



2014 USODA Team Race National Championship

Hosted by California Yacht Club

July 20-22



SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1 RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)*.
- 1.2 “Conditions for USODA Events”, including the USODA ‘Code of Conduct’, will apply, and can be found at www.usoda.org. Competitors, Coaches, Parents, and Guardians shall abide by the USODA ‘Code of Conduct’. This includes behavior both on and off the water including respect for all other persons, and personal property of others at the California Yacht Club (CYC), and Marina del Rey.
- 1.3 Appendix D Team Racing Rules will apply with the following changes:
 - a. Rule D1.1(d) “arm signals” is deleted.
 - b. Rule D1.2(c) is deleted and replaced by “Protests and requests for redress will be conducted in accordance with rule Appendix T, Section C, Expedited Hearings.”
 - c. Rule D2.3, Penalties Initiated by an Umpire: Add “(h) fails to comply with a sailing instruction or a class rule.”
 - d. Rule D5.3 and 5.4: Replace “RC” with “Protest Committee” in both rules.

2 ADVERTISING

- 2.1 Advertising is restricted per ISAF Regulation 20.5.1, 20.4 and Table 1.
- 2.2 Boats will be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the Organizing Authority.

3 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices will be posted at the official notice board located on the outside windows of the Gallery Room, downstairs in the CYC clubhouse.

4 CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 4.1 Any written changes to the SIs or the schedule will be approved by the Principal Race Officer (PRO) and Chief Umpire and posted no later than the scheduled Competitors Meeting on the day it will take effect. Any change to the schedule requiring racing to begin earlier than scheduled will be posted on the Official Notice Board by 1700 hours on the day before the schedule change takes effect.
- 4.2 Any oral changes to the SIs on the water will be communicated to each boat by the Race Committee (RC) and/or Umpires, and will be effective immediately. These changes will also be communicated to coaches on VHF channels 69 (Course A) and 72 (Course B), and posted on the Official Notice Board at the end of that day’s racing.

5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE AND LAUNCHING

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagpole located on the CYC front lawn.
- 5.2 When AP is displayed ashore, “1 minute” is replaced with “not less than 60 minutes” in the race signal AP. This changes race signal AP.
- 5.3 All boats shall kept in their assigned places at the California Yacht Club and launch as directed when code flag “O” is displayed with one sound signal. Boats shall not launch prior to this time.

6 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Saturday, July 19

0900-1900	Measurement & Check-in (ALL team members must be present)
1700-1900	Mandatory PFD and Protest flag inspection by Umpires
1700-1900	Coach/Spectator Flag Registration

Sunday, July 20

0800-0900	Check-in, Mandatory PFD and Protest flag inspection by Umpires , Coach/Spectator Flag Registration and Continental Breakfast
0800-9000	Measurement by appointment only upon written request submitted to the RC by Friday, July 18
0930	Competitors, Coaches and Parents Meeting
1125	First Warning Signal Lunch on the water
After racing	Debrief with Umpires – CYC Fireside Room

Monday, July 21

0800-0900	Continental Breakfast
0900	Competitors, Coaches and Parents Meeting
1055	First Warning Signal Lunch on the water
After racing	Debrief with Umpires – CYC Fireside Room

Tuesday, July 22

0800-0900	Continental Breakfast
0900	Competitors, Coaches and Parents Meeting
1055	First Warning Signal Lunch on the water
1530	No First Warning Signal after this time
1830	Awards and Dinner – CYC Pool Patio

7 FORMAT

- 7.1 The format to be sailed is described in SI Addendum A. The starting order of teams will be posted on the Official Notice Board by 0900 each morning.
- 7.2 The RC in consultation with the USODA representative and Chief Umpire, may terminate or alter the format in progress, change the starting order of teams, or make other arrangements as may be necessary to conclude the regatta. This changes rule D4.2.
- 7.3 Each team will be assigned five colored pinnies that shall be worn outside all clothing and PFDs at all times when boats are racing. Sailors may **ONLY** cut the sleeves. In the Final Gold Series, teams may wear their own pinnies in place of the OA provided pinnies.
- 7.4 For those teams having five competitors, any four may compete in a race, but the fifth competitor shall remain in the 'waiting area' in his/her coach's boat, from the Warning Signal of that race until that race has been completed (see Addendum B).
- 7.5 Sails will be supplied for the Final Gold Series. Sails will be drawn at random and pre-assigned for teams that compete in the Final Gold Series.

8 RACING AREA

Racing will be held in the ocean, on Santa Monica Bay, nearby the Venice Pier, or in Marina del Rey main channel.

