# **St. Brendan's Day Regatta** Saturday May 11, 2024 SCOW Alexandria, VA

# SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

# 1 RULES

The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.

# **2** NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- a. Ashore: notices to competitors will be made verbally at the competitors meeting
- b. Afloat: the Race Committee will display the "L" flag and make announcements when boats come within hailing distance.

# **3** SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- a. No signals will be made ashore. If a postponement is required prior to boats departing the docks a verbal notice will be given. If a postponement is required after departing the docks the committee boat will raise the "AP" flag.
- b. The Race Committee will monitor VHF Channel 68 and may pass instructions to competitors, however, ideally, the races should be conducted with little or no VHF communications. The primary means of communication will be signal flags and the course designation board displayed by the committee boat.

# 4. TOWING

Towing to and from the race area is permitted, however, racing will not start if one or more boats receive a tow and any boat is en-route and delayed solely by lack of a tow, until all such boats are in the race area.

# 5. SCHEDULE

- a. The competitors' meeting will be held at 10:30 in the vicinity of the yellow cranes.
- b. The first warning signal for the day is scheduled for 11:30, but may occur sooner if the Race
  Committee is ready and all competitors are in the starting area. Subsequent races will be held as soon as possible after the end of the previous race.
- c. No race will be started after 3:30.

# 6 CLASS FLAGS

The class flag is the official blue and white FSSA Flying Scot Class Flag.

# 7 RACING AREAS

The race venue is the Potomac River between Hains Point and Reagan National Airport.

# 8 THE COURSES

The course will be Windward-Leeward either "W1" or W2" depending on wind conditions. The course will be designated on the Committee boat by letters and numbers exhibited on a Course Board. See the diagrams attached at the end of this document.

# 9 MARKS

The windward mark will be a yellow cylinder. The leeward mark will be a yellow cylinder. There may be an offset mark which will be a small yellow buoy. Other than the start and finish, all marks will be rounded to port.

# **10 THE START AND FINISH**

- a. Races will be started by using RRS 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal.
- b. The start and finish lines will be between an orange flag on the Race Committee boat at the starboard end of the start line, and the nearby yellow pin buoy at the left end of the line.
- c. Boats over the starting line early at the start signal must return and re-cross the start line, during which time they must keep clear of all other boats.

# **11 PENALTY SYSTEM**

- A boat may take a penalty at the time of the incident to clear the foul. Her penalty shall be a one turn penalty, which includes one tack and one gybe in the same direction. This changes RRS 44.1.
- b. A boat that commits a foul within the zone of any mark except a starting mark is required to take a two turns penalty to clear the foul.

# **12 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**

a. The goal is to conduct spirited competitive races in which all competitors demonstrate high levels of good sportsmanship at all times. All competitors are expected to comply with and enforce the rules and **it should be a rare exception that a foul/penalty is not settled on the water**. A boat that is fouled should hail the fouling boat with "PROTEST" immediately. 5-10 seconds will serve as a reasonable amount of time for this hail. In order for a protest to be valid,

this hail must occur within that timeframe. A boat that fouls another boat should, as soon as safely possible, take a one or two-turns penalty as appropriate.

b. A boat must notify the Race Committee upon finishing a race, if she intends to file a protest against another boat. Protests shall be delivered to the Race Committee no later than 30 minutes after the RC boat docks or no later than 30 minutes after the last racing boat docks, whichever is later. Hearings will be held as soon as the 30-minute period ends and all boats involved will be present. If a boat cannot be present for reasons outside her control the Race Committee may extend the time period. Protests will be decided by the Race Officer. All decisions will be final. Protests will not be accepted after the 30-minute period. In order to minimize protest hearings and disqualifications, Appendix T scoring penalty and arbitration meeting process is in effect.

#### 13 SCORING

The low-point scoring system will be used. The Race Committee intends to run as many races as possible in the allotted window. One race constitutes a regatta. All races will be counted. There are no throw-outs. This changes RRS Appendix A2.

#### **14 SAFETY REGULATIONS**

- a. When RC boat displays L flag while anchored in the starting area, sail past stern of RC boat on starboard tack and check in with sail number and skipper name. If RC boat displays L flag at any other time, follow the RC boat.
- b. Any boat that retires or leaves the course should notify the RC.

#### **15 RADIO COMMUNICATION**

Except in an emergency, a boat that is racing shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats. [DP]

#### 16 AWARDS

Awards will be presented in the "grove" following racing with appropriate mask and social distancing measures in place.

# 17 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race. The organizing 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.



