

Championship of Champions Conditions

1. THE CHAMPIONSHIP

- 1.1. The Championship of Champions (CofC) regatta will be held annually.
- 1.2. The regatta will be organized by the US Sailing and the CofC Committee. US Sailing will also be the Organizing Authority at the event.
- 1.3. The regatta will be hosted by a US Sailing member club selected by the CofC Committee.
- 1.4. The objectives of the regatta are:
 - (a) to provide the highest quality regatta for the Champions of qualifying One Design Classes,
 - (b) to promote the host class and the classes represented by the participating champions,
 - (c) to encourage participation and promote excellence in One Design Class racing,
 - (d) to showcase the host club, and
 - (e) to showcase the event sponsors.

2. THE RULES

- 2.1. The CofC regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in the current edition of [The Racing Rules of Sailing](#), the US Sailing Championship Regulations, the CofC Conditions and Deed of Gift, US Sailing Policies for Race Officers, the SafeSport Handbook, the US Sailing Code of Conduct, and the class rules of the boats used except as modified by the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions.
- 2.2. The CofC regatta is a US Sailing level/grade 3 event. No coaching is allowed. Private/team spectator boats are allowed only if permitted in the NOR. The OA may arrange for spectator boats as per the [US Sailing Coach and Support Boat Policy](#).
- 2.3. The Organizing Authority will publish, on-line, the Notice of Race (in conjunction with the host club). The OA will appoint the Principle Race Officer and the Chief Judge for this event.
- 2.4. The Sailing Instructions will be prepared by the event's Principle Race Officer in consultation with the CofC Committee Chair and Chief Judge.
- 2.5. The entry fee proposed by the host club shall be approved by the CofC Committee. It shall be based on a reasonable estimate of the costs, including, but not limited to, race management, participation gifts, trophies, food and beverage, transportation, printing, fees payable to US Sailing, etc.
- 2.6. Free housing for competitors and invited committee members may be provided by the host club to the greatest extent possible. The intent of this provision is to minimize expenses for participants and to foster good will and exchange among the host club and participants.
- 2.7. The Host Club shall adhere to all US Sailing guidelines for logos, sponsors and committee qualifications.

3. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 3.1. One-design class associations, represented by the competitors, must be current members of US Sailing to be eligible for selection.
- 3.2. Eligible competitors shall be the current US National, North American or World Champion **helmsperson** of the eligible one design class.
- 3.3. Eligible competitors shall be 18 years or older at the time of the Championship of Champions event is held.
- 3.4. Eligible competitors shall normally sail in the United States, be current members of US Sailing and be members of a club, class or association affiliated with US Sailing. For additional information, see US Sailing [Regulation 10.1 \(B\)](#).
- 3.5. As this Championship is held in the Corinthian spirit of competition, no skipper or crew may be paid to sail in this event. Skipper and crew shall sign a declaration of compliance at registration check in.
- 3.6. Eligible competitors shall complete the US Sailing on-line application along with the application fee, available at the [Championship of Champions](#) website and submitting it prior to the deadline established in the CofC Notice of Race.
- 3.7. Racing will be limited to 20 invited competitors, including a "mystery-guest."

4. COMPETITOR SELECTION

- 4.1. The CofC Committee will review all completed applications and notify applicants of their status (Accepted, Denied or Wait List) no later than five (5) days after close of the application window established in the Notice of Race.
- 4.2. Close of the application window should be established eight to ten (8-10) weeks prior to the event date. Last minute cancellations whose slot cannot be filled may not receive a refund.
- 4.3. Criteria for selecting competitors will be subjective, considering (but not limited to) the qualifying regatta fleet size and final results, past class participation in the CofC regatta, comparability of CofC host boats, etc.

4.4. The CofC Committee may invite one competitor, of its own choosing, to participate as a “mystery guest.” The host club may suggest a “mystery guest” for the CofC Committee to consider. The “mystery guest” may have any qualification. The host club shall pay for all entry fees and housing for the mystery competitor and crew (if applicable).

4.5. The Chairman of the CofC Committee, in consultation with the host club, may extend invitations to competitors after the close of entries in order to fill any remaining berths.

4.6. Selected competitors, as defined in Section 3.2, will compete in the CofC as the helmsperson. Registered crew must be the same in number and person and must be carried throughout all races in the series. However, individual crew, but not the helmsperson, may be replaced in the case of medical or personal emergencies and only with the approval of the Chief Judge and the US Sailing representative for this event.

5. PROTEST COMMITTEE AND RACE COMMITTEE

5.1. No person may serve as a member of the protest committee or as the principal race officer at an event in which any competitor in the event is a close relative.

[See US Sailing’s “Race Officials at US Sailing CHAMPIONSHIPS” document and US Sailing Regulations 10.01 A \(2\) and 14.02 \(A\).](#)

5.2. Volunteers, in any capacity, are expected to subordinate their personal and individual interests to the interests of the event and the sport of sailing. See [US Sailing Regulation 14.04](#).

5.3. The CofC Committee Chairman shall appoint a US Sailing certified National Judge as Chief Judge. In turn, this person shall appoint the Protest Committee for this event.

5.4. The Protest Committee shall be composed of at least three US Sailing certified judges, chosen in consultation with the host club, to consider local certified judges and Judges in Training. When/if possible, a team of four may be appointed to act as on-the-water fleet racing umpires. The feasibility of this option should be discussed with US Sailing prior to extending invitations to umpires, and if used, will be indicated in the Sailing Instructions.

