

Sailing Instructions: Release – 03 May 2010

(These instructions may be amended as registration progresses)

The Tybee 500

A 500 mile race from Islamorada, Florida, to Tybee Island, GA

May 10-15, 2010

Organizing Authority: The Tybee Island Sailing Association, Inc.

Registration: January 1 - April 30, 2010 online at: www.tybee500.com.

1. Rules

1.1 The race will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing, 2009-2012, except as may be changed by these instructions (RRS 86).

1.2 The prescriptions of class authorities will apply except as amended by these instructions under measurements, sails, equipment, etc.

2. Notices to competitors

Notices to competitors and/or changes to these Sailing Instructions will be posted on the official race website prior to the race, and/or verbally, at the skipper's meeting, 9:00 am on race days. No signals other than those associated with the starts, finishes, and race status will be made ashore.

3. Schedule of races

The warning signal for all races will be 9:55 am unless otherwise announced.

Day 1 – Islamorada, FL to Hollywood, FL

Day 2 - Hollywood, FL to Jupiter, FL

Day 3 - Jupiter, FL to Cocoa Beach, FL

Day 4 - Cocoa Beach, FL to Daytona Beach, FL

Day 5 - Daytona Beach, FL to Fernandina Beach, FL

Day 6 - Fernandina Beach, FL to Tybee Island, GA

4. Classes

4.1 Classes will be limited to 2-person, production catamarans in the Nacra 20 or Formula 18 classes, except as changed by these Instructions.

4.2 Classes shall consist of like boats, with a limit of 30 entries total for the race unless amended by these instructions.

5. Sponsor Advertising

Advertising will be unlimited, however, race management reserves the right to affix sponsor decals to any surface of either or both hulls of any registered boat. Consult the organizing authority for final determination of exact locations.

6. Registration and Entry fee

6.1 Advance registration will be available online, with an entry fee of \$500 per boat (\$600 after March 31). Checks or money orders should be made payable to: Tybee Island Sailing Association, Inc. Entry forms will be available on the Tybee 500 website to print out, and must be signed by the boats owner prior to the race. Mail entries to: Tybee 500, P.O. Box 1867, Tybee Island, Ga. 31328.

6.2 All participants must agree to be bound by the current Racing Rules of Sailing(2009-2012), class rules, and all other rules that govern this event.

6.3 Proof of liability insurance (see 14) and sailing ability shall be required to enter the race.

7. Sailing teams

7.1 Sailing teams shall consist of two sailors and a minimum of one ground crew. *All of whom must register with the Race Committee.* Ground crew from one team may assist other teams, with prior approval by the Race Committee, or in the case of a team needing assistance in an emergency situation as per SI (10.7). **All official communication with the Race Committee during the race week will be made with a designated team manager, and not with individual sailors or ground crew members.** The Race Committee encourages and welcomes daily communication in this manner.

7.2 Sailing team members shall sail the entire leg of each race without stopping, unless a serious injury occurs which obviates replacement. The Principal Race Officer shall be informed immediately of any injuries and/or need for crew replacement. Replacement of one sailing crew member for reason of serious injury only, shall not incur any penalty, however, replacement for any other reason, and any and each subsequent replacement shall incur a 30-minute penalty for each leg

on which a replacement is made. It is at the sole discretion of the Race Committee to allow substitution and impose substitution penalties. (i.e. a medical doctor's written recommendation may be required).

7.3 The combined weight of the sailing crew shall comply with class rules. Crews not meeting minimum weight requirements may elect, at the discretion and approval of the Race Committee, to place weights on the front beam of the race boat. No other additional weight, with the exception of prescribed equipment and 5 pounds of potable liquid per crew member, contained in bottles or bladder type packs will be allowed.

7.4 Weigh-ins will be performed before the start of the first race. Replacement crew will be weighed at the earliest possible time following notification of the Race Committee.

8. Safety Equipment

8.1 US Coast Guard (USCG) approved life preservers will be worn by each sailor while racing, and each boat will have a minimum of one USCG approved throwable device aboard while racing. All life preservers will be in reasonably new & *undamaged* condition.

