

SNIFE CLASS INTERNATIONAL RACING ASSOCIATION
69th ANNUAL SNIFE MIDWINTER CHAMPIONSHIP
MARCH 11-13, 2007

CLEARWATER YACHT CLUB AND CLEARWATER COMMUNITY SAILING CENTER
CLEARWATER, FLORIDA

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS - FEBRUARY 12, 2007

1. RULES:

- 1.1 The Regatta will be governed by the current Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) except as specifically modified by the SCIRA Constitution, By-laws and the Rules of Conduct for Conducting Sanctioned Regattas as published in the current Class Rulebook (including subsequent amendments published in the *Snipe Bulletin* and/or on the official Web site of SCIRA), and these Sailing Instructions. Any conflict arising between these documents shall be resolved by the application of, in order of precedence, the Sailing Instructions and then the Rules of conduct.
- 1.2 RRS 78.3, 64.1 and 64.3 are altered so that:
 - 1.21 Any protest, report, question or dispute concerning equipment substitution or arising under the class rules, RRS 78, or other rules concerning the measurement of boats, shall be referred to the Jury, who shall investigate any issues involved and decide penalties if appropriate; and
 - 1.22 Measurement defects or infractions of Class rules, which are determined by the Jury to be minor and inconsequential, may be ordered corrected without penalty.
- 1.3 Any protest, report, question or dispute concerning the eligibility of a competitor to race shall be referred to the Jury, whose decision shall be final.
- 1.4 This regatta is classified as Category "C" in accordance with ISAF Regulation 20, Advertising Code and the relevant Class rules.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS:

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official regatta notice boards located on the lower level of the Clearwater Community Sailing Center (CCSC)

3. CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1 Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted and signaled no later than 30 minutes before the departure of the main Race Committee signal boat, except any change in the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 hours on the day before it will take effect.
- 3.2 Any change or amendment to the Sailing Instructions shall have the prior approval of the Jury and SCIRA Representative.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE:

- 4.1 Signals made ashore shall be displayed at the flagpole of the Clearwater Community Sailing Center and announced by horn per RRS Racing Signals.
- 4.2 Code Flag "AP" with two horn signals (one signal when lowered) means the race is postponed. The next warning signal shall be made not less than 75 minutes after the "AP" is lowered.

5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

5.1 Eight races are scheduled. One completed race constitutes a series. No more than three races will be attempted on any one day.

Sunday	March 11	0900	Competitors Meeting	
Sunday	March 11	1030	First Warning signal.	Subsequent races to follow
Monday	March 12	1000	First Warning signal.	Subsequent races to follow
Tuesday	March 13	1000	First Warning signal.	Subsequent races to follow

5.2 No warning signal shall be made after 1400 hours on Tuesday March 13, 2007.

6. CLASS FLAGS:

6.1 The official Class Flag shall be the Snipe Class Flag, a red Snipe on a white background.

7. RACING AREA:

The Racing Area location is the Gulf of Mexico southwest 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 described in detail as follows:

8.11 An 'Olympic Course', signaled by Flag "O" consisting of a triangle followed by windward, leeward and windward legs and finishing at Mark 1.

8.12 A Triangular Course, signaled by Flag "T" consisting of two triangles followed by a windward leg and finishing at Mark 1.

8.13 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.

8.14 A gate may be used at the leeward mark of the "O" or "W" courses as conditions warrant at the discretion of the PRO.

8.2 Course marks shall be left or passed to port. The course diagrams are attached.

8.3 The approximate compass bearing to Mark 1 shall be displayed by numerical posting on a board on the Race Committee signal boat no later than the Warning signal. The course length may be adjusted to a target time of 60 to 75 minutes.

8.4 The course signal flag ("O", "T" or "W") shall be hoisted one minute prior to the Warning signal and accompanied by one sound. It shall remain displayed for ten minutes after the start.

8.5 An offset mark may be set adjacent to Mark 1 of the Windward-Leeward Course (Flag "W"). The race committee may remove without signal any offset mark prior to the lead boat rounding the adjacent primary or new mark.

8.6 The use of an offset mark shall be indicated by the display of Flag "F" (red diamond on white field) displayed under the course flag "W" before the warning signal.

9. MARKS:

9.1 Primary marks 1, 2 and 3 shall be yellow inflatable tetrahedrons.

9.2 The new mark used in accordance with a Change of Course after the Start shall be an orange inflatable tetrahedron.
Subsequent marks will be moved to adjust to the new course.

9.3 The starting mark and the offset mark shall be a round orange marks or balls.

9.4 The finish mark shall be the windward mark.

10. REPORTING AT STARTS:

- 10.1 Before starting EACH RACE each boat is required to sail past the stern of the Race Committee start boat on STARBOARD TACK and check in.
- 10.2 When the Race Committee verbally acknowledges a boat's sail number, the check-in has been officially noted.
- 10.3 Any boat failing to check in accordance with instructions 10.1 and 10.2 shall receive a scoring penalty equal to 10% of the starters in that race in conformance with the SCIRA Scoring Table.

