

International Radio Sailing Association



Sailing Instructions Guide 2012

This guide should be read in conjunction to the pre-amble of Appendix L of the Racing Rules of Sailing. Appendix L is used as the original template and modified, as necessary, to meet the requirements of Radio Sailing and IRSA.

Sailing Instructions for World and Continental Championships conducted under the authority of IRSA shall be submitted to the Chairman of the IRSA Racing Rules Committee no later than three (3) months prior to the regatta.

In the body of this guide several sections are *in plain text using italics*. These sections indicate items that should normally be included but the specifics of which will vary, or be omitted, from regatta to regatta.

Throughout the guide sections enclosed in [***bold text in square brackets***] provide for the insertion of the appropriate document, time etc.

In all cases, if a Section number is not applicable to the event, completely remove it and renumber subsequent sections.

Attachment A:

The attachment provides suggested wording which could be included, particularly for those sections that are *italicised* in the main guide.

The wording is not mandatory and is intended as example only recognising that different requirements apply to different venues and levels of events.

Italicised text in the Attachment is used to provide background comment on factors that should be considered when preparing Sailing Instructions.

IRSA Racing Rules Committee

Roy Granich (NZL) Chairman
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**[Full Name of Regatta]
[Start and End Dates]
[Organising Authority]
[Venue, City and Country]**

1. RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* as modified by Appendix E.
- 1.2 *List which national prescriptions will not apply*

For World or Continental Championships

- 1.3 The Equipment Rules of Sailing, the IRSA Championship Regulations, the [*insert Class*] Class Rules, [*insert IRSA approved Umpiring system*], [*insert IRSA approved Racing System*], [*insert IRSA approved Protest Hearing procedure*] _____ will apply.

(otherwise)

- 1.3 _____ will apply.
- 1.4 If there is a conflict between languages the English text will take precedence.
- 1.5 *See rule 86. Either insert here the rule number(s) and state the changes, or, if not using this instruction, do the same in each instruction that changes a rule.*

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board(s) located at [*insert description*].

3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Include how the Sailing Instructions will be modified and communicated during the regatta.

4. SCHEDULE OF REGATTA

- 4.1 *Complete a schedule to reflect overall activity of day, e.g. Registration / Measuring, Rest Day and so on*

Date	Start Time	Finish Time	Activity

- 4.2 On race days, a warning signal for any heat will not be given before [*insert time*] or after [*insert time*]
- 4.3 On the last day of the regatta a warning signal of the first heat in a race will not be given after [*insert time*].
- 4.4 *Include any special requirements for the last day to provide for adjusting the number of races that comprise the regatta.*

5 RACING AREA

*Appendix [*insert reference*] shows the location of racing area, including details and location of the Launching Area(s), Control Area(s) and restrictions on boats not competing in the current heat.*

6 COURSE

- 6.1 *In accordance with RRS Rule E3.2 describe the course with details of marks and where the course board will be located.*
- 6.2 *Describe the method of advising a course change*

7 START

- 7.1. *Describe the method to be used to keep competitors posted as to their next heat.*
- 7.2. *Describe the characteristics of the starting system used in accordance with RRS Rule E3.5 indicating which signals will be oral and which will be other sounds.*
NOTE: Oral time calls are required for World and Continental Championships.
- 7.3. *Include procedures that will be used after a general recall.*

8 TIME LIMIT

If a time limit is to be used in any or all races specify what the limit will be and when it will apply. Alternatively, state that no time limit will apply.

NOTE: A Time Limit is required for World and Continental Championships.

9 TIME OUT LIMIT

The Time Out limit to be used with [*insert IRSA approved Racing System*] shall be [*insert time*].

10 PROTESTS

- 10.1 *Insert any changes to Protest Time Limits.*
- 10.2 Protest forms will be available at the Race Office
- 10.3 The [*insert IRSA approved Protest Hearing procedure*] will be used and any preliminary procedures provided for in that procedure will be conducted before a formal protest hearing is initiated.
- 10.4 *Insert the method of advice and location of any protest hearings.*
- 10.5 *Insert conditions required for denial of appeal.*
- 10.6 For the purposes of rule RRS Rule 64.3(b) the 'authority responsible' is the measurer appointed by the organizing authority.

11 SCORING

- 11.1 The Scoring system specified in [*insert IRSA approved Racing System*] will be used.
- 11.2 The number of completed races required to constitute the event shall be [*insert number*].
- 11.3 The number of excluded scores in accordance with RRS Rule A2 will be one (1) after [*insert number*] races, two (2) after [*insert number*] races and then a further one (1) for each additional [*insert number*] of races completed.
- 11.4 *Describe the method used to break ties.*

12 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions. A boat can be instructed by a race committee equipment inspector or measurer to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.

13 PRIZES

If perpetual trophies will be awarded state their complete names.

14 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the event entirely at their own risk See RRS 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 event.

15 INSURANCE

- 15.1 Each competitor shall be responsible for organising sufficient medical, accident and third party insurance so that neither the organising authority nor other competitors are put to expense through the actions or health of the competitor
- 15.2 *Add any insurance related issues that competitors may come across at the venue that may not apply at their home.*

16 CONDUCT

- 16.1 The International Radio Sailing Association recognises that major events offer considerable publicity opportunities to the Association and the sport generally. Competitor behaviour can impact unfavourably on the sport and all competitors are advised that their actions will be under scrutiny and in the event of any behaviour that is in breach of good manners or sportsmanship, or which may bring the sport into disrepute shall result in:
- (a) a hearing in accordance with RRS 69.1 or
 - (b) the Race Officer and Umpires may offer a competitor a two turns on the spot penalty to avoid a protest hearing under 16.1(a), however the Race Officer and Umpires are not obliged to make this offer nor is a competitor obliged to accept it in which case a protest hearing shall proceed.
- 16.2 Penalties available to the Protest Committee include exclusion from the race in question, the series, or other action within the Committee's jurisdiction. The Principal Race Officer and all race officials have been directed to record any incidents that will be dealt with to the full extent available to the Committee.

