

2023 J/Fest Southwest Regatta – October 7 and 8, 2023

With the support of our generous race sponsors including



2023 J/Fest Southwest Regatta

October 7 & 8, 2023

Organizing Authority: Bay Access
Hosted by Lakewood Yacht Club

Sailing Instructions[®]

1. RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the *rules* as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing 2021-2024 edition (RRS)*.
- 1.2 The penalty for violating RRS 31 by touching an anchored race committee vessel shall be to retire from that race even if the race is restarted or resailed. This modifies RRS 44.1 and 64.2(b).
- 1.3 The notation [DP] means that the penalty for breaking this provision will be a discretionary penalty, which may be less than disqualification. The notation '[NP]' in a rule of the NOR or SI means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a).
- 1.4 RRS Appendix T and Appendix V1 shall apply.
- 1.5 Racing Rules shall be changed as follows:
 - SI 1.2 change RRS 44.1 and 64.2(b)
 - SI 1.3 changes RRS 60.1(a)
 - SI 11.4 changes RRS A5
 - SI 12.1 Changes RRS 33

SI 15.2 changes RRS 35, A4, A5 and A10
SI 16.1 adds to RRS 61.1(a)
SI 16.4 changes RRS 62.2 and 66
SI 17.2 modifies RRS A2
SI 27.3 changes RRS 62

- 1.6 The Race Committee may elect to trail a line (not to exceed 30') attached to a floating object, behind the Race Committee boat. The floating object and its line shall be considered to be a part of the Race Committee boat. Hitting the floating object or running over the line shall not be treated as hitting the race committee vessel in accordance with 1.2.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board which will be the glass windows on both sides of the south poolside foyer entrance at Lakewood Yacht Club.

3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0830 hours on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 hours on the day before it will take effect.
- 3.2 Oral changes to the sailing instructions may be given on the water by the display of the L Flag on the Signal Boat and hail on the appropriate VHF channel in accordance with RRS 90.2(c). Each competitor will sail pass the Signal Boat on starboard tack and acknowledge the change.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the yardarm at Lakewood Yacht Club near the pool.
- 4.2 When "AP" is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced by 'not less than 60 minutes' in the race signal AP.

5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 5.1 The scheduled time of the first warning signal for the first race each day is 1000 hours.
- 5.2 On the last scheduled day of racing no warning signal will be made after 1300 hours.
- 5.3 The race committee intends to run multiple races. The number of races conducted is at the sole discretion of the race committee except for the J/24 Class. The J/24 Class will have a maximum of six races.
- 5.4 Flag "A" (ALPHA) displayed with no sound while boats are finishing means "no more racing today"

6. CLASSES and LINE ASSIGNMENTS

6.1 Class line assignments and class flags are identified and designated in Attachment 1.

7. RACING AREAS

- 7.1 The general race area will be between Clear Lake Channel Marker No. 2, Red Bluff, the Houston Ship Channel, and San Leon.
- 7.2 The Blue Circle starting line will be north or northeast of Clear Lake Channel Marker #2.
- 7.3 The Red Circle starting line will be south/southeast of Clear Lake Channel Marker #1.

8. THE COURSES

- 8.1 RED CIRCLE: The diagrams in Attachment 2 show the courses, including the approximate angles between legs; the order in which marks are to be passed; and the side on which each mark is to be left.
- 8.2 BLUE CIRCLE Windward/Leeward courses: The diagrams in Attachment 3 show the courses, including the approximate angles between legs; the order in which each mark is to be left. For the J/ORC class Mark 1 will be a WHITE Inflatable 8' tetrahedron.
- 8.3 No later than the warning signal, the race committee will display a number pennant indicating the course to be sailed.

