



THISTLE CLASS ASSOCIATION
2018 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

JULY 27 – AUGUST 3, 2018

CEDAR POINT YACHT CLUB
WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT



NOTICE OF RACE

AS AMENDED 7/25/18: SEE 3.2, 3.5, 7.2 BELOW

Organizing Authority: The 2018 Thistle National Championship (Regatta) is organized by the Thistle Class Association (TCA) in conjunction with the Cedar Point Yacht Club (CPYC).

1. RULES

The regatta is governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing for 2017-2020 (RRS).

2. CHANGES TO RACING RULES

Racing rules will be changed as follows:

Rule 28.2 – a boat may not cross the finishing line except when finishing or attempting to finish.

Rule 32 – courses will not be shortened

Rule 33 – only certain marks may be changed during racing

Rule 35 – during a qualifying race, if one division does not finish within time limit the other division's race will also be abandoned. Also, a boat finishing 30 minutes after the first boat in her division will be scored TLE.

Rule 44 - competitor must acknowledge penalty or retirement

Rule 61 - competitor must notify race committee on the water of intent to protest

Rule 62.1(a) - limits grounds for granting redress on recall hails

Rule 62.2 – changes deadline to request redress for PC decision

Rule 63.1, A 4 & 5 – a boat which crosses the finish line when not finishing or attempting to finish, and a boat that does not start within 5 minutes after her starting signal, will be scored DNF without a hearing. Also, a boat finishing 30 minutes after the first boat in her division will be scored TLE without a hearing.

A 2.1 – when scoring the Championship series, no races shall be excluded

A 4.2 – changes scoring of DNS, DSQ, DNC, OCS, DNF, RET and TLE

The actual wording for these changes will appear in full in the Sailing Instructions. The Sailing Instructions may also change other racing rules.

3. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

3.1 The regatta is open to boats of the TCA that are active members in good standing with a valid measurement certificate and have sailed the required qualifying event(s) to be eligible to compete in Thistle Nationals, as outlined in the Bylaws of the TCA.

3.2 No competitor may be paid to sail in this event, and private coaching is not allowed in this event, as per TCA Bylaw Article IX, Section 3.

3.3 Eligible boats may enter by completing online registration and paying regatta fees by July 15. No entry will be accepted after July 15 without written permission from the Regatta Chairmen and National Race Committee.

3.4 Online registration can be found at www.yachtscoring.com.

3.5 Competitors must complete on-site registration and the measurement process during times specified in the schedule; any extension requires written permission from the Regatta Chairmen and National Race Committee.

4. FEES:

4.1 Registration Fees: \$395 plus a \$45 TCA Trophy Fee for registrations completed before July 1. Late entries will be accepted with a \$100 late fee between July 1 and July 15.

- 4.2 Registration fees are fully refundable until July 1, and partially refundable (less \$75) between July 1 and July 15. No refunds after July 15.
- 4.3 Skippers 26 years old and under may apply for a registration fee waiver by contacting VP Growth and Promotions, John Howell (jihowelliii@gmail.com). Applications should be sent in no later than June 15 and should include birthdate. Please indicate whether sailing National Championship, Junior Nationals or both. Applicants must register and pay registration fee, and will be reimbursed by the TCA from the Growth and Promotion fund once they have completed on-site registration and measurement. Approved applicants who do not attend the regatta will not be reimbursed for registration fees unless approved by the TCA Executive Committee.
- 4.4 Registration fees include three banquet tickets, three nights of live music, blender night theme party with hors' d'oeuvres, beer each evening, soft drink mixer gun, wine at the banquet, and trophies.

5. SCHEDULE

5.1 Registration and Measurement

Friday, July 27 1400 – 1700 hrs
 Saturday, July 28 0900 – 1600 hrs
 Sunday, July 29 0900 – 1130 hrs

5.2 Women's and Youth National Championship: Saturday, July 28 – see separate NOR.

5.3 National Championship Race Series

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

- 5.4 The RC may adjust the race schedule to suit weather conditions.
- 5.5 On the last scheduled day of racing, no warning signal will be made after 1530 for any race in the Championship Division.

6. PRACTICE RACE, QUALIFYING SERIES, AND FINAL SERIES

- 6.1 In the practice race, the fleet will race in two Divisions split by odd and even sail numbers.
- 6.2 The regatta will consist of a qualifying series and a final series.
- 6.3 In the qualifying series (Races 1-3), the fleet will be split into four (4) groups as per TCA Bylaw Article III, Section 11. Each group will race the other groups once. Two groups will comprise a Division for a race.
- 6.4 In the final series (Races 4-7), the fleet will be divided into Championship and President's Divisions in accordance with TCA Bylaw Article XIII, Section 13(a) based on their finishing position in the qualifying series.

7. MEASUREMENT

- 7.1 Each boat shall have a valid measurement certificate.
- 7.2 Boat, equipment, and sails will be measured, inspected and spot-checked as specified in the measurement forms posted at www.yachtscoring.com.

8. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The sailing instructions will be available at www.yachtscoring.com, the TCA Website and registration.

9. RACING AREA

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

10. THE COURSES

The courses will be in accordance with the TCA Bylaws, section 7.

11. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 11.1 A boat that takes a penalty or retires under RRS 44 shall sign the acknowledgement form posted in the vicinity of the official notice board within the protest time limit.
- 11.2 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.

12. SCORING

- 12.1 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.
- 12.2 The series scores for boats in the President's Division will be the total of their race scores, excluding the Qualifying Races.
- 12.3 Four (4) races inclusive of the Qualifying Races are required to be completed to constitute a series for the Championship Division.
- 12.4 One (1) race exclusive of the Qualifying Races is required to be completed to constitute a series for the President's Division.
- 12.5 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 shall not constitute grounds for granting redress with regard to divisional assignments [This changes rule 62] but they will be factored into the scoring for the event.

13. RADIO COMMUNICATION

The RC may transmit via VHF radio information concerning safety, OCS boats, and general information to assist in the management of the event.

14. AWARDS

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

15. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

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. 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.

16. INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third party liability insurance with a minimum value of \$100,000 USD.

17. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information, please contact Brian Joyce and Brad Thompson by emailing regattachairmen@gmail.com.