



# 2017 USODA Great Lakes Championship

June 24-25

Hosted by Grosse Pointe Yacht Club (GPYC)

Organizing Authority (OA) is GPYC in conjunction with USODA

## SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

### 1. RULES

- 1.1. The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS).
- 1.2. “USODA Conditions for Sanctioned Regattas and Championships”, including the USODA ‘Code of Conduct’, will apply, available at [www.usoda.org](http://www.usoda.org). Competitors, Coaches, Parents, Guardians, and all other *Support Persons* (as defined in the RRS) shall abide by the USODA ‘Code of Conduct’. This covers behavior both on and off the water including respect for all other persons, personal property of others, GPYC, and the Village of Grosse Pointe Shores.
- 1.3. RRS 61 will be changed as follows:
  - (a) The red protest flag required in rule 61.1(a) shall be attached to the sailor’s lifejacket in a manner that allows it to be concealed before it is needed and after the protested boat has acknowledged her foul. The last sentence of rule 61.1(a) is deleted; sailors may conceal their protest flag after the incident has ended.
  - (b) RRS 61.1(a)(2) is deleted.
  - (c) The following new rule is added to RRS 61:

#### **61.5 Informing the Race Committee (RC)**

In addition to meeting the requirements of RRS 61.1, a boat intending to protest another boat concerning an incident in the racing area that she is involved in or sees shall, at the first reasonable opportunity after she finishes, notify the finish boat of her intention to protest and the sail number of the boat(s) she is protesting.

- 1.4. **Appendix P**, Special Procedures for Rule 42, will apply. P2.2, “Second Penalty” is changed to, “Second and Subsequent Penalties”. At the end of the first sentence add, “unless her penalty is signaled after she finishes, in which case she shall promptly notify the RC finish boat that she is retiring.” P2.3 is deleted.
- 1.5. Sailing Instruction (SI) breaches for which a discretionary penalty may be applied by the Protest Committee (PC) are designated by “[DP]” – Discretionary Penalty.
- 1.6. SI breaches for which a standard penalty – as stated in the SI, including Addendum 2 – may be applied by the Race Committee (RC), without a hearing, are designated by “[SP]” – Standard Penalty. This includes the USODA Graded Penalty System, Addendum 2.
- 1.7. SI breaches designated by “[SP] [DP]” mean that the Standard Penalty [SP] applies to the initial breach only. Subsequent breaches will be at the discretion of the protest committee – [DP].



1.8. The “USODA Graded Penalty System” will apply; see SI Addendum 2. “Fleet” is defined as number of boats entered in the series (see SI 16.2). Percentage penalties will be rounded up to the nearest whole number.

**2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS**

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located near the Sailing Center.

**3. CHANGES TO THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

Any change to the SI will be posted on the official notice board before 0830 on the day that it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

**4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

4.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flagpole located on the East Wall near the Sailing Center.

4.2. [SP] Harbor Start: All boats shall be kept at the venue and no boats shall launch prior to the display of flag “Y” with one sound signal.

4.3. When flag “AP” is displayed, “1 minute” is replaced with “not less than 30 minutes” in Race Signal “AP.”

**5. SCHEDULE OF RACES – See NOR 6.3, rev. 6/7/2017, for complete program schedule.**

**5.1. Saturday, March 18**

0730-0830	Check-in: Competitors and Coach/Support Boat Flags Continental Breakfast & Lunch Pick-up
0845	Coaches Meeting
0900	Competitors, Coaches & Parents Meeting
0930	Harbor Start
1000	First Warning - Championship Fleet Lunch on the Water
After Racing	Competitors Dinner

**Sunday, March 19**

0700-0830	Continental Breakfast & Lunch Pick-up
0815	Coaches Meeting
0845	Harbor Start
0930	First Warning - Championship Fleet Lunch on the Water
1400	No initial Warning Signal after this time
After Racing	Awards Ceremony

5.2. Eight (8) races are scheduled.

**6. FORMAT OF THE REGATTA**

There will be a Championship Fleet that will race as a single fleet. There will be no Green Fleet. This changes the Notice of Race.