9 MARKS

- 9.1 Rounding marks on Course A will be yellow tetrahedrons.
- 9.2 Rounding marks on Course B will be orange tetrahedrons.
- 9.3 The starting marks on both courses will be a RC signal boat and tetrahedrons.
- 9.4 The finishing marks on both courses will be a RC finish boat and tetrahedrons.

10 THE COURSE, WAITING AREA, AND CHANGE OF COURSE

- 10.1 The course will be a starboard hand 'digital N' and is illustrated on Addendum B.
- 10.2 Boats not racing will remain in their race course waiting area and comply with SI 11.3.
- 10.3 Waiting and 'on deck' areas will be defined by small orange balls.
- 10.4 To maintain course configuration or adjust course length, marks will be moved as necessary without any sound or visual signals. No mark will be moved when a boat is on a leg of the course which that mark ends. This changes rule 33.

11 THE START

- 11.1 Races will be started using Appendix S, "Sound-Signal-Starting-System" (3 minute start). This changes rule 26.
- 11.2 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on a RC signal boat at the starboard end and the course side of the port end starting mark.
- 11.3 **Waiting Area and "On-Deck" Area** - All boats whose warning signal has not been made shall remain in the waiting area until and only until their starting order position in the current rotation is 'next to start', i.e., immediately after the two teams which are currently starting. These eight (8) boats that are the next two teams to start are permitted to move from the waiting area to the "on-deck" area.

12 RECALLS

Appendix S6 is modified to read, "Individual recalls will be signaled by the hail of the sail number (or some other clearly distinguishing feature) of each recalled boat. In addition, the RC will promptly display flag X. The flag will be displayed until all such boats have sailed completely to the pre-start side of the starting line or one of its extensions, but no later than two minutes after the starting signal."

13 ABANDONMENT

Rule 32 and Race Signals are modified such that race abandonment may be signaled orally by the RC and/ or the Umpires. Abandoned races may be re-sailed at any time.

14 THE FINISH

- 14.1 The finishing line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on a RC boat at the starboard end and the course side of the port end finish mark.
- 14.2 After finishing, boats shall return to the waiting area for their race course by sailing to starboard of the finish boat, clear of course laylines, and observing all small orange balls identifying the transit lane.

15 UMPIRES

- 15.1 The regatta will be umpired in accordance with Appendix D as modified by these Sailing Instructions. Some races may have more umpires than others as determined by the Chief Umpire depending on the stage of the event.
- 15.2 Each umpire is a member of the Protest Committee.

16 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 16.1 The required red protest flag for competitors shall be attached to the sailor's PFD, and be capable of being conspicuously displayed (waved) at arm's length where it is easily visible to the protested boat and Umpires, and then concealed when the incident is closed. Each teams' protest flags will be inspected and approved by the Umpires at check-in.

- 16.2 Rule 60.1 is modified such that only the RC or Protest Committee may protest for infractions of class rules and SI 7.3, 10.2, 11.3, 14.2, 16.1 and 18.
- 16.3 Any changes to the format implemented in accordance with SI 7, or the RC's decisions regarding abandonment under rule 32, will not be a basis for a boat to request redress. This changes rule 62.1.

17 SCORING

Appendix D4 will apply except as modified in Addendum A (Format).

18 SAFETY

- 18.1 Participants will receive a safety bracelet at registration, for which they will be responsible throughout the duration of the event. Upon launching, each sailor shall take their corresponding safety bracelet number off of the "safety board". Upon returning to shore, each sailor shall place their safety bracelet on the corresponding number on the board indicating a safe return to CYC.
- 18.2 A competitor retiring from racing before a day's racing is over shall notify a RC or safety boat before leaving the course area, or notify the RC immediately upon returning to shore.
- 18.3 A condition of entry and participation in this regatta is the wearing of a US Coast Guard approved non-inflatable personal floatation device (PFD) properly secured at all times while on the water, except for brief periods while removing or adding clothing, or for international sailors only, a PFD approved by their country's corresponding authority. Failure to wear one will result in a penalty up to and including disqualification at the discretion of the protest committee. This changes rule 40.
- 18.4 Each competitor shall have a whistle attached to their PFD at all times while on the water.
- 18.5 Each boat shall have a secure loop in the end of its bow line.
- 18.6 Coach boats may be called on by the RC and/or Umpires to help with safety.

19 REPLACEMENT OF EQUIPMENT

Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed without prior approval of the Chief Umpire. Requests for substitution shall be made to umpires at the first reasonable opportunity.

