

TEXAS SAILING ASSOCIATION YOUTH CIRCUIT REGATTA

[Insert Regatta Name]

[Insert if Applicable: 2026 TEXAS JUNIOR ILCA CHAMPIONSHIP or 2026 TEXAS GIRLS CHAMPIONSHIP]

Organizing Authority: [Insert Club Name]

[Insert Club Address]

[Insert Regatta Dates]

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

- 1.1. The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
- 1.2. "The Texas Youth Racing Circuit Conditions" apply and are available on the web site at <http://www.txsail.org/>.
- 1.3. The rules for all classes are modified so that membership in a class organization is not required.
- 1.4. [DP] All boats shall have sail numbers which match the registration form. Sail numbers meeting class standards are required.
- 1.5. Appendix T, Arbitration, shall be used.

2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1. Any change to the sailing instructions (SI) will be posted on the official notice board at least two (2) hours before the first race of each day, except for changes to the schedule of races which will be posted by [19:00] on the day before they take effect.
- 2.2. For the Green Fleet only, oral changes may be made by the Race Committee (RC) on the water prior to the time of the warning signal of any race upon the raising of signal flag "L" with one sound.

3. COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board [located at _____ and/or URL_.]

4. CODE OF CONDUCT

- 4.1. [DP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.

5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed from [e.g. the flagpole or yardarm] at the Club or from the RC signal boat if docked in the host club harbor.
- 5.2. Code Flag "AP" with two sound signals means the race is postponed. DO NOT leave the club area. The warning signal will not be made sooner than 30 [may be modified by OA, i.e. 60, if appropriate to venue] minutes from the lowering of "AP", accompanied by one signal. This modifies "Race Signals".

6. SCHEDULE OF RACES

Note to Race Officers: Please refer to the guidelines and conditions documents section 19. Please race as many races as possible. Our sailors have invested considerable expense and training to attend your regatta.

- 6.1. Six (6) or more races are scheduled.
- 6.2. Completion of one (1) race shall constitute a TSA Youth Circuit Regatta [and a Texas Junior ILCA Championship Regatta (insert if applicable)].
- 6.3. Schedule: (align with NOR)
Saturday, _____, 20__
08:00-09:00 Registration at the [Clubhouse]
09:30 Skipper's Meeting at the [Clubhouse] (Attendance Mandatory)
10:30 Warning Signal for the first race, additional races to follow
Between Races Lunch will be served [on the water/at the Clubhouse]

Sunday, _____, 20__

09:30 Warning Signal for the first race, additional races to follow

6.4. No warning signal will be given after 13:30 on Sunday.

7. CLASS FLAGS

7.1. The following flags will be used as class flags during starting sequences:

Optimist Green: [insert]

Optimist Red, Blue, and White Fleets: [insert]

ILCA 7: [insert]

ILCA 6: [insert]

ILCA 4: [insert]

C420: [insert]

8. RACING AREAS

8.1. Three (3) racing areas will be set, one each for use by Optimist Green fleet, Optimist RWB fleet, and one for all others. The location of the racing areas will be announced at the Mandatory Skippers Meeting.

9. CHECK-IN ON THE WATER

9.1. Prior to the first warning signal of the competitor's fleet of the day, each competitor shall sail past the stern of the RC signal boat on starboard tack, hail their sail number and be acknowledged by the RC. Failure to do so will result in a 20% penalty for the first race of the day.

10. COURSES

- 10.1. There may be six (6) types of race courses as defined in Addendum A, Course Diagrams. Multiple times around the course will be designated by a number following the "T" or "W".
- 10.2. For course L2 or R2, the start line will be on the port side of the Signal Boat and the finish line will be on the starboard side of the finish boat.
- 10.3. For courses W, W2, W3, T, T2 and O, unless a race is shortened in accordance with the RRS, the start/finish line will be in the middle of the race course.
- 10.4. For the ILCA and Double-Handed fleets during the race, if the Race Committee boat is displaying an orange or blue flag on a staff, the start/finish line will be an obstruction, except to finish. Boats that sail through this obstruction will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF), without a hearing. This changes Race Signals.

11. MARKS

- 11.1. For the Opti Green Fleet, marks will be [color/shape].
- 11.2. For the Opti Red/White/Blue Fleet marks will be [color/shape]. Change Marks will be [color/(shape)].
- 11.3. For the ILCA and Doublehanded Fleets, the marks will be (color/shape). Change Marks will be [color/shape].

12. THE START

- 12.1. For Green Fleet, races will be started using Appendix U (3-minute sequence). The race committee may verbally hail the countdown. The class flag will be displayed on the signal boat during the start sequence.
- 12.2. For all other fleets, races will be started in accordance with RRS 26. A series of short signals may be made before any starting sequence begins to attract attention.
- 12.3. The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the RC signal boat and the course side of the starting mark.
- 12.4. Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall keep clear of both the start line and all boats whose warning signal has been made.

