



2012 470 North American Championships

**Including the 470 North American Championships for Men and Mixed Crews,
and the Women's 470 North American Championships for Women Crews**

**January 13 - 15, 2012 – Miami, Florida
Coconut Grove Sailing Club (CGSC)**

**The Organizing Authorities are the U.S. and Canadian 470 Class Associations
The event is hosted by the Coconut Grove Sailing Club**

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

- 1.1 The 2012 470 North American Championships will be governed by the *rules* as defined in the current Racing Rules of Sailing for 2009-2012 (*RRS*), and by the current International 470 Class Rules.
- 1.2 USSailing prescriptions to RRS 68 and 76.1 will apply, and are stated in full in Sailing Instruction (SI) 23.
- 1.3 If there is a conflict between a *rule* in the Notice of Race (NOR) and these Sailing Instructions, the Sailing Instructions will take precedence. (This changes *RRS* 63.7.)
- 1.4 If there is a conflict between languages the English text will take precedence.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located on the first floor of the Coconut Grove Sailing Club, and at the USSailing Center on the downstairs bulletin board closest to the water.

3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1 Any written change to these Sailing Instructions will be posted no later than 90 minutes before the first Warning Signal on the day it will take effect, except that any changes in the Schedule of Races will be posted by the end of protest time on the day before it will take effect (SI 15.2).
- 3.2 Oral changes to the Sailing Instructions may be given on the water. The Race Committee Signal Boat shall display Code Flag "L" and announce the change in accordance with rule 90.2(c). Competitors shall approach the Committee Boat and verbally receive the change while Code Flag "L" is displayed.



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8. **RACING AREA**

All racing will be on Biscayne Bay in an area approximately 1 to 3 miles SSE of Brennan Channel Marker "1" (Fl.G 5sec 8ft).

9. **THE COURSES**

9.1 The Courses and their designations will be as described in Attachment A - COURSE ILLUSTRATIONS. Course "L" as provided in Attachment A will be used for the Medal Races, if sailed, but is not restricted to the Medal Races.

9.2 Courses will be posted on a Race Committee Signal Boat course board prior to the first Warning Signal of each race. The designation of the course to be sailed, the approximate magnetic compass bearing, and distance from the starting line to the first mark will be displayed (This changes RRS 27.1). See Attachment A.

10. **MARKS**

10.1 Original Windward Marks and the Leeward Gate Marks will be 5 ft. orange inflatable tetrahedron Marks. New Marks will be yellow inflatable tetrahedron Marks.

10.2 A windward offset Mark will be a 3 ft. round inflatable Mark. The offset Mark will be laid to port of the Windward Mark, approximately 100 feet away.

10.3 If one of the Leeward Gate Marks is missing, boats shall round the one remaining Leeward Mark to port.

10.4 The Starting Mark (if set, see SI 11.3, below) and the Finishing Mark will be 5 ft. yellow inflatable tetrahedron Marks.

10.5 Mark(s) 4, if present, will not be Marks of the course on the first leg of any race. Mark 1a, if present, will not be a Mark of the course on the second leg of Course "O."

11. **THE START**

11.1 A Class who's Warning Signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence of the other Class.

11.2 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee Signal Boat and a staff displaying an orange flag on a port end Line Boat or a yellow inflatable Mark.

11.3 The Race Committee Signal Boat may deploy a stand-off buoy attached to the boat.

11.4 A boat starting later than five minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. (This changes RRS A4.)

11.5 Boats whose sail numbers are displayed as BFD by a Race Committee boat close to Mark 1 following a Black Flag start are to clear the race course.



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12. **CHANGING THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE**

To change the next leg of the course, the Race Committee will lay a new Mark (or move the finish line) and remove the old Mark as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change a new Mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original Mark.

13. **THE FINISH**

13.1 The Finish Line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on a Race Committee boat and the course side of the nearby yellow inflatable finishing Mark.

13.2 If another race will follow, the Finishing Boat will display the second substitute.

14. **TIME LIMITS**

14.1 The time limit for any Class to complete the course is 90 minutes. If no boat in a particular Class crosses the finish line within 90 minutes of the Class's start, the race will be abandoned for that Class.

14.2 If no boat in a Class passes Mark 1 for the first time within 30 minutes of the start of that Class, the race will be abandoned for that Class.

