

# **KETCHIKAN YACHT CLUB RACING INSTRUCTIONS**

## **1.0 RULES**

1.1 Races will be sailed under the 2009-2012 edition of *The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)* of the International Sailing Association (ISAF) as adopted and amended by the US Sailing Association (US SAILING) and in accordance with any specific instructions for each race or event. These sailing instructions modify RRS regarding allowed clothing, use of engines, protests, starting sequence and scoring.

## **2.0 RATINGS AND HANDICAPS**

- 2.1 Each boat racing shall have a rating issued by Ketchikan Yacht Club (KYC) using Performance Handicap Fleet (PHRF) handicaps and guidelines. Each boat must declare their sails for the season, at entry, and will be so rated for the entire season. Changes during the season will only be allowed for new inventory that lowers the boat's rating or for replacing a damaged sail. Use of sails not declared will result in a DSQ for the applicable race(s).
- 2.2 Unless otherwise indicated in the specific instructions for the event, races will be sailed using the modified time on time correction system commonly referred to as "Son of Time on Time". Basically, this means that you lose if you are not having fun.
- 2.3 A boat with a flying sail that does not wish to use it may elect to receive a non-flying-sail rating. Once the flying sail is used in a race, the boat will receive a flying sailing rating for the balance of the season.
- 2.4 It is each boat owner's responsibility to insure that his/her boat is properly rated.

## **3.0 DEFINITIONS**

- 3.1 Race Committee: All members of the committee in charge of organizing and managing the season's race events.
- 3.2 Race Committee Chair: Chairperson of the Race Committee. The Chair may request assistance from members as needed.
- 3.3 Race Committee Chain of Command: Order of authority to act on behalf of the Race Committee if the Chair is not available, starting with the Committee Position #1 in authority following the Chair.
- 3.4 Committee Boat: Each race will have an official Committee Boat or designated Shore Committee to start and finish each race. The Committee Boat or Shore Committee will select the course when it is not previously selected, post the course, be in charge of the starts and finishes of each race, report the finishing times to the scorekeeper, set and remove temporary buoys and mark one end of the starting line, among other duties as assigned by the Race Committee. Only the Committee Boat, Shore Committee or Race Committee is authorized to start a race, except for the Race Against Time.
- 3.5 Protest Committee: If a protest is lodged, the Race Committee shall appoint a disinterested committee of at least 3 to hear the protest. The Protest Committee may not consist of any competitor involved in the incident being protested. The Protest Committee shall select its own chairperson.

- 3.6 Appeals Committee: A committee composed of the Appeals Committee chairperson plus 2 members selected by the chairperson. The Appeals Committee shall hear all appeals of Protest Committee Decisions.
- 3.7 Appeals Committee Chairperson: An individual appointed by the Race Committee Chairperson who is responsible for the Appeals Committee.
- 3.8 Owner: A person who owns, leases, or otherwise has exclusive control of a vessel for a season or event through loan, lien, wager or otherwise.
- 3.9 Skipper: The person in immediate command of a vessel when it is underway.
- 3.95 Competitor: Any person, owner, skipper or crew who enters KYC race events. Entry implies acceptance of ISAF, US SAILING and KYC policies with regard to the event and their conduct during said event.

#### 4.0 ELIGIBILITY

- 4.1 A boat is eligible to race if her owner registers her with KYC, pays the appropriate entry fee and is skippered by a competitor registered with KYC. Local racing skippers are strongly encouraged to be full members of KYC and US SAILING. A boat that is driven by an unregistered skipper will not be scored.
- 4.2 Visiting boats are welcome to race under a provisional rating, if their skipper also registers with KYC and their owner pays the appropriate entry fee.
- 4.3 Visiting boats will win any award or trophy associated with their placing in that race, but they will not earn points towards the KYC monthly or season awards unless they sail enough races to meet award eligibility, which is 75% of races.

#### 5.0 FEE SCHEDULE

- 5.1 The Fee Schedule (KORC & Grab Bag excluded) is:
  - US Sailing Member \$300
  - Non-US Sailing Member \$385

For Wednesday evening races a \$30 per day rate is available to visiting race boats; US Sailing Members will pay \$20 per day. Boats participating only in weekend races but not registered for Wednesday night races may pay a per race fee of \$20 per race for US Sailing members and \$30 per race for non-US Sailing members.

- 5.2 The Grab Bag Race and KORC races are fund-raiser events, with a separate fee schedule.

