

**SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**  
SNIPE CLASS INTERNATIONAL RACING ASSOCIATION-USA  
72<sup>nd</sup>. SNIPE MIDWINTER CHAMPIONSHIP

**CLEARWATER YACHT CLUB, CLEARWATER, FLORIDA**

**MARCH 14, 15 & 16, 2010**

**1. Rules:**

- 1.1 The 72<sup>nd</sup>. Snipe Midwinter Championship Regatta is governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).

**2. Entry and Eligibility:**

- 2.1 This regatta is open to SCIRA registered boats & Class Member skippers in good standing with SCIRA, for the current year.
- 2.2 Once a crew has been excused, he/she shall not return for the balance of the series without permission of the PRO or the SCIRA rep.
- 2.3 The Race Committee may inspect competitors or boats not racing at any time.

**3. Notices to Competitors:**

- 3.1 Notices to competitors shall be posted on the official notice board at the lower level north wall of the Clearwater Community Sailing Center. (CCSC).
- 3.2 Race Committee notices or changes to the Sailing Instructions shall be posted and signaled no later than 30 minutes before the departure of the main Race Committee boat, except any change in the schedule of races shall be posted by 2000 hours on the day before it shall take effect.
- 3.3 Any change or amendment to the Sailing Instructions shall be negotiated with the SCIRA Representative.

**4. Competitor's Meeting:**

- 4.1 Clearwater Community Sailing Center, (CCSC). March 14, 2010, at 0930 hrs.

**5. Signals Made Ashore:**

- 5.1 Signals made ashore shall be displayed at on the flag pole of the Clearwater Community Sailing Center. (CCSC)
- 5.2 When Flag AP is displayed ashore, "1 minute" is replaced with "not less than 75 minutes" after the "AP" is lowered.

**6. Schedule of Races:**

Saturday	March 13, 2010	1400 - 1800	Registration and Measurement
Sunday	March 14, 2010	0800 - 0900	Late Registration
		0930	Skippers Meeting
		1100	First warning signal, Races to follow
Monday	March 15, 2010	1100	First warning signal, Races to follow
Tuesday,	March 16, 2010	1100	First warning signal, Races to follow
			No warning signal shall be made later than 1400 Tuesday March 16, 2010

**7. Racing Area:**

The Racing Area location is the Gulf of Mexico north of Clearwater Pass.

**8. Courses:**

- 8.1 Courses used shall be one or more of those shown in the Course Diagram in the SCIRA Official Rulebook and SCIRA web site and shall be described in detail as in the following examples:
- a. An 'Olympic Course', signaled by Flag "O" consisting of a triangle followed by windward, leeward and windward legs and finishing at Mark 1.
  - b. A Triangular Course, signaled by Flag "T" consisting of two triangles followed by a windward leg and finishing at Mark 1.
  - c. A Windward and Leeward Course, signaled by Flag "W" consisting of windward and leeward legs, twice around, followed by a windward leg and finishing at Mark #1. An offset mark will be used whenever Course "W" is signaled.
  - d. When a Windward-Leeward Course is selected, a gate will be used at the leeward mark, Mark 3) when the fleet consists of 20 or more boats.

**Courses:**

- 8.1 The approximate compass bearing to Mark 1 shall be displayed by numerical posting on a board on the signal boat before the Preparatory signal.
- 8.2 The course marks shall be left or passed to port. Course diagrams are attached. See exhibit "A"

**9. Marks:**

- 9.1 Primary marks 1, 2, 3 shall be inflatable yellow tetrahedrons.
- 9.2 New marks used in accordance with change of course after the start shall be an orange tetrahedron.
- 9.3 The starting mark and the offset mark shall be a round orange ball.
- 9.4 The finish mark shall be the windward mark.

**10. Reporting at Starts:**

- 10.1 Before the start of the first race each day an "L" Flag shall be hoisted and each boat is required to sail past the stern of the Race Committee Signal boat on **starboard tack** and check in by hailing their sail number.
- 10.2 When the Race Committee verbally acknowledges a boat's sail number the Check in is officially noted.
- 10.3 Any boat failing to check in, in accordance with instruction 10, shall receive a scoring penalty equal to 10% of the starters in that race without a hearing changing RRS 63.1.

**11. The Start:**

- 11.1 Races shall be started in accordance with RRS 26.
- 11.2 The starting line shall be between an orange flag on the Race Committee boat at the starboard end and an orange round mark on the course side of the port end starting mark.
- 11.3 The official Class Flag shall be the Snipe Class flag, a red Snipe on a white background.
- 11.4 A course change may be signaled at the time postponement or general recall is lowered.
- 11.5 A boat shall not start more than five (5) minutes after her starting signal. Any boat started later shall be scored DNC or DNS without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1.
- 11.6 If the starting line is to be set to leeward (below) mark 3, then mark 3 is not a mark of the course on the first leg of the race.
- 11.7 Individual recalls shall be signaled in accordance with RRS 29.1. No attempt shall be made to hail the OCS competitors.

## **12. Change of Course After the Start:**

- 12.1 A change of course shall be signaled according to RRS 33.
- 12.2 Any mark to be rounded after rounding the new (changed) mark may be relocated to maintain the correct course configuration. When in a subsequent change of course a new mark is replaced, it shall be replaced with a primary mark.
- 12.3 If during a race the wind and or wave action increases to the point where a windward-leeward course or Olympic course would be inadvisable (See Course Selection Diagram), the Race Committee shall display Flag T, or, O. at any mark. In case of wind decrease during the race the Race Committee can change the course Selection from T to O or W displaying the appropriate flag at any mark.
- 12.4 RRS 33 (Changing the Course after the Start) is modified so that any leg shortening or lengthening shall not be by more than 30% of the original leg length.