14.3 Boats in a Class failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat in that Class finishes (having sailed the course) will be scored DNF without a hearing. (This changes *RRS* 35 and A4.)

15. **PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**

15.1 A boat intending to protest should, if practicable, inform the Race Committee immediately after finishing a race and provide the identity of the protested boat(s).

15.2 Protest forms will be available at the Protest Desk at CGSC. Protests and Requests for Redress shall be written on such forms and delivered to the Protest Desk within the protest time limit, except as provided in SI 15.2.2, below.

15.2.1 The time limit on Friday and Saturday, January 14 and 15 is one (1) hour after the Race Committee Finish Boat docks or when a race is abandoned ashore.

15.2.2 The time limit on Sunday January 16 for races sailed prior to the Medal Races is 10 minutes after the last boat finishes each of such races. Such protests may be filed orally, and will be subject to hearings conducted on the water, unless wind and sea state conditions do not permit such hearings. (This changes *RRS* 61.2 and 62.2.)

15.2.3 The time limit for the Medal Races On Sunday January 15 is 30 minutes after the Race Committee Finish Boat docks or when a race is abandoned ashore.

15.2.4 Except as provided for in SI 15.2.2, above, Notices will be posted promptly following expiration of the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Protest



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hearings will be conducted at CGSC as soon as possible and in the approximate order in which they were filed.

- 15.3 Notices of protests by the Race Committee or Protest Committee will be posted to inform boats under *RRS* 61.1(b). This includes posting on the water as per SI 15.2.2.
- 15.4 It is each boat's sole responsibility to check the Regatta Notice Board at CGSC, or the Signal Boat Course Board in the case of SI 15.2.2, promptly after the end of the protest filing time to see if she is cited in a protest. Should any party fail to appear when called for a hearing, the Protest Committee may proceed in accordance with *RRS* 63.3(b). Representatives of boats who are parties to hearings and their witnesses shall remain on call in the vicinity of the Protest Desk, or Signal Boat in the case of SI 15.2.2, until excused by the Protest Committee.
- 15.5 On the last day of the regatta a request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered:
 - a) within the protest time limit following the last race of the day if the party requesting reopening was informed of the decision on the previous day;
 - b) no later than 30 minutes after the party requesting reopening was informed of the decision on that day.

This changes *RRS* 66.

16. **SCORING**

- 16.1 The Low Point Scoring System, as provided in *RRS* Appendix "A" shall apply, except as changed in this Section of these Sailing Instructions as follows.
- 16.2 When fewer than six races have been completed, a boat's score will be the total of her race scores. (This changes *RRS* A2.)
- 16.3 When six or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score, except that the Medal Race, if sailed, cannot be discarded. Scores for the Medal Race will be double the finishing place of each boat. This changes *RRS* A4.1. Further, *RRS* A4.2 is changed so that scores are based on the number of boats assigned to compete in the Medal Race (NOR 12.3).
- 16.4 Nine races are scheduled, including the Medal Race for each Class, if sailed. Three races shall be completed to constitute a regatta.

17. **PRIZES**

Prizes will be awarded to the three highest finishing skippers and crews in each Class.

18. **SUPPORT AND COACH BOATS**

- 18.1 Except when rendering assistance to a boat in danger at the boat's request or at the request of the Race Committee, support and coach boats shall stay 25 meters outside areas where boats are racing from the time of the Preparatory Signal for



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the first Class to start until the time the last boat finishes or the Race Committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment.

- 18.2 Support and coach boats shall be marked with national letters or a country flag.
- 18.3 The penalty for failing to comply with these requirements or the oral instructions of the Race Committee or the Protest Committee will be at the discretion of the Protest Committee. The penalty may be imposed on any or all boats associated with the support or coach boat.

19. SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

- 19.1 Competitors shall wear adequate personal buoyancy while on the water, other than for brief periods while adding or removing clothing.
- 19.2 A boat that retires from a race or does not intend to start a scheduled race shall promptly report this to the Race Committee via hailing and receive acknowledgement. If this is not possible, she shall promptly report her actions to the Protest Desk on shore at CGSC.
- 19.3 Boats that are not leaving the harbor to race shall inform the Protest Desk prior to the start of the first race of that day.
- 19.4 Prior to the Warning Signal of the first race she sails each day, each boat shall sail on starboard tack past the stern of the Signal Boat, and shall hail her sail number until acknowledged by the Race Committee.