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 or shape on the Race Committee boat at the starboard end and the course side of the port end starting mark.
- 11.4 If a postponement or a general recall is signaled the next warning signal shall be made one minute after the lowering of the postponement or general recall signal, unless a course change is signaled.
- 11.5 A boat shall not start more than five minutes after her starting signal.
- 11.6 If the starting line is to be set to leeward (below) of 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. OCS competitors will be posted at Mark 1.
- 11.8 20% Penalty Rule: RRS 30.2 will be used.
- 11.9 RRS 30.3 ('Black Flag Rule') shall not be used.

12. CHANGE OF COURSE AFTER THE START:

- 12.1 A change of course shall be signaled according to RRS 33. RRS 33 is modified so that any leg shortening or lengthening shall not be by more than 30% of the original leg length.
- 12.2 Courses will not be shortened in number of legs, but the length of the course may be modified per RRS 33. This changes RRS 32.
- 12.3 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 will be replaced with a primary type of mark.
- 12.4 A triangular lap shall replace a leeward and windward lap if signaled close aboard Mark 1 with Code Flag "T", accompanied with a periodic horn and displaying the approximate numerical compass bearing to the next mark on a board.

13. THE FINISH:

The finish line shall be between orange flag or shape on a Race Committee boat and the course side of the finishing mark.

14. PENALTIES:

- 14.1 All competitors shall wear PFDs at all times. Failure to do so will result in disqualification (DSQ) from that race.
- 14.2 Any competitor using a 720-degree turns penalty shall report that use to the Race Committee promptly upon finishing that race.
- 14.3 Appendix P, Immediate penalties for breaking Rule 42 will apply. Rule P2.1 will be in effect for every protest with P2.2 and P2.3 deleted.
- 14.4 The discharge of refuse into the water is prohibited during the entirety of this event. 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.

15. TIME LIMIT:

The time limit is two hours for the first boat to finish. Any boat finishing more than 20 minutes after the first boat or after the time limit, whichever is later, shall be scored Did Not Finish (DNF). Should the first boat fail to complete the first lap within one hour, the Race Committee shall abandon the race. For the purpose of this Rule a lap shall mean the passing of Mark 3 when it is a mark of the course.

16. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS:

- 16.1 A competitor's intent to protest shall be reported to the Race Committee promptly upon finishing that race. This modifies RRS 61.1(a).
- 16.2 Protests shall be made in writing on forms available at the Clearwater Community Sailing Center Official Notice Board and filed with the Race Committee Chairman within one hour after the Signal Boat enters the harbor. These times will be posted on the Official Notice Board at the CCSC prior to the commencement of the protest filing time.
- 16.3 Protest notices and hearing schedules specifying the protester and protested shall be posted no later than one-half hour after the expiration of the protest filing time limit. The hearing location will be specified.
- 16.4 RRS 66 is changed by adding this sentence: 'On the last day of racing, a party to a hearing may ask for a reopening only if the request is received within 30 minutes of receiving the protest decision.'

17. SCORING:

- 17.1 This series shall be scored as provided in Appendix A of the Racing Rules of Sailing, using the Low Point System. Ties will be broken per RRS A8.
- 17.2 A drop race shall be permitted upon completion of six races.

18. SAFETY REGULATIONS:

- 18.1 Before starting EACH RACE each boat is required to sail past the stern of the Race Committee start boat on starboard tack and check in.
- 18.2 A boat that exits the course shall notify the Race Committee at the first opportunity.
- 18.3 All competitors shall wear PFDs at all times. Failure to do so will result in disqualification (DSQ) from that race.

19. REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT:

- 19.1 The same crew shall race in all races, except for reasons satisfactory to the SCIRA Representative.
- 19.2 Requests for substitution shall be made in writing to the SCIRA representative before 0900 hours the day of the race.

20. EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions.

21. JUDGES BOATS

Actions by the Judges boats shall not be grounds for redress. This alters RRS 62.1. Judges will be on the course observing actions but not calling penalties.

22. SUPPORT BOATS:

- 22.1 Team leaders, coaches and other support personnel shall register and fly the assigned identification flag at all times.
- 22.2 They will not approach the racing area during a race in progress. 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.
- 22.3 A boat shall neither make nor receive wireless communications while racing.

23. PRIZES:

Prizes shall be awarded to the skipper and crew for the top five 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.

26. DISCLAIMER

- 26.1 All those taking part in this event do so at their own risk and responsibility.
- 26.2 The Organizing Authority and all parties involved within the organization of the event disclaim any and every responsibility whatsoever for loss, damage, injury or inconvenience that might occur to persons and goods, both ashore and at sea as a consequence of participation in the races covered by these Sailing Instructions.

27. COURSE DIAGRAMS

Will be provided as Exhibit A.

P/C Brainard Cooper
SCIRA Representative

P/C Dick Boblenz, PRO
Clearwater Yacht Club