## 7. RACING AREA

The racing area will be on Lake St. Clair, south of GPYC.

## 8. THE COURSE AND CHANGE OF COURSE

- 8.1. SI Addendum 1 illustrates the course, including the approximate angle between legs, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left. The course length and exact configuration will be based on sailing conditions.
- 8.2. If one of the gate marks (mark 3S or 3P) is missing, boats shall round remaining mark 3 to port.
- 8.3. For a change of the next leg of the course, the RC will lay a new mark (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable.

## 9. MARKS

- 9.1. Rounding marks 1, 2, 3S and 3P will be orange cylinders or tetrahedrons.
- 9.2. New (change) rounding marks 1, 2, 3 will be yellow cylinders or tetrahedrons.
- 9.3. The starting marks will be a RC boat on each end of the start line displaying an orange flag.
- 9.4. The finishing marks will be a RC boat displaying an orange flag and an orange ball, one on each end of the finish line.

## 10. RESTRICTED AREAS (see also SI 19 and SI Addendum 1) [DP]

- 10.1. The **racing area** is the space encompassing the course, the starting area, and the finishing area. It extends 100 yards beyond any racing boat and all marks. Except as permitted by SI 19, only competing boats and official boats (designated as such by the RC) may enter the racing area while boats are racing.
- 10.2. The **waiting area** is the area to leeward of the racing area below the starting line. Its windward edge and its extensions to starboard of the starting line will be marked by a series of small balls or marks below the starting line. Coach and support (parent or spectator) boats are to anchor with their anchors at or behind the line formed by the row of balls or small marks.
- 10.3. The **corridor** is the lane to starboard of the finish boat between the finish line and the waiting area inside the race course. Except as permitted by SI 19, only competing boats, coaches, and official boats (designated as such by the RC) may enter the racing area while boats are racing. **If the RC Signal boat displays flag “F” at the Warning Signal of a race, the corridor between the starting and finishing lines is closed to all coach boats.**

## 11. THE START

- 11.1. Races will be started in accordance with RRS 26.
- 11.2. The Class flags will be a white flag with a black Optimist symbol.
- 11.3. The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the RC signal boat at the starboard end and a staff displaying an orange flag on the RC boat at the port end.
- 11.4. When the RC removes the orange starting line flags after a start, coach and support boats may leave the *waiting area*, subject to the restrictions of SI 10.1.
- 11.5. A boat starting later than five (5) minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS), without a hearing. This changes RRS A4, A5, and 63.1.



- 11.6. If flag “I”, and/or “Z”, “U” or the Black Flag has been displayed, **during the last minute before** the starting signal, the RC may broadcast via loud hailer the approximate number of boats on the course side of the starting line, but will not hail individual boat numbers. Failure of the RC to make such announcements, or failure of a boat to hear them, shall not be grounds for a boat to request redress. This instruction changes RRS 41 and RRS 62.1.
- 11.7. The RC **will not hail** the sail numbers of boats that are OCS or subject to starting penalties under RRS 30. ‘RC actions’ will be broadcast on **VHF channel 69** after all boats have started. These broadcasts are only a courtesy to coaches and support persons (not competitors) and carry no guarantee of accuracy or completeness. The official list of RC actions will be posted on the notice board within the protest time limit.
- 11.8. Any starting penalties from races that are abandoned after the starting signal and not re-sailed on the same day will not carry over to those races if they are re-sailed on another day in the regatta. This changes RRS 30.3, 30.4, and 36.

## **12. THE FINISH**

- 12.1. The finish line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the RC finish boat at one end and the course side of an inflatable mark at the other end.
- 12.2. **[SP]** Immediately after finishing all boats shall sail clear of the finishing area, round the small buoy marking the top end of the corridor to starboard, and promptly return to the waiting area via the corridor shown in SI Addendum 1.
- 12.3. Flag “A” displayed (with no sound) while boats are finishing means ‘No more racing today’.

## **13. ON-WATER PROTEST COMMITTEE**

On-water PC boats will display flag “J”. A PC member may also be aboard the RC signal boat, and if so, that boat will display flag “J”.

