



Maritime Partners
International Star Class
North American Championship
April 8-12, 2025
Pass Christian Yacht Club
Pass Christian, Mississippi, USA



SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Posted April 1, 2025

The Organizing Authority (OA) is the Pass Christian Yacht Club (PCYC) in conjunction with the International Star Class Yacht Racing Association (ISCYRA).

The notation [NP] means that a boat cannot protest under this rule. This changes rules 60.1, 60.4(a)(2) and 61.1(a).

1. Rules

- 1.1. The event will be governed by the *rules* as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) and the Star Class Rules (STCR) found at www.starclass.org
- 1.2. The following U.S. Sailing Prescriptions will apply: the Preamble to RRS Part 5, RRS 63.1, 65.1, 76.1 and Appendix R. The full text of these prescriptions can be found in **Addendum A**.
- 1.3. RRS Appendix P will apply. RRS P2.1 is changed so that it will apply to the first and subsequent penalties. RRS P2.2 and P2.3 will not apply. Also, see sailing instruction (SI) 3.4.
- 1.4. STCR 34.3.1 changes RRS 32 to provide that courses will not be shortened.
- 1.5. Per STCR 34.3.1, RRS 33(b) will apply; leg length may be changed within the parameters of the Format being sailed.
- 1.6. STCR 34.6.3 changes RRS 35, A5, and A10 to provide that boats not finishing within the stated time in the STCR after the first boat sails the course and finishes within the time limit will be scored "TLE" as defined therein.
- 1.7. RRS Appendix T1(b) applies, as modified by SI 15.2.
- 1.8. STCR 35.5 changes RRS 44.1 and P2.1 so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by a One-Turn Penalty.
- 1.9. [NP][DP] While racing, boats shall display bow numbers. The OA will supply the numbers and instructions for their application. Competitors are responsible for maintaining their bow numbers visible on both sides of the bow.
- 1.10. The race committee (RC) will use the Vakaros RaceSense system, providing relevant information to all boats. Refer to **Addendum C** and the official on-line noticeboard (ONB) for instructions, rules and details.

2. Changes to the Sailing Instructions (SI)

Any change to the SI will be approved by the Principal Race Officer (PRO) and will be posted on the ONB by 1000 on the day it will take effect, except that any change in the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect

3. Notices to Competitors

- 3.1. The ONB is located at: <https://na.starchampionships.org/>

- 3.2. On the water, the RC intends to monitor and communicate with competitors and Support Persons via VHF radio on channel 68.
- 3.3. Boats may be hailed by Race Officials by either Bow or Sail number.
- 3.4. [DP] Failure of any information to be given or received shall not be grounds for redress. Information gathered on any other VHF channel or RC communication channel shall not be grounds for redress, except when a request for redress under this instruction is initiated by the RC or the PC. These changes are added to RRS 61.1(a).
- 3.5. All questions for Race Officials shall be made in writing and will be answered, in writing, and posted on the ONB.

4. Code of Conduct

[DP] Competitors and Support Persons shall comply with reasonable requests from Race Officials. Note RRS 37.

5. Team Weight

All teams must demonstrate compliance with STCR 31.1.3 prior to 0900 on Wednesday, April 9.

6. Signals Made Ashore

- 6.1. To communicate with the fleet, the OA will organize an informal WhatsApp chat group. Specific QR codes will be available at Registration. It is the sole responsibility of a representative from each entry to subscribe to the WhatsApp group.
- 6.2. Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flagpole at the PCYC, pushed out via WhatsApp and posted on the ONB.
- 6.3. When flag AP is displayed ashore, “1 minute” is replaced with “not less than 60 minutes” in Race Signals AP.

7. Schedule

Tuesday, April 8	1000 – 1730 hrs. 1230 hrs. 1730 hrs. 1830 hrs.	Registration, Inspection of boats, Weigh-In Practice starts/practice race Deadline for Registration and Inspection of boats Opening Ceremony (dress code: Blazer)
Wednesday, April 9	0830 to 0900 0830-1000 hrs. 0930 hrs. 1230 hrs. After Racing	Weigh-In (by Appointment Only) Coffee and breakfast bar Competitor’s Meeting First Warning Signal (2 races scheduled) Dinner at PCYC (dress code: casual)
Thursday, April 10	0830-1000 hrs. 0930 hrs. 1230 hrs. After Racing	Coffee and breakfast bar Competitor’s Morning Debrief First Warning Signal (2 races scheduled) Dinner at PCYC (dress code: Casual)
Friday, April 11	0830-1000 hrs. 0930 hrs. 1230 hrs.	Coffee and breakfast bar Competitor’s Morning Debrief First Warning Signal (2 races scheduled)

