

# 2024 WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP REGATTA

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June 28-30, 2024

Newport, Rhode Island

### SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

#### 1 RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS) as changed by Appendix UF - Umpired Fleet Racing, NYYC Women's Championship Regatta Edition, and posted on the NYYC Women's Championship Regatta website.
- 1.2 On-the-water umpiring will be used as detailed in Appendix UF – Umpired Fleet Racing, NYYC Women's Championship Regatta Edition. Event umpire calls may be issued.
- 1.3 Sonar-type boats will be provided by the OA. SI Addendum A – Handling of Boats and SI Addendum B – Equipment list shall apply. Sonar class rules shall not apply.
- 1.4 The US Sailing Prescription to RRS 63.2 is deleted.
- 1.5 If there is a conflict between rules or regulations, other than RRS, the sailing instructions will prevail. This changes RRS 63.7.
- 1.6 All competing boats shall carry a handheld VHF radio for safety purposes and Race Committee communication.

#### 2 COMMUNICATION: NOTICES, ANNOUNCEMENTS, VHF CHANNELS

- 2.1 Notices, including race documents, amendments and results will be posted on the Official Notice Board located in the courtyard at the NYYC Sailing Center at Harbour Court and may also be posted on the event website at <https://nyyc.org/2024-women-s-championship>.
- 2.2 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0900 hours on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 hours on the day before it will take effect.
- 2.3 The Race Committee will communicate with the fleet on VHF 77.

#### 3 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 3.1 Flag signals will be flown from the western yardarm at Harbour Court.
- 3.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, "1 minute" is replaced with "not less than 60 minutes" in race signal AP. This changes RRS Race Signals.

#### 4 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Date	Time	Event
Thursday, June 27	0900-1700	Registration
	1200-1600	Optional Practice
	1730	Fleet Race Umpiring Briefing in Station 10 (Mandatory)
	1830	Opening Reception
Friday, June 28	0730-0830	Late Registration
	0830	Competitors' Briefing in Arcadia Room (Mandatory)
	1100	First Warning Signal
	After Racing	Post-Race Social
Saturday, June 29	0830	Competitors' Briefing in Arcadia Room (Mandatory)
	1100	First Warning Signal
	1800	Cocktail Reception and Regatta Dinner
Sunday, June 30	0830	Competitors' Briefing in Arcadia Room (Mandatory)
	1100	First Warning Signal
	After Racing	Prize-Giving

- 4.2 There will be a mandatory Competitors' Briefing each race day morning at 0830 in the Arcadia Room located in the Sailing Center. A representative from each team shall be present each day.
- 4.1 No warning for any race will be made after 1500 on Sunday, June 30.

## 5 **BOATS PROVIDED BY THE ORGANIZING AUTHORITY (OA)**

- 5.1 Sonar-type boats will be provided by New York Yacht Club for use by competing teams. The boats have been equalized in performance potential to the extent possible and organized into fleets. An alternate boat(s) may be substituted in case of a breakdown. Claims regarding the performance of the boats will not be grounds for a boat to request redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).
- 5.2 All equipment shall be used as supplied and no changes, additions or subtractions shall be made other than those permitted by the sailing instructions or the OA. Replacement of broken or damaged gear may only be made with gear sanctioned by the OA.
- 5.3 Addendum A – Handling the Boats lists items and actions that are prohibited, permitted and mandatory.
- 5.4 Addendum B – Equipment List details all equipment that shall be onboard at all times.

## 6 **CLASS FLAG**

The Class flag will be Numeral Pennant One.

## 7 **RACING AREAS**

The racing area will be on Narragansett Bay. The location of the rendezvous area will be announced at the Competitors' Meeting each day.

## 8 **THE COURSES**

- 8.1 The diagrams in SI Addendum C show the courses, including the approximate angles between the legs, the order in which marks are to be passed and the side on which each mark is to be left.
- 8.2 No later than the warning signal, the course to be sailed will be displayed.
- 8.3 No later than the warning signal, the Race Committee will display on a board the approximate compass bearing and distance of the first leg.
- 8.4 Mark 3s/3p is a gate. In the event one of the gate marks is missing, the single remaining mark shall be rounded to port.
- 8.5 Mark 1a is an offset mark adjacent to mark 1.
- 8.6 Marks, including the windward offset mark, shall be rounded in order and always left to port, except that a gate, when used, shall be rounded as described in Definitions, *Sail the Course*.