## **14. TIME LIMITS**

- 14.1. The time limit for the first boat in a race to sail the course and finish is ninety (90) minutes.
- 14.2. Boats failing to finish within twenty (20) minutes after the first boat in a race sails the course and finishes will scored Did Not Finish (DNF), without a hearing. This instruction changes RRS 35, A4, and A5.

## **15. PROTESTS, SCORING REVIEWS, REDRESS REQUESTS, AND PENALTIES**

### ***General***

- 15.1. Protest and requests for scoring review forms are available at the PC desk located in Regatta Headquarters. Protests, requests for redress or reopening, and requests for scoring review shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit.
- 15.2. The protest time limit is 45 minutes after the RC signal boat docks. The protest time limit (filing deadline) will be posted on the official notice board as soon as practical.
- 15.3. The protest notices required by rule 63.2, and the notification of protests by the RC or the PC required by rule 61.1(b), will be posted on the official notice board as soon as possible after a protest has been delivered, but not later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit.
- 15.4. A breach of SI’s 4.2, 17, 18, or 19 will not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a).



- 15.5. Hearings will be held at the protest room located in Regatta Headquarters. The helmsman shall represent the boat. This changes RRS 63.3(a). Representatives of boats who are parties to a hearing and their witnesses shall remain on call in the vicinity of the PC desk.

### ***Redress Requests***

- 15.6. Requests for scoring reviews for possible scoring errors are considered requests for redress per RRS 62.1. They shall be filed with the PC within the time limit and will initially be reviewed by the RC. If resolved by the RC, no hearing will be scheduled. If not resolved by the RC, the RC will request a hearing and the PC will proceed per RRS 63.1. This changes RRS 63.1.
- 15.7. If the RC posts a list of boats scored OCS, ZFP, UFD or BFD on the official notice board before the protest time limit, a request for redress based on such a posted score shall be made no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit. This changes RRS 62.2.
- 15.8. Requests for redress relating to an OCS or starting penalty shall state the procedural error the competitor believes the RC may have made. Further, the competitor will be expected to establish that they started properly. This changes RRS 62.2.
- 15.9. On the last scheduled day of racing a request for redress based on a PC decision shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the decision was posted. This changes RRS 62.2.
- 15.10. On the last scheduled day of racing a request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered within the protest time limit if the requesting party was informed of the decision on the previous day or no later than 30 minutes after the requesting party was informed of the decision on that day. This changes RRS 66.

### ***Penalties***

- 15.11. All scoring penalties will be calculated under RRS 44.3(c). A list of boats penalized for breaking RRS 42 will be posted within the protest time limit.
- 15.12. **[DP]** A boat with multiple infractions of SI 17.1, 17.2 or 17.3, Safety Check-Out / Check-In Procedures, may be protested by the RC and the penalty will be at the discretion of the PC.
- 15.13. **[DP]** The penalty for subsequent infractions of any of the Class Rules or SI cited in the USODA Graded Penalty System, Addendum 2, will be at the discretion of the PC.
- 15.14. If not specified elsewhere in these SI, the penalty for breaches of SI or Class Rules may be less than disqualification, at the discretion of the PC. See SI Addendum 2.
- 15.15. **[SP]** A boat that has taken a penalty under RRS 44.1 shall complete and sign the penalty acknowledgement log at the PC desk.
- 15.16. After application of any standard penalties **[SP]** or discretionary penalties **[DP]**, a boat's score shall not be made worse than the score for "DSQ".

## **16. SCORING**

- 16.1. The Low Point Scoring System of Appendix A will apply as revised by these SI.
- 16.2. The number of boats entered in the series will be defined as the number of registered boats which subsequently completed competitor Check-In at the regatta venue. This change RRS A4.2.
- 16.3. One completed race shall constitute a regatta.
- 16.4. Scoring based on races completed:



- a. When fewer than five (5) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- b. When five (5) or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

