

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

TEXAS SAILING ASSOCIATION YOUTH CIRCUIT REGATTA

2024 TEXAS YOUTH RACE WEEK REGATTA A JUNIOR OLYMPIC FESTIVAL

Houston Yacht Club, Shoreacres, Texas

August 31 thru September 2, 2024

POSTED August 28, 2024

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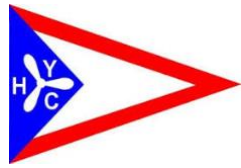
The notation [DP] in a rule in the sailing instruction means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the Protest Committee (PC), be less than disqualification. The notation [NP] in a rule in the sailing instructions means that instruction is not grounds for redress by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a) and 64.2.

1. RULES:

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
- 1.2 “The Texas Youth Racing Circuit Conditions” apply and are available on the web site at <http://www.tx sail.org/>. A copy will also be available at the regatta site.
- 1.3 USODA membership is required for all Opti sailors. The “USODA Conditions for Sanctioned Regattas and Championships” will apply.
- 1.4 The *rules* for all classes other than Optis are modified so that membership in a class organization is not required.
- 1.5 [DP] All boats shall have sail numbers which match the registration form. Sail numbers meeting class standards are required.
- 1.6 Appendix T, Arbitration, shall be used.
- 1.7 For Optis, RRS Appendix P applies as modified by this SI.
- 1.8 The third sentence of RRS 61.1(a) is changed to ‘She shall inform Race Committee immediately after finishing, or as soon as practicable after she retires (and before discussing her intent with any support person), of the boat(s) she intends to protest’.
- 1.9 US SAILING prescriptions to RRS 63.1 and 63.2 will not apply.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS:

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board on-line. It may be found at www.houstonyachtclub.com/web/pages/tyrw-notice-board



3. CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS:

- 3.1 Any change to the sailing instructions (SI) will be posted on the official notice board at least two (2) hours before the first race of each day, except for changes to the schedule of races which will be posted by 20:00 on the day before they take effect.
- 3.2 For the Green Fleet only, oral changes may be made by the Race Committee (RC) on the water prior to the time of the warning signal of any race upon the raising of signal flag "L" with one sound.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE:

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flag mast on the HYC lawn.
- 4.2 Code Flag "AP" with two sound signals means the race is postponed. DO NOT leave the club area. The warning signal will not be made sooner than 45 minutes from the lowering of "AP", accompanied by one sound signal. This modifies "Race Signals".
- 4.3 [DP] Flag "D" with one sound indicates Harbor Launch. Boats shall not leave their assigned space at HYC until this signal is made. The warning signal will not be made before the scheduled time or less than 60 minutes after Flag "D" is displayed.

5. SCHEDULE OF RACES:

- 5.1 There will be three (3) days of racing. Twelve (12) races are scheduled.
- 5.2 Completion of one (1) race shall constitute a TSA Youth Circuit Regatta.
- 5.3 The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race each day is 1200 CDT, except Monday which will having first warning at 1100 hr..
- 5.4 No warning signal will be given after 14:30 on ~~Sunday~~Monday.

6. CLASS FLAGS:

The following flags will be used as class flags during starting sequences:

Optimist Green Racing Area:

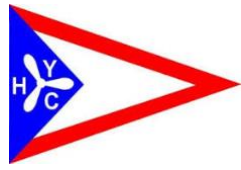
Class	Class Flag
Optimist Green	<u>White Opti Logo on green background</u>

Optimist RWB Racing Area:

Class	Class Flag
Optimist Red, Blue and White Fleets	<u>Blue Opti Logo on white background</u>

Other Racing Area(s):

Class	Class Flag
ILCA 7	<u>Red ILCA Logo on BLUE background</u>
ILCA 6	<u>Red ILCA Logo on GREEN background</u>



ILCA 4
420

Red ILCA Logo on YELLOW background
Blue 420 Logo on WHITE background

7. RACING AREAS:

Three (3) racing areas will be set, one each for use by Optimist Green fleet, Optimist RWB fleet, and one for all others. The location of the racing areas will be announced at the Mandatory Skippers Meeting.

