

Sailing Instructions

1. Rules

- 1.1. The Regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 1.2. All competing boats shall comply with the *St. Maarten Heineken Regatta Safety and Equipment Regulations* provided as Attachment B to the St Maarten Heineken Regatta Sailing Instructions.
- 1.3. For all classes using the CSA rating system, the CSA Rating Rule will apply.
- 1.4. For all classes using the CSA Multihull Rating, the CSA Multihull Rating Rule will apply.
- 1.5. Rule 55 *Trash Disposal* is changed by the addition of a second sentence:
“Lightweight non-synthetic material, yarn, or thread used to band a spinnaker is not ‘trash’ for the purposes of this rule”.
- 1.6. If there is a conflict between languages the English text will take precedence.

2. Notices to Competitors

Notices to competitors will be posted on the Regatta results website <https://app.regattaguru.com/heineken/100084> and on the Official Notice Board located at the Sint Maarten Yacht Club.

3. Changes to Sailing Instructions

- 3.1. Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted by 07.30h on the day it will take effect.
- 3.2. Any change to the schedule will be posted by 21.00h on the day before it will take effect.

4. Signals Made Ashore

There will be no signals made ashore.

5. Communication with Competitors

- 5.1. The Race Committee may make broadcasts and stand by on the following channels:
 - a) Start boat A:VHF 72
 - b) Start boat B:VHF 77

- 5.2. The Race Committee may broadcast the following:

- a) Time checks, normally 15 and 30 minutes prior to the first scheduled start,
- b) Courses to be sailed by each class,
- c) A summary of any amendments posted,
- d) Movements and location of any Start or Finish Boat,
- e) Additional information of use to competitors.

- 5.3. Failure of the Race Committee to make these broadcasts shall not be grounds for redress.

6. Identification

- 6.1. All boats with sail numbers shall provide that information at registration.
- 6.2. Boats without sail numbers will be provided with bow and stern numbers at registration (subject to payment of a deposit) which shall be clearly displayed on both sides of the bow and stern quarters of the boat.

7. Classes and Class Flags

- 7.1. A list of classes and class flags will be provided to each boat at registration.
- 7.2. The class flags for the St Maarten Heineken Regatta (as provided at registration) shall be flown from the backstay by all Bareboats.

8. Schedule and Order of Starts

- 8.1. The schedule of races and intended first warning signal times for all classes will be provided at registration and form part of these Sailing Instructions.
- 8.2. If the Race Committee intends to start a subsequent race for any class, they will display a code flag ‘R’ with the warning signal for that class.

9. Courses

- 9.1. The diagram in Attachment A to the St Maarten Heineken Regatta Sailing Instructions shows the approximate locations of the marks and are provided as an aid only.
- 9.2. Attachment A to the St Maarten Heineken Regatta Sailing Instructions describes the different courses including the symbol identifying the course, the marks of the course, the order in which they are to be rounded and the side on which each mark is to be left.
- 9.3. No later than the warning signal for each class, the Start Boat will display on a board positioned at or near its stern, the symbol identifying course to be sailed.
- 9.4. Any course may be modified by inserting at the beginning of the course a windward mark laid to windward of the start line and an offset mark laid nearby the windward mark.
 - a) When windward and offset marks are added to the course, the course is changed so that the windward mark is the first mark of the course, the offset mark is the second mark of the course, after which all of the of the marks for the signalled course listed in Attachment A to the St Maarten Heineken Regatta Sailing Instructions are to be rounded as described.
 - b) The addition of the windward mark and offset mark will be signalled by the display of a red or a green flag at the time that the course is displayed.
 - c) If a green flag is displayed the windward mark and offset mark shall be rounded to starboard, if a red flag is displayed the windward mark and the offset mark shall be rounded to port.

10. Marks

- 10.1. Start and finish marks will be orange inflated marks.
- 10.2. Marks of the courses will be one of:
 - a) orange or yellow inflated mark, some of which may display advertising, or
 - b) permanent yellow Nature Reserve spar buoys on the French side of the island, or
 - c) the yellow entrance mark to Marigot as illustrated in Attachment A to the St Maarten Heineken Regatta Sailing Instructions.

- 10.3. If a windward mark and offset mark have been inserted, the windward mark will be an orange inflated mark and the offset mark will be a yellow inflated mark.
- 10.4. If any mark is missing, it may be replaced by a small round red mark.

11. Course Restrictions and Obstructions

- 11.1. While racing, no boat shall enter the following areas which are hereby defined as obstructions:
 - a) The area between any mooring buoy or navigation mark in Cole Bay and the nearest shoreline,
 - b) The area between any yellow navigation mark in Maho Bay and the nearest shoreline,
 - c) The areas between Marks 5 and/or 15 and the nearest shoreline.
- 11.2. Start and Finish Lines
 - a) After completing the first leg of the course, a boat shall not pass through the start line of any Start Boat.
 - b) A boat shall not cross any finish line unless completing the last leg of their course.
 - c) A boat that breaks SI 11.2 a) or 11.2 b) shall not attempt to correct their error but will be exonerated by completing a one-turn penalty.
 - d) Any start or finish line that a boat is prohibited from crossing is an obstruction for that boat.