## **17. SAFETY AND CHECK-OUT / CHECK-IN PROCEDURES [SP] [DP]**

- 17.1. Prior to launching each day, each sailor is required to check out by retrieving the wristband with their assigned serial number from the hook board located by the Sailing Center. If a competitor will not be racing that day, he or she shall notify the Land Safety committee. Failure to follow Safety Check-Out procedures will result in the sailor being penalized under SI 1.7. A boat with multiple infractions may be penalized under SI 15.12.
- 17.2. Immediately upon returning to shore, **but not later than 30 minutes** after the RC signal boat docks, competitors shall check in by returning the wristband with their assigned serial number to the hook board located by the Sailing Center. Failure to follow Safety Check-In procedures will result in the sailor being penalized under SI 1.7. A boat with multiple infractions may be penalized under SI 15.12.
- 17.3. A competitor retiring from a race or intending not to start a race shall notify a RC boat or safety boat before leaving the course or, if that is not possible, notify a safety committee representative at GPYC immediately upon returning to shore.
- 17.4. In addition to the requirements of RRS 40 and its US Sailing prescription, a condition of entry and participation in this regatta is the wearing of a U.S. Coast Guard approved lifejacket, or for international sailors only, a lifejacket approved by their country's corresponding authority, properly secured at all times while on the water, except for brief periods while removing or adding clothing. **All lifejackets must be suitable for the competitor's weight.** Wet suits, dry suits, and inflatable lifejackets do not constitute adequate personal buoyancy. Failure to wear a proper lifejacket will result in a penalty up to and including disqualification at the discretion of the PC. This changes RRS 40 and the Part 4 Preamble.
- 17.5. Competitors shall have a whistle attached to their lifejacket at all times while on the water.
- 17.6. Each boat shall have a secure loop in the end of its bow line.

## **18. EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT [SP] [DP]**

- 18.1. Boats are allowed only one hull, daggerboard, rudder (including tiller and extension), mast, boom, sprit, and sail during the regatta. Any request to consider approving equipment substitutions shall be submitted in writing to the RC before the end of protest time limit the day prior to the day for which the substitution is to be made. If changes are required during a day's racing, approval may be made verbally and the written request submitted before that day's protest time limit.
- 18.2. Measurement, including equipment checks, may be made of boats at any time during the regatta by the RC or judges at the direction of the RC.

## **19. COACH AND SUPPORT PERSON REGULATIONS (see also SI Addendum 1)**

- 19.1. **Coaches** are expected to be good role models for young sailors and conduct themselves accordingly ashore and on the water.
- 19.2. **Support Persons (Parents)** who are on the water either in spectator or coach boats are considered coaches for the purpose of SI 19. Those support persons who serve on RC boats



(including patrol and safety boats) may be in a unique position to provide information that may create competitive advantage. Those support persons may not communicate in any way with their sailors or their coaches from the time the orange starting line flags are displayed until their sailor has finished their race (this shall be referred to as the “No Communication Period”). The only exception to this rule is when they are directed by the PRO or they are involved with safety and rescue. During periods of time when communication with coaches and/or sailors is permissible, these support persons shall not transfer any strategic or tactical information (including audio or video recordings) gained due to, among other things, their advantageous location on the race course or their access to RC communications, unless such information is made available to all sailors, coaches and other parents/supporters. Communications of a personal nature (e.g., ‘great race’, ‘get something to drink’, ‘go see your coach’, etc.) are always permissible outside the “No Communication Period”.

### 19.3. General coach and support (including spectator) boat requirements

- a. Coach and support boats shall display a numbered flag provided by the OA at all times while on the water. All coach and support boats shall carry a VHF radio and monitor the RC channel, **VHF 69**.
- b. No ‘team’ flags, private signal flags, or any object that might be construed as a signal shall be flown from coach or support boats while racing is underway.
- c. Coach and support boats shall follow the instructions of RC, patrol, safety, PC, and race management boats at all times.
- d. No coach or support boat shall tie up to or congregate around any aid to navigation, such as buoys or channel markers, or tie up to any fixed fishing gear or crab pots.