9. MARKS

9.1 Red Circle (J/22 & J/24):

	Original Marks	New Marks
Mark 1	Yellow Inflatable 8' tet	Orange Inflatable 8' tet
Mark 1A	Orange buoy	Orange buoy
GATE (2P/2S)	Yellow Inflatable 4' tet	Yellow Inflatable 4' tet
Start	RC vessel or an Orange buoy	RC vessel or an Orange buoy
Finish	RC vessel or an Orange buoy	RC vessel or an Orange buoy

9.2 Blue Circle W/L (J/105):

	Original Marks	New Marks
Mark 1	Orange Inflatable 8' tet	Yellow Inflatable 8' tet
Mark 1A	Orange buoy	Orange buoy
GATE (2P/2S)	Orange Inflatable 4' tet	Orange Inflatable 4' tet
Start	RC vessel or Orange buoy	RC vessel or Orange buoy
Finish	RC vessel or Orange buoy	RC vessel or Orange buoy

9.3 Blue Circle W/L (J/ORC):

	Original Marks	New Marks
Mark 1	White Inflatable 8' tet	White Inflatable 8' tet
NO Mark 1A	No Offset Mark	No Offset Mark
GATE (2P/2S)	Orange Inflatable 4' tet	Orange Inflatable 4' tet
Start	RC vessel or Orange buoy	RC vessel or Orange buoy
Finish	RC vessel or Orange buoy	RC vessel or Orange buoy

10. AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS

10.1 The following areas are designated as obstructions: Houston Ship Channel

11. THE START

11.1 Races will be started by using RRS 26.

11.2 The starting line will be between the staffs displaying an **orange** flag on the starboard end signal vessel and the orange flag on the port end starting mark vessel. In the event that the port end mark vessel is not on station, it will be replaced by an orange buoy. The course side of the orange buoy will define the line.

11.3 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequences for other races.

11.4 A boat that does not start within 5 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS). [DP] This changes RRS A5.

12. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

12.1 On the Red Line, and for the J/70 & J/105 /fleets, to change the next leg of the course, the race committee will lay a new mark (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark. For the J/ORC fleet, to change the next leg of the course the race committee will move the original windward mark or move the finishing line, this changes RRS 33.

13. THE FINISH

13.1 The finishing line will be between a staff displaying a **blue** flag on a race committee vessel on the starboard end of the line and a nearby orange mark on the port end of the line.

14. PENALTY SYSTEM

14.1 RRS Appendix T and Appendix V1 shall apply.

14.2 [DP] A boat that has done penalty turns shall complete an acknowledgement form at the protest

committee desk within the protest time limit.

- 14.3 Alternatively, a boat may accept a Scoring Penalty as described in RRS 44.3.

15. TIME LIMIT

- 15.1 Any race in which no boat rounds the first windward mark within 40 minutes after its start will be abandoned.
- 15.2 Except for the J/ORC Class, Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes (the finishing window) after the first boat in its class sails the course and finishes will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE). The points awarded for boats scored TLE will be the whole number (rounding 0.5 upward) equal to the number of boats starting the race minus 50% of the number of boats scored TLE. This changes RRS 35, A4, A5 and A10.

16. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 16.1 A boat intending to protest another boat shall notify the race committee immediately after finishing and before communicating with coaches or spectators. Boats shall first sail to the non-course side of the finish vessel and report to the finish vessel. Boats that do not finish shall report their intent to protest to any race committee vessel at the first possible opportunity. This adds to RRS 61.1(a).
- 16.2 Protests, Scoring Inquiries and Requests for Redress shall be in writing. Forms are available in the foyer of the LYC Clubhouse Office. For each LINE, the protest time limit is sixty-minutes (60) after the race committee signal vessel returns to the Lakewood Inner Harbor. This time will be noted by one long blast of the horn and will be posted on the official notice board. In the event the race committee signal vessel does not return to the Inner Harbor, the protest time limit will be one hour after notice of that fact is posted on the official notice board.
- 16.3 The times and locations of the protest hearings, along with the names of the boats involved will be posted on the official notice board within (30) minutes of the expiration of the protest time limit. Protest hearings may be conducted via Zoom.
- 16.4 Scoring inquiries shall be in writing and filed by 0730 hrs on the day following the race in question or 30 minutes after the posting of the preliminary results for that race, whichever is later, except for the last day of racing. For races held the last day of racing, scoring inquires must be filed within the protest time limit or 30 minutes after the provisional final results are posted, whichever is later. Scoring inquiries shall first be submitted to the RC PRO for the line or fleet in question.

