

# VENICE WOMEN'S SAILING SQUADRON

## SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

### 1. JURISDICTION

1.1 Races are to be sailed under the management of Bitter Ends Race Captain and Race Committee.

### 2. RULES

2.1 Races are to be sailed in accordance with *The Racing Rules of Sailing* when not in conflict with these instructions, excepted to in these instructions, or unless superseded by written or verbal instructions by the Race Committee.

2.2 One-design boats will conform to class rules regarding allowable equipment, registration, and sail numbers.

### 3. ATTENDANCE

3.1 VWSS meets every Wednesday regardless of weather, with a business meeting followed by on-the-water racing. Exceptions to this will be pre-announced holidays or individual phone or e-mail notification in the event of inclement weather.

3.2 Perfect racing attendance will be rewarded with a whale award. Official attendance begins in September.

3.3 There will be three attendance sessions: Fall, Winter and Spring (Sept. to June).

3.4 Each member may assist/observe on the Race Committee Boat at least one regular racing day each year.

### 4. OFFICIAL NOTICES

4.1 Official notices of hearings, rulings, changes, in procedures and instructions, etc. shall be posted in the Pram Shed. **RESPONSIBILITY FOR READING POSTED NOTICES RESTS WITH EACH SKIPPER.** However, these notices may be superseded by verbal instructions from the Race Committee and announced **PRIOR** to the Warning Signal.

### 5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

5.1 A schedule of races will be posted at the beginning of the year. Each member will receive a schedule by email.

### 6. RACE AREA

Races will be sailed on Roberts Bay.

### 7. RACE COURSE

7.1 Most races will be sailed on a Modified Windward-Leeward-Triangle course with starting and finishing lines at the same place in the windward leg.

7.2 A copy of the Race Course Diagram will be posted in the Pram Shed.

7.3 It is the responsibility of the skipper to know the course.

7.4 Marks will be taken to port unless the Race Committee hoists a green flag indicating marks to starboard prior to the race.

### 8. THE START

8.1 Races will be started in accordance with Racing Rule 26 with the warning signal made 3 minutes before the starting signal..

8.2 The Starting Line shall be an orange flag on the Committee Boat and a mark at the opposite end of the line.

### 8.3 Starting Intervals

#### **Three (3) Minute Start**

WARNING - Class flag up (one sound), 3 minutes before start

PREPARATORY - P, I, Z, Z with I, or black flag (one sound), 2 minutes before the start

ONE-MINUTE - Preparatory flag P and/or other preparatory flags as above, if used, removed (one long sound)

START - Class flag removed (one sound) GO!

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

8.4 Any boat that has not started within five (5) minutes of the start shall be given a DID NOT START (DNS).

8.5 No later than the warning signal, the Race Committee may signal a designated short course will be used (display S flag with two sounds).

8.6 No later than the preparatory signal, the Race Committee may move a starting mark and/or may apply starting penalties (display I, Z, Z with I, or black flags).

8.7 Before the starting signal, the Race Committee may postpone (display flag AP with two sounds) or abandon the race (display flag N with three sounds).

### 9. RECALLS

9.1 Individual Recalls shall be signaled in accordance with Racing Rule 29.1.

9.2 The Race Committee will attempt to hail each premature starter by name or sail number. Failure of the Race Committee to hail, or of the skipper to hear, will not be grounds for protest.

9.3 General Recall shall be signaled in accordance with Racing Rule 29.2.

### 10. CHANGE OF COURSE AFTER THE START

10.1 Any race in progress may be shortened by the Race Committee at its discretion at any rounding mark, provided that at least two full legs of the course will have been completed at the finish.

10.2 Upon display of Code Flag S, accompanied by two sounds, the lead boat shall round the mark at the end of the leg she is sailing and then proceed to the finish line. All following boats shall proceed along the same course as the lead boat.

10.3 Upon display of the Code Flag N, accompanied by three sounds, the Race Committee may abandon a particular race when there is a significant change in the wind or when other extenuating circumstances exist.

### 11. WITHDRAWAL

Any boat that has started a race, but withdraws prior to finishing, must notify the Race Committee on her way off the course. This boat shall stay clear of competitors in the race.

### 12. THE FINISH

12.1 The Finishing Line shall be between an orange flag on the Race Committee Boat and a mark at the opposite end of the line.

12.2 After finishing, all boats shall stay clear of the Finishing Line and competitors on the course.

### 13. TIME LIMIT

13.1 There will be a time limit of forty (40) minutes for the lead boat to finish. Any race in which no boat has rounded the first mark within fifteen (15) minutes shall be abandoned and resailed, if possible. If one boat finishes within the time limit, other boats are entitled to ten (10) additional minutes or to the time limit, whichever is later. Any boats not finishing within the time limit will be given Last Place.

### 14. PROTESTS

14.1 Any skipper intending to protest shall inform the Race Committee immediately after the Race in which the infraction occurred.

14.2 Protests shall be made in full accordance with Racing Rules 60, 61 and 62. Written protests shall be made on official Protest Forms within fifteen (15) minutes after the Race Committee Boat docks.

14.3 A Protest Committee shall be appointed by the Race Chairman or Race Committee.

## 15. SCORING

15.1 The LOW POINT SCORING SYSTEM, Racing Rules Appendix A (except as modified below), will be used when sailing races:

First Place = 1 point

Second Place = 2 points

Third Place = 3 points

DNF (Did Not Finish) = one (1) point more than # of starters

DNS (Did Not Start) = one (1) point more than # of starters

DSQ (Disqualified) = one (1) point more than # of starters

DNC (Did Not Compete) = one (1) point more than # of starters

BKD (Breakdown) = will be given points based on her average score for the series.

BKD = anything not repairable on the water.

RC (Race Committee Participant) will be given points based on her average score for the series.

FWSA - any participant in a FWSA sanctioned event will be given points based on her average score for the series.

15.2 The number of races that will be scored to constitute a series shall be determined by the Race Committee.

## 16. COACHING - ON THE RACE COURSE

Beginning racers shall be permitted to receive advice from other sailors or the Race Committee during their first year.

## 17. SAFETY

17.1 ALL members MUST pass a swim test, a boat lifting test, and a capsize upon joining.

17.2 ALL members must wear a fastened US Coast Guard approved PFD (personal flotation device) when on the water.

17.3 ALL members must wear a whistle.

17.4 ALL members must wear tie shoes or surfer shoes while on the water.

17.5 ALL prams must carry a paddle, a bailer, and a painter at least 13 (thirteen) feet long, which floats.

17.6 Safety checks will be conducted periodically. Failure to comply with 17.2, 17.3 and 17.4 will result in disqualification of the skipper for each race sailed without the proper equipment. Failure to comply with 17.5 will add one (1) point to the skipper's total score for each race sailed without the proper equipment.

## 18. AWARDS

Members must participate in two-thirds (2/3) of the races in a series to be eligible for awards.

## 19. INTERCLUB COMPETITION

Primary consideration for selecting VWSS representatives for Interclub Competition will be from a sign-up sheet of members who express interest in participating in Interclub Regattas.

## 20. FWSA RAINBOW REGATTA

Primary consideration for selecting VWSS representatives for the FWSA Rainbow Regatta will be participation in interclub competition, followed by attendance and performance.