#### 6.0 REGISTRATION

- 6.1 To register, every skipper must read the KYC Sailing Instructions, certify by signing the ***Skipper Registration Form*** that they understand and agree to be bound by these instructions. Every potential skipper of any vessel intending to race must have a signed registration form on file with the Race Committee before racing. As stated 4.1, to be eligible to race a vessel must have a ***registered*** skipper aboard the vessel.

- 6.2 The owner of a vessel must fill out and sign a **Vessel Entry Form**, provide information for a KYC PHRF rating and pay the appropriate fee before any record of participation in any event will be made or reported.
- 6.3 Possession of the 2009-2012 *Racing Rules of Sailing* is **mandatory** for all vessels racing. No proof is required if a US Sailing membership number or card is provided on the **Vessel Entry Form**. If one is not produced at registration a copy will be provided and a \$40 fee added to the fees for non-members of US Sailing. US Sailing members may purchase additional copies at \$30 each.

## **7.0 SCHEDULE OF RACES AND START/FINISH TIME**

- 7.1 The schedule of races is published as the KYC Sailing Calendar for the applicable year and is included in the Race Packet for all owners/skippers or crew who wish to have a Race Packet. Modifications to the race schedule may be made only in case of extremely unusual circumstances, at the discretion of the Race Committee Chair, with at least one week's notice. Any such changes will be posted on the front porch of the KYC Clubhouse, at a minimum, and on the KYC website if possible.
- 7.2 For short course races, the Race Committee Boat will display the number of the race to be sailed from the KYC Official Listing of Races. **NOTE:** If there is a cruise ship at anchor in the harbor during a race, all racing vessels shall pass on the westward side (Pennock/Gravina Island side) of the cruise ship, while racing, whenever the course requires that the ship at anchor be passed.
- 7.3 Postponement, shortening or abandonment of a race will be announced by hailing or sounding a horn, by flying the appropriate flag on the Race Committee Boat or by stopping the sequence.
- 7.4 For Wednesday evening series races: If a race starting sequence cannot begin by one hour after the scheduled time of 1800 , the race will be abandoned.
- 7.5 Time limit for each Wednesday evening race is 2 ½ hours. Any boat not finished in that amount of time will be scored as DNF. The Race Committee Boat may shorten a race by ending the race at any mark, in accordance with *RRS* rule 32.
- 7.6 Weekend races will start not more than one hour after posted starting time. They may be abandoned for heavy winds but will not be abandoned for lack of wind at the start, after the hour of postponement unless specifically so stated in the race instructions for that individual race. Time limits and possible shortened courses for weekend races are only as listed in the individual race instructions.

## **8.0 COMMUNICATIONS**

- 8.1 In fairness to all competitors, the Race Committee Boat is not required to answer any hail, whether by radio or by voice, from any competitor, but may choose to do so at its own discretion. Other competitors are to supply accurate information to each other promptly, when reasonably requested. Boats with radios are asked to monitor VHF channels 16 and 69, hailing on 69 in preference to 16, hailing only at low power when in the harbor area and hailing only when necessary , and talking only on 69, if at all possible.

8.2 Communications from the Race Committee Boat shall be shown by the proper flag signal or by letter, or listed by number in plain script. The “T” means to sail the course twice.

8. Flag signals shall be as follows:

<b>FLAG</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
<b>MEANING .</b>	
<b>AP Postponement</b>	<b>Red triangle with 2 horizontal white stripes</b>
<b>N Abandonment</b>	<b>Blue and white checked square</b>
<b>Warning Signal 5 minutes to start</b>	<b>All white square, <i>white flag up</i></b>
<b>Preparatory Signal 4 minutes to start</b>	<b>All blue square, <i>blue flag up</i></b>
<b>One Minute to Start 1 minute to start</b>	<b>Preparatory signal, <i>blue flag down</i></b>
<b>Start</b>	<b>Warning signal, <i>white flag down</i></b>
<b>S Shortened course</b>	<b>White square with a blue square in center</b>
<b>X Individual recall</b>	<b>White square with a blue cross, centered</b>
<b>First Substitute General recall</b>	<b>Blue triangle with yellow triangle in center</b>

#### 8.4 Flag Signal Notes:

(A) Postponements shall be made up to 30 minutes at a time, beginning at the time scheduled for the warning signal.

