

Carquinez Challenge Regatta Race Instructions

1.0 RULES: Racing will be governed by the 2017--2020 ISAF Racing Rules as adopted by U.S. Sailing, except as otherwise amended in these instructions. Membership in US Sailing is not a requirement for any captain or crew. All races will be Category A events.

2.0 ELIGIBILITY: Yachts registered to race in BYC or VYC Race programs in the 2018 racing year will be eligible to enter this race.

The skipper of record will sign in all guests and comply with club rules when in the clubhouse.

Guest yachts may race at the discretion of the race committee but will not be officially scored.

3.0 ENTRY: Prior to start of race, the entrant must have a completed BYC or VYC Racing Entry Form on file with the Race Chairman. Yacht not satisfying the entry requirements will not be considered a competitor.

4.0 RATINGS: YRA PHRF ratings will be used. Each yacht will be deemed racing with a spinnaker and a 155% maximum genoa unless declared otherwise. Ratings will be based on established San Francisco Bay ratings but subject to adjustment by the Rating Committee. The following allowances will be applicable: +12 sec/mile for non-spinnaker (must notify rc before 1st gun), +3 sec/mile for a 2 blade fixed prop, +6 sec/mile for a 3 blade fixed prop, +6 sec/mile for boat with <125% head sail rated for a 155% head sail.

5.0 COURSES AND MARK DESCRIPTIONS: Published as a separate Course Sheet (if any). The Course Sheet is part of the Sailing Instructions. Mare Island Light #1 shall be left to the West. Mare Island Light #2 (At end of Breakwater) shall be left to the east.

6.0 MANAGEMENT: Racing will be under the management of the Race Chairman of Benicia and Vallejo Yacht club.

7.0 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS: Notices will be posted on the Race Bulletin Board at the north end of the BYC upper floor.

CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS: Any change in sailing instructions will be posted on the Race Bulletin Board. Every effort will be made to ensure that all competitors are aware of the change.

9.0 ON-THE WATER COMMUNICATIONS: Each yacht intending to race must check in with the Race Committee before starting. Check in may be by hail or on VHF Channel 71. The Race Committee will monitor VHF channel 71 for traffic concerning withdrawals and emergencies during the race. The Race Committee will broadcast on VHF channel 71 instructions relating to cancellation or abandonment of a race. The Committee will make a reasonable effort to respond to inquiries concerning course and starts. A yacht retiring from a race must notify the Race Committee of that fact by hail, on VHF channel 71.

10.0 MINIMUM EQUIPMENT: All yachts must comply with the U.S. Coast Guard safety equipment requirements for recreational vessels. All yachts must display the proper running lights. All yachts must have a VHF radio that is operating and tuned to channel 71 while they are in the race. Failure to do so may disqualify the yacht.

11.0 RESPONSIBILITY: It is the sole responsibility of each skipper to decide whether or not to start or continue to race.

INTERFERENCE WITH COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC: Yachts must not interfere with commercial vessels, naval vessels, tugs or fishing boats. Special consideration should be given to the turning pattern and approach of the Valljeo Ferry Service at the Ferry Terminal Landing. Yachts so doing and thereby endangering their own safety and that of others will be subject to disqualification and/or protest by other competitors. If required, the committee boat shall check-in with Vessel Traffic Service (VTS) prior to and upon completion of each race event. The committee boat shall also monitor channel 14 if required during the racing event.

13.0 THE START: Races will be started per the course sheet (if any). The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange (or white) flag or shape on the race committee boat and the starting mark. Yachts whose preparatory signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area and all yachts whose preparatory signal has been made. Starting times are shown on the Course Sheet. Courses will be signaled by international code number pennants and may not be changed after the preparatory signal is made.

13.1 Alternate Start Line: The race committee may choose to start and finish the race from on-shore in the absence of a committee boat. The start and finish line shall be a line extending 50 yards south from the start buoy in line with a white or orange flag on shore near the marina gate E. The race committee will make every attempt to coordinate the flag sequence with radio transmission on channel 71.