### 19.4. Restrictions

- a. All coach and support boats shall stay out of the racing area while boats are racing and at least 100 yards away from any racing boat, and move slowly and **with minimal wake**, except where permitted in this instruction.
- b. Certain coach boats may be designated as rescue craft by the RC or Safety Officer and given permission to enter the racing area for the purposes of rescue operations only.
- c. When the RC displays (or is displaying) its orange starting line flags, all coach and support boats in the starting area or on the course shall proceed immediately to the waiting area and shall remain there until the RC removes the orange starting line flags. At that time coach and support boats may exit the waiting area and proceed slowly **with minimal wake** to the weather mark, only on the starboard side of the course. The RC may close the starboard side of the course to coach and support boats.
- d. There shall be no anchoring inside the course or in the vicinity of the finish line.

### 19.5. Penalties

- a. Competitors affiliated with any coach, support person, or spectator boat that breaks SI 19 may break RRS 41 even when boats are not racing. This changes RRS 41 (outside help).
- b. Coaches, support persons, or spectator boats that break SI 19 may be subject to disciplinary actions up to and including exclusion from the venue.

## 20. PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded in accordance with the Notice of Race.



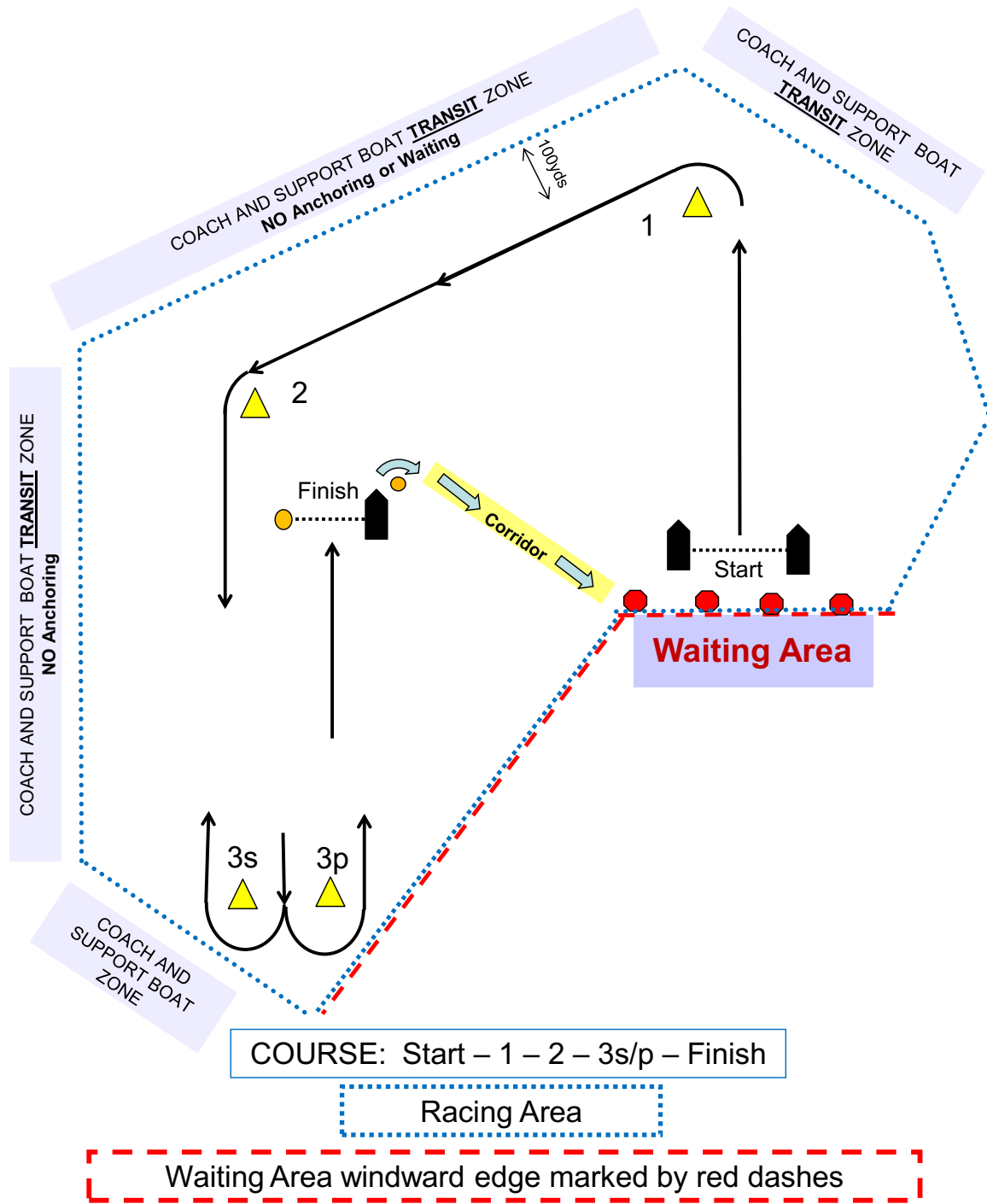
## 21. **DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race. The OA including the sponsors, the RC, officers, and board of directors of GPYC and USODA, and all those involved in these organizations 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.