Saturday, April 12	0830-1000 hrs. 0930 hrs. 1230 hrs. 1530 hrs. After Racing	Coffee and breakfast bar Competitor's Morning Debrief First Warning Signal (2 races scheduled) No Warning Signal After this Time Awards Ceremony
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- 7.1. Per STCR 27, eight (8) races are scheduled.
- 7.2. The RC may change the schedule. Two (2) races per day may be sailed, per the Format being sailed per STCR 34.3.7. The RC reserves the right to get one (1) race ahead of schedule should expected sailing conditions warrant.
- 7.3. To alert boats that a race will begin soon, the orange starting line flags will be displayed with one sound at least five minutes before a warning signal is made.

8. Class Flag

The Class Flag will be a white flag with a star.

9. Racing Area

The racing area will be the Mississippi Sound, just south of PCYC.

10. Courses [NP]

- 10.1. Per STCR 34.3, courses will be consistent with the Format being sailed, will be used, as amended by **Addendum B**.
- 10.2. No later than the warning signal, the RC signal vessel will display the course and the approximate compass bearing and distance of the first leg.

11. Mark Description

- 11.1. Starting marks will be the RC Signal vessel "Rip Tide" and a green tetrahedron.
- 11.2. Original marks will be orange tetrahedrons.
- 11.3. Per STRC 34.4.5, there will be an offset Mark 1a, which will be an orange buoy. If Mark 1 is reset, the offset Mark 1a will be reset.
- 11.4. Per STRC 34.4.4, there will be a leeward gate. In the event one mark is missing, round the remaining mark to port.
- 11.5. Change marks will be yellow tetrahedrons.
- 11.6. The finishing mark will be a small orange tetrahedron.

12. The Start

- 12.1. The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the RC signal vessel and a staff displaying an orange flag on the RC port pin-end vessel, or the course side of a starting mark.
- 12.2. The RC may broadcast starting information and countdowns.
- 12.3. A boat not starting within ten (10) minutes after the starting signal will be scored "Did Not Start" (DNS), without a hearing. This changes RRS A4, A5 and STCR 34.7.

13. Changing the Next Leg of the Course

- 13.1. To change the next leg of the course, the RC 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.
- 13.2. [NP] In addition to signaling the change from a RC service/mark vessel, the RC will attempt to announce the change on VHF Channel 68.

14. The Finish

- 14.1. The finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on the starboard end and the course side of a nearby finishing mark on the port end.
- 14.2. For a downwind finish, the finishing line will be on the opposite side of the signal vessel than the start line.

15. Penalty System

- 15.1. Penalties while in the zone of the windward mark or on the offset leg(s) shall be delayed and taken at the first reasonable opportunity on the downwind leg. This changes RRS 44.2.
- 15.2. Appendix T1(b) is changed to read; A Post-Race Penalty is a Scoring Penalty equal to 30% of the score for DNF, or 50 % of the difference between the boat's finishing position in the race and the score for DNF, whichever is less. The Scoring Penalty is calculated as stated in RRS 44.3(c). However, RRS 44.1(a) applies

16. Time Limits

The time limits will be as specified in STCR 34.3.7 and 34.6.3 (see SI 1.6), for the Format being sailed in the event.

17. Hearing Requests

- 17.1. Protests must be submitted in writing, on forms available at the Protest Desk, located in the ballroom, upstairs at PCYC. Protests shall be delivered there within the protest time limit.
- 17.2. The protest time limit shall be one (1) hour after the docking time of the RC finish vessel. The protest time limit will be posted to WhatsApp and posted on the ONB.
- 17.3. Notices will be posted on the ONB no later than 15 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties. All parties and their witnesses should report to the Protest Desk at the scheduled time.
- 17.4. Within the protest time limit, the RC shall post the bow or sail numbers of all the boats that are disqualified or penalized under RRS A5.1.

18. Scoring:

- 18.1. The scoring system is the Low Point System in RRS Appendix A.
- 18.2. Four (4) races are required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 18.3. When five (5) or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
- 18.4. There will be an Under 30 division, a Master's division, a Grand Master's, and an Exalted Grand Master's division. Entrants in these divisions also will be competing for the overall Championship.
- 18.5. To request correction of an alleged error in a posted race or series results, a boat may complete a scoring inquiry form available at the Protest Desk.