- 12.5. If any part of a boat's hull is on the course side of the starting line at her starting signal and she is identified, the race committee will attempt to hail her sail number. A boat may not request redress based on failure of the race committee to hail her number, failure to hear such a hail, or the order in which boats are hailed. This changes RRS 61.1(a).
- 12.6. A boat may not start later than four (4) minutes after the starting signal for its class. Boats attempting to start after this time will be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.

13. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 13.1. To change the next leg of the course, the RC will move the original mark (or the finishing line) to a new position. **[OR]** To change the next leg of the course, the RC will lay a new Change Mark (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change a mark is replaced, it will be replaced with the original mark.
- 13.2. To maintain course configuration during a race, the RC may make minor adjustments of the course, up to 10 degrees and .10nm, without signaling a change. This changes RRS 33.

14. THE FINISH

- 14.1. The finish line for courses W, T and O shall be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the RC boat and the course side of the finish mark. This modifies the RRS Race Signals.
- 14.2. The finish line for courses L2, R2, and B shall be between a staff displaying a blue flag on the RC boat and the course side of the finish mark.

15. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 15.1. A competitor must notify the Race Committee (RC) of their intent to protest another boat, at the finish line, before talking to a Support Person including a coach or a parent. If this instruction is not followed, the protest will be found to be invalid. This is in addition to and modifies the requirements of class rules and RRS 60.2.

16. TIME LIMIT

(NOTE: Modify the time limits below to accommodate long race courses and/or windward legs, if used.)

- 16.1. The Race Time Limit (see RRS 35), and the Finishing Window are shown in the table below:

Mark 1 Limit Time	Race Time Limit	Finishing Window
Twenty (20) Minutes	Sixty (60) Minutes	Twenty (20) Minutes

- 16.2. If no boat has passed the first mark within the Mark 1 Time Limit, the race will be abandoned.
- 16.3. The Finishing Window is the time for boats to finish after the first boat sails the course. Boats starting but failing to sail the course within the Finishing Window, and not subsequently retiring, penalized or given redress, will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) without a hearing. A boat scored TLE shall be scored points for the finishing place two (2) more than the points scored by the last boat that finished within the Finishing Window and was not penalised under RRS 30.3 or 30.4. This changes RRS 35, A5.1, A5.2 and A10.
- 16.4. At its discretion, the RC may finish any boat in place, and it will be scored based on its position on the race course. This modifies RRS A3, A5.

17. HEARING REQUESTS

- 17.1. The protest time limit is sixty (60) minutes after the RC signal boat from each Competitors' race course docks.
- 17.2. Protests forms will be made available at the Official Notice Board and delivered to the Judges or their representative.
- 17.3. Notices will be posted no later than ten (10) minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearing in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the protest room, located at **[location]**, beginning at the time posted.
- 17.4. The person who served as mediator during Arbitration may not serve on the protest committee.

- 17.5. Green Fleet protests are teaching opportunities. An open discussion of the protest process (mock protest) may be held if resources are available. All competitors, parents and coaches are encouraged to attend and observe.

18. SCORING

- 18.1. The Low Point System of RRS Appendix A shall apply, modified so that:
- 18.1.1. One (1) completed race is required to constitute a regatta.
 - 18.1.2. When five (5) to nine (9) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
 - 18.1.3. When ten (10) or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her two (2) worst scores.
- 18.2. For Optimist White, Blue, Red fleets, the event shall be scored as a whole with all boats receiving scores according to recorded finish position. "Overall Scoring" shall be used to determine White, Blue, Red awards.
- 18.3. For ILCA and Double-Handed fleets, the regatta shall be scored as a whole with all boats receiving scores according to recorded finish positions. "Overall Scoring" shall be used to determine the finish place of each junior aged sailor for purposes of junior awards and junior place finish in the regatta.

19. SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 19.1. [DP] RRS 40 is changed so that each competitor shall wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved life jacket (PFD), in good condition, that is 100% dependent on foam for flotation (i.e., inherently buoyant) and the appropriate size for the sailor, at all times while on the water, except for brief periods while adding or removing clothing. A violation of this instruction may be protested by race officials or a competitor; however, an inadvertent and momentary breach of this instruction may receive a penalty less than disqualification at the discretion of the protest committee. A pinnie may be worn outside of the PFD.
- 19.2. [DP] A competitor who withdraws from a race or does not intend to start a race shall inform the RC as soon as possible. This may also be accomplished by the competitor notifying a member of the RC ashore.
- 19.3. Sailors of Double-Handed fleet boats are encouraged, but not required, to carry an emergency safety line cutter, such as an "S-Cutter" tool or harness webbing cutter.