# SI Addendum 1 – Race Course and Restricted Areas



***Important note: Mark colors and shapes are illustrative only.***



## SI Addendum 2 – USODA Graded Penalty System

**Graded Penalty System – Percentage Penalties rounded up to the next whole number**  
Penalties apply to the race of infringement; otherwise, to the first race of the day.

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### 1. Minor technical and SI penalties

*Penalty approximately equal to 5% of fleet*

- a) Not displaying the assigned colored division streamer (SI 6.2)
- b) Launching before ‘Harbor Start’ signal (SI 4.2)
- c) Failure to return promptly to waiting area after finishing (SI 12.2)
- d) Failure to report penalty taken (SI 15.16)

### 2. Minor class rule penalties and intermediate SI penalties

*Penalty approximately equal to 10% of fleet*

- a) Bailer not attached to hull (CR 4.3)
- b) Paddle not attached to hull (CR 4.3)
- c) Daggerboard not attached to hull (CR 3.3.4)
- d) Painter not attached to mast step (CR 4.3)
- e) Whistle not attached to personal flotation device (CR 4.2)
- f) One sail tie 5 mm or more loose (CR 6.6.3.4)
- g) Two sail ties 3 mm or more loose (CR 6.6.3.4)
- h) Accidental loss of sail tie (CR 6.6.3.4)
- i) Sailing across a race in progress before starting or after finishing (RRS 24.1)
- j) Out of the waiting area (SI 11.5)
- k) Failure to report for measurement after finishing (N/A)
- l) Failing on-water measurement inspection (SI 18.1/18.2)
- m) Failure to comply with Safety Check-Out/Check-In procedures (SI 17.1/17.2)
- n) Failure to report retirement or DNC (SI 17.3)
- o) Breaches of SI 19, Coach and Support Person Regulations

### 3. Intermediate class rule penalties

*Penalty approximately equal to 30% of fleet*

- a) No bailer, paddle or painter in boat (CR 4.3)
- b) No whistle (CR 4.2)
- c) No lanyard, locking device or other arrangement to attach mast to the hull (CR 3.5.2.11)
- d) Sail outside limits of bands (CR 3.5.2.7)
- e) Two ties 5 mm or more loose (CR 6.6.3.4)
- f) Three or more ties 3 mm or more loose (CR 6.6.3.4)
- g) Throat, tack or clew eyelet 3 mm or more loose (CR 6.6.3.4)
- h) Failure to wear an approved life jacket (SI 17.4)
- i) Repeated intermediate penalty infringement



#### **4. Class rule breaches for which the penalty may be 0%**

- a) Class rule 3.2.2.12
- b) Class rule 3.2.3.2.d
- c) Class rule 3.3.1.3
- d) GRP Sheet plan 23 and measurement 58

#### **5. Major class rule penalties (as per RRS)**

##### *Penalty DSQ*

- a) All RRS except as amended
- b) All SI except as amended
- c) Use of uninspected equipment
- d) Use of unapproved fittings
- e) Repeat of major penalty infringement

#### **6. Team Racing only**

- a) Minor technical penalty – 0 points
- b) Minor class rule penalty – 1 points
- c) Intermediate class rule penalty – 3 points
- d) Major class rule penalty – 6 points