19. Liability and Safety [NP] [DP]

- 19.1. Prior to the first warning signal of the first race of the day, boats shall sail on starboard tack by the stern of the RC signal vessel, displaying code flag L, to be recorded and verbally acknowledged by the RC.
- 19.2. The safety of a boat and her entire management, including insurance, shall be the sole and inescapable responsibility of the owner and/or entrant.
- 19.3. Competitors leaving the racecourse before the end of a race shall inform the RC as soon as possible.
- 19.4. Competitors not leaving the dock on a given race day shall inform the RC as soon as possible.
- 19.5. The on-the-water safety/emergency plan can be found on the ONB and at Registration.

20. Replacement of Crew or Equipment

- 20.1. Any request for a change of crew shall be submitted to the RC in writing prior to 0930 on the day of the race for which the change is to be made. If the RC grants permission, it will do so in writing and post it on the ONB.
- 20.2. A change of helmsman will not be permitted.
- 20.3. Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed unless authorized by the Technical Committee (TC) or the Chief Judge.

20.4. Requests for substitution shall be made to the TC or Chief Judge at the first reasonable opportunity.

21. Event Advertising [NP] [DP]

If required, boats shall display event advertising supplied by the OA. World Sailing Regulation 20.9.2 applies.

22. Official Vessels

22.1 Official vessels will be marked as follows:

21.1.1. Race Committee Signal vessel: blue RC flag

21.1.2. Service/Mark vessels: yellow RC flag

21.1.3. Judge vessels: will be described at the Competitor's Meeting

22.2 [NP] Service/Mark vessels may be stationed beyond each mark. At the finish, the mark vessel may be stationed at the finishing line. When on station only, each mark vessel will display 'a large visible flag or shape'. Failure of a mark vessels to be on station or to display her signal will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.1(a).

23. Support Vessels

23.1. [NP] [DP] Per STCR 31.1.4, boats shall receive no outside assistance from any support vessel or any support person, including towing, once she has left the dock for the day until the last competitor has finished the last race of the day, except in the case of emergency and/or towing supplied by the OA and available to all participants.

23.2. [DP] Per RRS 37, all support vessels (including coach and private spectators) are expected to monitor VHF channel 68 and to render assistance to a boat in danger when requested by the boat, or at the request of the RC or Protest Committee.

23.3. [NP] [DP] All support vessels shall stay 150 meters outside areas where boats are racing from the time of the warning signal until all boats have finished racing, except as provided in SI 23.1.

23.4. During the start sequence, all support vessels shall be 100 meters to leeward of the starting area.

23.5. [NP] [DP] All support vessels associated with a competitor shall register at the Registration Desk during Registration times, noting the sail number of the competitors they are supporting and all such vessels shall monitor VHF channel 68.

24. Haul out Restrictions [NP] [DP]

All boats shall be kept in their assigned places at PCYC and Pass Cristian Marina from 0900 on Tuesday, April 8 until the end of the event. Boats shall comply with the docking and haul-out plan promulgated by the RC.

25. Diving Equipment and Plastic Pools [NP] [DP]

Underwater breathing apparatus and plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used around boats between the preparatory signal of the first race and the end of the Championship.

26. Prizes

26.1. Perpetual Trophies will be awarded according to STCR 24.

26.2. Series prizes will be awarded to the skipper and crew finishing first through fifth.

26.3. An Under 30 trophy will be awarded to the skipper finishing first in the Series for skippers aged 30 or younger before the start of the first race. Competitors in the Under 30 Division also will compete for series prizes.

26.4. A Master's trophy will be awarded to the skipper finishing first in the series for skippers aged 50 through 59 before the start of the first race. Competitors in the Master's Division also will compete for series prizes.

26.5. A Grand Master's trophy will be awarded to the skipper finishing first in the Series for skippers aged 60 through 69 before the start of the first race. Competitors in the

- Grand Master's Division also will compete for series prizes.
- 26.6. An Exalted Grand Master's trophy will be awarded to the skipper finishing first in the Series for skippers aged 70 or over before the start of the first race. Competitors in the Exalted Grand Master's Division also will compete for championship series prizes.
 - 26.7. Daily Prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the OA.
 - 26.8. The OA and the Hosts reserve the right to award additional prizes at their sole discretion.

27. 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.**

28. Media Rights

By participating in the event competitors automatically grant to the OA, and their sponsors, the right in perpetuity to make, use and show, from time to time at their discretion, any motion pictures and live, taped or filmed television and other reproductions of the athlete during the period of the competition without compensation.

