

Gill Commodore's Cup

3 March 2016

Sint Maarten Yacht Club

Simpson Bay, Sint Maarten

Committee Desk: +1 721 581 2166

Regatta Results and Notices: <http://regattaguru.com/heineken>



Sailing Instructions

Including Amendment I

1. Rules

- 1.1. The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 1.2. All competing boats shall comply with the *St. Maarten Heineken Regatta Safety and Equipment Regulations*.
- 1.3. For all classes using the CSA Rating, the CSA Rating Rule will apply.
- 1.4. For all classes using the CSA Multihull Rating, the CSA Multihull Rating Rule will apply.
- 1.5. Rule 55 *Trash Disposal* is changed by the addition of a second sentence:
“Lightweight non-synthetic material, yarn, or thread used to band a spinnaker is not ‘trash’ for the purposes of this rule”.
- 1.6. If there is a conflict between languages the English text will take precedence.

2. Safety

- 2.1. No boat shall race with an anchor overhanging the bow or forward crossbeam. The Racing Director may, at his sole discretion, grant exemption from this instruction and the associated regulation in the *St. Maarten Heineken Regatta Safety and Equipment Regulations* on written application made before the close of registration.
- 2.2. Any boat retiring shall advise the Race Committee by VHF before leaving the race area or by telephoning the Race Committee Desk at +1 721 581 2166 or by email at hr@regattaguru.com.

3. Notices to Competitors

Notices to competitors will be posted on the Regatta Results and Notices website and on the Official Notice Board located at the Sint Maarten Yacht Club.

4. Changes to Sailing Instructions

- 4.1. Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted by 0730 on the day it will take effect.
- 4.2. Any change to the schedule will be posted by 1800 on the day before it will take effect.

5. Signals Made Ashore

No signals will be made ashore.

6. Communication with Competitors

- 6.1. Committee Boats will make broadcasts and stand by on the following channels:
 - a) Committee Boat A: VHF 72
 - b) Committee Boat B: VHF 77
- 6.2. The Race Committee will regularly broadcast its intentions for the day's schedule from one hour before the first scheduled warning signal.
- 6.3. Additionally, the Race Committee may broadcast time checks prior to the first scheduled start of each day.

7. Identification

- 7.1. All boats with sail numbers shall provide that information at registration.
- 7.2. Boats without sail numbers will be provided with bow and stern numbers at registration which shall be clearly displayed on both sides of the bow and stern quarters of the boat.

8. Classes and Class Flags

- 8.1. A list of classes and class flags and the appropriate flag will be provided to each boat at registration.
- 8.2. Class flags provided shall be displayed prominently on the boat at the stern, preferably from the backstay.

9. Location, Schedule and Order of Starts

- 9.1. The planned schedule of races, location of the Committee Boats, the classes using each Committee Boat, and the order of starts for the first race of the day will be posted by 1800 the day before each day of racing.
- 9.2. Subsequent races will start as soon as possible after the end of the previous race, and the order and planned times of these starts will be announced by the Race Committee by VHF.
- 9.3. To alert boats that a race or sequence of starts will begin soon, the orange starting line flag may be displayed (with one sound) as an attention signal at least five minutes before the first warning signal.

10. Courses

10.1. St Maarten Heineken Regatta Appendix A shows:

- a) The symbols, descriptions, and approximate locations of the marks,
- b) the descriptions of 'pre-set' courses including the marks to be rounded, the order in which they are to be rounded, and the side on which each mark is to be left, and
- c) the symbols, descriptions, and approximate locations for finish lines.

10.2. The course to be sailed by each class will be displayed at the stern of the Committee Boat prior to or with the warning signal for that class and it will remain displayed until shortly after the one-minute signal for that class. The course will be displayed by either:

- a) displaying a series of symbols for marks which when read left-to-right then row-by-row from top to bottom show the order in which the marks are to be rounded, where each symbol or its background will be either red for a mark to be rounded to port or green for a mark to rounded to starboard or black for a gate, or
- b) displaying the symbol for a 'pre-set' course to be sailed, which may be preceded or followed by additional marks as described in SI 10.2 a) above.