Note: It is the opinion of the RC that modifying a USCG-approved PFD for the purpose of securing safety gear does not, for the purposes of these instructions only, nullify the USCG certification for the purposes of meeting the rule. However, the amount and location of flotation may not be altered in any way. It will be at the sole discretion of the Race Committee to allow USCG-approved PFDs modified in such a way to be utilized. It is the responsibility of the individual sailor to ensure that he/she is in compliance with all Local, State, & Federal Laws and Regulations during the event.

8.2 Each sailing crewmember will have, secured to his person, a small knife, a whistle, a personal safety strobe, a waterproof flashlight, a 406Mhz EPIRB/PLB (with a valid & current NOAA registration and a battery with valid date stamp), and a safety line that can be readily attached to the boat. *Note: 121 & 243Mhz EPIRBS are no longer acceptable. Proof of NOAA Registration of 406 Mhz EPIRBS must be provided to the Principal Race Officer .*

8.3 Each boat will have a waterproof VHF radio, marine grade compass, three day / night flares in date, waterproof charts comprising the entire coastal area of the race for that day, and a cellular phone in a transparent, waterproof bag. The Race committee will be provided with the number of the cellular phone. Communication between sailing and ground team members is permitted during the race, however, ground team members are not permitted to communicate from any vessel on the water.

8.4 Equipment inspections will be performed before the first race. Additional inspections may be performed at the discretion of the Race Committee before subsequent races or after any race. Equipment losses or malfunctions during races will be corrected before the start of the next race. Failure to comply with safety requirements will result in immediate suspension and / or disqualification.

8.5 Each boat is required to have onboard a SPOT Satellite Tracker affixed to the boat in such a manner that it has a clear view of the sky and is able to successfully transmit data to the SPOT Satellite Tracking System. SPOTS are required to be activated and functional in “**tracking mode**” at all times while racing. The Principle Race Officer will be provided with relevant serial number information, etc. from each SPOT so as to be sufficient to allow the competitors to be tracked.

Note: *SPOTS will be available to teams on a rental basis for the duration of the event. There will be a \$50 rental fee in addition to the registration fee for those teams electing to rent the SPOTs for the event. Teams renting SPOT devices will be responsible for any damage or loss of the device. Teams may elect to use their own SPOT devices but must have the “tracking mode” activated in their SPOT accounts.*

9. Sail and boat measurements and repair / replacement

9.1 It shall be the responsibility of each sailing team to have sails properly measured and marked in conformance with class rules. Sails will be marked by the Race Committee prior to the start of the first race. Teams may also be required to provide hull numbers, rating, and/or measurement certificates, or be measured at the discretion of the Race Committee

9.2 Nacra 20 Class - Entries must comply with Nacra 20 class rules. Race Committee approved, original current production sails of North American meas-

urements only shall be allowed.(i.e. no experimental, pre-production, or re-cut sails, etc. Even if produced by class approved manufacturer)

9.3 Formula 18 Class - Entries must comply with class rules regarding certificates, sail measurements, and sail marking.

9.4 Sails & Boats (including masts and spars) shall be used for the entire race except when damaged beyond repair. *Replacement of any major equipment, including sails, will be reported to, and approved by the Race Committee before commencement of the start sequence of the next leg.* Note: The definition of major equipment shall be at the sole discretion of the Race Committee, however, as a general guideline, major equipment is defined as no more than broken rigging and/or one hull may be replaced (i.e. a boat may not be completely replaced).

10. Starts and Course

10.1 Water Start - For the first leg, boats will start in the water on the RC established start line, off shore, the Islander Resort, ocean side, in Islamorada. The start line will be between two Race Committee boats displaying Orange flags or a Race Committee boat displaying an Orange flag and an Orange mark, forming the boundaries of the starting line. No other marks need be honored during the first start. The start will use the standard five-minute sequence (RRS 26). The class or warning flag in all sequences shall consist of a red pennant, similar to the international code flag B.

