

2017 KarMART PITCH Regatta

BELLINGHAM YACHT CLUB
SEPTEMBER 2 – 3, 2017

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The Organizing Authority (OA) for this Regatta is the Bellingham Yacht Club, 2625 Harbor Loop, Bellingham, WA 98225.

1. Rules

- 1.1. This Regatta is governed by the "Racing Rules of Sailing" (RRS) except as modified by the Notice of Race or these Sailing Instructions.
- 1.2. All yachts competing shall conform with PIYA Category "Near Offshore" safety requirements.

2. Notices to Competitors

- 2.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board (ONB) located in the downstairs entryway of the BYC Clubhouse.
- 2.2. Changes to the Sailing Instructions will be posted on before 0900 hours on the day they take effect, except that any changes to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 hours the day before they take effect.
- 2.3. Signals made ashore will be displayed from flagpole located in front of the BYC clubhouse. IF code flag "AP" is signaled from the flagpole, the Warning Signal for the first race will be made no less than 60 minutes from the time "AP" is lowered. This amends RRS "Race Signals."
- 2.4. RRS 44.1 and 44.2 are amended as follows: for infringements of Rules of Part 2 that occur more than three boat lengths from the starting line, a rounding mark or the finishing line, only one penalty turn, including one tack and one gybe, is required.
- 2.5. The following RRS are amended or modified by these instructions:
 - Race Signals (when "AP" flown ashore from flagpole)
 - 27.3 (Other Race Committee Actions Before the Starting Signal)
 - 28.1 (Sailing the Course)
 - 35 (Time Limit and Scores)
 - 44.1/44.2 (Penalties)
 - 62.2 (Redress)
 - 63.1 (Hearings)
 - 64.1 (Decisions)
 - Appendix A4 & Appendix A5 (Scoring).

3. Classes, Class Streamer Colors and Handicap Ratings

- 3.1. Competitors will be organized into separate fleets and will race with their assigned fleets. Class size will be determined by the OA.
- 3.2. PHRF Classes will be designated P1, P2, P3, P4, etc. Class flags used on the RC Signal Boats will be numeral pennants.
- 3.3. Class assignments will be announced at the Skippers' Meeting and posted on the ONB. Each boat, except for one-design classes, shall fly the color streamer assigned to its class from its backstay. Color streamers will be provided at the Skippers' Meeting and posted on the ONB.
- 3.4. Any changes to class assignments, addition of classes or subdividing of classes will be announced at the Skippers' Meeting and posted on the ONB.

- 3.5. Combined class starts will also be announced at the Skippers' meeting.
 - 3.6. Notice of any errors in handicap ratings or other registration information must be brought to the attention of the RC in writing before 0800 hours Sunday September 3rd. Races may or may not be rescored, at the discretion of the RC, if changes are brought to its attention outside of this time limit.
 - 3.7. A Skippers' meeting will be held at 1930, Friday, September 1, 2017, at the BYC clubhouse. At least one representative from each entered boat must register at the Skippers' meeting and pick up a copy of the SIs and class designation streamer.
- 4. Radio Communication** – RC broadcasts to competitors will be made on VHF Channel 69. VHF Communications by competitors other than that shall be limited to check-in, emergencies, or retirement from racing.

5. Racing Schedule

- 5.1. Warning Signals - The Warning Signal for the first race each day is scheduled for 1000 hrs. The Warning Signal for subsequent races will be made as soon as practicable after the finish of the prior race.
- 5.2. The RC will attempt to run at least three races for all classes on Saturday and at least two races for all classes on Sunday. However, at the discretion of the RC, no Warning Signal will be made after 1500 hrs on Sunday.