10.3. The symbol displayed in the last position on the course display shows the finish line for that course.

10.4. When a boat's course finishes at the 'Heineken Finish', regardless of the direction of the previous mark, she shall pass between the marks of the Heineken Gate leaving mark 'HP' to port and mark 'HS' to starboard as the last mark of the course before finishing on the Heineken Finish Line. This changes Rule 28.2 c).

10.5. The course to be sailed, including the location of the finish line, for each class will be announced by VHF before the preparatory signal for that class.

10.6. The course axis compass bearing and range for each class shall be provided by the Race Committee for laid courses.

11. Marks

11.1. Start marks will be orange inflated marks.

11.2. Finish marks will be yellow inflated marks.

11.3. Pre-set Marks will be one of:

- a) orange or yellow inflated mark, some of which may display advertising, or

- b) permanent yellow Nature Reserve spar buoys on the French side of the island, or
- c) the red and white spar marking the entrance to Oyster Pond, or
- d) the yellow and black cardinal mark in Marigot Bay.

11.4. The colour of any laid inflatable mark will be provided by the Race Committee by VHF.

11.5. If a mark is missing, in addition to the provisions of Rule 34, it may be replaced by a small round orange mark.

11.6. If a mark of a gate is missing, the remaining mark shall be rounded on the same side as the previous mark.

11.7. In addition to the provisions to RRS 33, the Race Committee will announce by VHF any change of mark description.

12. Course Restrictions and Obstructions

12.1. While racing, boats shall not enter the following areas which are hereby defined as obstructions:

- a) The area between any mooring buoy or navigation mark in Cole Bay and the nearest shoreline.
- b) The area between any yellow restriction mark in Maho Bay and the nearest shoreline.
- c) The area between any yellow mark off Point Plum and the nearest shoreline.
- d) The area between the the islets of Creole Rock and the nearest shoreline of St Martin.

12.2. Start and Finish Lines

- a) After completing the first leg of the course, a boat shall not pass through any start line.
- b) A boat shall not cross any finish line unless sailing the last leg of their course.
- c) Any start or finish line that a boat is prohibited from crossing is an obstruction for that boat,

12.3. A boat shall not pass between the Heineken Gate and the Heineken Finish Line unless sailing the last leg of a course that ends with the Heineken Finish line.

13. The Start

13.1. The start line will be between an orange flag on the Committee Boat for the class and a nearby start mark.

13.2. An inner distance mark (IDM) may be laid near the Committee Boat. Boats shall not cross the line between the IDM and the Committee Boat after the one-minute signal for each race and before starting and clearing the line. A boat infringing this rule may exonerate herself by rounding the end

of the starting line to the pre-start side before starting.

- 13.3. A boat starting later than 10 minutes after the last starting signal in a sequence of consecutive starts in which her class started will be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This changes Rule A4 and A5.

14. The Finish

- 14.1. The finish line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on a Committee Boat and a nearby finish mark.

15. Penalty System

- 15.1. For Bareboat and Multihull classes only, the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty, changing Rule 44.1.
- 15.2. Rule 44.3 (Scoring penalty) will not apply.
- 15.3. A boat that has not taken a One-Turn or Two-Turns penalty in accordance with Rule 44.2 and yet has complied with Rule 44.1 b) may accept a 30% Exoneration Penalty prior to the beginning of arbitration, or a 40% Exoneration Penalty prior to the opening of a protest hearing about the incident calculated in the same way as a scoring penalty under Rule 44.3 c).

16. Time Limit

- 16.1. Boats failing to finish before the time limits below will be scored 'TLE' without a hearing. This changes Rules 35, 63.1, and A5.
- 16.2. For all classes, the time limit will be:
- 1600 for the last race of the day, or
 - 50 minutes after the first boat to finish in her class for any other race.

