

# 2024 Etchells Midwinters West Championships

April 5 - 7, 2024

Organizing Authority: San Diego Yacht Club and Etchells Fleet 13

## Sailing Instructions

### 1. RULES

- 1.1. This regatta will be governed by the 'rules' as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing.
- 1.2. Only the following prescriptions of US Sailing will apply: Rules 60.3, 61.4, 67, 76.1 and Appendix R.
- 1.3. Bow numbers will be supplied by the OA and shall be applied in accordance with the OA's instructions.

### 2. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 2.1. To be eligible to race, boats must complete the entry process as described in the Notice of Race – Section 3 and 5.

### 3. NOTICE TO COMPETITORS

- 3.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the **Official Regatta Notice Board** located on the east side, facing the water, of the Sailing Center at the San Diego Yacht Club (SDYC).
- 3.2. A skippers meeting will be held adjacent to the Jessop Room on the Sailwash Lawn at 0900, Friday, April 5.

### 4. CHANGES TO THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 4.1. Any change to these sailing instructions will be posted on the Official Regatta Notice Board not later than 0930 on the day of the first race to which such changes apply except any changes to the schedule of races shall be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect. At the same time, Flag 'L', accompanied by a sound signal, will be displayed.

### 5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed from the SDYC flagpole.

### 6. SIGNALS MADE AFLOAT

- 6.1. In accordance with RRS 90.2 (c), oral changes to the Sailing Instructions may be made on the water. A change is in effect when the RC signal boat displays Flag L over A with one sound signal. The Race Committee (R/C) will advise the fleet via VHF Channel 69. Boats may also come within hail of the RC boat to receive the oral changes to the Sailing Instructions.

### 7. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 7.1. A maximum of 8 races are scheduled for the regatta. The R/C reserves the right to have more or fewer races each day to accomplish races scheduled for this event.
- 7.2. The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race each day is 1125.
- 7.3. No initial warning signal will be made after 1430 on Sunday, April 7, 2024. However, after this initial Warning, any Warning Signal that follows one or more General Recalls may occur after 1430.

**8. CLASS FLAG**

- 8.1. The Class Flag will be a white field with black Etchells logo.

**9. RACING AREA**

- 9.1. The starting area will be in the Coronado Roads approximately 2.5 n.m. bearing 130° mag. from Zuniga Jetty Light Z.

**10. CHECK IN**

- 10.1. Prior to the warning of the first race of each day, each boat shall check-in with, and be recognized by, the R/C located on a vessel in the starting area (SI 9) and displaying the Flag L by passing close aboard on starboard tack and hailing her bow number or sail number. When a boat has been recognized, the R/C will return the hail.

**11. THE COURSE**

- 11.1. The course will be selected from the attached Course Descriptions.
- 11.2. The following signals will be posted athwart-ship from the R/C vessel located at the starboard end of the starting line:  
The number of the course to be sailed will be a white number posted on a black placard.  
The approximate distance to Mark 1 will be black numbers posted on a white board located under the Course #.  
The approximate bearing to Mark 1 will be black numbers posted on a white board located on the railing either side of the signal boat bridge.

**12. MARKS**

- 12.1. Marks 1 and Gate 2g will be red cones, Mark 1a will be a green inflatable shape, Mark F will be an orange tetrahedron. Mark S will be a white cylinder.
- 12.2. In the event that Gate 2g is replaced by a single mark it shall be left to port.
- 12.3. New marks, when used as described in SI 15, will be yellow tetrahedrons.

**13. THE START**

- 13.1. The starting line will be between a staff with an orange flag displayed on the R/C vessel at the starboard end of the start line and Mark S at the port end of the start line.
- 13.2. Boats failing to start within five minutes after their starting signal will be scored DNS without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1, A4 and A5.

**14. RECALLS**

- 14.1. As a courtesy, the R/C will attempt to hail boats On Course Side by radio on VHF Channel 69 using her sail number or bow number. Failure of equipment, failure to hear a hail, delay in hailing or the order in which hails are given will not be grounds for redress.
- 14.2. The Race Committee will attempt to notify boats subject to 30.3 (U Flag) and 30.4 (Black Flag) on VHF Channel 69. This changes RRS 30.3 and 30.4.

**15. CHANGE OF COURSE AFTER THE START**

- 15.1. To change the next leg of the course, the R/C 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.”
- 15.2. The race committee may, without signal, move a mark to change the direction up to 5 degrees +/- or the length up to 5% of the previous length, provided that no boat is sailing to the mark.

**16. THE FINISH**

- 16.1. The finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on a R/C vessel and the course side of a Mark as illustrated on the course chart.
- 16.2. Flag “A” displayed on a finishing boat indicates that there will be no further racing that day.

