

St. Thomas International Regatta

Cowpet Bay, St. Thomas, USVI March

March 29-31, 2024

Organizing Authority (OA) – St. Thomas Yacht Club (STYC) International Regatta
Committee, St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS_{v2}

The notation '[NP]' in a rule means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a).

1 RULES

See NOR and any NOR Amendments

The following rules have been changed:

Race Signals: Will be made by radio calls and a horn. There will be no class flags, "P" "L", "AP", "First Substitute" or "N" used by the signal boat, however, Flag "X" will be used in accordance with rule 29.1.

2 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0900 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 1900 on the day before it will take effect.

3 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

3.1 The Official Notice Board will be electronic at:

<https://www.yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eID=16227>

As a courtesy, Notices may be posted on the Notice Board at the St. Thomas Yacht Club.

3.2 The race office is located at the St Thomas Yacht Club: info@stthomassailingcenter.com

3.3 On the water, the race committee intends to monitor and communicate with competitors via VHF radio as follows:

IC24 Class Course VHF 71

St James Course VHF 72

3.4 [DP] While racing, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

4 CODE OF CONDUCT

[DP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.

5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

5.1 Signals made ashore will be posted on the Official Notice Board and displayed on the STYC Flagpole.

5.2 When flag AP is posted, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 60 minutes' in rule race signals.

6 SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 6.1 Races are scheduled on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, March 29, 30, 31
- 6.2 The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race each day is 1100.
- 6.3 CSA Spinnaker, CSA Non-Spinnaker and Multihul classes will start in the St. James starting area located West of Little St. James Island and South of Cow and Calf Rocks.
IC24 class will race up to five Windward / Leeward races each day, in either Great Bay or Jersey Bay.
Hobie Wave Class is scheduled to race multiple races in Cowpet Bay. Separate Sailing Instructions will be provided.
- 6.4 On the last day of the regatta no warning signal will be made after 1430.

7 CLASS FLAGS & BOW NUMBERS

- 7.1 Bow numbers will be required for the IC24 class and if not already in place, will be issued at registration. The numbers shall be affixed to both the port and starboard sides of the bow with the leading edge of the forward number placed 6 inches aft of the bow stem and 3 inches below the deck. The aft number shall be 3 inches aft of the forward number.
- 7.2 Some classes may have class flags issued at registration,

8 RACING AREA

Will be at the East end of St. Thomas, including Cowpet Bay, Pillsbury Sound, the coast of St. John, Great Bay and Jersey Bay. The IC24 racing area for the day, will be posted by 0900 each morning.

9 COURSES

- 9.1 **St. James courses** will be posted each morning by 0900 and announced on VHF 72 before the warning signal. **IC24 W/L courses** are described in Appendix 1.
- 9.2 A boat that is racing shall not cross the starting or finishing line except when maneuvering to start, starting or finishing.

10 MARKS

- 10.1 **ST. JAMES courses:** Marks may include a combination of islands, government buoys, inflatable marks and virtual marks, as described in Appendix 1. Inflatable marks will be orange or yellow balls, tetrahedrons or cones.
- 10.2 **IC 24 Windward/Leeward courses:** Will be inflatable marks - to be orange or yellow balls, tetrahedrons or cones.
- 10.3 Change marks may be a different color than the original mark.

11 THE START

- 11.1 Races will be started by using rule 26 using sound signals and a radio broadcast, only. This changes rule 26.
- 11.2 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the race committee signal boat and the course side of the starting mark.
- 11.3 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other classes.
- 11.4 If any part of a boat's hull is on the course side of the starting line at her starting signal and she is identified, the race committee will attempt to broadcast her bow or sail number on the designated VHF channel. Failure to make a broadcast or to time it accurately will not be grounds for a request for redress. Failure to hail her number, failure of her to hear such hail, or the order in which boats are hailed, will not be grounds for a request for redress. This changes rule 62.1(a).

12 THE FINISH

- 12.1 The finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on the race committee boat and a nearby finishing mark. The Finish Line will be on the opposite side of the Race Committee Signal Boat, from the Starting Line.

- 12.2 If the race committee is absent when a boat finishes, she shall report her finishing time, and her position in relation to nearby boats, to the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

13 PENALTY SYSTEM

RRS Appendix T and Appendix V1 will be in effect.

14 TIME LIMITS

- 14.1 The time limit on Friday and Saturday is 1700.
14.2 The time limit on Sunday is 1600.
14.3 Boats not finishing within the time limit will be scored one point more than the number of boats that have sailed the course and finished within the time limit. This changes rule 35, A4 and A5.

