

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS USA Junior Olympic Sailing Festival

Open Skiff

7-8 DECEMBER 2019



US SAILING Center of Martin County 1955 NE Indian River Drive Jensen Beach, Florida

Important Event Introduction: The purpose of this event is to run a fun event for youth sailors in a loosely competitive style in dynamic junior boats. Results are not nearly as important as everyone having a good time sailing. It is our goal that everyone improves their skills, makes new friends, and has a ton of fun. This event will be a combination of "conventional" style race formats with unorthodox "Un-Regatta" style courses and events. Don't expect conventional round the buoys racing or upwind starts for all races. Capsizes, freestyle, speed and fun will be required. If you are a hard-core racer with rule book in hand, this event may not be for you. If you want to have fun and pioneer a new chapter in Youth Sailing..... game on!

1 Rule Number One:

All sailors are required to participate in the spirit of fun at all times. Violators of Rule Number One may be publicly embarrassed.

2 Other Rules:

- **2.1** The "conventional" style races will be governed by rules with the following priority: these Sailing Instructions and subsequent Changes to Sailing Instructions, the O'Pen BIC Class Rules as modified by these Sailing Instructions, and the ISAF Racing Rules of Sailing 2017-2020 as modified by these Sailing Instructions. In the event of a conflict between these Sailing Instructions and the Notice of Race, these Sailing Instructions will take priority.
- **2.2** Those events run "Un-Regatta" style, will include these special rules:
- **2.2(a)** Expect unconventional courses and starting procedures. On different legs of the course there may be required moves signaled by loudhailer from the Judges. Depending on the conditions, these may include stand-up sailing, required capsizes (mast tip must hit the water), 360 degree turns, or other freestyle moves.
- 2.2(b) When capsizes or freestyle moves are required, you must make sure you are clear of all other sailors when you make the maneuver, and don't interfere with or immediately obstruct other sailors. Capsizing or freestyling into another boat is NOT ok.
- **2.2(c)** Competitors shall remain on or near their vessels at all times. In other words, no "boarding" other boats unless required.
- **2.2(d)** There may be a Freestyle Expression Session that will be scored separately. Sailors will compete in three-minute heats that will be subjectively judged by the Panel of Undistinguished Judges. Be creative and have fun with it.

3 Notices to Competitors

3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board at USSCMC.

4 Changes to Sailing Instructions

4.1 Any change in the Sailing Instructions will be posted before 0830 on the day on which it will take effect. Changes to the schedule of races will be posted before 1830 on the day before the change is to take effect

5 Signals made ashore

5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagpole at the end of the dock at Regatta Headquarters. Flag "AP" (Answering Pennant) with two sounds, means: "The racing is postponed. Do not leave the harbor." The first warning signal will be displayed not less than 30 minutes after "AP" is lowered (one sound).

6 Schedule of Races

- **6.1** Twelve races per class are scheduled; one race per class constitutes a regatta.
- **6.2** The schedule is as follows:

Friday 7 Dec	1600-1800	Early check-in
Saturday 8 Dec	0800	Continental Breakfast
	0800 -1000	Competitor Check-in and Coach/Spectator Flag Check-in
	1000	Competitors' Meeting (RWB OPTI, 420/Laser/O'Pen Bic
	1030	Competitors' Meeting (Green Fleet)
	1130	First Signal
	1700	Cook out & Raffle at the USSCMC
Sunday 9 Dec	0800 0930	Continental Breakfast First Signal, all classes
	1430 Awards - as	No warning after this time soon as practical after racing

7 Marks (Marks will be described in skippers meeting)

- **7.1** The turning marks of the course will be yellow or Orange marks.
- **7.2** Starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee signal boat and either a Starting Mark or a staff displaying an orange flag on a race Committee boat at port end.
- **7.3** The finish line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee signal boat and either a Finish Mark or a staff displaying an orange flag on a race Committee boat.

- **7.4** Minor contact of the marks of the course is permitted. Contact that causes any damage, or the location of the mark to change or drag, is not permitted.
- **7.5** Hitting the Race Committee boat, start boat, or finish boat is always prohibited.

8 Starting procedures

- **8.1** Unless otherwise described, races will be started using a three minutes audible start sequence as follows.
 - 3 minutes to start: 3 long sound signals and rising of Class Flag 2 minutes to start: 2 long sound signals and rising of Preparatory Signal 1 ¹/₂ minutes to start: 1 long and three short sound signals 1 minute to start: 1 long sound signal and lowering of Preparatory Signal. 30 seconds to start: 3 short sound signals
 - 20 seconds to start: 2 short sound signals
 - 10 seconds to start: 1 short sound signal
 - 5-4-3-2-1 seconds to start: 1 short sound signal counting down to start Start: 1 long sound signal with lowering of the Class Flag
- **8.2** Individual and General Recalls will be signaled in accordance with ISAF Rule #29.

