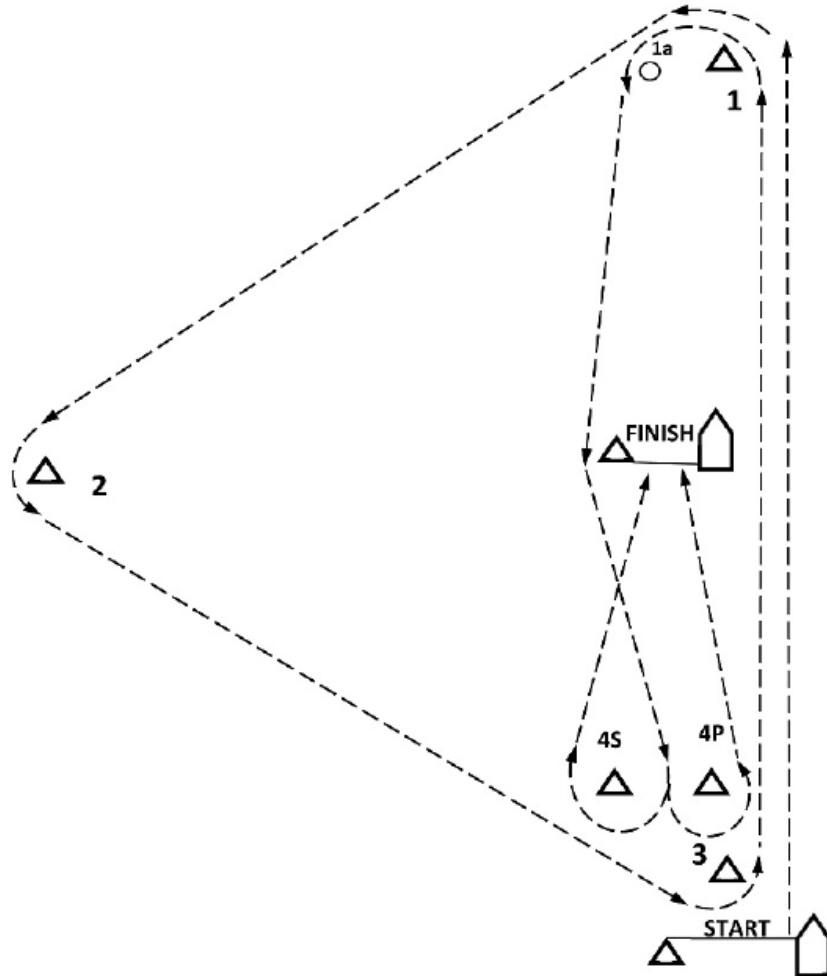
Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority shall not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

**ATTACHMENT A – COURSE DIAGRAMS**

**THISTLE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP – COURSE 1**

**Equilateral Triangle**

START – 1 – 2 – 3 – 1 – 1a – 4S/4P – FINISH



**THISTLE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP – COURSE 2**

**Isosceles Right Triangle**

START – 1 – 2 – 3 – 1 – 1a – 4S/4P – FINISH

