



**THISTLE CLASS ASSOCIATION
2021 WOMEN AND YOUTH
NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP**
Cleveland Yachting Club (CYC), Rocky River, OH
July 31, 2021



SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The notation '[DP]' in a rule in the SI means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.

The notation '[NP]' in a rule in the SI means that instruction is not grounds for protest or a request for redress by a boat. This changes rule 60.1.

1 RULES

The regatta will be governed by the *rules* as defined in the *Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)*.

2 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to the sailing instructions shall be posted not less than 2 hours prior to the first scheduled race on the day it shall take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races shall be posted by 1800 hrs on the day before it shall take effect.

3 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located at Center Isle and on YachtScoring.com (<https://yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eID=12942>). The race office will be at Center Isle.
- 3.2 There will be a competitors' meeting in the Regatta Tent area adjacent to Center Isle on Saturday, July 31 at 1030 hrs.
- 3.3 Radio communications between boats and the Race Committee during racing will be carried out on **VHF channel 72**. Competitors are advised to maintain a listening watch on this channel at all times
- 3.4 [NP] The following communications may be made by the race committee using the designated VHF Channel in addition to any Race Signals (*this changes RRS 29, 32, 33 and 41*): Courses, including the bearing and distance to the first mark; postponements and abandonments; boats identified as OCS and general recalls; changing courses or marks and identify marks; shortening the course; time limits.
- 3.5 [DP] A boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.

4 CODE OF CONDUCT [NP][DP]

- 4.1 Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.
- 4.2 Competitors and support persons shall handle any equipment and place advertising provided by the organizing authority with care, seamanship, in accordance with any instructions for its use and without interfering with its functionality.

5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1 Signals ashore will be made from the flagpole at Center Isle.
- 5.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' will be replaced with '90 minutes.' *This changes Race Signals AP.*
- 5.3 [NP][DP] When a race committee vessel displays flag "Y" afloat, RRS 40.1 applies at all times, not just when racing. *This changes RRS 40.2(a)*. When flag "Y" is removed afloat, RRS 40.1 no longer applies.

6 SCHEDULE OF RACES

6.1 DATE	FIRST WARNING	RACE
Saturday, July 31	1200 hrs	Race 1, others to follow, back-to-back

6.2 Flag A displayed, with no sound, while boats are finishing means 'No more racing today.'

7 CLASS FLAGS

7.1 For the Youth, the class flag will be the Thistle Class logo on a **white** field.

7.2 For the Women, the class flag will be the Thistle Class logo on a **yellow** field.

8 RACING AREA

Approximately 1.65 nm / bearing 300° from green #1 in the open waters of Lake Erie.

9 COURSES

9.1 The diagram in Addendum A show the course, including the approximate angles between legs, the order in which marks are to be passed and the side on which each mark is to be left.

9.2 No later than the warning signal, the RC signal vessel may display on its starboard side the approximate compass bearing of the first leg.

10 MARKS

10.1 Marks 1 and 4S and 4P (the gate) will be **orange** inflatable marks.

10.2 Mark 1a (the offset mark) will be a white ball.

10.3 New marks, as provided in instruction 14, will be **yellow** inflatable marks.

10.4 The starting mark will be an inflatable mark, or an anchored vessel displaying a staff with an **orange** flag.

10.5 The finishing mark will be an inflatable mark, or an anchored vessel displaying a staff with a **blue** flag.

11 RESERVED

12 THE START

12.1 The starting line shall be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the signal boat and the course side of the mark or the staff displaying an orange flag as described in instruction 10.4.

12.2 [NP] After a postponement, general recall or abandonment is signalled by the RC Signal Boat, an RC Mark Boat may, as a courtesy, display code flags AP, 1st substitute or N to facilitate boats returning to the starting area. Only the signals displayed by the RC Signal Boat will govern the conduct of racing. *This changes RRS race signals.*

12.3 A boat starting later than five (5) minutes after her starting signal shall be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. *This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.*

13 RESERVED

14 CHANGE OF 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 finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.

15 THE FINISH

15.1 The finishing line shall be between a staff displaying a **blue** flag on the signal boat and the course side of the mark or the staff displaying a **blue** flag as described in SI 10.5.

15.2 Boats shall not sail through the finish line unless they are finishing or attempting to finish. In accordance with the definition of *obstruction*, the finish line is an *obstruction* for those boats not finishing or attempting to finish. A boat which breaks this instruction shall be DSQ without a hearing. *This changes RRS 63.1 and A5.1.*

15.3 [NP] For the purposes of SI 15.2, the finish line will not exist until the blue flags described in SI 10.5 are displayed.