20. SUPPORT BOAT RESTRICTIONS

- 20.1. Support Persons' Boats, including coaches and parents, shall have a working VHF radio and monitor the RC channel.
- 20.2. [DP] Support Persons' boats shall keep at least two hundred (200) feet away from all competitors and shall not communicate with any racing competitor from the time of the competitor's preparatory signal until after the competitor has finished, or the RC signals a postponement or abandonment.
- 20.3. Failure of support boats to keep wakes down, remain outside the race course while boats are racing, may result in the RC limiting where support boats may go during a race.
- 20.4. [DP] All Support Persons operating a boat must employ a safety kill-switch lanyard as required by Texas state law, especially when in the proximity of and approaching sailors in and on the water. If a Support Person's boat is required to use a kill switch and is not equipped with, or is not using, a kill switch, the Support Person may be subject to protest.
- 20.5. Optimist Green Fleet: Notwithstanding SI 20.2, coaching of Green Fleet Optimist skippers while racing is permitted; however, coaching shall be limited to skippers in the bottom half of the fleet in any given race. Coaches shall provide fair and consistent support to all competitors, not just to their team or sailor.

21. DISPOSAL OF TRASH

- 21.1. Trash may be placed aboard official or support person vessels.

22. RISK, DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY, & PERSONAL CONDUCT

- 22.1. An adult (parent, guardian or designated adult) is responsible for the safety of their sailor. It is the responsibility of this adult to decide if the sailor should sail in the weather and sea conditions that might arise during the event. The adults supervising the competitors are ultimately responsible for the risks. See RRS 3 (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 this event.

- 22.2. The designated adult shall accept full responsibility for all actions of the competitor during any activity related to the event. This includes on-shore activities before, during, and after the regatta.
- 22.3. All competitors, coaches and parents are expected to maintain the highest levels of conduct throughout the entire event until such time as they leave for home or the airport. Enforcement of discipline and conduct shall be conducted as per RRS 69.1 and/or the policies and procedures of US Sailing (Regulation 15).

Above all, BE SAFE and HAVE FUN!

ADDENDUM A – COURSE DIAGRAMS

[Guidance for Race Officers on courses:

- Courses W, T, and O should be avoided for ILCA/C420 where multiple fleets are on the same course.
- Course L2 is ideal for multiple fleets as it allows the RC to finish and start classes simultaneously to keep the “carousel” going.
- Course R2 is similar to L2 but finishes boats on a reach to make it easier to read sail numbers. If used the reach should be 30-45 seconds long in order to break overlaps from the gate, a markset boat should be placed on the windward side of the finish mark to help call the line, and the blue flag should be placed on the bow of the signal boat. To finish and start fleets simultaneously the signal boat should have sufficiently experienced crew.
- Note: there is no L1 course. Please do not use L1.
- When course B, ensure that the beat legs are of sufficient length for competitive sailing.

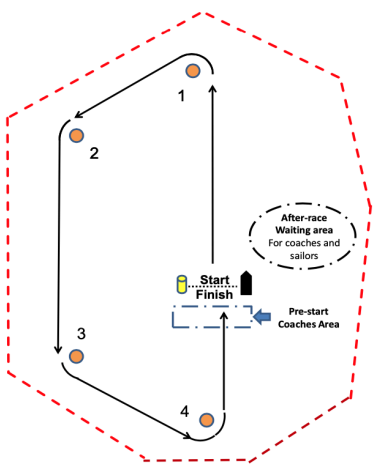
	Course W – Windward/Leeward, Windward Finish	
	Signal	Mark Rounding Order
	W	Start – 1* – 2 – Finish
	W2	Start – 1* – 2 – 1* – 2 – Finish
	W3	Start – 1* – 2 – 1* – 2 – 1* – 2 Finish
* - if an offset mark (1a) is present, sailors will leave the offset mark to port after rounding the windward mark (1)		

	Course T – Triangle, Windward Finish	
	Signal	Mark Rounding Order
	T	Start – 1 – 2 – 3 – Finish
	T2	Start – 1 – 2 – 3 – 1 – 2 – 3 – Finish
	T3	Start – 1 – 2 – 3 – 1 – 2 – 3 – 1 – 2 – 3 – Finish

	Course O (Olympic) – Triangle, Windward/Leeward, Windward Finish	
	Signal	Mark Rounding Order
	O	Start – 1 – 2 – 3 – 1 – 3 – Finish

	Course L2 (Leeward Gate/Finish) – Windward, Leeward Gate – Windward - Finish	
	Signal	Mark Rounding Order
	L2	Start – 1* – 2s/2p – 1 – Finish
	* - if an offset mark (1a) is present, sailors will leave the offset mark to port after rounding the windward mark (1)	

	Course R2 (Leeward Gate/Finish) – Windward, Leeward Gate – Windward - Finish	
	Signal	Mark Rounding Order
	R2	Start – 1* – 4s/4p – 1 – 4s/4p – Finish
	* - if an offset mark (1a) is present, sailors will leave the offset mark to port after rounding the windward mark (1)	

	
Course B – Box, Reach Finish	
Signal	Mark Rounding Order
B	Start – 1 – 2 – 3 – 4 – Finish