



USSTAG January Qualifier – 2010

January 8-10, 2010

NOTICE OF RACE

1 ORGANISING AUTHORITY

The Organising Authority (OA) will be the Key Biscayne Yacht Club and US Sailing Center Sheboygan.

2 VENUE

The venue will be Key Biscayne, Biscayne Bay, Florida, USA.

3 EVENT GRADING

The event has applied for ISAF Grade 4. This grading is subject to review by the ISAF Match Race Rankings Sub Committee. The event may be re-graded when there is clear reason to do so.

4 PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

- 4.1
- (a) Race office will open on January 7, 2010 at 0900.
 - (b) Registration will be on January 7, 2010 from 0900 until 1700.
 - (c) Crew weighing will be on January 7, 2010 from 0900 until 1700.
 - (d) Practice will be on January 7, 2010 from 1200 until 1700.
 - (e) First briefing will be on January 8, 2010 at 0830.
 - (f) First meeting with umpires will be immediately following the first briefing.
 - (g) Racing days will be January 8, 2010 to January 10, 2010.
 - (h) Time of the first attention signal each day will be 1000.
 - (i) No attention signal will be made after 1500 on the last day of racing.
 - (j) Prize giving will be on January 10, 2010 after racing.
- 4.2 Unless excused by the OA, attendance at the following is mandatory:
- (a) Initial briefing, for skippers.
 - (b) Daily briefing, for skippers.
 - (c) Prize giving for the final skippers and crews.
- #### **5 SKIPPERS ELIGIBILITY**
- (a) All skippers that meet the eligibility requirements and request an invitation by the deadline (December 15, 2009) will be invited to compete.
 - (b) The registered skipper shall helm the boat at all times while racing, except in an emergency.
 - (c) To remain eligible a skipper shall confirm acceptance of invitation in writing, (e-mail is acceptable) to be received by the date specified on the letter of invitation.
 - (d) A non-refundable entry bond of \$US 250 shall accompany the acceptance of invitation for this to be valid.
 - (e) All competitors shall meet the eligibility requirements of ISAF regulation 19.2.
 - (f) All competitors shall obtain an ISAF Sailor ID by registering online at www.sailing.org/isafsailor. Skippers shall inform the OA of their ISAF Sailor ID at registration.
 - (g) All competitors must be eligible to represent USA at the 2012 Olympic Games.

6 ENTRIES

6.1 Entry Completion

The skipper shall be entered on completion of registration, crew weighing and the payment of all fees and deposits. All payments shall be made by credit card or cash (US\$).

6.2 Entry Fee

A non-refundable entry fee of \$US 300 shall be paid at or before registration. This fee includes the cost of borrowed boat insurance.

6.3 Damage deposit

- (a) An initial damage deposit of \$US 1,000 shall be paid at registration, unless extended by the OA. This deposit is the maximum payable by the skipper as a result of any one incident.

- (b) In the event of a deduction from a skipper's damage deposit, the deposit must be restored to its original amount before the skipper will be permitted to continue in the event.
- (c) Any damage not identifiable to a particular skipper[s] will be assessed proportionately to all skippers at the end of the regatta.
- (d) Any remaining deposit after the event will be refunded within 10 days after the event.

7 RULES

- (a) The event will be governed by the rules as defined in the RRS, and including Appendix C.
- (b) The rules for the handling of boats will apply, and will also apply to any practice sailing and sponsor races. Class rules of the Elliott 6m Class will not apply.

8 BOATS AND SAILS

- (a) The event will be sailed Elliott 6m type boats.
- (b) Eight (8) boats will be provided.
- (c) The following sails will be provided for each boat:
Mainsail, Jib, Spinnaker.
- (d) Boats will be allocated by draw, either daily or for each round as decided by the Race Committee.