(8.5 A horn signal will sound at 5 minutes to start, 4 minutes to start, 1 minute to start and start. However, the visual signal has precedence and should be considered the accurate time. In the event of a failure to sound a horn, or of sounding a horn at a different time than the visual signal, the visual signal is binding.

#### 9.0 STARTING SEQUENCE, FINISHING AND THE START/FINISH AREA

9.1 All races will use the start sequence outlined in RRS 26 using flags as described above.

9.2 For all races, the starting time listed will be for the warning signal. The Committee Boat will use the KYC auto-start equipment and system. All races start on a 5-minute increment sequence, ie., warning at 1800, start at 1805. warning at 1935, start at 1940. No boat may start more than 10 minutes late.

- 9.3 All boats will be signaled with a horn when they finish, if possible.
- 9.4 All boats already finished in a previous race and intending to start the next race, shall steer clear of the finish area until all competing boats have finished the preceding race.
- 9.5 Warning for subsequent races will be no less than 5 minutes after the last boat returns to the starting area or announces its intention to retire.
- 9.6 Starts cannot be initiated except by the Race Committee Boat or the Race Committee using the Chain of Command.
- 9.7 If the auto-start system fails, a rabbit start or GPS start may be initiated by the Race Committee or Committee Boat.
- 9.8 Flying head sails are prohibited prior to the start.

#### **10. RECALLS**

- 10.1 It shall be the responsibility of each boat to start properly. Individual recalls will be signaled by 1 horn blast and/or code flag (white square with blue cross centered) if possible, the boat name hailed if possible, and announced on Channel 69 if possible. Committee Boat failure to notify a boat does not excuse the boat from responsibility for being over early, with attendant penalty (disqualification). Further, *RRS* rule 62.1 is modified so that the following are not considered grounds for redress: (a.) failure of a boat to hear her name (b) delay or failure of the Race Committee Boat in hailing one or more boats (c) or the order or manner in which boats are hailed.
- 10.2 General recalls will be signaled by 2 horn blasts and/or code flag "first substitute" (blue triangle with yellow triangle centered). A new start sequence shall begin about 1 minute after lowering the flag or sounding the horn.
- 10.3 An improper starting sequence may be cancelled and then restarted by the Committee Boat or Race Committee/Chain of Command if necessary.

#### **11.0 USE OF ENGINES DURING RACES.**

- 11.1 Engines may not be used during races, except as provided by *RRS* and as follows: Specifically, engines may be used to motor free of danger from grounding or by a burdened vessel. If it is necessary to use the engine, the boat competing must take its place behind the competitor next behind it in the race before the engine is turned off. Necessary use of the engine must not be used to create a competitive advantage.
- 11.2 All engines must be turned off by the time of the preparatory signal, except that a boat late for its start may use the engine to reach the starting area, provided that the boat may not cross the starting line to start the race for 4 minutes after shutting off its engine.

#### **12.0 PROTESTS**

- 12.1 Protests must be filed in writing within 2 hours after the last boat in the race finishes, in accordance with *RRS* rule 61, except as modified below. A copy of the approved format for filing a protest is attached to these sailing instructions; copies are also available from US Sailing online and in the 2005-2008 *Racing Rules of Sailing* book (in the back).
- 12.2 A proper protest flag must be flown at the first reasonable opportunity after the incident being protested and the offending boat hailed. Articles of clothing, PFDs, equipment and gear are not considered a proper flag for a protest. If the offending boat is not hailed very promptly and/or the flag is

not displayed very promptly, the protest shall be invalid. In addition, the protesting boat must also notify the Race Committee Boat of the intent to protest and the name(s) of the protested boat(s) as soon as possible after finishing the race. This modifies RRS rule 61.

- 12.3 Protests shall be heard by the protest committee. Every attempt shall be made to hear protests on the day of the incident.
- 12.4 Protest committee decisions shall be given in writing to all interested parties as soon as possible.
- 12.5 Appeals of protest committee decisions shall be rendered in writing as soon as possible.

