

# INTERNATIONAL 29er CLASS RACE MANAGEMENT POLICY

## 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The aim of the Race Management Policy is:
- (a) To provide an aide memoir to race officials running 29er class events.
  - (b) To ensure a consistent and high standard of race management in 29er class racing.
  - (c) To promote ISAF best practice (see *ISAF Race Management Manual*).

## 2 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 A template is provided, based on the ISAF standard, which can be customized for the event.

## 3 EQUIPMENT

- 3.1 The equipment required is listed in Attachment A.

## 4 QUALIFYING & FINAL SERIES RACES

- 4.1 For entries of 50 or more boats racing will be in split fleets, and qualifying and final series races will be held. Qualifying series fleets will be of equal size, target fleet size is 25 boats.
- 4.2 The Sailing Instructions specifies the allocation of boats to fleets. For the first day of qualifying the organizing authority is responsible for initial assignment of boats to fleets. This will be done by listing the competing countries in alphabetical order of their ISAF national letters, then each country's boats will be sorted by draw (or by ranking, if available), to produce a full list of boats. The boats will then be allocated to fleets in order. Eg with four fleets: boat 1 yellow, boat 2 blue, boat 3 red, boat 4 green, boat 5 yellow, and so on.
- 4.3 After the first day of racing the fleets are reallocated as stated in the Sailing Instructions.
- 4.4 The final series Gold fleet will be the best 25 boats from qualifying, with the remainder split evenly into silver, bronze, etc.
- 4.5 This arrangement puts considerably more pressure on resources, and added difficulty of maintaining the race schedule. More than one course area will be needed.
- 4.6 However, it is not necessary to race only one fleet at a time; it is acceptable to run two fleets, with separate starts, on the same 2-lap course. The warning signal for the second start should be made 2 minutes after the first start, to give good fleet separation.
- 4.7 In the final series, the Gold fleet will receive priority of resources; if possible race this fleet in isolation on one course.

## 5 TIMES

- 5.1 Race timings should be based on GPS time.
- 5.2 Use flag D ashore to control competitors launching (see sailing instructions).
- 5.3 The race should start at the scheduled time if the wind conditions are within the set criteria (see below). Waiting for 'better' conditions is unfair.
- 5.4 Try to stick to the race schedule. If multiple fleets are racing on one or more race areas, a notice of the intended schedule for each fleet and race area should be issued on each race day.
- 5.5 Upper and lower wind strength limits are defined in the 29er Class Rules, see next paragraph.

## 6 29er CLASS RULES APPENDIX – EVENT RULES

- 6.1 The minimum wind speed for starting shall be that in which the race committee considers the boats have sufficient capability for pre-start maneuvers.
- 6.2 Races should not start, or races in progress should be abandoned when:
- (a) Wind gusts exceed 25 knots for more than 30 seconds
  - (b) Wind gusts exceed 30 knots for any duration

(c) The race committee considers conditions are unsafe for sailing

(d) The wind is less than 4 knots for more than 5 minutes.

6.3 To ensure compliance with these rules, the race committee should monitor the wind strength throughout the course area, particularly at the start (committee boat) and at the windward mark.

## **7 COURSE**

7.1 The course will be windward / leeward, as described in the Sailing Instructions. It may be 2 or 3 laps; 2 laps is preferred, but 3 may be used if space is restricted.

7.2 The course length will be set to achieve the target time for the leading boat in the prevailing conditions. The following guideline applies to the distance from the starting line to windward mark, to achieve a target time of 30 minutes for a 2 lap race:

<b>Wind (knots)</b>	<b>Length (NM)</b>
4 – 7	0.40
8 – 12	0.70
12 – 14	0.90
15+	1.00

7.3 GPS should be used to measure the leg length accurately.

7.4 Leeward gate marks should be 50 - 80 metres to windward of the starting line, and 30 metres apart (more in strong wind or rough sea).

## **8 STARTING A RACE**

8.1 The starting line should be set square to the mean wind as measured on a free-floating boat (apparent wind). Line length is calculated by number of starters x 5.6 metres. Increase this in strong winds (18 knots or more) or with a weather going tide.

8.2 For starting a race use flag P for the first starting attempt of a day. Starting penalties may be applied if appropriate, but not Z flag (rule 30.2).

## **9 ADJUSTING THE COURSE TO A NEW WIND SPEED OR DIRECTION**

9.1 Use Flag C (rule 33). If there is a substantial change in wind speed or direction the windward mark may be repositioned in accordance with the rule. As stated in the Sailing Instructions, the mark may be moved, or a new mark laid.

9.2 The change will be signaled at the leeward gate. If necessary the gate should also be moved to accommodate a new wind angle.

9.3 Flag S (rule 32) will not be used.

## **10 FINISHING LINE**

10.1 Set up the finishing line by moving the port end starting mark to reduce length to approx 50 metres. The line should be in place before the leading boat starts the final leg, and the blue flag displayed on the committee boat as the leader rounds the windward mark to commence the leg.

## **Attachment A**

### **LIST OF FLAGS & EQUIPMENT**

#### **Course Buoys (per course)**

3 inflatable marks.

Pin-end Line mark: Dan buoy with flagstaff and orange flag (use only if second committee boat not available).

#### **Committee Boat**

Flag to identify boat (or race area if more than one race area is used)

Fleet (warning) flags – black 29er insignia on Yellow, Blue, Red, Green background (as appropriate)

Orange line flag

Blue finish boat flag

Black flag.

Code flags: AP, 1<sup>st</sup> Substitute, A, B, C, H, I, L, M, N, P, X

Numeral pennants: 2 and 3.

Guns or sound apparatus.

Device to measure wind strength & direction.

GPS

Board to display course bearing.

Board to display OCS boat numbers.

#### **Pin-end Boat (if used)**

Orange line flag

C, M, N

#### **Course Setter (Windward)**

Flag to identify official boat (or race area)

Code flags (on sticks) C, M, N, and X

Device to measure wind strength & direction.

GPS.

Board to display OCS boat numbers.

#### **Course Setter (Leeward)**

Flag to identify official boat (or race area)

Code flags (on sticks) AP, 1<sup>st</sup> Substitute C, M, N, X

Course change board (display code C, +/- and bearing)

Sound apparatus (aerosol horn)

GPS (if possible)

#### **Ashore**

Flags to identify race areas.

Fleet flags – black 29er insignia on Yellow, Blue, Red, Green background (as appropriate).

Code flags: AP, A, D, H, L, N.

Numeral pennants.

System to check-out and check-in competitors. Tally system is favoured, requires coloured and numbered rubber bands and board with numbered hooks.