29. **For additional information, please**

contact:

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ADDENDUM A

US Sailing Prescriptions that Apply:

Add to the preamble to Part 5:

US Sailing prescribes that no fees shall be charged for protests or requests for redress.

Add to rule 63.1:

US Sailing prescribes that when redress has been requested or is to be considered for one or more boats:

- (a) any other boat may participate in the hearing.**
- (b) The protest comm shall make a reasonable attempt to notify all boats of the time and place of the hearing and the reason for the request or for considering redress, and boats shall be allowed reasonable time to prepare for the hearing.**
- (c) The protest committee shall call a hearing to hear the request for redress and to consider redress for any other boats that**
 - (1) Participate in the hearing, or**
 - (2) Request in writing to do so before the hearing begins**

Add to rule 65.1:

US Sailing prescribes that:

- (a) *A boat that retires from a race or accepts a penalty does not, by that action alone, admit liability for monetary damages.***
- (b) *A protest committee shall find facts and make decisions only in compliance with the rules. No protest committee or US Sailing appeal authority shall adjudicate any claim for monetary damages. Such a claim is subject to the jurisdiction of the courts***
- (c) *A basic purpose of the rules is to prevent contact between boats. By participating in an event governed by the rules, a boat agrees that responsibility for monetary damages arising from any breach of the rules shall be based on fault as determined by application of the rules, and that she shall not be governed by the legal doctrine of 'assumption of risk' for monetary damages resulting from contact with other boats.***

Add to rule 76.1:

US Sailing prescribes that an organizing authority or race committee shall not reject or cancel the entry of a boat or exclude a competitor eligible under the notice of race and sailing instructions for an arbitrary or capricious reason or for reason of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or age. However, an organizing authority or race committee may exclude a competitor who is a citizen of, or holds a World Sailing ID as an MNA member of, a country listed on the US Sailing website under 'Exclusion' at ussailing.org/rules.

APPENDIX R

PROCEDURES FOR APPEALS AND REQUESTS

This appendix is a US Sailing prescription.

See rules 70 and 71. This appendix replaces Appendix R as adopted by World Sailing for the

purpose of creating a two-level appeals system. The US Sailing Appeals Committee acts as the national authority under rule 71.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) on the appeals system and their answers, including advice on how to prepare an appeal, can be found on the US Sailing website. Go to [Appeals - US Sailing](#) and click the 'Appeals FAQ' link.

Appeals FAQ may also be accessed here: [Appeal-FAQ-rev-2.14.19-1.pdf \(ussailing.org\)](#)

ADDENDUM C

RaceSense RRS changes

[NP]Rules and Instructions for Using the Vakaros and RaceSense System

C.1 Each boat shall have a working Vakaros Atlas 2 or Edge configured for RaceSense at check-in. Boats without a configured Atlas 2 or Edge may have one provided by the OA, for applicable fees. This shall be mounted as required by the class at all times while racing.

C.2 The Vakaros RaceSense system will be used by the Race Committee (RC) and the relevant information will be available to all boats.

C.3 Instructions for using the electronic Atlas 2 or Edge device will be posted on the Official Notice Board.

C.4 Competitors shall take all reasonable measures to keep the Atlas 2 or Edge safe and operational and promptly notify Vakaros staff on the water or ashore of any device issues.

C.5 RRS 26 is changed. The countdown to the start on the Atlas2 or Edge from RaceSense will be the official time. Signal flags will only be used for information purposes.

C.6 The visual identification of boats infringing RRS 29 and 30 by the RC is replaced with electronic identification through the Vakaros RaceSense system, modifying RRS 29.1, 30.1, 30.2, 30.3, and 30.4.

C.7 Any failure of the Atlas 2 or Edge, RaceSense system, or communication systems will not constitute grounds to request redress by a boat or the Protest Committee. This changes RRS 41(c), 61.1(a), 61.1(c).

C.8 If the RC vessel displays **code** flag O with **one** sound signal **prior** the warning signal of a race, **C**, inclusive, will not apply to that race.

C.9 If the RC vessel displays **code** flag R with **one** sound signal **prior** the warning signal of a race, Competitors shall restart their Vakaros Atlas or Edge unit by switching it off, waiting 10 seconds and then switching it back on to reconnect to the RaceSense network. **Code** flag R will remain displayed for a minimum of 2 minutes and will be removed with the next warning signal.

C.10 If firmware updates to Atlas 2 or Edge devices are required between scheduled race days, notice will be sent to all boats via email and/or WhatsApp.

