

1. Rules

1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing 2009-2012.

1.2 The Caribbean Sailing Association (CSA) rating rule and the simplified rating rule, the St.Maarten Multihull Handicap rating rule and the Notice of Race shall apply, except when any are altered by these Sailing Instructions, and by these Sailing Instructions.

1.3 In the event of conflict the English text of the rules and these Sailing Instructions as printed and distributed at registration shall apply, any versions posted on the regatta website are purely informational.

2. Notices to Competitors

2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board located at the Information Booth and/or on a separate notice board as follows:

Wed. February 29, Thurs. March 1, & Fri. morning, March 2:	St. Maarten Yacht Club, Simpson Bay
Fri. afternoon, March 2, & Sat. morning, March 3:	St. Maarten Yacht Club, Simpson Bay
Sat. afternoon, March 3, & Sun. morning, March 4:	Waterfront, Marigot
Sun. afternoon, March 4:	St. Maarten Yacht Club, Simpson Bay

3. Changes to the Sailing Instructions

3.1 Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted by 7.30am on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule will be posted by 9.00pm on the day before it will take effect.

4. Signals Ashore

4.1 There will be no signals ashore.

5. Schedule of Races

5.1 The schedule of races and starting times for all classes will be issued at registration and will form part of these Sailing Instructions.

5.2 The scheduled time for the warning signal for the first race, each day, is not before 9:50am.

6. Class Flags and Identification

6.1 A list of class flags and the appropriate coloured flag will be issued to each boat at registration.

6.2 Class flags will be flown from the backstay or, if not possible, from a suitable appendage at the stern of the boat where it shall be clearly visible.

6.3 Identification 'tie-on' guardrail bow and stern numbers will be provided, if needed, at registration and shall be clearly displayed on both sides of the forward and aft lifelines of the boat. Entrants that have sail numbers must provide them to the registration office and will not be required to have bow/stern numbers.

7. Courses

7.1 Addendum A to these Sailing Instructions lists the marks to be passed, their order and the side on which each mark is to be left. The diagrams show the courses. The written text prevails over the diagrams.

7.2 The number of the course to be sailed will be indicated by a numeral pennant flown from the Start Boat.

7.3 While racing, all boats shall stay to seaward of all marks and buoys that are part of the fueling station in Cole Bay and their imaginary connecting lines.

7.4 While racing, all boats shall stay to seaward of all marks and buoys that mark the extension of the runway at Juliana airport in Maho Bay and their imaginary connecting lines.

8. Marks

8.1 Marks of the course will be orange or yellow inflatable buoys, some of which may display advertising. If a mark goes missing it might be replaced by a small round red buoy.

8.2 Marks on the French side of the island might be permanent yellow Nature Reserve bouys.

9. The Start

9.1 Races will be started in accordance with RRS Rule 26. The warning signal for Race Committee Start Boat A will be Five (5) minutes before the starting signal. The warning signal for Race Committee Start Boat B will be Ten (10) minutes before the starting signal. This changes RRS Rule 26.

9.2 The warning signal of each succeeding class shall be made with or after the starting signal of the preceding class.

9.3 The starting line will be between an orange flag on the Race Committee Start Boat and an orange or yellow inflatable buoy. The Race Committee Start Boat may be at either end of the starting line.

9.4 Any boat or buoy attached to the Race Committee Start Boat shall be considered to be part of the Race Committee Start Boat.

9.5 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races. A breach of this instruction may be protested by the Race Committee only. This changes RRS Rule 60.1 (a).

9.6 Starts will be to windward. If the first mark of the course is not to windward, an additional windward / offset mark combination will be added to the course.

9.6.1 All windward marks will be orange and all offset marks will be yellow.

9.6.2 The additional windward mark will be between $\frac{3}{4}$ and $1 \frac{1}{4}$ nautical miles from the start. The offset mark will be at approximately 90 degrees to the straight line from the start to the windward mark at a distance of 1 nautical mile or less.

9.7 If the Start Boat displays a green-over-red flag combination; proceed directly to the first mark of the course.

9.7.1 If the Start Boat displays a red flag; round the additional windward / offset marks to port.

9.7.2 If the Start Boat displays a green flag; round the additional windward / offset marks to starboard.

9.8 After completing the first leg of the course, a boat shall not cross any starting line. After completing the first leg of the course a boat shall not cross the finishing line until she is completing the last leg of the course and finished. A restricted start or finish line shall be considered an obstruction. The start line of the other Start Boat is always an obstruction. A boat

that breaks these rules shall not correct her error. However, she will be exonerated if she takes a one-turn penalty.

9.9 Prior to their warning signal, boats of the Bareboat Class shall not have any part of the headsail hoisted or unfurled when they are within 400 metres (1/4 mile) of the starting line. A breach of this instruction may be protested by the Race Committee only. This changes RRS Rule 60.1 (a).

9.10 A boat starting later than 10 minutes after the last starting signal in the starting sequence will be scored DNS without a hearing. This changes RRS Rule A4 and A5.

10. General Recall

10.1 In the event of a general recall, starts for succeeding classes will be postponed accordingly.

11. The Finish

11.1 The finishing line will be between a blue flag on a Race Committee Finish Boat and a nearby orange or yellow inflatable buoy.