## 9 **MARKS**

- 9.1 Marks 1, 1A, 3S and 3P will be orange inflatables.
- 9.2 The starting mark will either be a Race Committee signal vessel displaying an orange flag or a green inflatable.
- 9.3 The finishing mark will be a green inflatable.
- 9.4 New marks 1 and 1A, as provided in SI 11, will be yellow inflatables.
- 9.5 In the event of a leeward change of course, the marks 3S and 3P will remain orange.
- 9.6 For course "3", the start/finish marks shall not be considered marks of the course unless a boat is starting or finishing.

## 10 **THE START**

- 10.1 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the starboard end signal vessel and the course side of the port-end starting mark as described in SI 9 *or* a staff displaying an orange flag on the port end Race Committee vessel.
- 10.2 A boat starting later than five (5) minutes after the starting signal will be scored DNS. This changes RRS A.5.
- 10.3 The Race Committee will endeavor to hail boats observed to be OCS at the start on VHF 77. Failure of equipment, failure to hear a hail, delay in hailing or the order in which hails are given will not be grounds for a boat to request redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

## 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 (or move the finishing line to a new position) 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.

- 11.2 The Race Committee may change the course by up to five degrees in bearing and/or 0.2 nm in length without a signal or change of mark color. This changes RRS 33.
- 12 THE FINISH**  
The finishing line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on a Race Committee boat and the course side of the finish mark as described in SI 9.
- 13 REVOKE OF INVITATION**  
Participation in the regatta is by invitation. When the protest committee finds that a boat or team's competitor or support person has broken one or more rules in an incident afloat or ashore where there was either: 1) serious damage caused by reckless sailing or poor seamanship; 2) poor sportsmanship; or 3) misconduct as described in RRS 69.1(b), it shall make a report to the OA who may revoke that team's invitation and excuse the team from the regatta. The OA may also decide to take such action for this kind of conduct without such a report.
- 14 TIME LIMITS**
- 14.1 The time limit for the first boat to sail the course and finish will be 60 minutes from the starting signal.  
14.2 If no boat has passed their first windward mark 30 minutes after the starting signal, the race shall be abandoned.  
14.3 Boats failing to finish within 20 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5.
- 15 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**
- 15.1 Red flags will be provided by the OA to each boat to be displayed when protesting another boat in accordance with rule UF3.1.  
15.2 Other Protests and Requests for Reopening or Redress will be made in accordance with rule UF 4.  
15.3 Protests and requests for reopening or redress need not be in writing, but Hearing Request forms will be available from the Sailing Office in the NYYC Sailing Center or on the event website should a competitor wish to complete one for hearings held ashore.  
15.4 The Protest Committee will attempt to post a list of hearings on the Official Notice Board no later than 30 minutes after the Race Committee Signal vessel has docked.  
15.5 If protest hearings are held ashore, they will take place in the Jury Room at the NYYC Sailing Center. The Protest Committee will attempt to hear protests in the order of receipt. Representatives of boats who are parties to a hearing shall remain on call in the vicinity of the Jury Room.  
15.6 Video and/or photographs taken from any support, spectator and/or coach vessel shall not be presented as evidence at protest hearings by a competitor or a witness. The Protest Committee may present, as evidence, publicly available photos or video. Data from any tracking system, if used, may only be presented as evidence by the Protest Committee. This changes RRS 63.6.  
15.7 Breaches of SIs 17 and 21, will not be grounds for a protest by a boat.  
15.8 When the Protest Committee finds that a boat that is a party to a protest hearing has broken a rule, and as a result has caused catastrophic damage to the other boat involved in the incident (defined as a boat being unable to race the following day), in addition to other penalties, the OA may require that the team at fault give their boat to the team with the damaged boat as a replacement until the damaged boat has been fully repaired.
- 16 SCORING**
- 16.1 14 races are scheduled.  
16.2 A boat's series score shall be the total of all of her race scores. No score will be excluded. This changes RRS A2.  
16.3 One race is required to constitute a regatta.
- 17 SAFETY REGULATIONS**  
A boat that retires from a race shall notify the Race Committee and/or the umpires as soon as possible.
- 18 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT**
- 18.1 Teams shall consist of four or five crew members, including the skipper, all of whom shall sail the entire regatta. All crew must be female.  
18.2 Prior to 1800 on Thursday, June 27, a substitution to the submitted Crew List may only be made with the permission of the Organizing Authority. After that time, a substitution may only be made with written permission of the Protest Committee.