16 TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES

16.1 In accordance with RRS 35, the time limit for each division in each race is 1.5 hours.

16.2 Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat in their division sails the course and finishes will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) without a hearing. *This changes RRS 35, A5.1, A5.2 and A10.*

17 HEARING REQUESTS

- 17.1 The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the RC Signal Boat docks at the end of each racing day or when the RC signals 'No more racing today' ashore, whichever is later. The time will be posted on the official notice board.
- 17.2 Hearing request forms are available near the Official Notice Board or online ([US Sailing Hearing Request Form](#)).
- 17.3 Notices shall be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings shall be held in the protest room in the CYC clubhouse, beginning at the time posted on the official notice board.
- 17.4 Notices of Race Committee or Protest Committee protests shall be posted to inform boats under RRS 61.1(b).

18 SCORING

- 18.1 In accordance with RRS A2, a boat's series scores will be the total of all their race scores with no races excluded.
- 18.2 One (1) race is required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 18.3 A boat scored DNF, RET or TLE are scored by adding the number of registered boats to the number of finishers, then divided by 2 (any resulting fraction shall be rounded up to the nearest whole number). *This changes RRS A5.2.* For the purposes of this calculation, boats scored UFD will be excluded from the number of finishers.

19 SAFETY REGULATIONS [NP][DP]

- 19.1 Upon arriving in the starting area, boats are requested to check-in with the race committee by sailing past the stern of the RC Signal Boat on starboard tack and hailing their sail number.
- 19.2 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

19 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT [NP] [DP]

- 19.1 Substitution of crew(s) will not be permitted without the prior written approval of the TCA National Race Committee. No substitution of skipper is permitted.
- 19.2 Substitution of damaged or lost equipment shall not be allowed unless authorized by the TCA National Race Committee. Request for substitution shall be made to the committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

20 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS [NP][DP]

A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions. On the water, a boat may be instructed by a Technical Committee equipment inspector to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.

21 AWARDS

- 21.1 Awards will be presented on Sunday, August 1 at the Opening Ceremony of the TCA National Championship.
- 21.2 The first-place Youth team will be awarded the John Lowry Memorial Perpetual Trophy and declared the 2021 TCA Youth National Champions.
- 21.3 The first-place Women's Team will be awarded the Women's Nationals Perpetual Trophy and declared the 2021 TCA Women's National Champions.
- 21.4 Chevrons will be awarded according to the TCA Bylaws, sections 20 and 21.

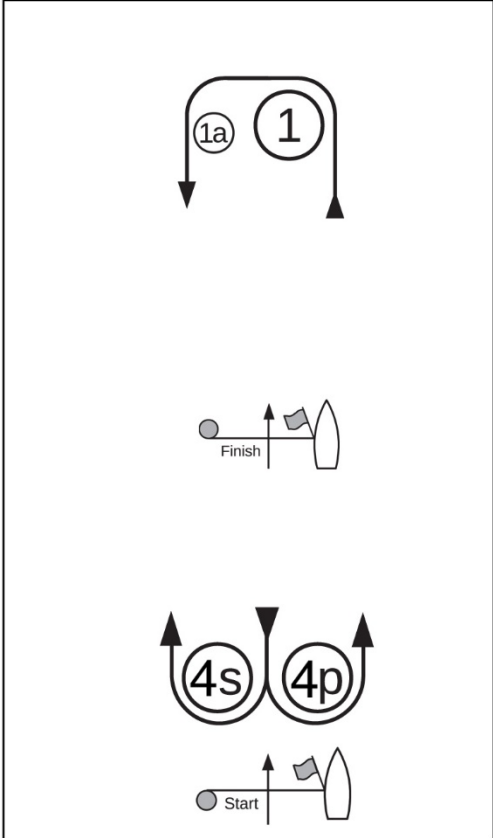
22 RISK STATEMENT

RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. **Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.**

23 INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum value of \$100,000 USD. Competing teams must show proof of insurance at Registration.

ADDENDUM A
ILLUSTRATING THE COURSES
(Not to scale)



Course 5 – Windward/Leeward	
<i>Signal</i>	<i>Mark Rounding Order</i>
5	Start – 1 – 1a – 4s/4p – 1 – 1a – 4s/4p – Finish