



NATIONAL CLASS E SCOW ASSOCIATION

2009 National Championship Regatta

Oshkosh Yacht Club
September 9-12, 2009

Sailing Instructions

1. RULES

The regatta will be governed by the 'rules' as defined in the 2009-2012 Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).

The regatta is designated Category A in accordance with ISAF Regulation 20.

2. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 2.1 The regatta is open to all Class E Scow yachts, which meet the rules of NCESA, whose helmsmen are regular members of NCESA, whose crews are associate members or regular members of NCESA, and who properly complete registration and measurement with the Regatta Committee.
- 2.2 Each yacht must keep the same crew throughout the regatta. Exception: In the interest of encouraging participation, we will accept crew changes (including the helmsman) that are declared by specific race or time period (day or portion of day) at the time of registration. After registration is completed and accepted, if there is an emergency that causes a crew person to be unable to continue sailing, a substitute crew may be used after obtaining the permission of the Jury Chair.

3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located at the tent at regatta headquarters at Miller's Bay. Notices shall be considered given to the competitors once they are posted on the notice board.

4. CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change in the sailing instructions shall be posted by 0830 on the day it will take effect, except that any change in the schedule of races will be posted by 1900 on the day before it will take effect.

5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the Signal Boat located near regatta headquarters..
- 5.2 Flag 'AP' over 'H' denotes the fleet shall remain ashore. The warning signal will be made not less than one (1) hour after the lowering of flag 'H', accompanied by one sound signal.
- 5.3 Flag 'F' when displayed before, or with, the harbor warning signifies that NCESA approved flotation panels shall be installed at the head of the mainsail on each competing yacht for all subsequent races until the Race Committee (RC) next brings the fleet ashore.

- 5.4 Approximately one (1) hour before the scheduled warning signal the signal boat will make a sound signal and display Flag 'B' as she departs for the course area. This flag shall be lowered with a sound signal 5 minutes before the scheduled warning as an attention signal.
- 5.5 Flag 'B' displayed with a sound signal after the signal boat has returned to shore means that protest acceptance time has begun, and when lowered one (1) hour later means that protest acceptance time has expired.

6. SCHEDULE OF RACES AND COMPETITORS MEETING

- 6.1 A maximum of nine (9) races will be sailed in the series.
- 6.2 A competitors meeting is scheduled at 0830 at regatta headquarters on Thursday, September 10th.
- 6.3 The warning signal for the first race is scheduled at 1030 on Thursday, September 10. The scheduled times of warning signals for subsequent races will be posted, except for those which follow as soon as possible after the conclusion of a prior race (back-to-back).
- 6.4 No original warning signal shall be made after 1300 on Saturday, September 12, unless there have only been two races completed, in which case the last original warning signal will be no later than 1500. No more than two (2) races will be sailed without a shore break.
- 6.5 Lake Winnebago is in the Central Time Zone, and all times indicated herein are Central Daylight Savings Time.

7. RACING AREA

The racing area shall be Lake Winnebago.

8. THE COURSE

- 8.1 Windward-leeward courses only will be sailed with an offset mark at the windward end, and two (2) gate marks at the leeward end. Please refer to Appendix 1 – Race Course Diagrams.
- 8.2 The required number of circuits of the course and the approximate compass heading to Mark 1 will be displayed from the RC Signal Boat.
- 8.3 The finish may occur at the end of the windward or leeward leg depending upon the indicated number of laps on the signal boat placard.
- 8.4 Once a race is started, the number of legs shall not be changed.

9. MARKS

- 9.1 Original Marks will be yellow tetrahedrons. The offset mark will be an orange ball. New Marks (as described in SI 12.1) will be orange inflatables.
- 9.2 Representative original, change and offset marks will be on display at the competitor's meeting prior to racing.

10. THE START

- 10.1 Races will be started in accordance with RRS 26. In addition, Flag 'B' will be lowered with a sound as an attention signal five (5) minutes before the warning signal.
- 10.2 The start line will be
 - 10.2.1 between staffs displaying orange flags on two RC boats, or
 - 10.2.2 from a staff displaying an orange flag on an RC boat at the starboard end, to a staff displaying an orange flag on an RC boat in the approximate center of the start

line, and thence to a staff displaying an orange flag on an RC boat at the port end. A notice will be posted if this latter procedure is used.

- 10.3 If any of the RC boats on the starting line attaches a buoy to the boat, the boat, the buoy and space between them shall be treated as a single mark that is subject to RRS 28 and 31.
- 10.4 The starting signals will be made from the Signal boat stationed on the course side of the starting line.
- 10.5 A boat attempting to start more than seven (7) minutes after her starting signal shall be scored DNS.