- 18.3** Breakdown Flag: Before the warning signal of a race, a boat may display a yellow breakdown flag provided by the OA to signal a breakdown or damage to the boat, her sails or injury to her crew and request a delay to the next start. She shall proceed as soon as possible to a position close to leeward of the Race Committee signal vessel and remain there, unless otherwise directed. The time allowed for repairs, if any, shall be at the discretion of the Race Committee.
- 18.4** After the warning signal, a race may be postponed or abandoned at the discretion of the Race Committee if the breakdown flag was displayed as required by SI 19.3.
- 18.5** Except when RRS 62.1(b) applies, failure to effect repairs in the time allowed or breakdowns after the warning signal shall not be grounds for a boat to request redress. This changes RRS 62.

## **19 SUPPORT VESSELS AND SUPPORT PERSONS**

- 19.1** The following limitations and restrictions apply to support persons and any coach/support vessels, including spectator vessels associated with a team:
- Except as directed by the OA, competitors shall have no communication with, be tied to or transfer provisions or equipment to and from any support person or vessel from the time the boat leaves the dock or mooring each day until racing has been concluded for the day for that team.
  - Support and spectator vessels shall not approach closer than 100 meters to any vessel that is racing. In addition, a support vessel shall stay at least 100 meters outside any layline and shall not be located directly above any windward marks or windward finishing line.
  - If in the starting area, support vessels shall leave the racing and starting areas prior to the warning signal and may only station themselves outside of the starboard end of the starting line, but no closer than 150 meters to the race committee signal vessel.
- 19.2** All support persons and coach/support vessels must register with the OA prior to the first day of racing. Coach/support vessels shall display a flag or burgee (a minimum of 12" on the hoist) that they have supplied identifying the Yacht Club, Sailing Organization or Entity with which they are associated, along with an identifying flag issued by the OA, at all times while they are on the water.
- 19.3** Support/Coach boats will not be permitted to dock at the NYYC docks except temporarily. Dockage may be available at the Alofsin Piers at Fort Adams and arrangements shall be made directly with Sail Newport.

## **20 SPINNAKERS**

When the race committee signal boat displays flag "K" at or before the warning signal, spinnakers shall not be used for that race.

## **21 SAFETY REGULATIONS**

- 21.1 Restricted Channels:** Competitors are reminded that Narragansett Bay and its approaches are considered restricted channels for commercial traffic and other vessels restricted in their ability to maneuver. Competitors must comply with the government right-of-way rules when in proximity to commercial or privileged marine traffic.
- 21.2 Newport Security Zone:** In the event there is racing north of the Newport Bridge, competitors should be aware of heightened security around the Navy base in Newport just to the north of the Newport Jamestown Bridge. The area may be defined by a series of white buoys marking the Newport Security Zone along the coast of the Naval Facilities from Coasters Harbor to the breakwater at the north end of Coddington Cove and the line defined by the buoys shall rank as an obstruction. Yachts shall not enter this area. A Navy patrol boat monitors the area and vessels navigating in the Exclusionary Zone may face action by Coast Guard and Naval authorities.
- 21.3 Additional Restricted Areas:** There may be additional restricted areas due to Navy activity, shipping or fishing operations that may be designated as obstructions and described in an amendment to the sailing instructions.

## **22 PRIZES**

- 22.1** The winning team shall be awarded the Joan H. Towse Trophy and shall have their team and/or skipper's name engraved on the base of the perpetual trophy. The trophy shall remain in the possession of the New York Yacht Club.
- 22.2** Prizes will be awarded to the top three teams.
- 22.3** Other trophies will be awarded at the discretion of the Organizing Authority.

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## **SI ADDENDUM A - HANDLING THE BOATS**

### **1 GENERAL**

While all reasonable steps are taken to equalize, variations in the boats will not be grounds for a boat to request redress. This changes RRS 62.

### **2 PROHIBITED ITEMS AND ACTIONS**

Except in an emergency or in order to prevent damage or injury, or when directed otherwise by an umpire, the following are prohibited:

#### **2.1 Actions subject to umpire-initiated penalties before or during a race:**

- a) Moving the mast blocks.
- b) Adjusting or altering the tension of standing rigging, excluding the backstay.
- c) The use of electronic instruments or smartphone/tablet apps, other than watches.
- d) Using the spinnaker pole to wing out the foresail.
- e) The use of the shrouds (including any inner shrouds) to facilitate tacking or gybing, or to aid the projection of a crew member outboard is prohibited.
- f) Sitting outboard (including legs) of the toe rail is prohibited, but the upper body may lean outboard. Using lazy sheets and control lines for the purpose of hiking normally while seated is permitted.
- g) Radio transmission, except to report damage or in response to a request from the RC.