## **13. The Finish:**

- 13.1 The finish line shall be between an orange flag on a Race Committee boat and the course side of the finishing mark.
- 13.2 Any competitor using 2-turns penalty shall report to the Race Committee promptly upon finishing that race.
- 13.3 Any boat intending to protest shall notify the Race Committee immediately after finishing that race. This modifies RRS 61.1(a)

## **14. Time Limit:**

- 14.1 The races will be managed to last 60-75 minutes for the first boat to finish. A different time (shorter or longer) used to complete the race shall not be ground for protest. Any boat that has started, but not finished the race within 30 minutes after the first boat has finished shall be scored DNF (one point more than the score of the last boat finishing). This changes rule 35, 63.1 and Appendix A4.2"
- 14.2 The time limit for the first boat to complete the first lap is 40 minutes from the start.
- 14.3 The time limit for the first boat to finish shall be 1 hour 30 min.

## **15. Withdrawing From the Race:**

- 15.1 A boat that exits the course shall notify the Race Committee at the first opportunity.

## **16. Protests:**

- 16.1 Protest forms will be available at Clearwater Community Sailing Center. (CCSC), Official Notice Board within one hour after the last boat finishes the last race of the day. Protest shall be delivered to the Jury within one hour 30 minutes after the last boat finishes the last race of the day. This changes RRS 61.3 and 62.2.
- 16.2 Within the protest time, the Race Committee shall post the sail numbers of all the boats that are penalized under RRS 29 and 30.
- 16.3 A notice fulfilling the requirements of RRS 63.2 and indicating the parties, time and order of hearings will be posted not later than 15 minutes following the expiring of protest time limit.
- 16.4 On the last day of the regatta, a request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered:
  - (a) Within the protest time limit if the party requesting reopening was informed of the decision on the previous day
  - (b) No later than thirty (30) minutes after the party requesting reopening was informed of the decision on that day. This modifies RRS 66.
- 16.5 Breaches of **SI # 18** (Support Boats) and **SI# 22** (Disposal of Refuse) shall not be grounds for protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a)

## **17. Scoring:**

- 17.1 The regatta shall be scored using **RRS Appendix A** Low Point System as modified in SI 14.3 and 19.3. This changes RRS A4.2.
- 17.2 One drop race shall be permitted upon completion of 6 races. This changes RRS , A2
- 17.3 A boat intending to retire and be scored "RAF" shall report its intent in writing to the Race Committee within the protest time limit.

## **18. Support Boats:**

- 18.1 Coaches and other support personnel shall register with the Regatta Office and will fly the provided identifying flag. The Race Committee may initiate additional restrictions by posting them on the Official Notice Board. Any competitor associated with personnel determined to have violated this rule shall be subject to protest and assessed a 10% penalty equal to a Check in Failure (CNF) for the race in which the violation occurred. This changes RRS 63.1.
- 18.2 Coaches shall not communicate with competitors after the warning signal for any race until after the finish of the race. At the warning signal, coaches must be positioned at least 50 meters below the starting line. After the starting signal coaches may follow the fleet, but only on the port side of the course and must stay 50 meters from any mark. Failure to comply with these stipulations, at the discretion of the Race Committee, shall result in denial in access of the coach boats. This changes RRS 63.1.

## 19 Safety:

19.1 Before going afloat **each day of scheduled racing and immediately upon returning** to shore, but not later than the end of the Protest Time limit, each skipper shall personally sign his or her name on an **AM sign-out / an PM sign-in** sheet located near the **Official Notice Board**.

19.2 A competitor that withdraws from a race or intends not to start a race shall inform the nearest race committee boat as soon as possible. In the event this is impossible, then immediately after arriving ashore, the competitor shall notify a regatta representative and follow the same procedure as in paragraph 19.1.

19.3 Failure to comply with any part of 19.1 or 19.2, shall result in a competitor having 5 points added to their score without a hearing for the first violation, 10 points for the second violation without a hearing and for the third and subsequent violations a penalty as determined at a hearing by the Protest Committee which may include DSQ for the series.

- Only the first violation shall be scored each day
- Violations shall only be assessed for days that competitors leave the harbor intending to race
- Penalty points shall be assessed, to the first race of the day for a sign out violation, to the last race of the day for a sign in violation, to the race sailed nearest the time of the first violation for days no races are completed

## 20. **Disclaimer of Liability:**

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

## 21. **Insurance:**

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum coverage of \$ 300,000 per event or the equivalent thereof.

## 22. **Disposal of Refuse:**

22.1 The discharge of refuse into the water is prohibited during the entirety of this event.

22.2 Any boat observed to be in violation is subject to protest and shall be assessed the same 10% percentage penalty as a Check-In Failure (CNF) would receive for the first race competed in by the infringing boat on the day of the infraction.

23. **Prizes:**

Prizes shall be awarded to the skipper and crew for the top 5 places. The Midwinter Championship Perpetual Trophy will be awarded to the boat with the lowest total points. The Blair Masters Perpetual Trophy will be awarded to the skipper, fifty years or older with the lowest total points. The Levinson Sportsmanship Trophy will be awarded during this regatta by participant vote.

PRO: \_\_\_\_\_  
John Ardolino

SCIRA Rep: \_\_\_\_\_  
Brainard Cooper