



APPLICABLE US SAILING PRESCRIPTIONS

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY After Sportsmanship and the Rules add

Equal Opportunity

As the national authority for the sport of sailing in the United States of America, the United States Sailing Association is committed to providing an equal opportunity to all sailors to participate in the sport of sailing.

Rule 34 Change rule 34 title to: **MARK MISSING; RACE COMMITTEE ABSENT**

After rule 34 add

US SAILING prescribes that, if a finishing mark is missing but another one remains in place, a boat shall finish as close to the remaining mark as practicable on a line extending from its required side at a 90° angle to the last leg. If a boat finishes when the race committee is absent, to be scored as finishing she shall note her finishing time and her finishing position in relation to any nearby boats and report them to the race committee as soon as reasonably possible.

Rule 40 Change rule 40 title to: **PERSONAL BUOYANCY; HARNESSSES; LIFE-SAVING EQUIPMENT**

After rule 40.1 add

US SAILING prescribes that every boat shall carry life-saving equipment conforming to government regulations.

Rule 48 After rule 48 add

US SAILING prescribes that the use of additional special purpose lights such as masthead, spreader and jib-luff lights shall not constitute a breach of this rule.

Rule 55 Add rule 55

55 **FLAGS**

US SAILING prescribes that a boat shall not display flags except for signaling. A boat shall not be penalized for breaking this rule without prior warning and opportunity to make correction.

Rule 61.4 Add rule 61.4

61.4 **Fees for Protests and Requests for Redress**

US SAILING prescribes that no fees shall be charged for protests or requests for redress.

Rule 64.3 (b) After rule 64.3(b) add

US SAILING prescribes that the authority responsible for interpreting the rules of a handicap or rating system is the organization that issued the handicap or the rating certificate involved.

Rule 68 After rule 68 add

US SAILING prescribes that:

- (a) *A boat that retires from a race or accepts a penalty does not, by that action alone, admit liability for damages.*
- (b) *A protest committee shall find facts and make decisions only in compliance with the rules. No protest committee or US SAILING appeal authority shall adjudicate any claim for damages. Such a claim is subject to the jurisdiction of the courts.*
- (c) *A basic purpose of the rules is to prevent contact between boats. By participating in an event governed by the rules, a boat agrees that responsibility for damages arising from any breach of the rules shall be based on fault as determined by application of the rules, and that she shall not be governed by the legal doctrine of 'assumption of risk' for monetary damages resulting from contact with other boats.*

Rule 75.3 Add rule 75.3

75.3 US SAILING prescribes that the organizing authority shall not require a competitor to assume any liabilities of the organizing authority, race committee, protest committee, host club, sponsors, or any other organization or official involved with the event. (This is commonly referred to as an 'indemnification' or 'hold harmless' agreement.)

Rule 76.1 After rule 76.1 add

US SAILING prescribes that an organizing authority or race committee shall not reject or cancel the entry of a boat or exclude a competitor eligible under the notice of race and sailing instructions for an arbitrary or capricious reason or for reason of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or age.

Rule 76.3 Add rule 76.3

76.3 US SAILING prescribes that a boat whose entry is rejected or cancelled or a competitor who is excluded from a race or series shall be, upon written request, entitled to a hearing conducted by the protest committee under rules 63.2, 63.3, 63.4 and 63.6.

Rule 87 After rule 87 add

US SAILING prescribes that sailing instructions shall not change or delete rules 61.4 or 76.3, Appendix F, or its prescriptions to rules 40.1, 68 or 76.1. However, for an international event the prescription to rule 40.1 may be deleted.

Rule 86.3 After rule 86.3 add

US SAILING prescribes that proposed rules may be tested, but only in local races.