#### **2.2 Actions subject to protest by the Protest Committee**

- a) Any additions, omissions or alterations to the equipment supplied.
- b) The replacement of any equipment without the sanction of the RC.
- c) Sailing the boat in a manner that it is reasonable to predict that significant further damage would result.
- d) Moving equipment from its normal stowage position except when being used.
- e) Boarding a boat without prior permission.
- f) Taking a boat from its berth or mooring without having paid the required damage deposit or having permission from the RC, or, on race days, while "AP" is displayed ashore.
- g) Hauling out a boat or cleaning surfaces below the waterline.
- h) Attaching lines to the fabric of spinnakers.
- i) Marking directly on the hull or deck with permanent ink.
- j) Perforating sails, even to attach telltales.
- k) The use of any equipment for a purpose other than that intended or specifically permitted.
- l) The use of electronic compasses.

### **3 PERMITTED ITEMS AND ACTIONS**

The following are permitted:

#### **3.1 Taking on board the following equipment:**

- (a) basic hand tools
- (b) adhesive tape or Velcro tape but not duct tape
- (c) line (elastic or otherwise of 4 mm diameter or less)
- (d) marking pens
- (e) telltale material
- (f) watch, timers and hand-held compass
- (g) shackles, plastic clips, cotter pints/ring dings and clevis pins
- (h) spare flags
- (i) VHF radio

#### **3.2 Using the items in 3.1 to:**

- (a) prevent fouling of lines, sails and sheets, or to secure the spinnaker halyard
- (b) attach telltales
- (c) prevent sails being damaged or falling overboard
- (d) mark control settings (adhesive tape only)
- (e) make minor repairs and permitted adjustments
- (f) make signals as per Appendix UF

#### **3.3 Fixing a spinnaker sheet catcher at the bow, providing that it does not extend the length of the boat more than 100 mm and does not require any repair or maintenance after removal.**

#### **3.4 Changing the number of mainsheet or jib sheet purchases.**

#### **4 MANDATORY ITEMS AND ACTIONS**

The following are mandatory:

- 4.1 At the end of each sailing day:
  - (a) rolling, bagging and placement of the sails as directed
  - (b) leaving the boat in the same state of cleanliness as when first boarded that day
  - (c) releasing backstay tension
- 4.2 At the end of the final day for a particular boat, cleaning the boat (cabin and decks), removing all trash and recycling and removing all tape and marks.
- 4.3 Any request to alter, in any way, the equipment on a boat shall be in writing and worded to permit a yes/no answer.
- 4.4 Complying with any regulations, including speed restrictions and navigation marks, while leaving or returning to the berth or mooring.
- 4.5 A breach of items 4.1 and 4.2 will be considered as damage and the cost of rectification will be deducted from the damage deposit.

### **SI ADDENDUM B - EQUIPMENT LIST**

The following non-fixed items, provided by the OA, are to be carried on board at all times in their designated place while sailing. Any loss shall be reported on the daily damage report.

#### **SONARS**

##### **SAILS AND SAILING EQUIPMENT**

- Mainsail and set of battens
- Jib
- Spinnaker
- Three sail bags
- One spinnaker pole
- Two spinnaker sheets
- Jib sheets
- Two twings
- Tiller extension
- Two headsail track cars

##### **SAFETY GEAR**

- Life jackets for each crew member (provided by competitors or OA)
- Paddle
- Bucket and sponge
- Bilge pump
- Throwable cushion

##### **GROUND TACKLE**

- Anchor and chain
- Anchor line

##### **MOORING LINES AND FENDERS**

- Four dock lines
- One black tow line
- Two blue (or white) fenders

## SI ADDENDUM C - COURSES

Course 1	Start – 1p – 1ap – 3s/3p – 1p – 1ap - Finish (downwind)
Course 2	Start – 1p – 1ap – 3s/3p – 1p – 1ap – 3s/3p - Finish (upwind)
Course 3	Start – 1p – 1ap – 3s/3p – 1p – 1ap – 3s/3p – Finish (upwind)

