

THISTLE CLASS ASSOCIATION 2020 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

PRESENTED BY



July 31 – August 7, 2020
The Cleveland Yachting Club
Rocky River, Ohio

NOTICE OF RACE

Organizing Authority: The 2020 Thistle National Championship Regatta is organized by the Thistle Class Association (TCA) in conjunction with the Cleveland Yachting Club (CYC).

1. RULES

- 1.1 The regatta is governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing for 2017-2020 (RRS).
- 1.2 The following US Sailing prescriptions will not apply:
Rule 63.2 (a), (b) and (c).
- 1.3 Racing Rule 63.7 will be changed as follows: In the event that there is a discrepancy between the Notice of Race (NOR) and the Sailing Instruction (SI), the SI shall apply.
- 1.4 Racing Rule 60.1 (a) is changed to read: Boats failing to display required advertising or bow numbers may not be protested by another boat.
- 1.5 Other racing rules may be changed. These changes will appear in full in the Sailing Instructions.
- 1.6 Alcohol consumption by persons under 21 years of age, the use of illegal substances and the abuse of prescription-only drugs shall be considered "misconduct" for the purposes of RRS 69.

2. ADVERTISING

- 2.1 Boats will be required to display bow numbers which may display advertising and will be supplied by the Organizing Authority (OA).

3. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 3.1 The regatta is open to boats of the TCA that are active members in good standing with a valid measurement certificate and have sailed the required qualifying event(s) to be eligible to compete in Thistle Nationals, as outlined in the Bylaws of the TCA. Registration is limited to the first 125 boats registered.
- 3.2 No competitor may be paid to sail in this event, and private coaching is not allowed in this event, as per TCA Bylaw Article IX, Section 3.
- 3.3 Eligible boats may enter by completing online registration and paying regatta fees by July 15. No entry will be accepted after July 15 without written permission from the Regatta Chairman and National Race Committee.
- 3.4 Online registration can be found at www.thistlenationals2020.com.

- 3.5 Competitors must complete on-site registration and the measurement process during times specified in the schedule; any extension requires written permission from the Regatta Chairman and National Race Committee.

4. FEES

- 4.1 Early Registration Fees: \$475 inclusive of \$40 TCA Trophy Fee and Friday awards dinner for a crew of 3, for registrations completed and paid before June 1. Late entries will be accepted with a \$100 late fee between June 1 and July 15.
- 4.2 Registration fees include three tickets to the opening and closing ceremonies.
- 4.3 A special Early Registration food package is available for \$100 which provides dinners on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday for a crew of 3 (Yes, \$100 includes tickets for the crew of 3!)
- 4.4 Registration fees are fully refundable until July 1, and partially refundable (less \$75) between July 1 and July 15. No refunds after July 15.
- 4.5 Skippers 26 years old and under may apply for a registration fee refund by contacting VP Growth and Promotions, Alison Gillum (agillum915@gmail.com) Applications should be sent in no later than June 15 and should include birthdate. Please indicate whether sailing National Championship, Junior Nationals or both. Details of reimbursement will be available upon application.
- 4.6 Dinner packages will be available after June 1 for \$70 per person for the Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday dinners. Kids under 8 eat free. Ages 9-15 are half off at \$35 per person for dinners and banquet.
- 4.7 Additional Trophy Banquet Tickets are Available for \$55 per person.

5. SCHEDULE

5.1 Registration and Measurement

Friday, July 31	1400 – 1700 hrs
Saturday, Aug 1	0900 – 1600 hrs
Sunday, Aug 2	0800 – 1030 hrs

- 5.2 **Women's and Youth National Championship:** Saturday, August 1 – see separate NOR.

5.3 National Championship Race Series

Date	Race	First Warning
Sunday, August 2	75 th Anniversary (practice) Race	1200
	Opening Ceremony, CYC Clubhouse	1730
Monday, August 3	Qualifying Races 1 & 2	1130
Tuesday, August 4	Qualifying Race 3	1130
Wednesday, August 5	Championship Race 4 & 5, President Race 1 & 2	1130
Thursday, August 6	Championship Race 6, President Race 3	1130
Friday, August 7	Championship Race 7, President Race 4	1130

- 5.4 The RC may adjust the race schedule to suit weather conditions.
- 5.5 On the last scheduled day of racing, no warning signal will be made after 1530 for any race in the Championship Division.

