

SHIELDS CLASS SAILING ASSOCIATION NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP REGATTA
September 16-19, 2009
Hosted by Chicago Yacht Club and Shields Fleet 3, Chicago, IL

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

- 1.* The regatta will be governed by the *rules* as defined by the *Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 2.* In the event of conflict between the *Notice of Race* and the *Sailing Instructions*, the *Sailing Instructions* take precedence. This modifies *RRS 63.7*.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the Shields Notice Board located in the foyer of the Chicago Yacht Club Belmont Station.

3. CHANGES IN THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Changes to the *Sailing Instructions* will be posted before 0900 on the day they will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted before 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 1.* Signals made ashore will be displayed from the yardarm at Chicago Yacht Club Belmont Station at the east end of the club barge.
- 2.* When Flag “AP” is displayed ashore, “1 minute” is replaced with “not less than 90 minutes” in Race Signals “AP”.

5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

Wednesday, September 16	1400 – 1600	Practice starts and race
Thursday, September 17	1100	Warning signal for first race of the day
Friday, September 18	1100	Warning signal for first race of the day
Saturday, September 19	1100	Warning signal for first race of the day

- 1.* No more than three races will be run on any day. The warning signal for each succeeding race will be made as soon as possible after completion of the prior race.
- 2.* The Race Committee will fly Code Flag R to indicate additional race(s) will be sailed that day.
- 3.* On Saturday, September 19, no warning signal will be made after 1400.
- 4.* Harbor start will be at 0930.

6. RACING AREAS

- 1.* Racing will be held on Lake Michigan east of Belmont Harbor.
- 2.* Start Area 1 is approximately 2.0 nm East of Belmont Harbor. Start Area 2 is approximately 1.0 nm NE of Belmont Harbor. Start Area 3 is approximately 1.0 nm SE of Belmont Harbor.

7. CLASS FLAG

The Class Flag will be a Shields insignia on a white background.

8. CHECK IN PRIOR TO THE START

Each boat is required to check in with the RC signal boat prior to the first warning signal on each day of racing. Sail on starboard tack astern of the committee boat and hail your number. This will be acknowledged by the race committee. Failure to check in may result in the Race Committee assigning a 20% scoring penalty without a hearing. This changes *RRS* 63.1, A4 and A5.

9. COURSES

1. Total course length will be set at a minimum of 6 nm, but may be shortened to not less than four nm.
2. The RC signal boat will display the course number, the approximate magnetic bearing and distance in nautical miles to the weather mark (Mark 1) on a white board.
3. The attached course diagrams show courses 1 through 6, the order in which marks are passed and how marks are to be passed. The Race Committee will signify the use of offsets by displaying flag O. No offset will be set for a change of course.
4. Marks 1 and 1a shall be rounded to port. Mark 1 is the windward mark. Mark 1a is an offset mark and will be positioned to port of Mark 1.
5. Mark 2 will normally be a gate. For courses 2, 4 & 6, Mark 2 is not a mark of the course for the first or final leg.
6. The Race Committee will signify the use of gates by displaying flag G. When there is a gate, boats shall sail between the gate marks from the direction of the previous mark and round either gate mark. In the absence of one of the gate marks, the existing gate mark shall be rounded to port.
7. No offset or gate will be set for Course 1.

10. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

1. 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.
2. The race committee may courtesy broadcast the change on the designated VHF channel. Errors or omissions in courtesy broadcasts shall not be a basis for redress.
3. A course change of 5 degrees or less may not be signaled by the Race Committee. The course change will use the original mark. This changes *RRS* 33(a).

11. MARKS

1. The windward mark (Mark 1) is an orange tetrahedron. The offset mark (Mark 1a) will be a small orange sphere.
2. Gate marks (Mark 2) will be orange tetrahedrons.
3. The start mark will be a yellow tetrahedron.
4. For the course "1", Marks 1 and 2 will be orange tetrahedrons and Mark 3 will be the yellow starting tetrahedron.
5. The finishing mark for downwind finishes will be a white inflatable mark. The finishing mark for upwind finishes will be the weather mark, left to port.
6. New marks, as provided in instruction 10.1, will be yellow for the first change except for the Course 1 leeward mark, which will be orange. Subsequent changes will alternate orange and yellow marks.

12. THE START

- I.* The starting line will be between an orange flag on the RC signal boat and a yellow mark to port.
- 2.* A boat starting later than 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored “DNS” without a hearing. This changes *RRS* 63.1, A4 and A5

13. RECALLS

- I.* The race committee will attempt to hail OCS boats on Ch 72 VHF.
- 2.* Failure to hail, the hail of some but not all OCS boats, the order in which or untimely hailing of boats shall not be grounds for redress. This changes *RRS* 62.1(a).

