



Conditions for the US Team Racing Championship

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SECTION A PREAMBLE

Section A clauses not rank as “rules” as defined by the Racing Rules of Sailing. As such, boats in a regatta may not protest each other for failure to comply with this preamble, nor base a request for redress on the alleged failure of an organizing authority, race committee, protest committee or technical committee to obey the clauses of this preamble.

A1 INTRODUCTION

- A1.1 These conditions govern the US Team Racing Championship (Championship).
- A1.2 This championship is governed by these conditions and the US Sailing Championships Conditions (abbreviated below as “overall conditions”).

A2 OBJECTIVES

- A2.1 The primary objective of the championship is to provide the highest quality of team racing to US sailors and selected teams from overseas.
- A2.2 During the appropriate years, a secondary objective is to select U.S. teams to represent the United States at the World Sailing Team Race World Championship.
- A2.3 A third objective is to promote team racing in general within the United States and to provide an educational forum for team racing ideas, rules, tactics and strategies. To help energize team racing and provide a platform for sailors to advance to the championship, certain events held throughout the US can petition the USTRC committee to be designated as “qualifying events” for the USTRC.

SECTION B CHAMPIONSHIP RULES

Section B clauses DO rank as ‘rules’ as defined by the Racing Rules of Sailing.

The notation ‘[DP]’ in a rule of this section means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification. The notation ‘[NP]’ in a rule of this section means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule nor request redress based on that rule. This changes RRS 60.1 and 61.1.

B1 GOVERNANCE

- B1.1 See the overall conditions for additional conditions that apply.
- B1.2 The notice of race (NoR) will be prepared by the USTRC Committee and will be available for publication and distribution at least three months prior to the championship.
- B1.3 The sailing instructions will be prepared by the USTRC Committee in consultation with the host club and US Sailing.

B2 ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION OF TEAMS

- B2.1 The regatta is open to invited teams of sailors who are current members of US Sailing or their national authority if the team or team members are from another nationality.
- B2.2 Teams will be selected or invited by the USTRC Committee or its appointed selection committee on the basis of applications or regatta results as provided in the NoR.
- B2.3 There is no citizenship requirement to enter this event, but only all US teams (see US Sailing Championship Conditions B7.3(a)) may be declared the US National Champion.

B2.4 Teams interested in selection by application shall complete the online entry form posted to the USTRC webpage and in accordance with the NoR. Application does not guarantee acceptance. The USTRC Committee/selection committee will review the applications and notify all applicants of their status. Application fees will not be returned to non-selected teams.

B2.5 The Chairperson of the USTRC Committee may accept late entries to fill any remaining berths.

B3 BOAT/EQUIPMENT

B3.1 The boats to be sailed will be described in the NoR.

B4 MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM COMBINED CREW WEIGHT, WET CLOTHING, AND WEIGHT JACKETS

B4.1 The combined weight of the entire six-person team shall not be less than 870 pounds. The team shall carry penalty weight if the combined weight fails to meet the minimum. Penalty weight will be one pound of corrector for each pound of weight less than 870lbs. Penalty weights shall be distributed amongst the boats of a team to make the combined weight of skipper and crew of each of the three boats as even as practicable. The protest committee, on request, may approve a more equitable distribution.

B4.2 Providing penalty corrector weights shall be the responsibility of the competitors. Only water in sealed jugs shall be acceptable. Competitors will carry the penalty corrector weights in every race, from boat to boat, and shall secure them in the cockpit of each boat.

B4.3 Competitors shall be weighed by a member of the organizing authority on the scale provided to determine combined weight. Competitors will be weighed in swimming attire or light clothing with empty pockets.

B4.4 Competitors shall not wear wet clothing for the purpose of increasing weight. Water bottle or weight jackets are prohibited. Clothes worn on the water must be reasonable in terms of weather conditions, and all clothes worn for additional warmth shall be worn inside foul weather gear.

B4.5 The spot checks of team weights may be made during the regatta for compliance.

B4.6 Penalties for violation of crew weights, clothing rules shall be set forth in the sailing instructions.