6. PRACTICE RACE, QUALIFYING SERIES, AND FINAL SERIES

- 6.1 In the practice race, the fleet will race in one Division. The Practice Race will also serve as the “**75th Anniversary Race**” open to any Thistle regardless of registration for the National Championship Races. A separate registration for the Mega Race will be available at www.thistlenationals2020.com for those not sailing in the National Championship Regatta (sign up using the Women's/Juniors registration link).
- 6.2 The regatta will consist of a qualifying series and a final series.
- 6.3 In the qualifying series (Races 1-3), the fleet will be split into four (4) groups as per TCA Bylaw Article III, Section 11. Each group will race the other groups once. Two groups will comprise a Division for a race.
- 6.4 In the final series (Races 4-7), the fleet will be divided into Championship and President's Divisions in accordance with TCA Bylaw Article XIII, Section 13(a) based on their finishing position in the qualifying series. Separate courses will be used for the Championship and Presidents Series.

7. MEASUREMENT

- 7.1 Each boat shall have a valid measurement certificate.

- 7.2 Boat, equipment, and sails will be measured, inspected and may be spot-checked as specified in the TCA rules, RRS or the Sailing Instructions. Specific items to be measured at registration will be found on the measurement forms posted at www.thistlenationals2020.com.

8. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Sailing Instructions will be available at www.thistlenationals2020.com, and the CYC registration desk no later than Friday July 31, 2020 at 1400 hrs.

9. Venue

- 9.1 The Regatta will be held at:

The Cleveland Yachting Club
200 Yacht Club Drive
Rocky River, OH 44116-0425
Tel: 440-333-1155

- 9.2 Races will be sailed on Lake Erie approximately 2.0 nautical miles (NM) northwest of CYC.

- 9.3 Housing: Note that camping of any form is not allowed on CYC property. Local hotel information will be available at www.thistlenationals2020.com. A limited amount of private housing will be available. Send an email to Cathy Wilton-Bransch at thistlenationals2020@gmail.com or use the Hotels and Housing tab on the website.

10. THE COURSES

The courses will be in accordance with the TCA Bylaws, section 7. A separate course will be used for the President's Division.

11. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 11.1 A boat that takes a penalty or retires under RRS 44 shall sign the acknowledgement form posted in the vicinity of the official notice board within the protest time limit.

12. SCORING

- 12.1 The series scores for boats in the Championship Division will be the total of all their race scores, including the Qualifying Races, with no races excluded.
- 12.2 The series scores for boats in the President's Division will be the total of their race scores, excluding the Qualifying Races.
- 12.3 Four (4) races inclusive of the Qualifying Races are required to be completed to constitute a series for the Championship Division.
- 12.4 One (1) race exclusive of the Qualifying Races is required to be completed to constitute a series for the President's Division.
- 12.5 The divisional assignments will be based on the scores for races 1 to 3 after protest and redress hearings for those races have concluded. Changes to the scores in the first three races after racing has commenced in the final series shall not constitute grounds for granting redress with regard to divisional assignments [This changes rule 62] but they will be factored into the scoring for the event.

13. SUPPORT BOATS

- 13.1 Support Boats shall be registered and marked with an OA supplied identifier.
- 13.2 Coaching is limited per TCA Article IX 3. (b).
- 13.3 Due to limited open berthing spaces, anyone planning on bringing an additional boat of any kind to the event must contact the Regatta Chairman to make arrangements for use of hoists and slips.

14. DRY SAIL AREA

Dry sail spaces will be assigned for all competitors and be available beginning Friday August 31. For arrival before the 31st please contact the Regatta Chairman to make arrangements.

15. RADIO COMMUNICATION

The RC may transmit via VHF radio information concerning safety, OCS boats, and general information to assist in the management of the event. Except in an emergency, a boat that is racing shall not make or receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

16. AWARDS

- 16.1 The National Championship and “Louis Carron Perpetual Trophy” will be awarded to the winning boat in the Championship Division.
- 16.2 Other awards will be made at the discretion of the Organizing Authority.

17. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Each competitor shall be required to sign a waiver for loss, damage, or injury to persons or property incurred in connection with the Regatta that occurs as a result of a competitor's actions. Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race. The Organizing Authority shall not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

18. INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum value of \$100,000 USD.

19. FURTHER INFORMATION

For any questions or further information, please contact Fred Hunger, Regatta Chairman at thistlenationals2020@gmail.com