8. CHECK-IN ON THE WATER:

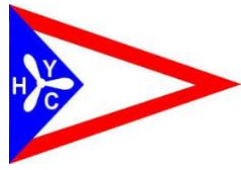
Prior to the first warning signal of the competitor's fleet of the day, each competitor shall sail past the stern of the RC signal boat on starboard tack, hail their sail number and be acknowledged by the RC. Failure to do so will result in a 20% penalty for the first race of the day.

9. COURSES:

- 9.1 There may be six (6) types of race courses as defined in Addendum A, Course Diagrams. Multiple times around the course will be designated by a number following the "T", "W" or "L"
- 9.2 For courses L1 and L2, the start line will be on the port side of the Signal Boat and the finish line will be on the starboard side of the finish boat.
- 9.3 For courses W, W2, W3, T, T2 and O, unless a race is shortened in accordance with the RRS, the start/finish line will be in the middle of the race course.
- 9.4 Opti Red/White/Blue Fleet will sail the Simple Trapezoid Course in Addendum B.
- 9.5 For the ILCA and Double-Handed fleets during the race, if the Race Committee boat is displaying an orange flag on a staff, the start/finish line will be an obstruction, except to finish. Boats that sail through this obstruction will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF), without a hearing. This changes Race Signals.

10. MARKS:

- 10.1 For the Opti Green Fleet, mark 1 will be a green tetrahedron. All other marks will be orange ~~tetrahedrons~~balls.
- 10.2 For the Opti Red/White/Blue Fleet marks will be yellow tetrahedrons. The starting and finishing marks will be a race committee vessel displaying an orange or blue flag at each end of the starting line.
- 10.3 For the ILCA and Doublehanded Fleets, the marks will be orange tetrahedrons.
- 10.4 To change the next leg of the course, the RC will move the original mark (or the finishing line) to a new position.
- 10.5 To maintain course configuration during a race, the RC may make minor adjustments of the course, up to 10 degrees and .10nm, without signaling a change. This changes RRS 33.



11. THE START:

- 11.1 For Green Fleet, races will be started with sounds according to Appendix U (3-minute sequence). The race committee may verbally hail the countdown. The class flag will be displayed on the signal boat during the start sequence.
- 11.2 For all other fleets, races will be started in accordance with RRS 26. A series of short signals may be made before any starting sequence begins to attract attention.
- 11.3 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the RC signal boat and the course side of the starting mark.
- 11.4 For Green Fleet, the start-finish line will not be an “obstruction” and will be open to boats sailing downwind.
- 11.5 A boat may not start later than four (4) minutes after the starting signal for its class. Boats attempting to start after this time will be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This changes RRS 28.1, A 4 and A 5.
- 11.6 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall keep clear of both the start line and all boats whose warning signal has been made.

12. RECALLS:

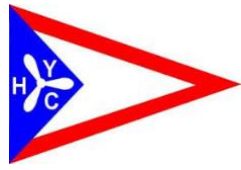
The RC intends to hail the sail numbers of OCS boats after the starting signal. The failure of any boat to hear the hail, an untimely hail of OCS boats, failure to hail any boats, and the order of the boats in the hail shall not be grounds for granting redress. This changes RRS 41 and 62.1

13. THE FINISH:

- 13.1 The finish line for courses W, T and O shall be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the RC boat and the course side of the finish mark. This modifies the RRS Race Signals.
- 13.2 The finish line for courses Simple Trapezoid, L, L2 and B shall be between a staff displaying a blue flag on the RC boat and the course side of the finish mark.
- 13.3 The display of code flag “A” at the finish of any race means: “Racing has ended for the day”.