17 APPENDICIES

INCLUDE A LIST OF APPENDICIES AND RELATED DOCUMENTS

ATTACHMENT A

1. RULES

- 1.2 The following prescriptions of the [*insert country*] national authority will [not apply]
i.
ii etc]

[The prescriptions that will apply are stated in full below.]

- i.
ii. etc]

OR

- 1.2 No national prescriptions will apply

Example

- 1.5 Rule(s) _____ will be changed as follows: _____

3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Example

RRS Rule 90.2(c) is changed to:

Changes to the sailing instructions may be communicated orally to all affected competitors before the warning signal of the relevant race or heat. When appropriate, changes shall be confirmed in writing.

4. SCHEDULE OF REGATTA

Example

- 4.4 If no boat in the final heat of the intended last race has sailed the course in accordance with RRS Rule 28.1 and finished [*within the time limit*] [*by* [*insert time*]] hrs then the last race will be abandoned and the previous race will be taken as the final race.

NOTE – use the [*within the time limit*] if one is to apply otherwise use [*by* [*insert time*]]

5. RACING AREA

To aid in communication between competitors and officials Control Areas should be kept to the minimum size practical while providing the best possible course opportunities.

6. COURSE

Example

- 6.1 The course together with a description of the marks, including starting and finishing marks stating the order and side on which each is to be left shall be posted on the course board and shall be changed only between heats.

Example

- 6.2 A change of course will be signalled both by sound and orally.

7. START

Example

- 7.1 The heat composition will be posted on a heat board near the control area. Competitors will be called orally by hailing the upcoming heat and race number. It is competitor's responsibility to hear his call and start in his assigned heat. Failure to comply with this Sailing Instruction will not be grounds for seeking redress.

Example

- 7.2 The start system will provide the following signals (all oral calls are recorded):
- | | |
|-------------|---|
| Warning | A loud sound signal followed by an oral call of "Boats in the water". |
| Preparatory | A loud sound signal followed by an oral call of "One minute countdown starting NOW" |
- Followed by:
- | | |
|-----------|---|
| Tick | A sound signal every second |
| Time call | An oral call at 50, 40, 30, 20, 15, 10 and each second thereafter |
| Start | A loud sound signal |

Example

- 7.3 Except when a general recall results from an error in the starting procedure, RRS Rule 30.1 will be applied after the first and RRS Rule 30.3 after subsequent general recalls in any heat.

8 TIME LIMIT

The time limit for the first boat to finish in any heat shall be [*insert number*] minutes.

OR

No time limit will apply.

10 PROTESTS

Example

- 10.3 RRS Rule E 5.3 is changed to:
In RRS Rule 61.3 replace 'two hours' with '[*insert number*] minutes' and add: 'A boat intending to protest or request redress about an incident in the racing area or control area shall inform the race officer as soon as possible after *finishing* or retiring.'

NOTE – There is widespread misunderstanding that the lodgement of a protest must include the full details of the incident in written form, including applicable rules etc. This is not the case as RRS Rule 61.2 allows for a protest to be lodged initially with minimal written information. With this in mind Race Committees are encouraged to keep this limit relatively short (say 10 minutes) so successive heats are not held up unnecessarily. Similarly, the change to RRS Rule E5.3 above regarding informing the race officer helps to keep the event flowing.

As RRS Rule E5.3 currently stands there is effectively a mandatory break between heats of 5 minutes. The last sentence of suggested 10.1 above is the equivalent of flying a protest flag at crossing the finish line so if no verbal notification has been received by the time the last boat is ashore then it would be safe to precede with the next heat.

Example

- 10.4 Parties to a protest will be called orally by hailing that the protest hearing is opening. It is the responsibility of the parties to come to the hearing without delay accompanied by any witness. No other notice of the hearing will be given. Hearings will be held in the jury office. This changes RRS Rule 63.2

Example

- 10.5 Decisions of an International Jury will be final as provided in RRS Rule 70.5
OR
10.5 In accordance with RRS Rule 70.5(a) protest hearing decisions will be final and except for the final heat of the final race there shall be no appeal allowed.

NOTE: Denial of right to appeal can be achieved under RRS Rule 70.5(a) without the need of an International Jury. Therefore appropriate wording will depend upon the level of event.

11. SCORING

Example

- 11.4 When, for the continuation of the event or to determine final placings, it is necessary to separate boats scoring equally for a heat, race or the event the procedures of RRS Rule A8 shall be used.

NOTE: Currently under HMS 2007 there is provision for separating boats scoring other than in a finishing place. The suggested 11.4 above would only be necessary after a heat when more than one boat on the same position spans the heat division threshold and not for boats on the same score but different position status.

14. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

The wording used in SIG 14 above should be a minimum. Dependant upon the venue (country) it may be necessary to add specific wording to ensure local laws and regulations are complied with.

15. INSURANCE

Again, the wording used in SIG 15 above should be seen as a minimum. The organising authority should ensure that the "Insurance" clause fully meets local conditions.