

UNITED STATES SAILING ASSOCIATION

CHAMPIONSHIP CODE OF CONDUCT

Introduction

Each competitor in a US Sailing event hereby pledges that he or she agrees to uphold the spirit of this US Sailing Code of Conduct (Code). This Code is not intended to establish a set of rules that will, by inclusion or exclusion, prescribe the appropriate behavior for competitors in every aspect of their participation in a Championship or Qualifier. Rather, the Code offers general principles to guide the conduct of competitors in situations that have ethical implications.

The competitor commits to familiarization with this Code and understands that acceptance of its provisions is a condition of participation in a US Sailing event. Competitors who do not conform to this Code will be subject to the consequences of their actions, as specified below. The competitor has a right to a hearing if charged with a violation of this Code.

Elements of the Code

Each competitor in a US Sailing event pledges they agree to abide by the Regulations and Bylaws of US Sailing with regard to alleged incidences of misconduct and by the US Sailing SafeSport Handbook. The event is defined as running from on-site registration to departure from the venue at the conclusion of the event.

Participation

Will abide by *The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)*, the US Sailing SafeSport Handbook, the US Sailing Regulations and Bylaws, all rules related to the Championship selection procedures as specified by US Sailing, the Championship Conditions, the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions for the Championship or Qualifier.

Are eligible to compete under all US Sailing rules.

Fair Play and Conduct

Will abide by *RRS 2* and 69, and the US Sailing SafeSport Handbook.

Drugs & Alcohol

Will abide by the US Sailing SafeSport Handbook.

Will abide by US Sailing Regulation 10.03 for Prohibited Substances as defined below:

For Adult US Sailing championship events, no competitor shall use or possess, either on or off the water: marijuana or any other

substance if possession is illegal under state or federal law.

For Junior and Youth events or for junior or youth competitors in any US Sailing championship, no competitor shall use or possess, either on or off the water:

1. marijuana or any other substance if possession is illegal under state or federal law; or
2. any alcoholic beverages.

Sexual Abuse & Harassment

Will abide by the US Sailing SafeSport Handbook and US Sailing Regulation 13.04 for Sexual Abuse & Harassment.

Physical Abuse & Assault

Will abide by the US Sailing SafeSport Handbook and US Sailing Regulation 13.05 for Physical Abuse & Assault.

Bullying & Hazing

Will abide by the US Sailing SafeSport Handbook and US Sailing Regulation 13.06 for Bullying & Hazing.

Enforcement of the Code

Compliance with this Code depends primarily upon understanding the Code and voluntary compliance, secondarily upon reinforcement by peers, and, when necessary, upon enforcement through disciplinary action as outlined by the *RRS*, the US Sailing SafeSport Handbook, and the US Sailing Regulations and Bylaws.

If an incident is brought to the attention of the Organizing Authority, Host and/or the Protest Committee for the event alleging that a competitor has violated this Code, the Protest Committee shall protest the competitor and conduct a hearing that meets the requirements of Part 5, Section B of the *RRS*. The competitor has the right and option to voluntarily withdraw from the event rather than proceeding with a hearing. The Protest Committee decides that the competitor has violated the Code and is not exonerated, it may

- (a) remove some or all of the competitor's event privileges or benefits,
- (b) disqualify the competitor's boat from the race or races sailed nearest in time to that of the incident, or
- (c) disqualify the competitor's boat from all races in the event and exclude the competitor from the event or venue. Further action may be determined by the Protest Committee if warranted including considering calling a hearing under *RRS 69.2(b)* or remanding it to the US Sailing Review Board.

Scoring

When a competitor withdraws from part of an event pursuant to the Code, the scores of all completed races shall stand for the purposes of determining the seeding of subsequent rounds or stages in the event. However, that competitor's boat/team will no longer be eligible to compete in the event, shall be removed from the final event scores, and each boat/team with a worse finishing place in the event shall be moved up one place. The same scoring applies if a boat is disqualified from the remaining races in an event.