14.0 RESTRICTED AREAS: After starting, yachts shall not cross the

start/finish line unless they are finishing or it is a twice-around course. Yachts may also pass through the start/finish line on the first leg of a course or when the start pin is a mark for a course. The race committee shall be responsible for completing the protest form. A yacht may absolve itself by unwinding itself and passing by the start/finish properly. Daymark "23" (near Benicia's 1st Street Pier) must be left to the north. Yachts may not pass between the islands or visible rocks and the North shore of the Carquinez strait.

15.0 INDIVIDUAL RECALLS: Individual recalls will be signaled in accordance with ISAF rule 29.1. The Race Committee may hail an over early yacht by sail number or name, but hailing is not required. Failure of any yacht to be aware of the Race Committee signal shall not relieve the yacht of her obligation to start correctly. Returning yachts must yield to all properly starting yachts.

16.0 GENERAL RECALLS: When at the starting signal, one or more unidentified boats are on the course side of the starting line, or there has been an error in the starting procedure, the Race Committee may signal a General Recall.

Recall of the entire starting division will be signaled by hoisting the first repeater code pennant and the firing of two shots. All yachts will immediately return for restart after the following divisions have started. All following divisions will start in their assigned sequence.

ALTERNATIVE PENALTY: The two turn penalty as written in paragraph 44.1 of the ISAF 2017-2020 Racing Rules of Sailing with U.S. prescriptions will be in effect. If fouled by another yacht, immediately hail your intent to protest so that the other yacht can elect to perform the alternate penalty. To absolve the protest, the protested yacht must get clear and perform two turns in the same direction, staying clear of all yachts until on the proper course for the next mark. Fouling a mark is now a one turn penalty.

SHORTENED COURSE: Courses may be shortened by displaying the shortened course flag (code flag "S"). Also, the Race Committee will broadcast the course change over VHF radio, and they will make a reasonable effort to ensure that all applicable boats are aware of the change.

20.0 THE FINISH: The finishing line will be at Vallejo Yacht Club. The finish line is an imaginary line from the blue/white pole on the VYC tower through the blue/white pole on the harbor breakwater, extending across the Mare Island Channel.

21.0 TIME LIMIT: All boats must finish before 5:00 pm.

PROTESTS: Protests must be filed with the Race Committee no later than sixty (60.0) minutes after the official time limit (para 21.0). Protests must conform to ISAF rules.

Protest mediation may occur on the night of the race for protests involving a rule of part 2 and 4 of The Racing Rules of Sailing and paragraphs 14 and 24 of this document. Mediation will be conducted per the "Protest Mediation" document posted on the bulletin board. A boat that accepts fault at a mediation hearing shall receive a DNF score. The scores for the other boats will be adjusted accordingly.

If necessary, the protest will be held at an agreed time by both skippers and the Protest Chairman.

24.0 DISPOSAL OF WASTE OR TRASH: Yachts observed willfully discharging trash overboard shall be disqualified from all races sailed on the day that the infraction is observed. The onus is on the protesting yacht.

25.0 FEES: \$30 per entry.

27.0 PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICES: All individuals, while racing from their prep signal until the yacht clears the finish line, during any BYC sponsored race must wear a personal flotation device (PFD). The only exception is to quickly add or remove an article of clothing. The PFD may be either a Coast Guard approved device or an unapproved device. Yacht with individual/s not wearing a PFD for any other reason will be disqualified without mediation.

28.0 LIMITING BOUY: The race committee may place a limiting buoy near the committee boat. Yachts will be disqualified for passing between the committee boat and the limiting buoy. Yachts touching the limiting buoy during their starting sequence must complete a 360 degree turn before rounding the first mark of the course.

SAIL NUMBERS: Only the main sail number will be used for identification. Numbers on all other sails are not necessary and/or do not have to match the main sail number.

SCORING: Scoring will be time on time method.

AWARDS: The first 3 finishers on corrected time will be awarded trophies. A perpetual trophy will be given to the winning boat with the fastest corrected time from either BYC or VYC.

Non-SPINNAKER: Yachts racing without a spinnaker are limited to using one head sail at a time unless they are changing from one

sail to another. Yachts racing without spinnakers who want the non-spinnaker allowance (12 sec) must notify race committee prior to warning signal.

ABANDONMENT OF RACE: The race committee shall abandon a started race as per RRS 32.1 by flying the "N" flag with three sounds, and an announcement over channel 71. The race committee will make a second announcement approximately five minutes later before abandoning the course.