9 CREW (INCLUDING SKIPPER)

- (a) The number of crew (including the skipper) shall be three (3) All registered crew shall sail all races.
- (b) The maximum total crew weight, determined prior to racing shall be 204 kg, when wearing at least shorts and shirts.
- (c) When a registered skipper is unable to continue in the event the OA may authorise an original crew member to substitute.
- (d) When a registered crew member is unable to continue in the event the OA may authorise a substitute, a temporary substitute or other adjustment.

10 EVENT FORMAT

- (a) The intended format of the event will consist of the following stages:
Stage 1 – Double Round Robin
Each skipper will race against each other skipper twice.

Stage 2 - Semi Final Knockout Series

The four skippers with the highest total scores at the end of Stage 1 will advance to Stage 2. The winners of each series of Stage 2 will be the first boat to score 3 points.

Stage 3 Final/Petit-Final Knockout Series

The winners of Stage 2 will advance to the Final series. The other competitors from Stage 2 will sail in the Petit-Final series. The winner of the Final series will be the first boat to score 3 points. The winner of the Petit-Final series will be the first boat to score 2 points.

- (b) The OA may change the format, terminate or eliminate any round, when conditions allow or when they are not expected to permit the completion of the intended format.

11 COURSE

- (a) The course will be windward/leeward with starboard roundings, finishing downwind.
- (b) The intended course area will be on Biscayne Bay.

12 ADVERTISING

- (a) As boats and equipment will be supplied by the Organising Authority, ISAF regulation 20.4 applies. Each boat will be required to display advertising as supplied by the OA.
- (b) Boats shall not be permitted the right to protest for breaches of any rules regarding advertising (amends RRS 60.1).

13 PRIZES

- (a) The top three skippers will qualify for the 2010 Rolex Miami OCR regatta.
- (b) This event will serve as the qualifier and create priority order for the following events: RMOCR, Palma, Hyeres, Delta Lloyd and Kiel. However, USSTAG is actively working on creating another qualifier that, if organized, would serve as the qualifier for Delta Lloyd and Kiel. If we do not have that second qualifier organized by Dec 31 2009, then the January qualifier will continue to serve as the qualifier for the first five events.

If there is no second qualifier, all USA spots at these first five SWC events will be granted as follows:

1. The winning skipper of the January qualifier has the option to sail all five events.
2. The option to take a second spot granted to the USA will rotate back and forth between the second and third place skippers at the January qualifier. (E.g. for the second spot at RMOCR, the option will be given to the second place skipper, and if there is a second USA spot at Palma the option will be given to the third place skipper, and if there is a second USA spot at Hyeres the option will be given to the second place skipper, and so on.).

(c) Additional prizes may be awarded.

14 MEDIA, IMAGES AND SOUND

14.1 If required by the OA:

- (a) Television personnel and equipment (or dummies) supplied by the OA shall be carried on board while racing.
- (b) Competitors shall wear microphones supplied by the OA during racing and be available for interviews when advised by the OA or RC.
- (c) Registered skippers shall wear communications equipment supplied by the OA that will allow commentators to communicate with them whilst racing.

14.2 Competitors shall not interfere with the normal working of the OA supplied media equipment.

14.3 The OA shall have the right to use any images and sound recorded during the event free of any charge.

15 COACH BOATS

- (a) Coach boats shall conspicuously display identification of the team being coached. A coach boat is any boat that is under the direction or control of a person gathering information or giving material support for the benefit of particular competitors either on the water or off.
- (b) The organisers will provide berths for coach boats.
- (c) Any interference by a coach boat with the racing or event organisation may result in a penalty applied at the discretion of the Protest Committee to the appropriate skipper or team.

16 DISCLAIMER

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race. Neither the organizing authority nor ISAF will accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

17 INVITATIONS

Entries will only be accepted from invited skippers. If you wish to be invited please register your request for an invitation before December 15, 2009 with the OA by registering online on the US Sailing Center Sheboygan website: www.ussailingcentersheboygan.org/

18 CONTACT INFORMATION

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