10.2 Recalls & Postponements(Water Starts): There will be no recalls. In place of recalls, a penalty will be awarded to boats over early as follows: any boat crossing or being across the start line early at the start signal will be awarded a one hour penalty, and the over condition will be so indicated by the hoisting of “X” flag any time during the start sequence. A boat over early is has the option to restart staying clear of all other boats and returning behind the start line for restart. “X” signal will be lowered when the offending boat(s) return and/or restarts the race. This signal will remain hoisted for four minutes after the start for boats that did not restart. If a restart is properly completed, the penalty will be removed. This procedure changes all sections RRS rule 29. Signal flag “AP” hoisted with two horn blasts during the start sequence indicates some problem along the line and may be used by the RC to postpone the race start. The sequence will restart completely, one minute after “AP” is lowered.

10.3 Beach Starts - For subsequent races, all boats shall start on land, in a line on the beach parallel to the water, using the standard five-minute sequence (RRS 26). The starting line shall consist of two orange flags on the beach, approxi-

mately parallel to the surf, with signal flags displayed between them. The class or warning flag in all sequences shall consist of a red pennant, similar to the international code flag B. Boats, including crew, may not be on the course side of the starting line one minute prior to the start signal. The starting line may be divided into two rows, one behind the other. The second row shall start one minute after the first row, depending on conditions, with time calculated from the initial starting signal. If the rearmost row is delayed more than one minute, finish times will be adjusted accordingly. The second row start shall be signaled with the raising (or unfurling) of the original starting flag with a sound signal (these instructions amend RRS 26).

10.4 Recalls & Postponements(Beach Starts):For beach starts it is the responsibility of the team to know the position of the boat and whether or not they are over the line early. No recall flags will be flown (amends RRS 29). In place of recalls, a penalty will be awarded to boats over early as follows: any boat crossing or being across the start line early at the start signal will be awarded a one hour penalty. If necessary, a postponement will be signaled by 4 long sounds (Amends RRS 27.3). A boat's hull or spinnaker pole is considered its leading edge.

10.5 Subsequent leg start positions shall be determined by the uncorrected finish times of the previous leg.

10.6 Starting boats may be assisted by one ground crew or pusher from the beach, into the surf on a course perpendicular to the surf only. Surf is defined as that portion of the water between the land and the beginning of shore-breaking waves. Sailing crew may make use of small paddles to further assist them through the surf. These permitted actions change RRS rule 42. While in the surf, moves parallel to the beach may be made only if they do not violate another teams right of way.

10.7 In team emergencies, or extreme distress, assistance is expected to be rendered during the race from other sailing teams. Sailing teams rendering assistance will make every effort to document the time spent lending assistance, which will be subtracted from their finish time at the discretion of the Race Committee. Teams receiving assistance from other sailing teams will not be penalized for that leg, however, assistance from any source other than another racing team may result in a time penalty or disqualification. Failure to render assistance to fellow

sailing teams is also grounds for penalty and/or disqualification at the discretion of the Race Committee. This requirement changes RRS rule 41.

10.8 All teams must start each race. Boats needing to restart a race for any reason must do so within two hours of the first start. Failure to start a race will result in automatic disqualification for that leg.

10.9 Cape Canaveral has a 3 mile limitation during preparation for launches, and security measures are extreme. Boats not adhering to security instructions will be disqualified at the discretion of the RC without recourse. The following markers (and *approximate* waypoint locations) must be left completely to port, as if an imaginary string connects them:

Port Entry Buoy G3 Fl G 2.5s	N 28 22.50 W 80 31.80
“D” Can Buoy	N 28 27.62 W 80 28.15
“C” Can Buoy	N 28 31.02 W 80 29.52
“B” Can Buoy	N 28 36.10 W 80 31.35
“A” Can Buoy	N 28 44.70 W 80 37.85

****NOTE - These markers are to be considered as the boundaries of an exclusionary zone to be carried completely to port. Any boat that enters this zone will be subject to disqualification at the discretion of the Race Committee without recourse.**

11. The Finish

11.1 The finish shall be between two orange flags on the beach forming a gate, approximately parallel to the surf. A strobe light may be visible on the South Flag if the finish is in low light. Ground crew may assist teams in finding the finish, but may not interfere with other teams or the Race Committee.