17. Protests and Requests for Redress

- 17.1. Protest forms are available at the Protest Desk, located at the Sint Maarten Yacht Club. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit. Bridge opening times and the return of boats to moorings will not normally be considered as a reason to extend a protest time limit.
- 17.2. Protest Time Limit
For each competitor, the protest time limit is the earlier of two hours after the protesting boat's finish time or 1700.
- 17.3. A request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the requesting party was informed of the decision.
This changes Rule 66.

- 17.4. A request for redress based on a Jury decision shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the decision was posted. This changes Rule 62.2.
- 17.5. Notices will be posted to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the protest room, located at the Sint Maarten Yacht Club beginning at the time posted.
- 17.6. Notices of protests by the Race Committee or Jury will be posted to inform boats under Rule 61.1b).
- 17.7. When all parties are present at the Protest Desk, every reasonable effort will be made to begin arbitration or hold a hearing as soon as possible, even if it is prior to the posted hearing time.
- 17.8. Arbitration
- For protests involving an alleged breach of a Rule of Part 2, arbitration will be held prior to a protest hearing if all parties agree. This changes Part 5, Section B of the Rules.
 - Arbitration will be held in accordance with the *Protest Arbitration Recommendations* available at the protest desk.
 - Protests not withdrawn after arbitration will be heard as required by Rule 63.1.
- 17.9. Measurement Protests
- No measurement or rating protest may be lodged by any competitor after their protest time limit. This changes Rule 60.1 a).
 - If at any time prior to the last protest time limit the Regatta Measurer finds that an error exists in a measurement certificate, he will notify the Jury which will have a hearing after which, if the Jury is satisfied that the certificate is in error, the measurer will reissue the certificate and all affected races in the regatta will be re-scored using the new certificate. This changes Rule 78.3.
- 17.10. When the Jury sits with a panel of fewer than 5 members, in accordance with Appendix N 1.4 b) the time limit for the parties to request a full International Jury hearing shall be thirty minutes from the time the initial decision is announced.
- 17.11. Except for breaches of Parts 1 and 2 of the Rules, the Jury may apply any penalty that they deem equitable or apply no penalty. This changes Rule 64.1.
- 17.12. Decisions of the International Jury will be final as provided in Rule 70.5.

18. Scoring

- 18.1. Boats scored TLE under SI 16 will be scored for the position two places more than number of boats that finished, though not worse than DNF. This changes Rule A4.2.
- 18.2. A boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.

19. Equipment and Measurement Checks

A boat or her equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the Rules as defined in SI 1. On the water, a boat instructed by an equipment inspector or Regatta Measurer to proceed to a designated area for inspection shall comply with those instructions.

20. Official Boats

- 20.1. Official boats will display an 'RC' flag.
- 20.2. Committee Boats will display their Committee Boat letter on a flag.
- 20.3. The Heineken Finish Boat will display the 'Star H' flag as illustrated in Appendix A.

21. Use of Engines

Any boat that uses her engine for propulsion while racing and does not retire shall submit a written report of the incident including the time and distance covered and the reasons for using the engine to the Jury within the protest time. The Jury may, following a hearing take any action it deems appropriate.

22. Prizes

Prizes will be awarded as follows:

- 22.1. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place for the series in each class.
- 22.2. The Gill Commodore's Cup for the boat judged by the Race Committee to have the most worthy performance of the regatta.
- 22.3. Additional prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the Race Committee.

23. Disclaimer of Liability

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See Rule 4, Decision to Race. The organising authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

24. Insurance

- 24.1. Each participating boat is advised to be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of USD one million per incident or the equivalent.

25. Media Rights

By participating in this event, competitors grant to the organising authority and the event sponsors the right, in perpetuity, to make, use, and show, at their discretion, any photography, audio and video recordings, and other reproductions of them made at the venue or on the water from the time of their arrival at the venue, until their final departure, without compensation.