14. TIME LIMIT:

- 14.1 The time limit for each race will be sixty (60) minutes for the first boat to finish. If no boat has complied with RRS 28.1, the race shall be abandoned.
- 14.2 The Finishing Window is twenty (20) minutes.
- 14.3 The Finishing Window is the time for boats to finish after the first boat sails the course and finishes. Boats failing to finish within the Finishing Window, and not subsequently retiring, penalized or given redress, will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) without a hearing. A boat scored TLE shall be scored points for the finishing place two (2) more than the points scored by the last boat that finished within the Finishing Window. This changes RRS 35, A5.1, A5.2 and A10.
- 14.4 At its discretion, the RC may finish any boat in place, and it will be scored based on its position on the race course. This modifies RRS 32 and 35.
- 14.5 If no boat has rounded the first mark within twenty (20) minutes of the start, the race shall be abandoned. This modifies RRS 32 and 35.

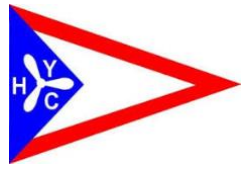


15. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS:

- 15.1** A competitor must notify the Race Committee (RC) of their intent to protest another boat, at the finish line, before talking to a coach or a parent or other support person. If this instruction is not followed, the protest will be found to be invalid. This is in addition to and modifies the requirements of class rules and RRS 60.1(a) and 61.1(a).
- 15.2** Protests forms and Scoring Inquiry forms will be made available at the HYC lobby and must be delivered to the Judges or their representative. The protest time limit is sixty (60) minutes after the RC signal boat from each Competitors' race course docks.
- 15.3** RRS Appendix P applies for the Optimist classes as modified here. RRS P2.2 is changed so that it applies to any penalty after the first one. RRS P2.3 does not apply.
- 15.4** The protest time limit will be posted. A list of protests will be posted on the official notice board no later than thirty (30) minutes after the end of protest time.
- 15.5** A boat is not permitted to protest another boat for breaking SI 17. This changes RRS 60.1(a). In addition, penalties for anything other than RRS Part 2 or 3 may be less than disqualification at the discretion of the protest committee.
- 15.6** The "Graded Penalty System" will apply for Opti penalties and is attached in Addendum C. Percentage Penalties will be calculated as in RRS 44.3(c).
- 15.7** The person who served as mediator during Arbitration may not serve on the protest committee.
- 15.8** Since Green Fleet is not scored, protests are teaching opportunities. An open discussion of the protest process (mock protest) may be held if resources are available. All competitors, parents and coaches are encouraged to attend and observe.
- 15.9** Requests for scoring reviews will be considered requests for redress per RRS 62.1. They shall be filed with the protest committee, on forms provided, within the time limit and will initially be reviewed by the race committee. If resolved by the race committee, no hearing will be scheduled. If not resolved by the race committee, the race committee will request a hearing and the protest committee will proceed under RRS 63.1.

16. SCORING:

- 16.1** The Low Point System of RRS Appendix A shall apply, modified so that:
- 16.1.1 A boats worst score is excluded only after five (5) races have been completed.
 - 16.1.2 A boats two worst scores are excluded only after ten (10) races have been completed.
- 16.2** For Green Fleet, the event will not be scored. Placement and progress may be tracked.
- 16.3** For Optimist White, Blue, Red fleets, the event shall be scored as a whole with all boats receiving scores according to recorded finish position. "Overall Scoring" shall be used to determine White, Blue, Red awards.
- 16.4** For ILCA and Double-Handed fleets, the regatta shall be scored as a whole with all boats receiving scores according to recorded finish position. "Overall Scoring" shall be used to determine the finish place of each junior aged sailor for purposes of junior awards and junior place finish in the regatta.



17. DISPOSAL OF TRASH:

[DP] Per RRS 47, boats observed purposefully discharging trash into the water will either be disqualified from all races sailed on the day the infraction is observed or be subject to other suitable disciplinary action or both.