12. Time Limit

12.1 The time limit for all classes will be 6:00pm, except that on Sunday, March 4, the time limit will be 4:00pm.

12.2 If there is more than 1 race on the day the time limit for 1st race will be the finish time of the 1st boat in the class to finish plus 1 hour.

12.3 Boats failing to finish by the time limit will be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes RRS Rules 35, A4 and A5.

13. Penalty System

13.1 For all classes rule 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turn Penalty is replaced by the One Turn Penalty.

13.2 Except for breaches of Parts 1 and 2 of the RRS, the International Jury may apply any penalty that they deem equitable. This changes RRS rule 64.1.

13.3 A boat that does not take a penalty in accordance with RRS 44.1 and 44.2 may accept a 30% scoring penalty before the protest hearing provided there was no damage and the boat did not gain a significant advantage. This changes RRS 44. RRS 44.3 does not apply.

14. Protests

14.1 Protest forms are available with the protest secretary at the official protest desk.

14.2 For each competitor the protest time limit is two hours after the protesting boat finish time of the last race of the day for that boat or 6:30pm, whichever is earlier. Competitors shall make every reasonable effort to comply with the protest time limit. Bridge opening times and the return of boats to moorings do not automatically extend protest time.

14.3 On Sunday, March 4, protests shall be lodged within 2 hours after the protesting boat finish time or 4.30pm, whichever is earlier.

14.4 On the last day of racing a request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered:

- a. Within the protest time limit if the requesting party was informed of the decision on the previous day
- b. No later than 30 minutes after the requesting party was informed of the decision of that day.

This changes rule 66.

14.5 Protests will be heard in approximately the order of receipt, starting as soon as possible. Protest hearings will be notified by a listing on the Official Notice Board. This list will be updated at approximately 30-minute intervals from the receipt of the first protest each day until the list has been marked "Final for the Day". When all parties are present at the Protest Desk, every reasonable effort will be made to hold the hearing as soon as possible, even if it is prior to the posted hearing time.

14.6 A system of Arbitration may be used prior to full Jury hearings for matters concerning breaches of RRS Part 2. After Arbitration and before the Jury hearing, any party to the Arbitration may accept a 40% scoring penalty. Rules for Arbitration will be available at the Protest Desk.

14.7 When the official measurer of the regatta is satisfied that there is an error in a boat's measurement certificate at any time during the regatta, he will notify the Jury which will call a hearing. If the Jury is satisfied that the measurement certificate is in error, the measurer will reissue the certificate and the score for all races in the regatta will be adjusted in accordance with the new measurement certificate. This changes RRS rule 78.3.

14.8 Other than as allowed in 14.6 above, no measurement or rating protest may be lodged after the first day of racing. This changes RRS rule 60.1(a).

14.9 When the Jury sits with a panel of less than 5 members, in accordance with Appendix N 1.4(b) the time limit for the parties to request a full IJ hearing shall be 30 minutes from the time the initial decision is announced.

15. Scoring

15.1 Application of handicaps will be made on a time-on-time system.

15.2 For all classes, one race shall be completed to constitute a series.

15.3 When fewer than 75% of the starters in a class finish within the time limit, positions for boats that have not finished may be taken at the last mark at which a rounding was recorded by the Race Committee. A boat so recorded shall not be scored better than or equal to one completing the course.

16. Safety

16.1 All boats shall comply with CSA minimum safety requirements except that Multihulls are exempt from the lifeline requirement.

16.2 No boat shall race with an anchor overhanging the bow or forward crossbeam. However written application for exemption from this requirement may be made to the Jury, which may grant any relief it deems appropriate.

16.3 Any boat retiring shall advise the Race Committee at the earliest opportunity. Failure to do so may, following a hearing, result in disqualification from the regatta or such other penalty as the Jury deems equitable.

17. Equipment and Measurement Checks

17.1 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the CSA measurement rules, CSA safety requirements, these sailing instructions, and the notice of race.

18. Official Boats

18.1 Official boats will be marked with a RC flag.

19. Trash Disposal

19.1 Trash shall not deliberately be thrown overboard.

20. Radio Communication

20.1 Radio communication for Start Boat A will be VHF channel 71. Radio communication for Start Boat B will be VHF channel 74.

20.2 The Race Committee may broadcast the following:

- Time checks 30 and 15 minutes before the first start each day;
- Courses to be sailed;
- Notification of amendments to the Sailing Instructions and, if the amendment is brief, its text;
- The Abandonment or Postponement of any race;
- The Race Committee Finish Boat leaving the finish line.

20.3 Failure of the Race Committee to make these broadcasts will not be grounds for redress.

21. Use of engines

21.1 Any boat that uses her engine during a race 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.

Codes for Downwind Sailing

The following codes appearing on the ENTRANTS LIST, determine the headsails that may be flown downwind by each boat:

Code	Headsails Permitted Downwind
JIB	JIB ONLY
POL	JIB & POLE
SEC	SECOND HEADSAILS
ASY	ASYMMETRIC SPINNAKER
SPI	SPINNAKER
BOTH	SYMMETRIC AND ASYMMETRIC SPINNAKER