11.2 Finishers in the surf immediately in front of the finish line have the right of way over finishers behind them, but once finished, must clear the line as soon as possible. Competitors shall do all possible to avoid contact with a finish gate mark and/or persons holding the mark. Making contact with a mark will not be grounds for a penalty. However, if a boat causes the gate to be replaced, it will be required to refinish.

11.3 A maximum of two ground crew from each team may be on the course side(OCS) of the gate to assist a boat with finishing. The team manager on shore is responsible to designate and report ground crew members to the RC. These ground crew members may be designated and reported for the entire six leg race, but name changes are required to be reported to the RC before use. If a boat receives assistance by more than two ground crew while OCS and not finished it may be subject to penalty and/or disqualification at the discretion of the Race Committee. Emergency assistance may be provided in the surf as per SI (10.7).

****It is at the sole discretion of the Race Officials on scene as to determine whether emergency assistance is necessary and they only will indicate when it is allowed for more than two ground crew to be OCS to render assistance without penalty.**

11.3 Any team not finishing within eight hours of the finish time of the first finishing boat shall be considered to not have finished the leg and is required to report to the Principal Race Officer the conditions of the delayed finishing or unfinished leg as soon as possible. Any boat not finishing a leg of any stage will receive a time penalty of no less than eight hours, depending on sailing conditions, at the discretion of the Race Committee. Any boat not finishing a leg within eight hours of the first finishing boat may be asked to retire, at the discretion of the Race Committee. (This amends RRS 35). Any boat finishing during or after the starting sequence of the subsequent race is required to take a mandatory 1 hour rest period.

12. Protests and requests for redress

12.1 A boat intending to protest shall inform the other boat at the first reasonable opportunity by hailing "protest". No red flag shall be required (changes RRS 61.1a). If the other boat is beyond hailing distance, the protesting boat need not hail, but she shall inform the other boat and the Principal Race Officer within 1 hour of the finish of the protesting boat (amends RRS 61.1.a (1)).

12.2 The official protest/redress form in the RRS shall be completed and submitted to the Principal Race Officer no later than one hour after the finish time of the protesting boat, and must be presented by the team leader to the PRO or his delegate. (Sections not applicable to these instructions may be ignored). (This amends RRS 61.2).

12.3 Rule 70.5 (denial of right to appeal) is invoked under subsection (a).

13. Scoring and Prizes

Scoring shall be done by Class. Individual Classes will be scored by overall

elapsed time, including redress and/or penalties (amends A4.1). Prizes will be awarded for finishers in the respective classes, as well as other prizes to be announced.

14. Release of Liability and Insurance

14.1 All entrants must sign the Release Waiver, which accompanies the entry form as a condition of entry.

14.2 It is the sole responsibility, and self accepted risk of each member of the racing team to understand, accept, and abide by these rules and instructions, or make every reasonable effort to do so.

14.3 Each team shall be required to provide proof of third party liability insurance in an amount to be determined by the organizing body, prior to the race.

15. Miscellaneous

15.1 During the race, crews must take every precaution to avoid hitting indigenous wildlife, especially endangered species such as whales, manatees and sea turtles, which are native to the race area. When landed on known sea turtle nesting beaches, marked turtle nests will be given a wide berth, and boats will be left with hulls perpendicular to the water or as the Race Committee instructs. Failure to observe correct positioning of boats will result in immediate disqualification.

15.2 It shall be entirely at the discretion of the Race Committee to amend, abridge, or change these instructions prior to the start of each leg of the race. Official changes will be posted on the Race Committee Board and/or communicated verbally during the Skipper's Meetings 9:00 am on race days. It is the responsibility of each team to be current with race notifications.