17. SCORING

- 17.1 One race is required to be completed to constitute a regatta. However, for the J/24 class three races are required to be completed to for the regatta to be scored in the Texas Circuit.
- 17.2 The Low Point Scoring System of Appendix A will apply. Each boat's series score shall be the sum of her race scores. No races will be excluded. This modifies RRS A2.
- 17.3 In accordance with Section 403 of the ORC Rating Systems 2021, Boats in the ORC classes will be scored using the Triple-number Time-on-Time method. For distance courses the Circular Random handicap will be used, for Windward/Leeward courses, the windward/leeward handicap

shall be used. When the Triple Number scoring method is used, the wind range selected for scoring is intended to be announced on VHF prior to the warning signal. If there has been a significant change in wind conditions and there is a need to change this decision on wind range, this also is intended to be announced on the VHF before first boat finishes. A delay in the radio broadcast of these calls, or the order in which they are made, or any omission or failure in their transmission or reception, will not be grounds for a request for redress.

18. SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 18.1 Check-In: Before the warning signal of her first race each day, each boat shall sail on starboard tack past the stern of the race committee signal vessel and hail her sail number or bow number until acknowledged by the race committee by repeating the boat's sail number or bow number. All souls onboard shall be wearing or displaying an USCG approved life jacket during check-in. Boats shall not attempt to check in by VHF. Any boat that races but fails to check in before the first race as required shall be scored DNC for the first race of that day.
- 18.2 A boat that retires from a race, leaves the course area or returns to the course area between races shall notify the race committee as soon as possible.

19. REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

- 19.1 Substitution of competitors will not be allowed without prior written approval of the race committee.
- 19.2 Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed without prior written approval of the race committee. Requests for substitution shall be made to the committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

20. EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

- 20.1 On the water, a boat can be instructed by a member of race committee or the technical committee to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection. Ashore, equipment may be measured or inspected.

21. EVENT ADVERTISING

- 21.1 If supplied by the organizing authority, boats shall display event advertising.

22. OFFICIAL BOATS

- 22.1 Race committee signal vessels may display a blue "RC" flag.

23. SUPPORT VESSELS

- 23.1 Team leaders, coaches, and other support persons shall stay outside areas where boats are racing from the time of the preparatory signal for the first class to start until all boats have finished

or retired, or the race committee signals a postponement, general recall, or abandonment.

24. TRASH DISPOSAL

24.1 Trash may be placed aboard support or official boats.

25. HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS

25.1 Boats shall not be hauled out during the regatta except with and according to the terms of prior written permission of the race committee. However, in the case of an emergency, permission may be granted retroactively.

26. DIVING EQUIPMENT AND PLASTIC POOLS

26.1 Underwater breathing apparatus and plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used around boats between the preparatory signal of the first race of the regatta and the end of the regatta.

27. RADIO COMMUNICATION

27.1 Except in an emergency, a boat that is racing shall not make voice or data transmissions and not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

27.2 The race committee will communicate with competitors on the following VHF channels:

- Red Circle – VHF channel 68
- Blue Circle – VHF channel 72

27.3 The race committee intends to use VHF radio to broadcast courtesy information to competitors, including OCS hails and other race information. Failure to broadcast or failure of a boat to hear broadcasts shall not be grounds for granting redress. This changes RRS 62.

28. PRIZES

28.1 Awards will be presented to the top third of each class, up to five. Additional prizes may be awarded to participants by sponsors.

29. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

29.1 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.

30. INSURANCE

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

31. ADDENDUM TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS FOR J/24 CLASS

31.1 The SI Addendum for the J/24 Class will apply and is available via the link below:

https://www.yachtscoring.com/event_documents/16143/2023-J24-Texas-Circuit-SI-Addendum-Rev-10.pdf

32. RACE OFFICIALS

Red Circle

PRO- David Comeaux
832-9935933
comeauxvi@earthlink.net

Blue Circle

PRO- Dwight Bengtson
832-457-5164
dwight.bengtson@comcast.net

Protest Committee Chair

Chris Luppens
719-498-1275
jcluppens@ussailing.net

Event chair

Scott Spurlin
512-423-2179
scott@jboatssouthwest.com

Representing the OA during the regatta:

Brian Irvine
713-301-9520
irvine103@aol.com



Attachment 1

LINE ASSIGNMENTS, CLASS FLAG and STARTING SEQUENCE FOR THE
FIRST RACE OF EACH DAY

The starting order may change for subsequent races

RED CIRCLE – J/22, J/24 Windward/Leeward

Signal Boat: "Mero" 34' Mainship

CLASSES

J/24

J/22

FLAG

J/24 Class Flag (Blue w/ White J/24)