18. SAFETY:

- 18.1 [DP] RRS 40 is changed so that each competitor shall wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved life jacket (PFD), in good condition, that is 100% dependent on foam for flotation (i.e., inherently buoyant) and the appropriate size for the sailor, at all times while on the water, except for brief periods while adding or removing clothing. See US Sailing Regulation 10. A violation of this instruction may be protested by race officials or a competitor; however, an inadvertent and momentary breach of this instruction may receive a penalty less than disqualification at the discretion of the protest committee. A pinnie may be worn outside of the PFD.**
- 18.2 [SP][DP]** Prior to launching each day, competitors shall check-out at the safety table located at the Beachcomber, indicating their departure to the race course. A competitor who will not be racing that day shall notify a volunteer at the safety table before the Harbor Launch.
- 18.3 [SP][DP]** Immediately upon returning to shore, but not later than 30 minutes after the race committee signal vessel docks, competitors shall check-in at the safety table located at the Beachcomber indicating their return to HYC.
- 18.4 [DP]** A competitor who withdraws from a race or does not intend to start a race shall inform the RC as soon as possible. This may also be accomplished by the competitor notifying a member of the RC ashore.
- 18.5** Sailors of Double-Handed fleet boats are encouraged, but not required, to carry an emergency safety line cutter, such as an "S-Cutter" tool or harness webbing cutter.

19. SUPPORT BOAT RESTRICTIONS:

- 19.1** Support Boats (including coaches and parents) (support boats) shall have a working VHF radio and monitor the RC channel.
- 19.2** Support person vessels shall display a numbered flag provided by the organizing authority at all times while on the water.
- 19.3 [DP]** For the Simple Trapezoid course only, support vessels are allowed in the Pre-start coaches area only prior to the start of a race, and in the after-race waiting area only while boats are finishing, as shown in Addendum B.
- 19.4 [DP]** Support boats shall keep at least two hundred (200) feet away from all competitors and shall not communicate with any racing competitor from the time of the competitor's preparatory signal until after the competitor has finished, or the RC signals a postponement or abandonment. The RC, at its discretion, may deem a violation of this provision to be a violation of RRS 2 and may impose a penalty which will be a scoring penalty per RRS 44.3(c.) applied to the finishes in the next race sailed of all boats associated with the support boat who has violated this provision.
- 19.5** Failure of support boats to keep wakes down, remain outside the race course while boats are racing, may result in the RC limiting where support boats may go during a race.
- 19.6 [DP]** All support boats that are required by Texas state law, must wear a safety kill-switch lanyard, especially when in the proximity of and approaching sailors in and on the water. If a support boat



is required to use a kill switch and is not equipped with or is not using a kill switch, the support boat may be subject to protest.

19.7 Optimist Green Fleet: Notwithstanding SI 19.4, coaching of Green Fleet Optimist skippers while racing is permitted; however, coaching shall be limited to skippers in the bottom half of the fleet in any given race. Coaches shall provide fair and consistent support to all competitors, not just to their team or sailor.

20. RISK, DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY & PERSONAL CONDUCT:

20.1 Competitors participate in the regatta at their own risk. See RRS 3 (Decision to Race). The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury, or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after this event.

20.2 Competitors will accept full responsibility for all his/her actions during any activity related to the event. This includes on-shore activities before, during and after the regatta until such time as they leave the venue for home or the airport.

20.3 All competitors, coaches and parents are expected to maintain the highest levels of conduct throughout the entire event until such time as they leave for home or the airport. Enforcement of discipline and conduct shall be conducted as per RRS 69.1 and/or the policies and procedures of US Sailing (Regulation 15.01).

Above all, BE SAFE and HAVE FUN!