6. Courses

- 6.1. Courses are described in Addendum A and B. If additional courses are used, they will be displayed using an alpha character string. All marks are to be left to port.
- 6.2. The specific course to be sailed will be posted on the RC Signal Boat Course Board prior to the Warning Signal.
- 6.3. Restricted Start and Finish Line – Unless starting or finishing a race, no boats shall cross the start line or finish line. A boat that breaks this rule shall not correct her error. However, she will be exonerated if she takes a Two-Turns Penalty (see RRS 44.2). This modifies RRS 28.1.
- 6.4. On a leg of the course that passes the start and finish lines, boats may leave the starting line and/or the finish line either to port or to starboard. For reasons of safety, on legs of the course that pass the start and finish lines, the start and finish lines are considered obstructions and therefore RRS 19 and 20 may apply between boats while they are approaching and passing these lines.

7. Marks

- 7.1. Marks will be orange or yellow inflatable buoys or balls, Navigational buoys, or Eliza Island, as described in Addendum A or B. Mark P is Post Point NAV Buoy (R "2", FL R 4s, Bell), Mark Q is NAV Buoy (RG, FI (2+1) R 6s, Bell). Addendum B describes long distance race courses.
- 7.2. The start line will be between an orange flag on the port side of the RC Signal Boat and either an orange flag on a Pin Boat or an orange inflatable buoy or ball.
- 7.3. The finish line will be between an orange flag on the starboard side of the RC finish boat and the course side of an orange inflatable buoy or ball (designated as "F") (to the right of the RC finish boat when facing up wind).
- 7.4. Should a leg of the course be changed, the original mark will be moved to the new location.

- 8. Check-in** - All boats must check in with the RC before each day of racing stating the boat's name, sail number and class. The RC will acknowledge a check-in with the boat's name and/or sail number. Check may be done by either hailing via VHF 69, or by sailing past the stern of the RC starting boat and hailing her name, sail number and class number.

9. Start

- 9.1. Races will be started using RRS 26. The Warning Signal for succeeding class may be the starting signal for the preceding class.
- 9.2. The starting order will be displayed using the class number and course letter (Addendum A) on the Course Board on the starboard side of the RC Signal Boat. The class numbers will be displayed in the order of the starts reading

from top to bottom. Lines may be reused after a listed class has started. If a line is being reused, the line below it will be blank to distinguish it from lower lines that may list classes that have not started and are earlier in the starting order. Classes may be started in any order.

- 9.3. The RC Signals Boat may make a courtesy announcement concerning its intentions and the course to be sailed on VHF 69. Also, the RC Signal Boat may sound a series of horns as an alert approximately one minute prior to the first Warning Signal. Failure of the RC starting boat to make the announcement or the alert signal or failure of a competitor to hear these courtesy communications shall not be grounds for redress under RRS 62.1(a).
- 9.4. Boats whose Warning Signal has not been made and are not racing shall keep well clear of the starting area. The starting area is defined as a rectangle whose long axis is the length of the start line and whose short axis is one-half the length of the start line (see **Addendum A**). Boats violating this provision may be subject to protest.
- 9.5. A boat starting later than five minutes after her starting signal will be scored DNS. This changes RRS A4 and Appendix AS.
- 9.6. An orange stand-off ball may be deployed behind the RC start and/or finish boats. No boat shall contact this standoff ball or its connecting rope. A boat violating this provision may exonerate herself by taking a one-turn penalty
- 9.7. If the RC intends to start another race on the same day, the RC Finish Boat will display the Second Substitute Pennant without sound while boats are finishing.

10. Recalls

- 10.1. The RC starting boat may hail the sail numbers or boat names of those boats that are on the course side of the starting line (OCS) at the starting signal, or are subject to Starting Penalties (RRS 30), on VHF 69. Failure of a boat to see or hear her recall notification, and the timing and order of such notifications, shall not be grounds for redress under RRS 62.1(a).
- 10.2. If the Warning Signal for a succeeding class is made with the starting signal of a preceding class, and if the preceding class has a general recall, then the class flag of the succeeding class will be removed and the start of the succeeding class will be considered postponed without further signal. This changes RRS 27.3. The Warning Signal for the new start for the recalled class will be made one minute after the First Substitute is removed (one sound), and the start for any succeeding classes will follow the new start.

