

# 2016 MCSA National Championship Regatta

August 24-28, 2015

Crystal Lake Yacht Club, Frankfort, MI

## SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

### 1 RULES

The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in the current Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) and the current MC Sailing Association Rule Book and Scantlings. In case of conflict these Sailing Instructions (SI) will prevail.

### 2 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

The regatta is open to all boats of the MC class. Skippers must be current members of the MC Sailing Association. Non-MCSA members will be scored DNC for all races. Entries must be completed and all fees paid by close of registration for a boat to be scored. A boat may sail with a different sail number from its hull number if it registers with that sail number, and must compete with that number for the entire event.

### 3 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board located at Regatta Headquarters.

### 4 CHANGES IN THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any changes to the Sailing Instructions will be posted at the completion of the Competitors Briefing Meeting on the first day or two (2) hours before the scheduled time of the warning signal of the first race.

### 5 COMPETITORS' BRIEFING MEETING

Thursday, August 25, 2016, 0830 hours, at the regatta clubhouse.

### 6 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

6.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed at the regatta clubhouse or a docked signal boat.

6.2 Approximately one hour prior to the scheduled warning signal for the first race of the day, the signal boat may make a sound signal.

6.3 When a postponement is signaled ashore, the next warning signal will be made not less than 45 minutes after the lowering of flag 'AP'. One sound signal will be made when 'AP' is lowered.

### 7 SCHEDULE OF RACES

Warning signal for first race of event: 1000, Thursday, August 25, 2016. Seven (7) races are scheduled of which no more than three shall be sailed on any one day. Races may be sailed back-to-back. The time of the warning signal for subsequent races will be posted except when races are sailed back-to-back. On the last day of the regatta if three races have been completed no warning signal will be made after 1200 hours. If three races have not been completed this time limit is extended to 1500 hours. No warning signal shall be made after 1500.

### 8 RACING AREA

The racing area will be the waters of Crystal Lake.

### 9 THE COURSES

9.1 The following diagram illustrates the components that comprise potential courses. All marks shall be rounded as indicated in the diagrams.

9.2 The RC Signal Boat will display the course to be sailed with a letter and numbers. As an example, the letter "W" indicates the course configuration (Windward/Leeward). The first number indicates the number of legs to be sailed. The remaining figures indicate the approximate compass heading to the first mark from the starboard end of the starting line.

9.3 Course length will be a distance such that a race can be completed in approximately 60 minutes +/- 10 minutes.

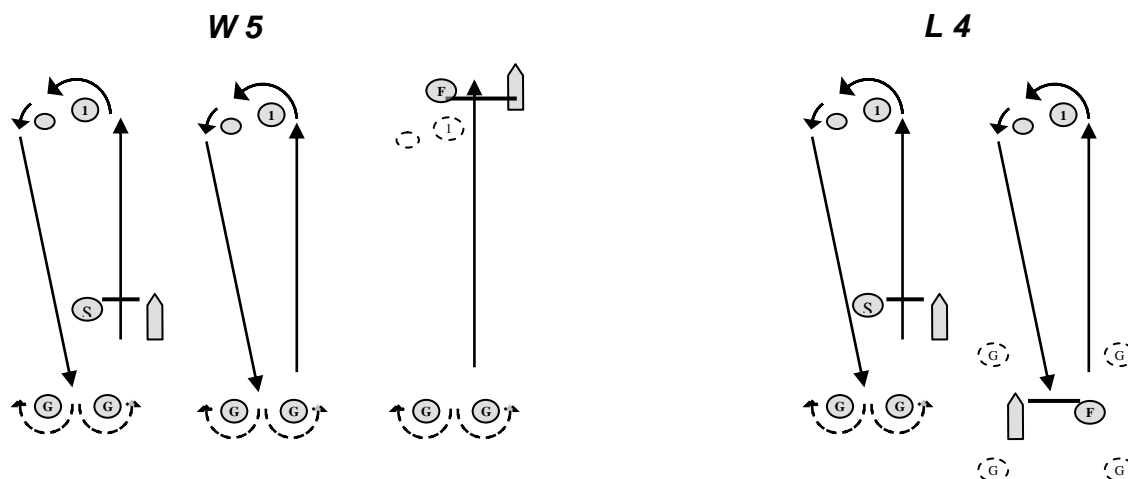
9.4 No race will be started in wind conditions under 5 mph.

## COURSE ILLUSTRATIONS

**THE COURSE IS A COMBINATION OF THE COURSE TYPE (W = WINDWARD L=LEEWARD) AND A NUMBER INDICATING THE NUMBER OF LEGS.**

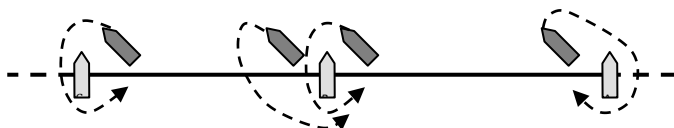
**EXAMPLES:**  
**W 5 = 5 LEGS (UPWIND FINISH)**  
**L 4 = 4 LEGS (DOWNWIND FINISH)**

**NOTE: AN RC BOAT MAY BE SUBSTITUTED FOR MARK(S) (S) OR (F) ON STARTING OR FINISHING LINES**



*Note: Starting line may be leeward of the gate position*

**ALLOWABLE RETURN TO PRESTART SIDE WITH MID-STARTING LINE BOAT (SEE SI 12.5 & 12.6)**



### 10 MARKS

- 10.1 Marks will be identified at the competitors meeting.
- 10.2 To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will either move the original mark (or the finishing line) to a new position, or the RC will lay a new mark and remove the original mark as soon as practicable.
- 10.3 After the start, minor adjustments in a mark's location will not be signaled. This changes RRS 33.

