

Lightning Winter Championship
March 16-19, 2024
St Petersburg Yacht Club
Sailing Instructions

1 RULES

1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in the current Racing Rules of Sailing (“RRS”). If there is a conflict between the Sailing Instructions and any other document governing the event, the Sailing Instructions shall take precedence. This changes RRS 63.7.

1.2 RRS 41 “Outside Help” and RRS 62.1 “Redress” are changed by SI 18 and 19.

2 ENTRIES

2.1 Eligible competitors may enter by delivering a completed entry form and paying the entry fee at Registration.

3 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

3.1 Notices to competitors will be displayed on the official notice board which will be located on the regatta website at www.yachtscoring.com.

3.2 Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be displayed by 0830 on the day it takes effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be displayed on the prior day by 1800 hours.

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flagpole located on the South side of the SPSC. If a postponement is signaled ashore, the warning signal will be made not less than 60 minutes after AP is lowered. This changes Race Signals AP.

5 SCHEDULE

5.1

Sunday March 17th
0900 Skippers Meeting
1100 First Warning

Monday March 18th
1100 First Warning

Tuesday March 19th
1100 First Warning
1500 No Starting Signal will be made after this time

5.2 Subsequent races each day will be held as soon as practicable after the end of the previous race.

6 CLASS FLAGS

6.1 The class flag will be the International Lightning Class insignia on a white field.

7 RACING AREA

7.1 The racing area will be on Tampa Bay, east of the St Petersburg Pier.

8 COURSES

8.1 The attached diagram shows the course designations, the marks in order and the side on which each rounding mark is to be left. The race committee will post, on the signal boat, the course designation, the approximate distance and magnetic bearing to Mark 1.

9 MARKS

9.1 The starting marks will be race committee boats
Original marks 1 and 2G will be orange tetrahedrons.
Mark 1A (the offset mark) will be an orange tomato.
New marks (see SI 13) will be green tetrahedrons.
The finishing mark will be a race committee boat and a yellow cylinder.

10 CHECKING IN

10.1 When a race committee signal boat displays flag L while anchored prior to a warning signal, competitors shall come within hail and check in by hailing their sail numbers until acknowledged by the race committee. Boats that fail to check in will be assigned a ten (10) point scoring penalty for that race without a hearing [see RRS 44.3(c)]. This changes RRS 63.1 and A5.

11 STARTING AND FINISHING

11.1 The starting line will be between the staffs from which orange flags are displayed on the race committee boats at the ends of the starting line.
11.2 At least five minutes prior to the warning signal of a race, the RC will hoist its orange starting line flags with a sound signal.
11.3 The finishing line will be between the staff from which a blue flag is displayed on a race committee boat and the course side of the nearby finishing mark.

12 RECALLS

12.1 The race committee will, after the starting signal, hail on VHF channel 63 the bow or sail numbers of OCS boats. The delay of such a hail, the order of hailing or the failure of a competitor to hear such a hail shall not be grounds for granting redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

13 CHANGING THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 13.1 To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will lay a new mark (SI 9.1) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable.
- 13.2 When, in a subsequent change, a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.
- 13.3 The race committee may adjust the angle of a gate without making any signals.

14 TIME LIMITS

- 14.1 A boat starting more than four minutes after her starting signal will be scored DNS without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1, A4.1, and A5.
- 14.2 If no boat that has started rounds the windward mark within 45 minutes, the race will be abandoned.
- 14.3 The time limit is 90 minutes for the first boat to sail the course. Boats still racing more than 20 minutes after the first boat that sails the course and finishes will be scored DNF without a hearing. This changes rules 35, 63.1, A4.1 and A5.

15 PROTESTS AND REDRESS REQUESTS

- 15.1 Competitors shall report their intention to protest to the race committee signal boat as soon as possible after finishing.
- 15.2 Protests shall be delivered to the protest committee representative at the SPSC within 45 minutes after the race committee signal boat docks. The docking time will be displayed on the official notice board. Requests for redress involving OCS scores shall be delivered within 30 minutes of the displaying of OCS information or the protest time limit, whichever is later. This changes RRS 62.2.
- 15.3 A list of protests received will be displayed on the notice board no later than 15 minutes after the protest time limit. This display constitutes the notice required by RRS 63.2.
- 15.4 Notices of protests by the race committee or the protest committee will be displayed on the official notice board. This display constitutes the notice required by RRS 61.1(b).
- 15.5 Hearings will be held as soon as possible after racing each day at the SPSC.
- 15.6 Boats are prohibited from protesting under any rule related to advertising, and Sailing Instructions 2 and 10. This changes RRS 60.1(a).
- 15.7 On the last day of racing, a request to reopen a hearing shall be delivered:
- (a) within the protest time limit if the party requesting reopening was informed of the decision prior to the last day of racing; or,
 - (b) no later than thirty minutes after the party requesting reopening was informed of the decision on that day. This changes RRS 66.
- 15.8 On the last day of racing, requests for redress shall be delivered within the protest time limit or within thirty minutes of the incident, whichever is later. This changes RRS 62.2.

16 SCORING

- 16.1 The Low Point System of RRS Appendix A will apply.
- 16.2 Seven (7) races are scheduled. One completed race shall constitute a series. When 1-5 races have been completed, a boats series score will be the total of all

her races. When 6 or more races have been completed, a boats series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst race. This changes RRS A2.

