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**SAILING INSTRUCTIONS 2014 DOG DAYS SERIES**

**1. Rules** - The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *Racing Rules of Sailing*.

1.1**.** Rule 77 is replaced with the following: In order to be scored, each boat must carry her sail number on her mainsail. Boats with spinnakers should carry the same sail number on their spinnaker and mainsail.

**2. Notices to Competitors** will be posted on the official notice board located on the northeast-facing wall of the AYC clubhouse, lower level.

**3. Signals Made Ashore**

 3.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed from the AYC flagpole

3.2. When a signal is displayed over a class flag it applies to that class only.

 3.3. When the AP flag is displayed ashore, “1 minute” is replaced with “not less than 30 minutes in Race

 Signal AP.

**4. Schedule of Races -** Dates of Races for all classes are listed in the Series Notice of Regatta (NOR).

 4.1. The completion of one race constitutes a Regatta.

**5. Check in by Competitors**

 5.1. Registration for the series is through the Regatta Network. This link can be found through the Regatta Network (regattanetwork.com) or though the link on the AYC web site. In order to be scored, each boat must register through Regatta Network. Those boats who are racing in handicap classes must provide their correct handicap rating. Each boat is required to check in and declare Boat Type, Sail Number, and Participating Class by either:

 1.) Signing up at the official notice board prior to the Race Committee (RC) leaving to man the boats.

 2.) Sailing past the stern of the RC boat on starboard tack and hailing prior to the first warning signal of the day.

3.) Sailing past the stern of the RC boat on starboard tack and hailing after her class warning signal but prior to the drop of the preparatory flag.

**6. Class Flags -** Class Flag designations will be numerical pennants.

1. **Courses**
	1. All Long Distance courses are defined on the AYC Course Card. Copies of the Course Card will be available in the bins on the East corner of the AYC Clubhouse and in the RC room.
	2. All Round the Buoys (RTB) courses will be windward leeward. The course will be displayed on the back of the RC boat using a “W” followed by a number. The number will represent the number of weather legs to be sailed. After the last weather leg competitors will finsh down wind.

**8. Time Limits**

8.1. For Round-the-Buoys (RTB) and Intermediate (I) courses, the time limit for each race will be two (2) hours for the first boat to sail the course and finish. A boat failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat in her class sails the course and finishes will be scored DNF. This modifies rules 35 and A4.

 8.2. For Long Distance (LD) courses, the time limit for each race will be three (3) hours for the first boat to sail the course and finish. Boats failing to finish within 75 minutes after the first boat in her class sails the course and finished will be scored DNF.

1. **The Start**
	1. The starting line will be between orange line flag on the Race Committee boat and a white buoy on the port end.
	2. The starting area is the area within 100 yards of the starting line; within this area, boats whose warning signal has not been made shall keep clear of the line and of all boats whose warning signal has been made
	3. *For all classes the starting line will be set to the leeward of the RTB Leeward Mark.*

1. **Recalls**
	1. The RC will attempt to promptly broadcast the sail number of each recalled boat on the primary VHF channel posted on the official notice board. The following shall NOT be grounds for redress:
		1. Failure of a boat to receive the recall broadcast.
		2. Failure of the RC to broadcast recall numbers.
		3. A boat’s position in the sequence of broadcast numbers.
		4. A class that has a General Recall will go to the end of the starting sequence for it’s next start.

**11. Change of Course -** For Long Distance (LD) courses; the Race Committee may finish boats at any mark of the course.

**12. The Finish -** The finish line will be between an orange line flag on a Race Committee boat and a white buoy on the starboard end.

12.1. After starting, the finish line is an obstruction, except when on the last leg of the course. Boats that sail through this obstruction will immediately be scored points equal to DNF. This modifies Rule 28.1.

12.2. *For RTB classes the finish will be either to leeward of the Leeward Mark.*

12.3. *For Long Distance courses the Finish Line will be to the leeward of the RTB Leeward Mark.*

**13. Protests -** Written protests shall be filed with a Race Committee representative in the AYC office. Protests shall be filed within 30 minutes of the Race Committee boat docking after the race. Protests will be heard in the approximate the order of receipt as soon as possible on the day of the race or as soon as reasonably possible.

**14. Mediation**

 14.1. Before any protest is scheduled for a hearing, a mediation meeting will be held for all

 protests citing alleged breaches of the rules of Part 2 of the Racing Rules of Sailing

 that involves only two boats. This modifies rules 63.1.

 14.2. After a written protest form is delivered, one designated representative, in compliance

 with rule 63.3(a), for each party will appear with a mediator. No witnesses are

 permitted during mediation.

 14.3. After hearing the testimony of each representative the mediator shall reach one of the

 following conclusions:

14.3.1. There was no breach of a rule or the protest is invalid. If the representatives agree, the protest is withdrawn and cannot be reopened. If any representative disagrees the matter goes to the protest .

 14.3.2. There was a breach of a rule by one or more of the boats involved. The representative(s) of the

 offending boats(s) have the option of accepting a 40 percent alternative penalty (calculated as in rule 44.3(c)) or submitting the matter to the protest committee for a hearing. If the penalty is accepted, the matter cannot be reopened or made the subject of a redress request

 14.3.3. The matter should go to the protest committee for a hearing.

 14.4. When the protest is referred to the protest committee, the mediator will not be a member of the protest committee that hears the protest, but will be allowed to observe the evidence presented and to provide testimony

**15. Safety**

 15.1. The level of Lake Travis fluctuates so beware of shallow spots.

 15.2. A boat retiring from a race shall notify the RC before leaving the racing area or as soon as possible.

 15.3. For matters concerning safety, boats may contact the RC by VHF radio on the primary or alternate operating channel posted on the Official Notice Board.

**16. Disclaimer of Liability -** Competitors participate in the series races entirely at their own risk. See rule 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the series races.