5.5. The Chief Judge, in conjunction with CofC Committee Chair, may advise and assist with the conduct and administration of any matters not covered by these Conditions, the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions.

5.6. The Principle Race Officer shall be approved by the CofC Committee Chair, in consultation with the host club, and shall be a US Sailing certified National Race Officer. A Regional Race Officer may be acceptable in certain situations and approved by the CofC Committee Chair ONLY if there is a National or International Race Officer to act as a Deputy Race Officer. See US Sailing’s [“Race Officials at US Sailing CHAMPIONSHIPS”](#) document,

6. VENUE AND BOATS

6.1. The CofC regatta shall be held in a different location and in a different class each year, as selected by the CofC Committee.

6.2. Clubs interested in hosting the CofC shall present a bid based on US Sailing’s Host Organization Bid Guidelines as soon as practical. Bids shall be submitted to the CofC Committee Chair directly, and by copy to US Sailing’s Adult Championship Manager. [Bid Application Form](#)

6.3. All boats shall be supplied to the competitors. A best effort shall be made to provide boats that are in good shape, capable of racing in all conditions. A bosun or fleet expert shall equalize the boats (to ensure as fair a fleet as possible) for average conditions.

6.4. Host clubs/fleets are strongly encouraged “group purchase” new sails in advance of the event, from a vendor of their choice, if at all possible.

7. REGATTA SCHEDULE AND FORMAT

7.1. The CofC shall be a four-day event.

7.2. Championship racing will be preceded by one day of registration, a local knowledge and boat familiarization clinic, and one or more practice races, weather conditions permitting

7.3. Championship racing will be conducted on the following three consecutive days. The racing schedule shall include the greatest number of races practicable each day.

7.4. A complete round robin is desired, particularly when equality of the boats in the fleet may be an issue, but a minimum rotation of two boat swaps per day is required. A direct swap system (odd boats go up, even boats go down) shall be used unless there is a specific reason not to do so.

7.5. The CofC Committee may alter the racing format, rotation, schedule of races or course configuration in order to provide the best possible racing.

8. COURSES

8.1. The courses provided for the Championship shall be of a configuration and duration to provide the best racing for the

selected class boat. Course configuration may be windward-leeward, triangle or some combination thereof.

8.2. Course length should provide for 20 to 35-minute races.

9. SCORING

9.1. The Low Point Scoring System (RRS Appendix A) will be used, except that if only seven (7) races are completed, no race scores will be excluded. If eight (8) or more races are completed, a boat's worst race score will be excluded.

9.2. A minimum of four (4) completed races are necessary to constitute a series.

10. PRIZES

10.1. US Sailing will provide medals to the skipper and crew finishing in the top three positions in the championship.

10.2. The winning team shall be awarded the Jack Brown Trophy and presented a keeper trophy. The Jack Brown Trophy will not travel to the winning team's home club; it will remain on display at US Sailing.

11. LIABILITY AND DAMAGE

11.1. Contestants should have, or seek out, their own insurance coverage for personal goods and liability protection. The host club shall provide proof of borrowed boat insurance to US Sailing.

11.2. US Sailing Medical Consent, Liability, Media Consent, and Minor Accountability forms must be completed on-line by all competitors before their entry is deemed completed: [Waivers and Forms](#).

11.3. Host clubs shall not require a competitor to assume any liabilities of the Organizing Authority, race committee, protest committee, host club, sponsor or any other organization or official involved with the event.

See [US Sailing RRS 82](#) and [US Sailing Regulation 13.03](#).

11.4. All contact must be reported to the bosun between races and a contact/damage assessment made before transferring boats. Any skipper found responsible for contact that results in damage of any kind, and is disqualified by the Protest Committee, will be scored DNE (Do Not Exclude). An additional damage deposit may be required of that competitor to continue in the series. This modifies RRS 90.3 (b).

11.5. In the event of serious damage, immediate withdrawal from the race in progress and assistance to any affected parties may mitigate the DNE stipulation in CofC Condition 11.4. **NOTE:** the intent here is to recognize that while accidents do happen, bad sportsmanship and reckless behavior is a choice that will not be tolerated. Borrowed boats are the backbone of this event. Every effort to avoid damage to these boats should be exercised by the competitors AT ALL TIMES.

12. POWERLINE HAZARDS

All sailing activities for this championship shall be conducted at a site free of any overhead power line hazards.

See [US Sailing Regulation 10.02](#).

13. PFD USE

All competitors, on-the-water judges/umpires and bosun shall wear US Coast Guard approved PFDs on the water, dock-to-dock except for brief periods when removing or adding clothing. This modifies RRS 40. Competitors shall present their PFD at registration to ensure compliance. Failure of COMPETITORS to comply with this Condition shall be a Discretionary Penalty [DP] during the event, in consultation with the Chief Judge and the Organizing Authority. See [US Sailing Regulation 10.01 \(D\)](#).

14. COMPETITOR CONDUCT

Per US Sailing Regulation 10.03, for the Regatta, no competitor will use or possess, either on or off the water, marijuana or any other substance if use or possession is illegal under state or federal law. An alleged breach of these regulations will not be grounds for a protest. This includes the consumption of alcohol by competitors under age 21. See [US Sailing Regulation 10.01 \(C\)](#).