11. RECALLS

- 11.1 The RC may hail the sail number(s) of any boats in violation of RRS 29.1 by VHF radio on channel 69 in the minute prior to the starting signal, or after the starting signal while displaying Flag X.
- 11.2 The RC may also hail the sail numbers by loudhailer from the Signal Boat.
- 11.3 Such announcements are a courtesy and failure to hear or understand them shall not constitute grounds for redress.
- 11.4 If the three boat starting line option described in SI 10.2.2 is used, An OCS yacht may round the mid start line boat, leaving it to port, to comply with RRS Rule 30.
- 11.5 Yachts failing to start in accordance with the definition may be notified by radio or voice hail at Mark 1 or any time thereafter.

12. CHANGE OF COURSE

- 12.1 To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will lay a new mark (or move the finish line) and remove the original mark as soon as possible. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.
- 12.2 Minor course adjustments (usually no more than approximately five degrees) may not be signaled.
- 12.3 RRS 33 is modified in that the compass bearing for the next leg may also be hailed on VHF Radio channel 69.

13. TIME LIMITS

- 13.1 A race shall be abandoned if no yacht reaches Mark 1 within forty-five (45) minutes after the start or finishes within two and one half (2 1/2) hours.
- 13.2 Any yacht not finishing within thirty (30) minutes of the first yacht shall be scored one point more than the number of yachts finishing within that time.

14. THE FINISH

The finish line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on an Race Committee boat and the course side of the finishing mark, or between two Race Committee boats with similar staffs and orange flags.

15. POSTPONED OR ABANDONED RACES

Any race postponed or abandoned will be sailed before any other scheduled race.

16. CONSECUTIVE RACES

Flag 'B', displayed on a Race Committee Boat while on finish station means that another race will follow as soon as possible (back-to-back). This signal will be lowered with a sound signal five minutes before the warning signal for the next race.

17. BOWSPRIT USE

RRS 50 is modified to include, "A bowsprit may be extended only when being used for its intended purpose of flying an asymmetric spinnaker. When approaching the windward mark, it may not be deployed until the process of hoisting the spinnaker has begun, or until the yacht pierces the plane of the windward mark while on starboard tack. It must be retracted as part of a continuous process of retrieving the spinnaker."

18. PENALTIES

The turns penalty of RRS Rule 44.2 is modified such that the required turn for breaking a rule of Part 2 shall be 360 degrees including one tack and one gybe.

19. PROTESTS

19.1 As soon as possible after finishing or withdrawing from the race in which the alleged breach occurred, a protesting boat shall notify the Jury of the racing number of any or all boats she intends to protest, and protested boats shall notify the Jury of any penalty turns performed. If the protesting boat has finished the race, notice shall be given to the Judges stationed just beyond the finish line. If the Judges boat is not on station, the report shall be given to any other RC boat in the finish area.

19.2 Protests shall be written on forms available from the jury. The location to pickup and deposit protest forms will be posted on the regatta notice board. A Jury representative will be at that location during the final twenty (20) minutes of protest time to receive completed protest forms.

19.3 The time and location of protest hearings shall be posted on the notice board within five (5) minutes of the end of protest time. Such notice will include the yacht numbers of parties to the protest and names of witnesses. This information shall also be broadcast over VHF channel 69 at the end of protest time.

20. WITHDRAWING FROM A RACE

A yacht which withdraws from a race or does not intend to start a scheduled race, shall inform the Race Committee as soon as possible. Failure to do so may result in disqualification from all races that day.

21. SCORING

21.1 Nine races are scheduled of which three must be sailed to constitute a regatta.

21.2 The low point scoring system of RRS Appendix A shall be used. If six races are completed, each yacht's worst score shall be excluded from her total. This modifies RRS Rule A2.

22. SAFETY

22.1 If any yacht has finished a race before the onset of foul or threatening weather, and the Race Committee determines to clear yachts from the water, the RC Signal Boat will make three (3) sound signals, and display Code Flag 'H' at which time any yacht still racing shall immediately cease racing and go ashore. These yachts may be scored at the discretion of the Chief Judge, who instead may order the race abandoned.

22.2 The boating regulations of the state of Wisconsin will apply. Each boat shall carry a USCG approved PFD for each crew, and a throwable flotation device.

23. RADIO USE

23.1 The RC will communicate with competitors **on VHF radio channel 69.**

23.2 The only communication devices that may be used by the competitors are; (a) a weather monitor, (b) a radio tuned to receive only RC transmissions that are intended for all boats and (c) a cell phone that may be used for emergency purposes only. The penalty for breaking this rule will be total disqualification from the regatta or such lesser penalty as may be determined by the Jury. Failure to hear a RC transmission shall not constitute grounds for redress. Except for emergency purposes, no transmission shall be made to the RC or any other person when racing. The competitor channel will be used for all the RC communications through the start sequence, including OCS hails. Notification of course changes after the start may be broadcast by the RC in addition to the signals as provisioned in RRS Rule 33 as modified by Instruction 12 herein.

APPENDIX I – Race Course Diagrams