ADDENDUM A – COURSE DIAGRAMS

	Course W – Windward/Leeward, Windward Finish	
	<i>Signal</i>	<i>Mark Rounding Order</i>
	W	Start – 1* – 2 – Finish
	W2	Start – 1* – 2 – 1* – 2 – Finish
	W3	Start – 1* – 2 – 1* – 2 – 1* – 2 Finish
* - if an offset mark (1a) is present, sailors will leave the offset mark to port after rounding the windward mark (1)		

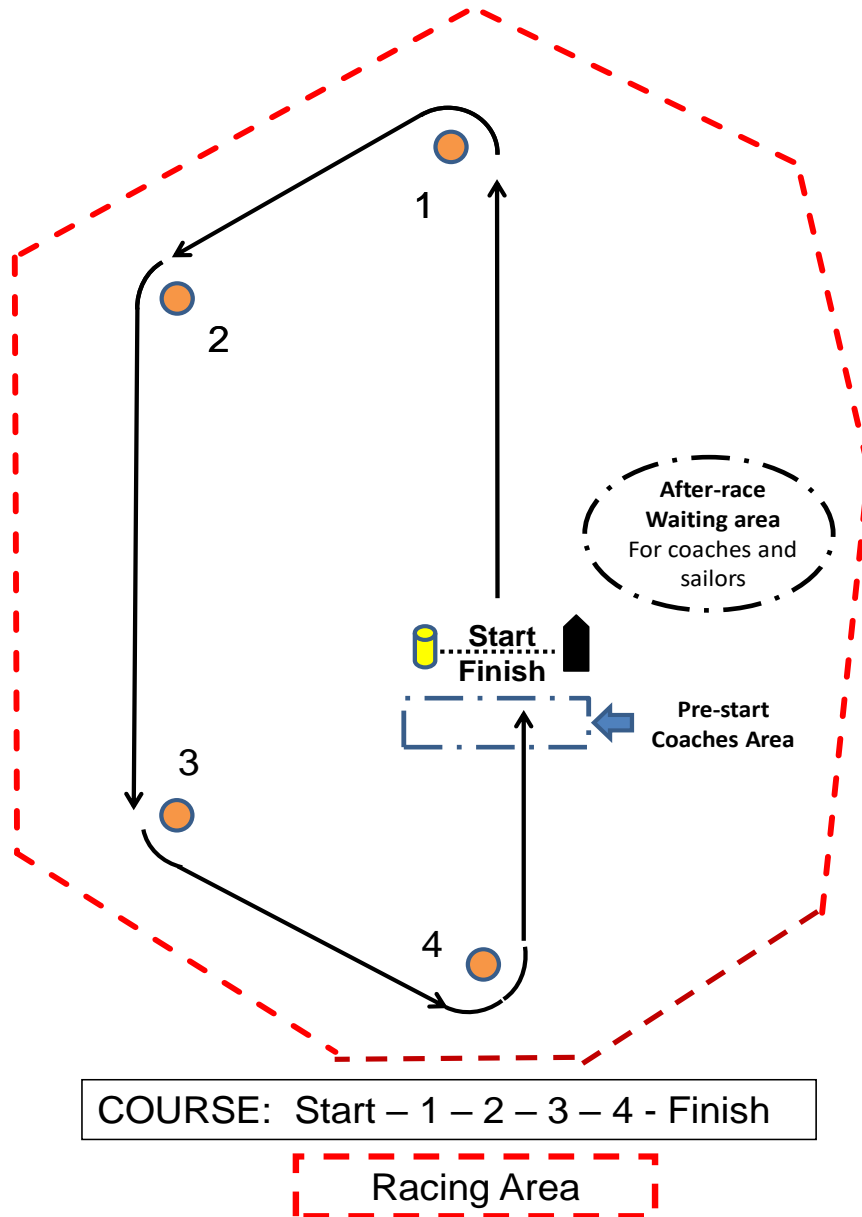
	Course T – Triangle, Windward Finish	
	<i>Signal</i>	<i>Mark Rounding Order</i>
	T	Start – 1 – 2 – 3 – Finish
	T2	Start – 1 – 2 – 3 – 1 – 2 – 3 – Finish
	T3	Start – 1 – 2 – 3 – 1 – 2 – 3 – 1 – 2 – 3 – Finish