20 COACH AND SPECTATOR BOATS

- 20.1 Coach, support and spectator boats shall follow the instructions of the RC, safety boats, and umpires at all times.
- 20.2 Coach boats shall always display the numbered flags assigned and provided by the OA, and shall remain securely anchored in the waiting areas shown in the course illustrations in Addendum B unless otherwise directed by the RC or Umpires, and shall monitor VHF channel 69 for Course "A" or 72 for Course "B" at all times.
- 20.3 Spectator boats shall anchor below the designated coach boat waiting area illustrated in Addendum B. Only "official" spectator boats are allowed to move around the race course staying at least 100 yards from any racing boat.
- 20.4 Coaches, parents, or support boats that break SI 20 may be subject to disciplinary actions by the Organizing Authority in accordance with the USODA Code of Conduct.

21 ENVIRONMENT

Trash should be placed on coach or support boats.

22 PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded in accordance with the Notice of Race.

SI Addendum A – Planned Format 23 Teams

There will be four round-robin series and one knock out series run on two race courses. The first series is the **Preliminary Qualifying Series** in which all 23 teams will compete in a single seeded split-fleet round robin to determine the top 12 teams. The second series is the **Gold Fleet Qualifying Series**, a single seeded split fleet round robin among the top 12 teams from the first series to determine the top 8 teams for the Gold Fleet. (The remaining teams will sit out briefly.) All 12 teams competing in the **Gold Fleet Qualifying Series** shall meet the USODA Team Race Eligibility requirements. The third series is the **Gold Round** comprised of one or more round robins. The fourth series is **Silver/Bronze Fleet Series** comprised of one or more round robins. The fifth series, **Top Four Gold**, is a knock-out series among the top four teams in Gold Fleet. There will be prizes for the first three teams in each fleet. The top team in the Gold Fleet will be invited to represent the USA at the 27th Opti Team Cup Berlin in Germany in October.

Preliminary Qualifying Series: Split Fleet Round Robin

The top 12 teams, as ranked by the seeding committee, will be divided into two groups of 6 teams each, Alpha (A) and Bravo (B). Teams will be assigned to each group as follows: 1A-2B-3B-4A-5A, etc. The remaining teams will be divided across these groups by general team race experience. Teams in groups Alpha and Bravo will sail a single round robin within their groups on courses “A” and “B” respectively.

Race-wins are worth ONE POINT. Additionally, each team in the smaller group (11 teams) will be awarded one race-win point. At the end of these split fleet round robins, all 23 teams will be ranked in order of race-win points. Ties that determine the 12th and 13th place teams will be broken according to rules D4.4. The top 12 ranked teams qualify for the Gold Fleet Qualifying Series, and their race-win points carry forward. The remaining teams will sit out the Gold Fleet Qualifying Series and resume racing in the Silver/Bronze Fleet Series when it begins.

Gold Fleet Qualifying Series: Split Fleet Round Robin

The top 12 teams from the Preliminary Qualifying Series will be ranked according to their race win points with ties broken at random. The teams will be divided into groups Alpha and Bravo based on their ranking as follows: 1A-2B-3B-4A-5A, etc. Teams in groups Alpha and Bravo will sail a single round robin of 15 races within their groups on courses “A” and “B” respectively.

Race-wins are worth TWO POINTS. At the end of these split fleet round robins, the teams will be ranked in order of total race-win points. Ties that determine the 8th and 9th place teams will be broken according to rules D4.4. The top 8 ranked teams qualify for the Gold Round and the next 4 ranked teams qualify for the Silver Fleet.

Gold Round – Course A: Round Robin

The 8 Gold teams will each be assigned a set of four USODA Team Race Sails of the same color for the duration of this series which is comprised of one or more round robins. Race wins are worth THREE POINTS and all race-win points from all prior series carry forward to determine a team’s ranking.

Silver/Bronze Fleet Series – Course B: Round Robin

(**Note:** During these two series, the coaches and PRO in consultation with the USODA representative, may decide to have several ‘coached’ races in the Bronze Fleet, which will not be scored.)

The bottom 4 teams from the Gold Fleet Qualifying Series and teams ranked 13th and 16th in the Preliminary Qualifying Series will be assigned to the Silver Fleet. Teams 17-23 from the Preliminary Qualifying Series will be assigned to the Bronze Fleet. Ties determining 16th and 17th positions will be broken according to rule D4.4. Each fleet will sail one or more round robins.

Race-wins will be worth ONE POINT and no prior scores carry forward.

Top Four Gold – Course A: Knock-Out Series

Time permitting, the top four teams from the Gold Round will sail a knock-out series. The 1st and 2nd ranked teams will sail a first to three wins knock-out to determine 1st and 2nd place for the regatta, and the 3rd and 4th place teams will sail a first to two wins knock-out to determine 3rd and 4th places.

Addendum B – Courses

(Rounding marks are yellow on Course A and orange on Course B)

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