9 Kinetics

9.1 Pumping and ooching (ISAF Rule 42) are prohibited unless "**O**" flag is being displayed from the Race Committee boat. If "**O**" flag is being displayed, then pumping and ooching are permitted.

10 Protests

- **10.1** It is the responsibility of every competitor to sail in a manner that is fair and with due respect of their fellow competitor, so that the results are a valid reflection of true sailing ability. Absolutely no intentional contact is permitted.
- **10.2** Regardless of whether a penalty is called by the umpires or not, competitors are expected to exonerate themselves of any rule infraction by completing one 360 degree turn for each infraction. One tack and one jibe in any order is required to complete a 360 degree turn. Competitors are encouraged to enforce the rules amongst themselves in a sportsman like manner by politely hailing "protest".
- **10.3** Penalties may be given on the water by hail from the Judges for violating any Sailing Instructions or rules. These may take the form of requiring one or more 360 degree penalty turns. All determinations and decisions of the Judges are final.
- **10.4** Hitting a mark is not grounds for protest (see SI #7.4)
- **10.5** There will be no formal protest hearings.

11 Scoring

- **11.1** When six or more races have been completed, each boat's series score shall be the total of her races scores excluding her worst score.
- **11.2** One completed race shall constitute a regatta.
- **11.3** Awards will be given to the top three finishers of the O'pen Bic class.

12 SAFETY AND CHECK-OUT / CHECK IN-PROCEDURES

- **12.1** Competitors who are US citizens or US residents must wear a US Coast Guard approved personal flotation device (PFD), properly secured at all times, from dock to dock except when temporarily adding or removing clothing. Competitors who are citizens or residents of another country shall wear either a US Coast Guard approved PFD or a PFD approved by the country of their citizenship or residence, properly secured at all times, from dock to dock except when temporarily adding or removing clothing. Wet suits, dry suits and inflatable PFD's do not constitute adequate personal buoyancy. Failure to do so is protestable only by Race Committee.
- **12.2** If any boats have finished a race before the onset of foul or threatening weather and the Race Committee determines to clear boats from the water, the RC signal boat will blow three (3) horns and display Code Flag "H" at which time all remaining boats racing shall immediately abandon the race and go ashore. The Chief Judge may either score any boats not finished or order the race abandoned.
- **12.3** A boat that withdraws or retires for any reason shall inform the RC of their intention for that race and any other scheduled races, or, when that is impossible, immediately upon arriving ashore. Failure to do so may result in disqualification from subsequent races that day.
- **12.4** Each boat shall check in with the Race Committee boat displaying Code Flag "L" before the first race of each day.
- **12.5** Each competitor will receive a numbered wrist band upon check-in that corresponds to their assigned boat spot and Safety Sign Out/In Board. Every competitor **must** have their wrist band with them while sailing and must be able to show their wrist band if asked by the Race Committee. Immediately upon returning to shore the wrist band must be placed on the Safety Board located on the ground level on the east side of east stairs at Regatta Headquarters. Competitors who do not return their bands to the Safety Board within 45 minutes of the posted Signal Boat dock time will be reported to the Protest Committee for action which may result in a scoring penalty of 10%.
- **12.6** Competitors who lose their wristband shall personally check-in with the safety attendant prior to the expiration time noted in SI 16.6. The safety attendant will be found at the Safety Board.
- **12.7** Competitors may not sail without a wristband. Lost wrist bands must be replaced to continue racing.
 - a. Replacement wrist bands will cost \$5
 - b. Replacement wrist bands will be available at the scorer's table located in the center office on the second floor of Regatta Headquarters.
- **12.8** A competitor retiring from a race shall notify a Race Committee boat or safety boat before leaving the course, and notify the Race Committee immediately upon returning to shore at which time the competitor's wristband should be hung up on the Safety Board.
- **12.9** Helmets are strongly recommended, particularly in wind speeds over 10mph.
- **12.10** Special care must be taken to avoid contact with other sailors, including when special maneuvers are required. Pay particular attention to leaving enough room so your boom or mast tip does not hit another competitor.

13 Decision to Race & Disclaimer of Liability

The responsibility for a competitor's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone (RR4). Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. USSCMC, BIC Sport, the O'Pen BIC Class, and all organizers, volunteers, and race officials of this event will not accept in any case any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the competition. Before entering this event, a signed waiver will be required as well as publicity/media releases.

14 When all else fails, refer to Rule Number 1.

15 Radio Communication

As a courtesy to all competitors, coaches and spectators, Race Committee will broadcast on CH 69 after the start of each race.

WARNING: Extreme levels of fun may be experienced during this event. Other sailing craft may appear less exciting after experiencing the O'Pen BIC.