15 HEARING REQUESTS

- 15.1 Protest forms are available at the Protest Desk located outside the STYC tennis courts. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit.
15.2 For each class, the protest time limit is 60 minutes after the respective race committee finish boat has reached its dock or mooring.
15.3 Notices will 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 will be held as soon as possible after each day's racing in approximate order of receipt.
15.4 Notices of protests by the race committee or protest committee will be posted to inform boats under rule 61.1(b).
15.5 Measurement protests shall be filed with the protest committee by the end of protest time on the first day of racing.
15.7 Penalties for breaches of non-Part 2 rules may be less than disqualification if the protest committee so decides. This changes rule 64.1.

16 SCORING

- 16.1 Two (2) races are required to be completed to constitute a series.
16.2 A boat's series score will be the total of all her race scores, without a discard. This changes rule A2.

17 SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 17.1 See NOR 1.7
17.2 **Check-in:** Prior to the first warning signal each day, boats shall sail or motor by the stern of the RC Signal Boat and check-in by hailing their sail or bow number.
17.3 **Retirement:** A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible by the designated VHF channel, by reporting to a nearby race committee boat or by calling the St. Thomas Yacht Club at 340-775-6320.

18 CREW SUBSTITUTION

Requests for crew substitution shall be submitted in writing to the race committee for their approval. Any substitute crew shall submit a completed Disclaimer and Media Release form and the boat must comply with any eligibility requirements (e.g. weight limit or crew number limit).

19 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time by the designated technical committee for compliance with the class rules, notice of race and sailing instructions. On the water, a boat can be instructed by the designated technical committee to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.

20 PRIZES

20.1 Prizes will be awarded for first, second and third places in each class.

20.2 All prizes will be presented at the awards ceremony on Sunday at the St. Thomas Yacht Club at a time to be announced.

21 RISK STATEMENT

Rule 3 states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to race or 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.

22 INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured by a valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum coverage of \$500,000 per incident or the equivalent.

23 PHOTOGRAPHIC and MEDIA RIGHTS

Competitors will grant the organizing authority the unrestricted right and permission to use the name and the image for any text, photograph or video footage of either themselves or the yacht they are sailing during the event to be published or broadcast in any media whatsoever (including but not limited to press and TV advertisements or internet), for either editorial or advertising purposes or to be used in press information; in this respect, competitors' names and any biographical material of themselves may also be used or reproduced in any way known. As part of the registration process, and as a condition for participation in the regatta, each individual participating crewmember will be required to sign a declaration accepting this waiver of rights.

24 FURTHER INFORMATION

All regatta questions should be submitted to: info@stthomassailingcenter.com

APPENDIX 1

A 1 ST. JAMES RACE COURSE MARKS

All coordinates are approximate

For finishes in the St James starting area, the Finish Line will be on the opposite side of the Race Committee Signal Boat from the Starting Line.

The following inflatable marks "**Marks**" may be used:

- Start and Finish Pins
- Leeward Mark located approximately 0.2nm upwind from the Starting Line

The following "**Islands**" may be used:

- Dog, including Dog Rocks
- Little St. James
- Great St. James
- Buck & Capella
- Frenchmans Cap
- Steven Cay
- Two Brothers
- Turtleback Rock 18° 20.8N 64° 51.5W
- Henley Cay

The following Government Buoys "**Buoys**" may be used:

- Cas Cay Red Point "G 1" 18° 18.4N 64° 51.6W
- Packet Rock R N "2" 18° 17.8N 64° 53.4W
- Cabrita Point G C "1" 18° 19.3N 64° 49.8W
- Moravian Point R "2" 18° 19.4N 64° 48.2W

A2 IC24 WINDWARD/LEEWARD COURSES

- Course "2" consisting of 2 legs: Start; Windward Mark; Finish to leeward.
Course "4" consisting of 4 legs: Start; Windward Mark; Leeward Mark/Gate; Windward Mark; Finish to leeward.
- The Finish Line will be on the opposite side of the Race Committee Signal Boat from the Starting Line.
- The Race Committee will broadcast distance and bearing to the windward mark on VHF 71.
- With the windward mark there may also be an offset mark. The windward mark and the accompanying offset mark shall be left to port. A single windward mark shall be left to port. A changed windward mark may not have an offset.
- A Gate may be used in place of a Leeward Mark. If a gate is not in place, boats shall leave the leeward mark to port. The Gate or Leeward Mark will be located between 0.1nm – 0.2nm to windward of the Starting Line.