**17. TIME LIMIT**

- 17.1. The time limit for Friday and Saturday is 1700, if no boats have finished. Any boat not finished by 1730 will be scored DNF for that race. The time limit for Sunday is 1600, if no boats have finished. Any boat not finished by 1630 will be scored DNF for that race. This modifies RRS 35.

**18. PENALTIES**

- 18.1. Appendix T – ARBITRATION is in effect.
- 18.2. Appendix V1 – PENALTY AT THE TIME OF AN INCIDENT is in effect.
- 18.3. The R/C will post a list of boats scored OCS, ZFP, UFD or BFD on the Official Notice Board before the protest time limit. A request for redress based on such a posted score shall be made no later than one hour after such posting. This changes RRS 62.2.

**19. HEARING REQUESTS –**

- 19.1. RRS 61 is modified to add the additional requirement: A boat intending to protest shall report her intentions and the boat(s) being protested to the R/C upon finishing or retiring and obtain R/C acknowledgment.
- 19.2. Request for Hearing forms may be provided at the Official Regatta Notice Board and shall be lodged at the Dockside Room in the Sailing Center within one (1) hour of the docking time of the R/C finishing boat after the final race of the day. Alternately, a clear photo of both sides of a Request for Hearing form, or electronic form from the US Sailing Rules App may be emailed to [Protests@sdyc.org](mailto:Protests@sdyc.org) within the same timeframe. The docking time will be posted on the Official Notice Board.
- 19.3. Hearings will be heard by an Arbitrator, and if necessary, a protest committee, and in the approximate order of receipt. The approximate order and time of hearings will be posted on the Courtesy Notice Board identifying protesting and protested boats. It is the responsibility of each boat to check the schedule and attend the hearing in a timely manner with all parties and witnesses in order. The Arbitrator or Protest Committee is not responsible for searching for parties or their witnesses.
- 19.4. Hearings not settled by Arbitration will be heard by a protest committee and will be scheduled in agreement with parties to the hearing.

**20. WITHDRAWAL**

- 20.1. A boat intending to withdraw from racing shall attempt to notify any R/C vessel, by hail or VHF Ch 69, of her withdrawal before leaving the race area, and if not successful, shall notify the Security Gate of SDYC (619-758-6322) as quickly as possible.

**21. SCORING**

- 21.1. A maximum of 8 races are scheduled. When fewer than five (5) races have been completed, the boat's score will be the total of her race scores. This change RRS A2.
- 21.2. Three (3) completed races shall constitute a series.

**22. TOWING**

- 22.1. An attempt will be made to provide towing for competitors to the starting area. If available, tows will be made up in the Star Hoist Area and La Playa turning basin and will commence at approximately 0930 on each racing day. Towing is limited and will be available on a first come first served basis.

**23. COMMUNICATION**

- 23.1. The R/C will monitor VHF 69 for radio traffic regarding the regatta. Please contact them in the event of an emergency requiring outside assistance or to notify the R/C of a boat's intent to withdraw from racing per 20.1.

**24. SAFETY**

- 24.1. All competing boats shall carry at all times safety equipment required by the current International Etchells Class Rules.
- 24.2. All competitors are urged to wear life jackets or adequate personal buoyancy while racing.
- 24.3. All competitors shall carry VHF radios for safety/emergency use. In addition, the R/C may use the VHF radio for communicating with the fleet on channel 69.

**25. SUPPORT BOATS**

- 25.1. Coach and support boats must be registered with the OA prior to acting as a coach or support boat. See NOR section 4 for the event registration schedule.
- 25.2. All registered coach and support boats will carry on board and operate while on the water a VHF radio capable of transmitting and receiving on VHF Channels and agree to assist the Race Committee if directed to do so.
- 25.3. Competitors shall have no communication with, and boats shall not be tied to, coach or support boats from 1120 each race day until racing has been concluded for the day. In the event of a postponement on shore, competitors shall have no communications with, and boats shall not be tied to, coach or support boats more than 90 minutes after the AP ashore is lowered. The time for AP down will be posted as a courtesy on the Notice Board located on the east side, of the Sailing Center. The Race Committee will make an announcement regarding this timing on the VHF Race channel. Between races, coach and support boats shall not approach, communicate with or transfer provisions or equipment to or from their supported boats unless in a medical or emergency requirement threatening the health of the crew or the flotation of the boat and only with the expressed permission of the Race Committee.

**26. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

- 26.1. Competitors participate in this regatta entirely at their own risk.  
See RRS 3 – Decision to Race – “The responsibility for a boat’s decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone.” San Diego Yacht Club will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with, prior to, or after the regatta.

**Course Chart**

Crs	Marks	Crs	Marks
4	Start, 1, 1a, 2g, 1, 1a, Finish	3	Start, 1, 1a, 2g, Upwind Finish
		5	Start, 1, 1a, 2g, 1, 1a, 2g, Upwind Finish

Marks of the course shall be left to port (except for a Gate).