14. THE FINISH

For downwind finishes, the finish line will be between an orange flag on the RC signal boat and an inflatable mark to be left to starboard. For upwind finishes, the finish line will be between an orange flag on the RC signal boat and an inflatable mark to be left to port. This instruction shall not apply when *RRS* 32.2 applies.

15. RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

- I.* Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to cell phones.
- 2.* The Race Committee intends to use Ch 72 to supplement signaled information to all boats. The Race Committee may change channels by posting a signboard on the signal boat prior to the warning signal for each race.
- 3.* Competitors are responsible for having a functioning VHF radio aboard capable of transmitting and receiving on US Channels 9, 16, 71, 72, 73 and 78.

16. TIME LIMIT

- I.* The time limit for the first boat to finish will be three hours.
- 2.* Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored “DNF” without a hearing. This changes *RRS* 35, 63.1, A4 & A5.

17. PROTESTS

- I.* A boat intending to protest must notify the race committee of its intention and the identity of the protested boat(s) as soon as possible after finishing the contested race and be acknowledged by the race committee.
- 2.* Protest forms will be available at the Chicago Yacht Club Competitor Notices Board. Completed protests shall be delivered to the Protest Committee secretary as soon as possible but not later than one hour after the committee boat has docked. The RC signal boat docking time will be posted on the official Notice Board.
- 3.* A list of protests received will be posted as soon as possible indicating the time and order in which the protests will be heard.
- 4.* Representatives of the boats who are parties to a hearing and their witnesses shall remain in the vicinity of the CYC Race Committee Room at the Belmont Station.

5. **Protest Arbitration.** The protest procedure is modified to allow a prehearing involving one judge and the parties to the protest. If, within 10 minutes, an agreement can be reached by all parties to the protest on a resolution of the protest, no hearing will be held. If all parties to the protest agree that the protested or protesting boat(s) infringed a rule, then each such boat that infringed a rule shall be penalized as prescribed by *RRS* 44.3(c), except that each infringing boat shall be assessed a scoring penalty that shall be the whole number (rounding 0.5 upward) nearest to 40% of the number of boats entered. A pre-hearing will not be reopened. These procedures change *RRS* 63.1, 63.6 and 66. Arbitration is only available for protests involving Part 2 of the *RRS* and is limited to incidents between two boats. The judge who acted as the arbitrator may be called as a witness during the protest hearing.

18. ALTERNATIVE PENALTIES

Taking a Penalty, *RRS* 44.1, is altered as follows: A boat that may have broken a rule of Part 2 while racing may take a penalty by making ONE TURN including one tack and one gybe that, in all other respects, complies with *RRS* 44.2. However, if a boat breaks a rule of Part 2 within the three length zone of any rounding or passing marks, her penalty shall be a TWO TURNS penalty in compliance with *RRS* 44.2.

19. SCORING

1. A maximum of seven races is scheduled. Four completed races will constitute the regatta.
2. If fewer than five races are completed, a boat's score will be the total of her race score. If five or more races are completed, a boat's score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score subject to *RRS* 90.3(b). This modifies *RRS* A2.

20. SAFETY

1. Competitors are strongly encouraged to wear a USCG approved PFD while racing.
2. Boats retiring from a race, or the race day, shall notify the RC on the water, either by hailing or VHF radio call on the designated RC channel. If a boat cannot contact the RC by voice or VHF radio, she shall call the RC via telephone as soon as she reaches shore: 773-477-7575. Boats that do not comply with this instruction may be liable for search and rescue fees.

21. PRIZES

1. Prizes will be awarded daily to the skipper having the lowest cumulative score for the races sailed on that day. At the final Awards Dinner, prizes will be awarded to skippers of the first five place finishers for the regatta. Other trophies are detailed in the Notice of Race.

22. SUPPORT BOATS

1. Support boats shall display the sail number(s) of the boat(s) she is supporting.
2. Competing boats may be towed to the race area by a support boat.
3. Other than outside help defined in *RRS* 41, no assistance shall be given or gear transferred between support boats and competing boats from the first warning signal

until the completion of the final race of each day without prior approval of the Principal Race Officer or Protest Committee Chair.

4. Support boats shall be no less than 50 yards outside of the starting area from the alert signal given by the RC through the finish of racing for the day. Support boats shall be no less than 30 yards outside the racing area at all times during a race.