J/22 Class Flag (White w/ Blue J/22)

BLUE CIRCLE – J/105, J/ORC Windward/Leeward

Signal Boat: "Celerity" 28' Albin

CLASSES

J/105

J/ORC

FLAG

J/105 Class flag (white)

Purple flag



Attachment 2 – Red Circle W/L Courses



Course 2: Start-1-1a-Finish



Course 4: Start-1-1a-2p(s)-1-1a-Finish



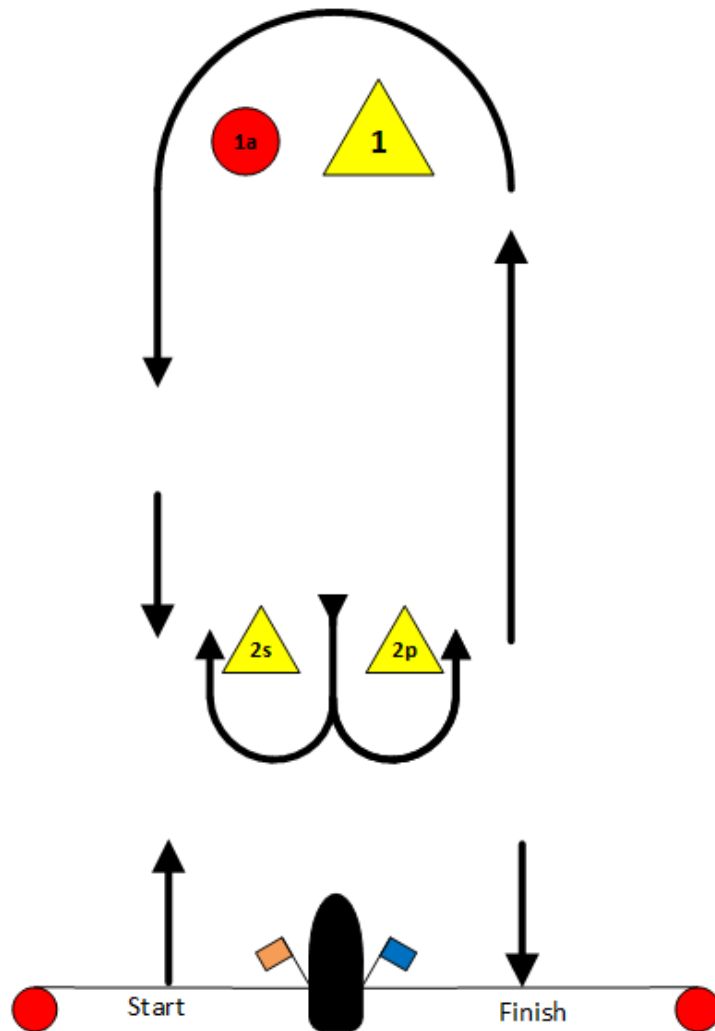
Course 6: Start-1-1a-2p(s)-1-1a-2p(s)-1-1a-Finish