11. Time Limits

- 11.1. RRS 35 is modified as follows: If one boat in a class sails the course as required by RRS 28.1 and finishes within two hours after the class starting signal, all boats in that class must finish within 30 minutes of the first boat in her class to finish or they will be scored TLE (Time Limit Expired). This amends RRS Appendix A4.
- 11.2. The RC may assign a finish position to the last finisher(s) in a class, provided the position(s) can be assigned in a reasonable manner. A boat whose finishing position has been so established will be notified by VHF 69 and/or by direct contact by a mark, chase or RC boat. When another race is to be run, any assigned finish boats shall return immediately to the starting line. Failure of a competitor to hear the communication shall not be grounds for redress under RRS 62.1(a).

12. Protests and Requests for Redress

- 12.1. Whenever practical, protesting boats should inform any RC boat after the race, but before leaving the racing area, of the name/sail number of the boat being protested. This may be done in person (sail-by) or by VHF 69.
- 12.2. Whenever practical, any boat that does a penalty turn should inform the RC as soon as possible after finishing, providing the name/sail number of the boat for whom she did the turns.
- 12.3. Protest forms are available at the BYC ONB, or from any RC boat. Completed protest forms must be delivered to the BYC Protest Desk in the BYC Clubhouse within the time limit (one hour) after the RC Signal Boat has docked. The actual docking time and protest filing time limit will be posted on the ONB.

12.4. Notices will be posted within thirty minutes of the protest hearing(s) time(s) to inform all parties to the hearing(s), including witnesses, of the time and location of the hearing(s). Protest hearings will begin as soon as possible in a designated room of the BYC.

12.5. A list of boats that have withdrawn from the race(s) or are scored OCS or BFD will be posted before the protest time limit. Requests for redress based on a posted OCS or BFD score must be made no later than one hour after the protest time limit. This changes the first sentence of RRS 62.2.

13. Scoring

13.1. The RRS Appendix A Scoring System is modified to add TLE (Time Limit Expired). TLE will be scored as one more than the last boat to finish.

13.2. For this regatta, corrected times will be calculated based on the boat's PHRF rating, the elapsed time in which the course was sailed and the course distance (time on distance).

13.3. The completion of at least one race may constitute a regatta.

13.4. No scores will be excluded.

13.5. Daily results will be posted on the ONB at the conclusion of each day's racing.

14. Safety

14.1. The responsibility for ensuring that a boat complies with RRS 1 is vested solely with the boat owner/operator. The BYC assumes no responsibility in this regard.

14.2. Whenever possible, boats should be equipped to both transmit and receive on VHF Marine channels 16 and 69, and receive marine weather broadcasts. When possible, pertinent race announcements will be made on VHF 69.

14.3. A boat retiring from a race after starting but before finishing shall, whenever practical, notify any RC boat before leaving the course.

14.4. Personal Floatation Devices (PFD) - When Flag Y is displayed with one sound before or with the Warning Signal, competitors shall wear personal flotation devices, except briefly while changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment. Wet suits and dry suits are not personal flotation devices.

15. Gross Misconduct

16. Boat owners and operators are responsible for the conduct of themselves and their crews, both on and off the water. Should the Protest Committee, through a hearing, determine that an owner, operator or crew member is guilty of Gross Misconduct, the owner and/or operators are responsible for any damages resulting from their misconduct. This is in addition to the penalties imposed by RRS 69.

17. **Trophies** - Trophies will be awarded per Notice of Race.

18. Disclaimer of Liability

18.1. Competitors participating in this regatta do so entirely at their own risk (RRS 4). The Organizing Authority, its Race Committee, its Officers, Directors, Members and Employees will not accept any responsibility or liability for any material or property damage, personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with, prior to, during or after this regatta.

19. **Insurance** - Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third party liability insurance with a minimum coverage of US \$300,000.