#### **PENALTIES FOR BREAKING RULES OF PART 2 (720□ TURNS PENALTY)**

- 12.6 If a boat infringes on Part 2 of RRS while racing, but does not cause serious damage or gain a significant advantage in the race or series by her breach, she may elect to exonerate herself by making a penalty turn as specified in RRS.
- 12.7 A protested boat that has done penalty turns must notify the Race Committee Boat after the event.
- 12.8 If the protested boat disagrees that a foul was committed, they may fly a protest flag in response, whereupon the incident will be heard by the protest committee in normal fashion.
- 12.9 KYC does not use the Scoring Penalty, thus superseding RRS rule 44.3

#### **14. SCORING AND RESULTS**

- 14.1 The Low Point System of RRS Appendix A will apply.
  - 14.1.1 If a boat starts but does not finish (DNF) its score = the number of finishers +1 point
  - 14.1.2 If a boat does not start (DNS) its score = the number of finishers +2
  - 14.1.3 If a boat is disqualified (DSQ) its score = the number of finishers +2
- 14.2 In a series where ties occur, the higher position will be given to:
  - (A) The boat which, when considering only the boats tied, has the greater number of first place finishes, and if the tie remains, the most second place finishes, and so forth.
  - (B) When a tie remains after all of the above, it shall stand as part of the finals series results.
- 14.3 A boat competing without a registered skipper will not be scored.

#### **15.0 AWARDS**

- 15.1 First, second and third place awards will be given, as well as recognition of participation.
- 15.2 Awards will be given for:
  - 15.2.1 Each month series for May, June, July and August Wednesday evening races
  - 15.2.2 Each weekend race or race series
  - 15.2.3 The boat which participates in the most races that count for the entire season
  - 15.2.4 The overall season winner with the highest point total for the events counting, with scoring weighted as follows:
    - 15.2.4.1 Each Wednesday evening series buoy race and each Frostbite series race counts individually as one (1).

- 15.2.4.2 Single Hand race and Jack & Jill race each count as two (2).
- 15.2.4.3.1 Race Against Time, Nichols Passage Sprint and Tri-Island count as three (3)
- 15.2.4.4. Thus, the maximum theoretical number of weighted scoring possibilities in which to earn points is \_\_\_\_\_
- 15.2.4.5 Practice races and KORC races do not count towards the season totals.
- 15.2.4.6 To qualify for monthly or season awards, the vessel must participate in at least 75% of the races started for that award.
- 15.2.4.7 If less than three boats qualify for any series, the Race Committee may at their discretion give awards to boats that scored in the remaining positions but did not participate in 75% of the races.

## **16. SAFETY**

- 16.1 All boats shall be fitted out for sailing in Southeast Alaskan waters and shall carry safety equipment as required by U Sailing and the US Coast Guard.
- 16.2 RRS rule 43.1(b) regarding clothing does not apply to any KYC event.
- 16.3 In the event that another vessel sounds warning signals (5 or more blasts) during a race, all racing vessels shall first see to safety by ensuring that they are not in the path of danger and that the skipper of the vessels sounding the warning signals knows that each racing yacht is keeping clear. This means that racing vessels will alter course as necessary to proceed clearly and directly out of the path of danger or potential danger.
- 16.4 Competitors assume as risk of personal injury and property damage arising out of their participation in KYC sponsored events. The decision whether to start or to continue a race is exclusively the skipper's, and KYC assumes no responsibility for any skipper's decision.
- 16.5 A boat must not carry ground tackle outboard of the bow over the stem. **This is mandatory.** It is intended to lessen the possibility of serious damage or injury in the unlikely case of contact with another vessel.
- 16.6 All sailors are urged, strongly encouraged and enthusiastically reminded to wear effective personal flotation devices at all times while on deck or in the cockpit and all other safety gear (including harnesses and tethers) as appropriate.
- 16.7 Flying head sails are prohibited prior to the start.

## **17.0 WAIVER OF LIABILITY**

- 17.1 Sailing is an activity that has an inherent risk of damage and injury. Competitors in this event are participating entirely at their own risk. See *RRS 4, Decision to Race*. The race organizers (organizing authority, Race Committee, Protest Committee, host club, sponsors or any other organization or official) will not be responsible for damage to any boat or other property or the injury to any competitor, including death, sustained as a result of participation in this event. By participating in this event, each competitor agrees to release the race organizers from any and all liability associated with such competitor's participation in this event to the fullest extent permitted by law.

## **18. EXCEPTIONS**

- 18.1 In recognition that the winds may back the tide may turn, the Race Committee retains the authority to depart from any of the preceding instructions in exceptional circumstances.

18.2 The Race Committee must agree by a simple majority of the committee to enact any change.

18.3 Persons seeking exceptions must provide their request, in writing, to the Race Committee Chair at least 2 weeks prior to its requested date of approval. This does not prevent the Race Committee from making an immediate decision if the requisite majority is present and it is in the best interests of the KYC racing program that the modification takes place on the spot.

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