B5 CREW CHANGES - Alternates and Substitutions (changes the US Champs Conditions B11)

B5.1 Team member substitutions will be allowed prior to the Substitution Deadline as established by the NoR. For all teams that qualified at a qualifying event, no more than 1 skipper and 1 crew may be changed prior to the Substitution Deadline. For all teams selected by resume, only one team member (either skipper or crew) may be changed prior to the Substitution Deadline.

B5.2 After the Substitution Deadline, teammate substitution is prohibited, unless due to illness, injury, or other emergency, and approval is granted. Any such substitution pursuant to this clause requires the prior approval of the Chief Umpire in consultation with the Championship Chair.

B5.3 Substitutions after the regatta has commenced are prohibited unless a team member is unable to continue due to illness, injury, or other emergency and prior approval is granted by the protest committee.

SECTION C CHAMPIONSHIP POLICIES

Section C clauses do not rank as "rules" as defined by the Racing Rules of Sailing. As such, boats in a regatta may not protest each other for failure to comply with this preamble, nor base a request for redress on the alleged failure of an organizing authority, race committee, protest committee or technical committee to obey the clauses of this preamble.

C1 CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEE

C1.1 The Championship Committee shall be the US Sailing US Team Racing Championship Committee.

C2 ENTRY FEES

- C2.1 The USTRC Committee shall approve the entry fee and all other assessed fees based on a reasonable estimate of the costs including, but not limited to; race management, trophies, meals, Chairperson's expenses, transportation, printing and publicity. The intention of the committee is that the host club and US Sailing break even in the hosting of the championship. However, the entry fees should not be expected to cover the entire cost of running the event.

C3 DAMAGE DEPOSITS

- C3.1 Each team will be required to file a credit card number or provide a check with the organizing authority to cover all damage that is assessed to that team as determined by the designated member of the organizing authority (or manufacturer's representative when so assigned) and the outcome of the umpire calls, if any. The process will be detailed in the Notice of Race.

C4 EVENT FORMAT

- C4.1 This championship will be scheduled as a three- or four-day event, preferably including a weekend. The day prior to the regatta may be used as an optional practice session at the discretion of the organizing authority. Competitors are not required to be present for any practice sessions. Registration and a competitor meeting will take place early on the first day of racing, and racing will commence as soon as possible following that meeting.
- C4.2 No competitors, except those representing the host club, will be permitted to practice at the site of the championship before the optional practice day.
- C4.3 The format of the event will be dependent on the number of registered teams, the number of available boats, and subject to anticipated wind and weather conditions. The intended format may be a single or multiple round robins of all teams, or teams may be split into groups for a preliminary round robin or ladder elimination format, potentially followed by a championship round robin or knock-out elimination. The format to be attempted will be announced at the competitor meetings and posted on the Official Notice Board with any contingency arrangements.
- C4.4 If extraordinary circumstances preclude the possibility of completing any type of round robin series, the Championship Chair in consultation with the protest committee and the regatta chairperson, may terminate or alter the format in progress, and institute a single or double elimination ladder format, or make whatever arrangements necessary to conclude the championship and declare a winner.
- C4.5 The course will be as described by the Sailing Instructions. The length of the course should vary depending on the type of boat used and the wind strength. Conditions permitting, each race should take between 7-12 minutes to sail, although variance with this condition shall not be grounds for redress.

C5 OFFICIALS

- C5.1 The regatta will be officiated by on-the-water umpires in accordance with RRS D2. The Chief Umpire for the event must be a US Sailing National Umpire or WS International Umpire.
- C5.2 Appropriate umpire boats shall be provided, with sufficient boats to allow for a back-up boat. The type of boats proposed must be detailed in the submission to host the event and must be approved by the Championship Chair before final selection of the site.
- C5.3 The host club will provide housing and meals for the umpires.
- C5.4 The USTRC Committee may appoint a Race Management Coordinator to help with course set-up, wind shifts and race coordination. The host club will provide housing and meals for this Coordinator.

C6 SCORING

- C6.1 Scoring will be in accordance with RRS D4 as amended by the sailing instructions.

C7 PRIZES

- C7.1 The George R. Hinman Trophy will be presented to the winning team.