### 11 THE START

- 11.1 Races will be started in accordance with RRS 26.
- 11.2 The Class flag will be an MC class burgee
- 11.3 The starting line will be:
  - 11.3.1 between a staff displaying an orange flag on the RC boat at the starboard end of the line and either a staff displaying an orange flag on a RC boat at the port end or the course side of a nearby mark,
  - 11.3.2 or from a staff displaying an orange flag on the RC boat at the starboard end of the line to a staff displaying an orange flag or flags on a RC boat in the approximate center of the starting line, and thence to a staff displaying an orange flag on a RC boat at the port end of the line.
- 11.4 A boat starting later than five minutes after her starting signal will be scored DNS. This changes RRS A4.1.
- 11.5 If a midline boat is in place in accordance with SI 11.3.2, yachts subject to the I FLAG RULE (RRS 30.1) or are OCS shall sail to the pre-start side of the line around either end, or around the mid-line boat, leaving it to port as if it were the port end of the starting line, before starting. This modifies RRS 30.1. (See Course Illustrations.)
- 11.6 If a midline boat is to be used on the starting line in accordance with SI 11.3.2, a notice to that effect will be posted on the Official Notice Boards.

## **12 RECALLS**

Following the display of the Individual Recall signal, the RC will attempt to announce by VHF radio the sail numbers of all boats identified on the course side of the starting line at the start signal and boats that must comply with Rule 30.1. Such announcements are a courtesy and failure by the RC to make the announcement, or of boats to hear and/or understand it, shall not constitute grounds for redress. This supplements RRS 62.1(a).

## **13 THE FINISH**

- 13.1 The finishing line will be between a staff displaying an Orange flag on a race committee boat and on the course side of a nearby mark, or between staffs displaying Orange flags on two race committee boats.
- 13.2 Flag A displayed, with no sound, while boats are finishing means "no more racing today".
- 13.3 Flag H displayed, with no sound, while boats are finishing means "racing will continue after a break either on shore or on the water".
- 13.4 If no flag is flying it is assumed another race will follow immediately.
- 13.5 A boat that retires from a race is requested to notify a RC boat before leaving the racing area, or, if that is not possible, notify a regatta official at Regatta Headquarters immediately upon arrival on shore.

## **14 TIME LIMIT**

- 14.1 The time limit shall be 90 minutes.
- 14.2 Boats still racing 25 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored FFW (Failed to Finish within Window), the position of the last boat to finish plus 2. This changes RRS 35, A4.2, and A11.
- 14.3 Any race in which no boat has rounded the first mark within 30 minutes of the starting signal shall be declared abandoned.

## **15 PROTESTS**

- 15.1 Upon landing, the RC shall post the time of landing of the RC Signal Boat.
- 15.2 Protests shall be written on forms available at the Regatta Clubhouse and lodged with the Head of the Protest Committee or other designated person within the protest time limit which is one hour after the landing of the RC signal boat.
- 15.3 Protest hearing notices will be posted within 15 minutes of the protest time limit to inform competitors where and when there is a hearing to which they are parties, or named as witnesses.
- 15.4 The protest committee will hear protests as soon as possible, in approximately the order of receipt.
- 15.5 It is the sole responsibility of each boat to check the protest notices 15 minutes after the end of protest time to see if she is cited in a protest.
- 15.6 On the last scheduled race day, a party to a hearing may ask for a reopening no later than one hour after being informed of the decision. This changes RRS 66.
- 15.7 RRS 62.2 is changed in that the words "two hours" are replaced by "one hour".

## **16 SCORING**

The Low Point System, RRS A4, will apply, except that RRS A2 is changed so that each boat's total score will be the sum of her scores for all races unless seven races are completed. If seven races are completed, each boat shall discard her worst score, except when prohibited under RRS 90.3(b). Three races need to be completed before a National Champion is recognized and perpetual trophies awarded. One race constitutes a regatta for purposes of awarding keeper trophies.

## **17 PENALTIES FOR BREAKING RULES OF PART 2 (RRS 44)**

- 17.1 Penalties for breaking Part 2 (RRS 44): The Two-Turns Penalty, RRS 44.2, shall apply.
- 17.2 A boat that does not comply with SI 17.1, and prior to a hearing acknowledges breaking a rule, shall be penalized 50% of the number of boats entered, but not less than six places, except that she shall not be scored worse than DNF or FFW if applicable.

## **18 OUTSIDE HELP**

A boat that receives outside help from any source other than that permitted by RRS 41 shall retire. This supplements RRS 41. Boats that retire will receive points equivalent to DNF.

## **19 RADIO USE**

- 19.1 Flags will be the primary means of communication on the water however the RC will attempt to make VHF radio contact regarding OCSs, weather issues, safety concerns, and other actions of the RC where clarification might be helpful to the sailors. The competitor channel to be used will be posted.

19.2 The only communication devices that may be used by competitors when racing are: a) a weather monitor, b) a VHF radio tuned to receive only RC transmissions that are intended for all boats (competitor channel) and c) a cell phone that may be used for emergency purposes only. The penalty for breaking this rule will be total disqualification from the regatta or such lesser penalty as may be determined by the Protest Committee. Failure to hear an RC transmission shall not constitute grounds for redress. Except to make a required report or in an emergency, no transmission shall be made to the RC or other person when racing.

**20 MEDIA RIGHTS**

Competitors give absolute right and permission for video footage or photographs of themselves or their boat generated during an MCSA event to be published in any media for press, editorial or advertising purposes.