16.3 For purposes of scoring the Masters and Woody divisions, only the first two races each day will be included, and each division will be scored including only boats competing in that division.

17 PRIZES

17.1 Prizes will be awarded to the skippers and crew of the first five (5) boats in the Championship, the first three (3) boats in the Masters class, and the first boat in the Woody class (provided three or more boats are registered in the Woody class).

18 ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

18.1 The use of hand-held VHF radios while racing is permitted, but only for receiving communications from the race committee on channel 63, and in emergencies. The failure to receive such communications shall not be grounds for granting redress. This modifies RRS 62.1(a).

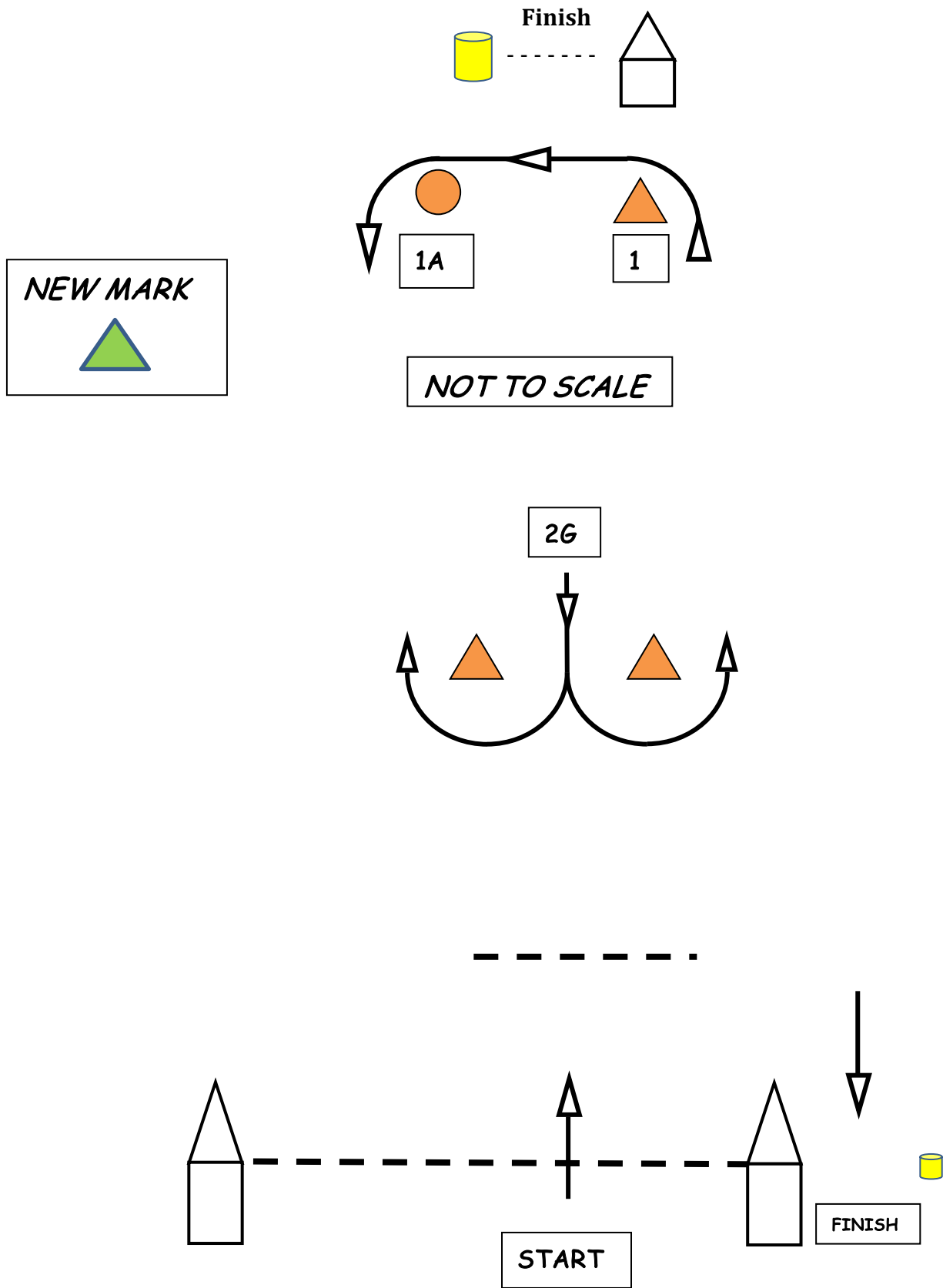
18.2 Other use of any electronic communication device, including cellular telephones, while racing is prohibited.

19 COACHING and OFFICIAL BOATS

19.1 No boat breaks RRS 41 by receiving unsolicited help from the ILCA approved coach while racing. Individual team coaches are not authorized by this rule.

19.2 RRS 62.1 is changed by adding: A competitor may not base a request for redress on a claim that an action by an official boat was improper. The protest committee may initiate consideration of redress regarding an action of an official boat only if it believes that such action may have significantly interfered with a competing boat.

COURSE DIAGRAM



COURSE 4: START-1(port)-1A(port)-2G-1(port)-1A(port)-FINISH

COURSE 5: START-1(port)-1A(port)-2G-1(port)-1A(port)-2G-FINISH