Change mark Color

WEST

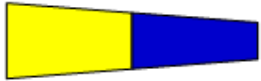
EAST



Attachment 2 – Red Circle W/L Courses



Course 3: Start-1-1a-2p(s)-Finish



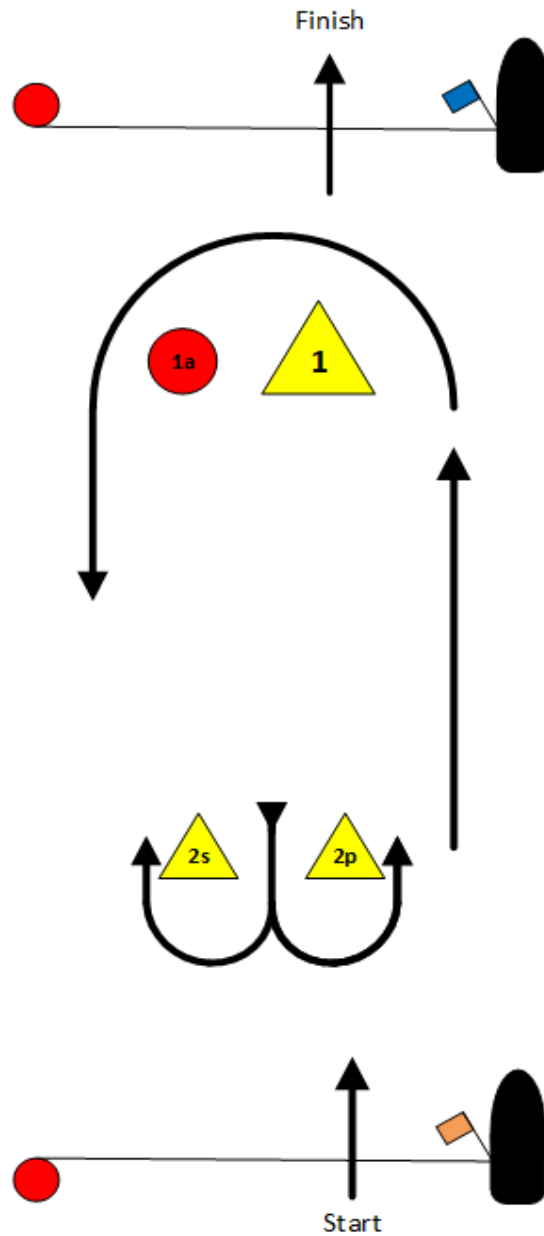
Course 5: Start-1-1a-2p(s)-1-1a-2p(s)-Finish



Change mark Color



Course 7: Start-1-1a-2p(s)-1-1a-2p(s)-1-1a-2p(s)-Finish



V/FEST

W/

Attachment 3 – Blue Circle W/L Courses



Course 2: Start-1-1a-Finish



Course 4: Start-1-1a-2p(s)-1-1a-Finish



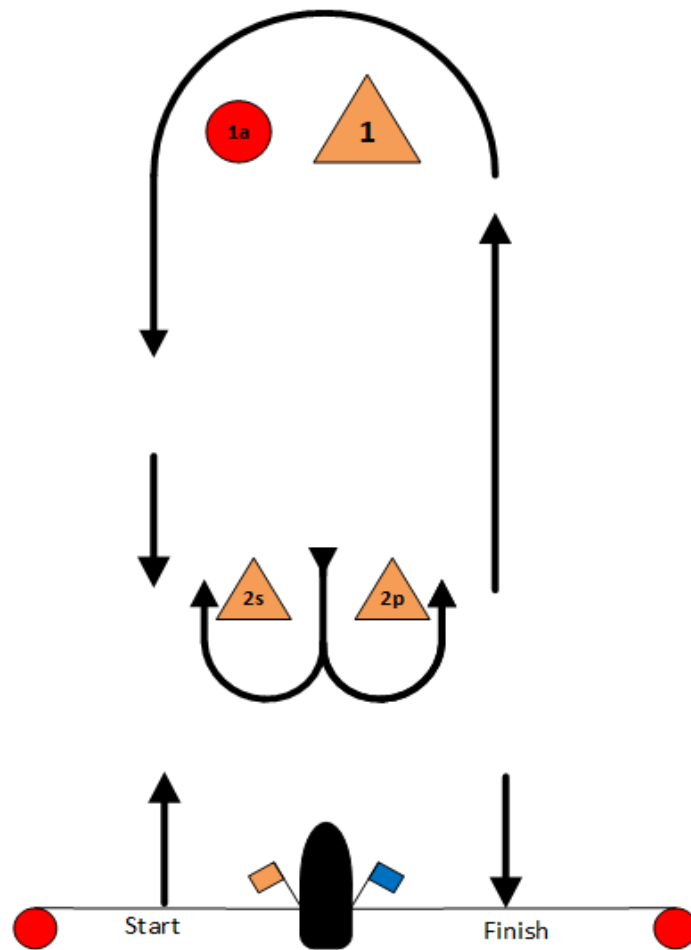
Course 6: Start-1-1a-2p(s)-1-1a-2p(s)-1-1a-Finish



Change mark Color

WEST

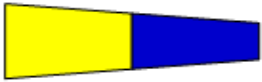
EAST



Attachment 3 – Blue Circle Courses



Course 3: Start-1-1a-2p(s)-Finish



Course 5: Start-1-1a-2p(s)-1-1a-2p(s)-Finish



Change mark Color



Course 7: Start-1-1a-2p(s)-1-1a-2p(s)-1-1a-2p(s)-Finish

