



2012 INTERNATIONAL FORMULA 18 CATAMARAN WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP REGATTA



7-15 September 2012
Alamitos Bay Yacht Club
Long Beach, California, USA

PRELIMINARY NOTICE OF RACE

The Organizing Authority for the 2012 International Formula 18 Catamaran World Championship Regatta is the United States Formula 18 Class Association (USF18). The Host of the 2012 International Formula 18 Catamaran World Championship Regatta is Alamitos Bay Yacht Club (ABYC), Long Beach, California USA.

1. RULES

- 1.1. The regatta will be governed by the “rules” as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
- 1.2. The prescriptions of US SAILING will not apply except the US SAILING Prescriptions to rules 68, 76.1 and added rule 76.3, which are stated in full below:
 - 1.2.1. Rule 68 – Damages – US SAILING prescribes that:
 - (a) A boat that retires from a race or accepts a penalty does not by that action alone admit liability for damages.
 - (b) A protest committee shall find facts and make decisions only in compliance with the rules. No protest committee or US SAILING Appeals authority shall adjudicate any claim for damages. Such a claim is subject to the jurisdiction of the courts.
 - (c) A basic purpose of the rules is to prevent contact between boats. By participating in an event governed by the rules, a boat agrees that responsibility for damages arising from any breach of the rules shall be based on fault as determined by application of the rules, and that she shall not be governed by the legal doctrine of “assumption of risk” for monetary damages resulting from contact with other boats.
 - 1.2.2. Rule 76.1 – Exclusion of Boats or Competitors – US SAILING prescribes that an organizing authority or race committee shall not reject or cancel the entry of a boat or exclude a competitor eligible under the Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions for an arbitrary or capricious reason, or for the reason of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or age.
 - 1.2.3. Rule 76.3 – Exclusion of Boats or Competitors – US SAILING prescribes that a boat whose entry is rejected or cancelled or a competitor who is excluded from a race or series shall, upon written request, be entitled to a hearing conducted by the protest committee under rules 63.2, 63.3, 63.4 and 63.6.
- 1.3. Foreign competitors are advised that the US Coast Guard requires that, while practicing for or racing in competition, each foreign boat must carry a US Coast Guard-approved flotation device for everyone aboard or flotation devices that conform to regulations of their own country.

2. ELIGIBILITY

- 2.1. The regatta is open to all boats of the Formula 18 Catamaran Association. Each competitor shall be member of their respective national or continental class association and shall have their entry endorsed by their respective national or continental class association.
- 2.2. All competitors shall meet the requirements of ISAF Regulation 19.

3. FEES

- 3.1. The entry fee shall be US\$350.00 per boat. A late fee of US\$150 per boat will be charged to any entry received after 1 August 2012.

- 3.2. Eligible boats may enter by registering online at www.abyc.org. Online entries will be accepted until 31 August 2012; thereafter entries may only be made in person.
- 3.3. If an individual cancels their participation, the refund policy is as follows:
- If cancellation occurs prior to 1 August 2012, 100% refund of the entry fee less administrative fee of US\$10.00.
 - If cancellation occurs after 1 August 2012 but before 31 August 2012, 50% of the entry fee less administrative fee of US\$10.00.
- No refunds will be made for cancellations made after 31 August 2012.
- 3.4. A refundable damage deposit for position-tracking devices may be charged.

4. QUALIFYING SERIES AND FINAL SERIES

The regatta will consist of a qualifying series and a final series.

5. SCHEDULE

- 5.1. The regatta schedule is as follows:

Friday, 7 September 2012	Registration and measurement.	0900-1700
Saturday, 8 September 2012	Registration and measurement	0900-1700
Sunday, 9 September 2012	Registration and measurement	0900-1700
Monday, 10 September 2012	Registration and measurement	0900-1200
	Practice race, first warning	1400
	Opening ceremony and competitors' meeting	1800
Tuesday, 11 September 2012	Qualification series races; first warning	1200
Wednesday, 12 September 2012	Qualification series races; first warning	1200
Thursday, 13 September 2012	Final series races; first warning	1200
Friday, 14 September 2012	Final series races; first warning	1200
Saturday, 15 September 2012	Final series races; first warning	1200
	Closing ceremony and prizegiving dinner	1900

- 5.2. All competitors must check in with Registration prior to 1200 on Monday, 10 September 2012, even if they have previously submitted an entry. No boat's entry will be complete until all forms, including measurement, are submitted and all fees paid.

6. MEASUREMENT

- 6.1. Each boat shall hold a valid measurement certificate and present it at time of Registration. No fundamental measurement nor any certification will be made during Registration.
- 6.2. Additional measurement checks may be conducted during the regatta at the discretion of the Organizing Authority.
- 6.3. Following each day's racing one or more boats may be inspected for compliance with class rules.

7. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 7.1. Sailing Instructions will be available at Registration.
- 7.2. Preliminary Sailing Instructions will be available on the Alamitos Bay Yacht Club website (www.abyc.org) on or before 1 September 2012.

8. VENUE

Races will be held in the waters of San Pedro Bay outside the Long Beach Breakwater.

9. THE COURSES

A trapezoid course will be sailed.

10. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 10.1. Rule 44.1 is changed such that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.
- 10.2. An International Jury will be appointed in accordance with Appendix N of the RRS. In accordance with Rule 70.4, there shall be no right of appeal from the decisions of the International Jury.

11. SCORING

- 11.1. The scoring system will include both qualification and final series results.
- 11.2. Competitors will be seeded into four divisions for the qualification series, which will be raced in a round-robin format. Six (6) races are required to be completed to constitute the qualification series.
- 11.3. After the qualification series is completed, competitors will be split into two divisions; boats with the lower scores will be seeded into the Gold fleet and those with the higher scores will be seeded into the Silver fleet. In case of odd entry numbers, the Gold fleet will include one more competitor than the Silver fleet.
- 11.4. Six (6) races are required to be completed to constitute the final series.
- 11.5. To establish the final results, Gold fleet competitors will be ranked in scoring order above Silver fleet competitors, which will also be ranked in scoring order.

12. SUPPORT/COACH/SPECTATOR BOATS

- 12.1. Support/coach/spectator boats are allowed.
- 12.2. Support/coach/spectator boats must register with the Race Committee at Registration.
- 12.3. Rules governing the conduct of support/coach/spectator boats will be in the Sailing Instructions.

13. BERTHING

Boats shall be stored overnight on a public beach in Alamitos Bay adjacent to Alamitos Bay Yacht Club. Each boat must have its own trolley. Security will be provided during the regatta.

14. HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS

No boat may be stored overnight on the grounds of Alamitos Bay Yacht Club or anywhere else except with prior permission of the Regatta Chair.

15. RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

A boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.

16. PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded in the following categories subject to entry numbers:

- Overall (both Gold and Silver fleets)
- Female teams – both helm and crew shall be female
- Mixed teams
- Masters – the helm shall be aged 50 years or older on the first day of the event
- Juniors – both helm and crew aged 23 or younger on the first day of the event

17. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See rule 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.

18. INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with minimum coverage of US\$300,000.00 per event or the equivalent. Each boat shall have proof of insurance coverage and present it at time of Registration.

19. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please contact:

Chris Ericksen, Regatta Chair

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