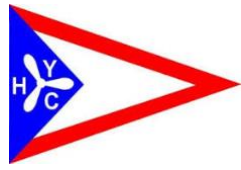
	Course O (Olympic) – Triangle, Windward/Leeward, Windward Finish	
	<i>Signal</i>	<i>Mark Rounding Order</i>
	O	Start – 1 – 2 – 3 – 1 – 3 – Finish

	Course L2 (Leeward Gate/Finish) – Windward, Leeward Gate – Windward – Finish	
	<i>Signal</i>	<i>Mark Rounding Order</i>
	L2	Start – 1* – 2s/2p – 1 – Finish
<p>* - if an offset mark (1a) is present, sailors will leave the offset mark to port after rounding the windward mark (1)</p>		

	Course B – Box, Reach Finish	
	<i>Signal</i>	<i>Mark Rounding Order</i>
	B	Start – 1 – 2 – 3 – Finish

SI ADDENDUM B - Race Course and Restricted Areas Simple Trapezoid Course





SI Addendum C – USODA Graded Penalty System

Percentage Penalties rounded up to the next whole number. Penalties apply to the race of infringement; otherwise to the first race of the day.

1. Minor SI penalties

Penalty approximately equal to 5% of fleet

- a) Not displaying the assigned colored division streamer
- b) Launching before 'Harbor Launch' signal
- c) Failure to return promptly to waiting area after finishing
- d) Failure to report penalty taken
- e) Failure to comply with Safety Check-Out/Check-In procedures

2. Minor class rule penalties and intermediate SI penalties

Penalty approximately equal to 10% of fleet

- a) Bailer/paddle/daggerboard/painter not correctly attached to hull (CR 4.3)
- b) Painter not attached to mast step (CR 4.3 (b))
- c) Whistle not attached to personal flotation device (CR 4.2 (a))
- d) Distance between edge of sail and mast and/or boom at one eyelet 15mm or more (CR 6.6.3.3 and/or CR 6.6.3.4)
- e) Distance between edge of sail and mast and/or boom at two eyelets 13mm or more (CR 6.6.3.3 and/or CR 6.6.3.4)
- f) Loss of sail tie (CR 6.6.3.3 and/or CR 6.6.3.4)
- g) Clearance between span and boom between 101 mm and 115 mm (CR 3.5.3.8)
- h) Ring(s) on span of boom slipping (CR 3.5.3.8)
- i) Sailing across a race in progress before starting or after finishing (RRS 24.1)
- j) Out of the waiting area
- k) Breaches of SI 23, Support Teams

3. Intermediate class rule penalties

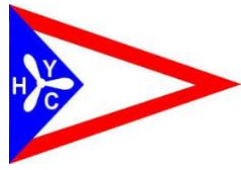
Penalty approximately equal to 30% of fleet

- a) No bailer, paddle or painter in boat (CR 4.3)
- b) No whistle (CR 4.2)
- c) Lanyard, locking device or other arrangement used to attach mast to the hull not in position (CR 3.5.2.11)
- d) Sail outside limits of bands (CR 3.5.2.7 and CR 6.6.3.1)
- e) Distance between edge of sail and mast and/or boom at two eyelets 15mm or more (CR 6.6.3.3 and/or CR 6.6.3.4)
- f) Distance between edge of sail and mast and/or boom at three or more eyelets 13mm or more (CR 6.6.3.3 and/or CR 6.6.3.4)
- g) Clearance between span and boom more than 120 mm (CR 3.5.3.8)
- h) Edge of sail at throat, tack or clew eyelet positioned 3 mm or more from mast and/or boom (CR 6.6.3.3 and/or CR 6.6.3.4)
- i) Failure to report for measurement after finishing
- j) Failing on-water measurement inspection
- k) Failure to wear an approved PFD
- l) Repeated infringement of Section 1 or Section 2 penalties, above

4. Major class rule penalties (as per RRS)

Penalty up to DSQ – requires Protest Hearing

- a) All RRS, except as amended
- b) All SI, including amendments, except as specified above



- c) Use of uninspected equipment
- d) Use of unapproved fittings
- e) Repeated infringement of Section 3 penalties, above