20. RADIO COMMUNICATION

A boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communication not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile phones.

21. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See *RRS 4, Decision to Race*. The Organizing Authority, Race Committee, host club, and their officers, employees and volunteers will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

22. INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party insurance with a minimum cover of US\$300,000 per occurrence or the equivalent.

23. APPLICABLE US SAILING PRESCRIPTIONS

23.1 Rule 68 DAMAGES

US SAILING prescribes that:

- (a) A boat that retires from a race or accepts a penalty does not, by that action alone, admit liability for damages.



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(b) A protest committee shall find facts and make decisions only in compliance with the rules. No protest committee or US SAILING appeal authority shall adjudicate any claim for damages. Such a claim is subject to the jurisdiction of the courts.

(c) A basic purpose of the rules is to prevent contact between boats. By participating in an event governed by the rules a boat agrees that responsibility for damages arising from any breach of the rules, shall be based on fault as determined by applications of the rules, and that she shall not be governed by the doctrine of 'assumption of risk' for monetary damages resulting from contact with other boats.

23.2 **Rule 76.1 EXCLUSION OF BOATS OR COMPETITORS**

US SAILING prescribes that an Organizing Authority or Race Committee shall not reject or cancel any entry of a boat or exclude a competitor eligible under the Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions for an arbitrary or capricious reason or for reason of race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or age.

23.3 **Rule 76.3 EXCLUSION OF BOATS OR COMPETITORS**

US SAILING prescribes that a boat whose entry is rejected or cancelled or a competitor who is excluded from a race or series shall be entitled to a hearing, conducted by the Protest Committee under *RRS* 63.2, 63.3, 63.4, and 63.6

24. **TRASH DISPOSAL**

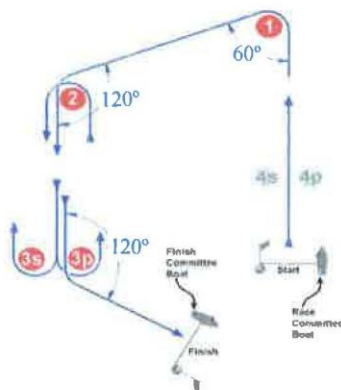
- 24.1 Boats shall not put trash in the water. Trash may be placed aboard support and race committee boats. SI 24 is not protestable by competitors. (This changes *RRS* 60.)

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ATTACHMENT A - COURSE ILLUSTRATIONS
EXAMPLE COURSE BOARD - RC SIGNAL BOAT

BEARING: 120°	CLASS	COURSE
DISTANCE: 0.7 nm	M/M	O2
	W	I2

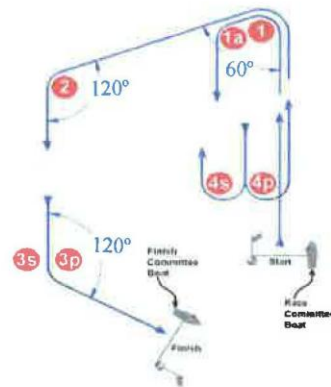
O



Course: Outer Trapezoid

Signal	Marking Rounding Order
O2	Start - 1 - 2 - 3s/3p - 2 - 3p - Finish
O3	Start - 1 - 2 - 3s/3p - 2 - 3s/3p - 2 - 3p - Finish

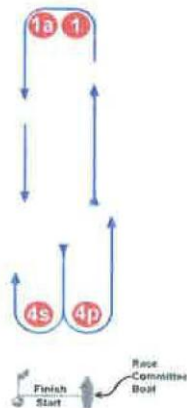
I



Course: Inner Trapezoid

Signal	Marking Rounding Order
I2	Start - 1 - 1a - 4s/4p - 1 - 2 - 3p - Finish
I3	Start - 1 - 1a - 4s/4p - 1 - 1a - 4s/4p - 1 - 2 - 3p - Finish

L



Course: Windward/Leeward With Finish To Leeward

Signal	Marking Rounding Order
L2	Start - 1 - 1a - 4s/4p - 1 - 1a - Finish