SIRA/TYC
SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES:

1.1 All racing will be governed by Racing Rules of Sailing for 2025-2028 (RRS)
1.2 Notice of Race

2. ENTRIES:

Eligible yachts may be entered by completing and submitting required registration forms as noted in the Notice of Race. They must be current with dues. They must submit a valid PHRF-NB rating certificate.

3. SCHEDULE OF RACES:

Will be posted and maintained on the website – https://www.siraracing.org/schedule.html

4. COMMUNICATIONS:

4.1 The official VHF channel for the fleet is Channel 72. It is expected that racers will have a VHF and monitor this channel during racing and 30 minutes before starting and after finishing for information and safety purposes.
4.2 The acting Race Committee or Fleet Captains may amend or change these Sailing Instructions at any time by broadcasting on VHF. The Race Committee will attempt to transmit pertinent race information on VHF. Transmissions, or lack thereof, shall not be grounds for redress. The Race Committee will attempt to keep racers advised of any changes in course or shortening thereof by VHF in addition to flag signals.

5. CLASSES:

5.1 For the Spring and Fall Series, there will be two classes - Spinnaker (with the yellow flag option) and Non-Spinnaker. For the Summer Series - there will be three classes, Large & Small Spinnaker (with yellow flag option) and a non-spinnaker.
5.2 For all series, classes will be pre-assigned by the TYC/SIRA Fleet Captains based upon PHRF ratings and other considerations. You must be assigned to a class before the start of a series. There will not be switching of classes mid-series.
5.3 Checking In - Each yacht should sail by the Race Committee boat before the first warning signal and identify itself, its class, its sail number and number of individuals on board and its intent to race with spinnaker or non-spinnaker. If intending to race with a spinnaker, the "Q" flag must be flown from a boat's backstay. The Q flag designation must be made before a boat preparatory signal. Yachts arriving at the starting area after the start of the first class countdown sequence should avoid the starting area and check in by VHF transmission.

5.4 Non-Spinnaker qualification: For non-spinnaker boats only one headsail is permitted at a time and must be retained in close proximity to the head stay by either an extruded foil or a series of hanks. Staysails and modified Code Zeros are not permissible in the non-spinnaker classes unless as part of the original sail plan of the yacht's rigging and included in her PHRF rating.

6. STARTING SIGNALS:

6.1 Starting signals and start times will be made in accordance with the SIRA/TYC starting sequence available on the website - https://www.siraracing.org/race-documents.html
6.2 Course number will be displayed on the Race Committee Boat
6.3 Gather Round - One minute before the first class warning signal the Committee boat will attempt to sound a series of short blasts to alert the fleet that the sequence is about to start. VHF transmission **may** also be used in addition for this purpose. The Gather Round signal is a courtesy and does not constitute part of the starting sequence.
6.5 Yachts in a class whose warning signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area.
6.6 The Race Committee may trail a "keep off" mark. This buoy is to be regarded as an integral part of the Committee Boat.
6.7 GPS Time - the RC will endeavor to use GPS Time or equivalent (e.g. there are apps for smartphones which closely approximate GPS time). When unable to use GPS time, cell phone time is the best alternative and will be used. Not using GPS time is not grounds for redress.

7 THE START:

7.1 The starting line will be between a white flag on the Committee Boat and the identified government mark as designated in the course description in the Course Pack.
7.2 The starting sequence follows the starting sequence on the website. Times shall be taken from visual signals; the absence of a sound signal is not grounds for redress.
7.3 Recalls:
7.3.1 Individual Recalls will be made in accordance with Rules 29.1, In addition to the requirements of RRS 29 the Race Committee will endeavor to hail each premature starter audibly and on VHF. Failure on the part of the Race Committee to hail each premature starter shall not relieve a yacht of her obligation to start correctly. The "round the ends rule" is NOT in effect.
7.3.2 General Recalls will be identified on VHF. All General Recalls will proceed in a rolling 5 minute start after the last starting class. If there are two general recalls it will be a rolling start with the first general recalled class going first and the second general recalled class going second after the first general recalled class and so forth.

8 THE FINISH:
8.1 Shortening the course - the acting Race Committee can choose to shorten the course at their discretion. Shortening the courses can be done on a class by class basis. Most courses have a suggested "short" version and identifies the mark at which to finish. The acting Race Committee can override the published finish procedure and can shorten the course in any manner they see fit to achieve a finish.

8.2 Time limits - The time limit for all classes is two hours after the start of the last class. If no yacht in a class finishes within the 2 hour time limit, the race is abandoned for that class. If any yacht in a class finishes within the time limit, the committee boat shall remain on station for two hours and thirty minutes after the start of the last class. Yachts not then finished will be scored DNF.

9 ALTERNATIVE PENALTIES:

A boat may take a One-Turn Penalty when she may have broken a rule of Part 2 (RRS 44.1 is modified) instead of the standard Two-Turn Penalty under RRS 44.

10 RETIREMENT (DNF) NOTIFICATION:

A boat that retires from a race shall notify the Race Committee via VHF as soon as possible.

11 PROTEST AND REQUEST FOR REDRESS:

11.1 Yachts intending to file a protest must:

- Fly Code Flag B (Bravo) as soon as possible after the incident
- Attempt to notify the yacht being protested of the intent to protest
- Notify their intent to the Race Committee Boat immediately after the race.
- A written protest must be filed by 1200 on the day following the race with the Fleet Captain of either SIRA or TYC.

The time and date of the Protest Hearing will be announced by a Fleet Captain. Failure of either the protesting and/or the protested yacht's skipper or representative to appear at the hearing will result in a DSQ for that yacht for the race.

11.2 Requests for Redress - shall be lodged in accordance with RRS Part 5

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