

RACEBOARD & IMCO

CHAMPIONSHIP RULES

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1 GENERAL

1.1 Class World Championships shall be held within 200km of an international airport, and easily reached by motor vehicle.

1.2 Pumping

If pumping becomes the main method of propulsion, the race shall be abandoned.

1.3 Class Representative

A Class Representative (CR) will be appointed for every international championship. The CR shall be consulted on all matters pertaining to these Championship Rules and approve changes to the Sailing Instructions.

2 DIVISIONS

2.1 Gender Divisions

2.1.1 MEN (A)

2.1.2 WOMEN (B)

2.2 Age Divisions

2.2.1 **Youth** (C) is a man or woman who is less than 20 years old ;

2.2.2 **Master** (D) is a man who has reached the age 35 , or a woman who has reached the age of 30 ;

2.2.3 **Grand Master** (E) is a man who has reached the age of 45, or a woman who has reached the age of 40.

2.2.4 **Veteran** (F) is a man who has reached the age of 55, or a woman who has reached the age of age of 50.

2.2.5 A sailor must have reached the minimum age limit in the relevant age division by December 31st before the year of competition.

2.2.6 A sailor must not be older than the maximum age limit in the relevant age division by December 31st in the year of competition.

2.3 Weight Divisions

2.3.1 **Lightweight.** A sailor who weighs less than 75kg

2.3.2 **Heavyweight.** A sailor who weighs more than 70kg

2.4 Equipment Divisions

2.4.1 **Hybrid.** A 'hybrid' is any production raceboard with a maximum length of 320cm.

2.4.2 **Seven Five(7.5).** A division for sailors using maximum sail size 7.5sq.m.

2.5 Division Identification

At events where the organising authority specifies the use of identification of divisions, the identification shall be displayed on the top panel of the sail, and as specified in the Class Rules. Alternatively, the Sailing Instructions may specify the sail carries a coloured streamer.

2.6 Minimums

A minimum of 5 entries is required to constitute a division.

2.6 World Titles

World Titles may be awarded in the following divisions: Men, Women, Youth and Master.

3 MAXIMUM NUMBER OF RACES; TIME LIMITS; TARGET TIMES; REST PERIODS

3.1 GENERAL

3.1.1 The maximum of races that can be scheduled in a Series is 15.

3.1.2 A minimum 3 races shall be completed by a class/division to validate a championship or event for that class/division.

3.2 TIME LIMITS & TARGET TIMES

a) The time limit for the first finisher in a course race is 40 minutes

b) The time limit for the first board in each race to reach the first mark is 15 minutes.

c) A race shall be abandoned if either of these time limits (Art (a) & (b) above) is exceeded and anyway shall not count towards the official results.

d) Racers finishing more than 20 minutes after the first finisher in their respective division shall be scored DNF except those who are scored DSQ, BFD, OCS, RAF, RDG, or DNE.

e) The target elapsed time for a course race is 25 > 30 minutes for the winner.

3.3 NUMBER OF RACES IN A DAY

3.3.1 No more than four races per day shall be scheduled or raced.

3.3.2 No more than 3 races per day shall be sailed in marginal (for majority of fleet) planing conditions.

3.4 REST PERIODS

3.4.1 When racing back to back the minimum interval between the closing of the finishing line and the new warning signal for that fleet/division shall be 10 minutes.

3.4.2 No more than 3 races shall be sailed back to back, which may be reduced to 2 in marginal planing conditions. After a series of back to back races there shall be a rest period of a minimum of 30 minutes ashore for the last finisher in the last race.

4 DECISION TO RACE

4.1 The race shall start at the scheduled time if the wind conditions are within the set criteria.

4.2 A course race should not be started in less than 5 knots of wind established in the starting area. This lower limit may actually be higher if there is strong current in the racing area.

4.3 A marathon race should not be started in less than 7 knots of wind measured over the majority of the race area.

4.4 Races should not be started in excess of 30 knots. Once a race has been started and winds exceed 30 knots the race should be allowed to continue unless there is a danger to life.

5 CHANGING RIGS

When changing to a rig with a different size sail, the crew must obtain the new rig and return the old rig at the same time to the equipment storage area. The equipment storage area shall be ashore in the vicinity of the launching area unless otherwise stated in the sailing instructions

6 EQUIPMENT RULES

Sailors competing in the Youth Division are limited to the use of "Hybrid" boards.

7 EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

7.1 The Official Equipment inspector shall mark all equipment a competitor intends to use during the regatta before the start of the first race.

7.2 The equipment inspectors may conduct checks & inspections of equipment, at any time during the regatta. Identified competitors, at sea, shall sail their boards to the 'equipment inspector's boat,' which will be flying a white flag with the word 'M' up on it, immediately after finishing the race. All competitors, notified of the requirement to be inspected shall

follow the instructions of the equipment inspector's and proceed directly to the equipment inspection area ashore. Until permission is given by the equipment inspector, a selected competitor shall have no contact with a coach or support personnel. A competitor, so notified, shall not leave the equipment inspection area, without the permission of the equipment inspectors. Failure to comply may result in disqualification.

8 RACING FORMAT's; FLEET SIZES

8.1 Formats include: *course racing* and *Marathon* (long distance)

8.2 Fleet sizes.

- 8.2.1 The maximum size of a fleet starting together in a course race shall be 100 boards.
- 8.2.2 A minimum of ten entries in a division is required to give that division a separate start.

9 COURSES & COURSE AREAS

- 9.1 Courses will be as described in the Sailing Instructions.
- 9.2 The course area in a *course race* is defined as an area extending 75 metres beyond the course including the 'starting line' and the 'finishing line' and its extensions, which would normally be taken by a racer when racing.
- 9.3 Access to the course area during a race is restricted to racers racing and official boats as defined in the Sailing Instructions.

10 PROTESTS - Arbitration System

- 10.1 As an alternative to a full Protest Hearing in front of the International Jury, competitors may be given a choice of using an Arbitration System but ONLY if, before the hearing, both the Protestor and the Protestee, agree to accept the decision of the Arbitrators.
- 10.2 The Arbitrators will be two members of the International Jury and they will listen to the evidence of the Protestor and Protestee only and will give their decision as to which board (if any) infringed a rule. **(Alternation of RRS 63.6).**
- 10.3 The decision is binding on all Parties to the Protest but the hearing may be reopened under RRS 66.
- 10.4 If the Arbitrators penalise a board the penalty that will be applied is a points penalty of 30% (rounded up to the next whole number) of the number of entrants in the class/division. If the addition of the points penalty would result in the boat receiving more points than would be applicable to a boat which had been disqualified from that race the boat will be scored the same number of points as a disqualified boat. The application of the points penalty shall not affect the scores of the other boats in that fleet. The score will be shown in the result lists as -ARB-.
- 10.5 If at the time of offering the Arbitration System to the parties to the protest, either of the parties refuse to accept the System, the protest will be heard by the full International Jury and the penalty becomes disqualification.
- 10.6 Only the arbitrators have the right to give the open arbitration hearing to a full jury.

11 SAFETY SYSTEMS

The Safety System shall be as specified in the championship Sailing Instructions, and could be either "Sign In /Sign Out" system or "Tally" system.

12 SCORING

- 12.1 Scoring shall be according to RRS Windsurfing Competition Rules 2009>2012, using the Low Points Scoring System.
- 12.2 A Race shall consist of one course race, or one marathon.

13 ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT & COMMUNICATION

- 13.1 Electronic equipment is prohibited with the exception of devices whose sole capability is timing.
- 13.2 **Controlled use of GPS** may be permitted for promotional and media purposes.

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