12. The Start

- 12.1. Races will be started in accordance with RRS 26. The warning signal for each class will be 5 minutes before their start signal.
- 12.2. The start line will be between an orange flag on the Start Boat for each class and a nearby orange inflated mark.
- 12.3. Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid any starting area during the starting sequence for other races. A breach of this instruction shall not be grounds for protest by a boat. This changes rule 60.1 a).
- 12.4. A boat starting later than 10 minutes after the last starting signal in a sequence of consecutive starts in which her class started will be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This changes rule A4 and A5.

13. The Finish

The finish line will be between a blue flag on the Finish Boat for each class and a nearby orange inflated mark.

14. Penalty System

- 14.1. Rule 44.1 is changed in that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.
- 14.2. Rule 44.3 (Scoring penalty) will not apply.
- 14.3. A boat that does not take a penalty in accordance with rule 44.1 and 44.2 and has not caused injury or serious damage nor, despite accepting an exoneration penalty, gained a significant advantage in the race by her breach may accept a 30% Exoneration Penalty prior to the opening of a protest hearing about the incident calculated in the same way as a scoring penalty under rule 44.3 c).

15. Time Limit

- 15.1. For all classes, the time limit for the last race of the day will be 16.00h.
- 15.2. For each class the time limit for any race other than the last race of the day will be 150% of the elapsed time of the first boat to finish in their class.

16. Protests and Requests for Redress

- 16.1. Protest forms are available at the Protest Desk, located at the Sint Maarten Yacht Club. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit. Bridge opening times and the return of boats to moorings will not normally be considered as a reason to extend a protest time limit.
- 16.2. Protest Time Limit
For each competitor, the protest time limit is the earlier of two hours after the protesting boat's finish time or 16.30h.
- 16.3. A request for reopening a hearing or a request shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the requesting party was informed of the decision.
This changes rule 66.
- 16.4. A request for redress based on a Protest Committee decision shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the decision was posted. This changes rule 62.2.

- 16.5. Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the earliest protest time limit of each day to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the protest room, located at the Sint Maarten Yacht Club beginning at the time posted.
- 16.6. Notices of protests by the Race Committee or Protest Committee will be posted to inform boats under rule 61.1b).
- 16.7. When all parties are present at the Protest Desk, every reasonable effort will be made to begin arbitration or hold a hearing as soon as possible, even if it is prior to the posted hearing time.
- 16.8. Arbitration
 - a) For protests involving an alleged breach of a rule of Part 2, an arbitration hearing will be held prior to a protest hearing if all parties agree. This changes Part 5, Section B of the rules.
 - b) Arbitration will be held in accordance with the *Protest Arbitration Recommendations* available at the Protest Desk.
 - c) Protests not withdrawn after arbitration will be heard as required by rule 63.1.
- 16.9. Measurement Protests
 - a) If at any time prior to the protest time limit the Regatta Measurer is satisfied that an error exists in a Measurement Certificate, he will notify the Jury which will have a hearing. If the Jury is satisfied after a hearing that the Measurement Certificate is in error, the measurer will reissue the certificate and the score for all races in the regatta will be adjusted in accordance with the new Measurement Certificate. This changes rule 78.3.
- 16.10. When the Jury sits with a panel of fewer than 5 members, in accordance with Appendix N 1.4 b) the time limit for the parties to request a full International Jury hearing shall be thirty minutes from the time the initial decision is announced.
- 16.11. Except for breaches of Parts 1 and 2 of the Rules, the International Jury may apply any penalty that they deem equitable. This changes rule 64.1.
- 16.12. Decisions of the International Jury will be final as provided in rule 70.5.

17. Scoring

A boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.

18. Safety

18.1. No boat shall race with an anchor overhanging the bow or forward crossbeam. However, written application made prior to the close of registration for exemption from this requirement may be made to the Chairman of the Race Committee, who may, at his sole discretion, grant exemption from this instruction and the associated regulation in the *St. Maarten Heineken Regatta Safety and Equipment Regulations*.

18.2. Any boat retiring shall advise the Race Committee at the earliest opportunity. Failure to do so may, following a hearing, result in disqualification from the Regatta or such other penalty as the Jury deems equitable.

19. Equipment and Measurement Checks

A boat or her equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with rating rules, the *St. Maarten Heineken Regatta Safety and Equipment Regulations* and/or Sailing Instructions. On the water, a boat instructed to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection by a Race Committee Equipment Inspector, Race Steward or Measurer, shall comply with those instructions.

20. Official Boats

All official boats will display an 'RC' flag.

21. Use of Engines

Any boat that uses her engine for propulsion while racing and does not retire shall submit a written report of the incident including the time and distance covered and the reasons for using the engine to the Protest Committee within the protest time. The Protest Committee may, following a hearing take any action it deems appropriate.

22. Event Advertising

Boats shall display event advertising supplied by the organising authority as instructed.

23. Prizes

Prizes will be awarded as follows:

- 23.1. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place for the series in each class,
- 23.2. additional prizes may be awarded at the judgement of the Race Committee.

24. Disclaimer of Liability

Competitors participate in the Regatta entirely at their own risk. See rule 4, Decision to Race. The organising 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.

25. Media Rights

By participating in this event, competitors grant to the organising authority and the event sponsors the right, in perpetuity, to make, use, and show, at their discretion, any photography, audio and video recordings, and other reproductions of them made at the venue or on the water from the time of their arrival at the venue, until their final departure, without compensation.