



# AMERICA'S CUP ENDEAVOUR O'PEN BERMUDA 2017

## SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

JUNE 15-18, 2017

**IMPORTANT EVENT INTRODUCTION:** THE AMERICA'S CUP ENDEAVOUR O'PEN WILL BE HOSTED BY THE AMERICA'S CUP ENDEAVOUR PROGRAM, THE AMERICA'S CUP EVENT AUTHORITY, AND BIC SPORT NORTH AMERICA, JUNE 15-18, 2017 IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE 35TH AMERICA'S CUP FINALS. THE PURPOSE OF THIS EVENT IS TO RUN A FUN EVENT FOR YOUTH SAILORS IN A MORE LOOSELY COMPETITIVE STYLE IN DYNAMIC JUNIOR BOATS, AND TO SHOW CASE THE NEW AGE OF JUNIOR SAILING ON THE WORLD STAGE OF THE AMERICA'S CUP. RESULTS ARE NOT NEARLY AS IMPORTANT AS EVERYONE HAVING A GOOD TIME SAILING. IT IS OUR GOAL THAT THE SAILORS IMPROVE THEIR SKILLS, MAKE NEW FRIENDS, AND HAVE A TON OF FUN. THIS EVENT WILL BE A COMBINATION OF "CONVENTIONAL" STYLE RACE FORMATS WITH UNORTHODOX "UN-REGATTA" STYLE COURSES AND EVENTS. DON'T EXPECT CONVENTIONAL ROUND THE BUOYS RACING OR UPWIND STARTS FOR ALL RACES. CAPSIZES, FREESTYLE, SPEED, OBSTACLES, AND FUN WILL BE REQUIRED. IF YOU ARE A HARD-CORE RACER WITH RULE BOOK IN HAND, THIS EVENT MAY NOT BE FOR YOU. IF YOU WANT TO HAVE FUN, CHALLENGE YOUR LIMITS, AND PIONEER A NEW CHAPTER IN YOUTH SAILING, WE INVITE YOU TO COME JOIN THE FUN.

**ELIGIBILITY:** This event is limited to O'Pen BIC sailors specially invited. All sailors must be age 15 or under during 2017. Birthdate must be after December 31, 2001.

### 1 RULE NUMBER ONE:

All sailors are required to participate in the spirit of fun and good sportsmanship at all times. Violators of Rule Number One may be publicly embarrassed.

### 2 OTHER RULES:

- 2.1 Races will be governed by O'pen BIC Un-Regatta Rules and generally accepted sailing rules with the following priority: these Sailing Instructions and subsequent Changes to Sailing Instructions, the O'Pen BIC Class Rules as modified by these Sailing Instructions, and the Notice of Race. In the event of a conflict between these Sailing Instructions, the Notice of Race, and/or O'pen BIC Class Rules, these Sailing Instructions and subsequent amendments will take priority. In true "Un-Regatta" spirit, this event is not run under standard Racing Rules of Sailing 2017-2020.
- 2.2 These special rules apply:
  - 2.2(a) Expect unconventional courses and starting procedures. On different legs of the course there may be required moves signaled by loudhailer from the Referees. Depending on the conditions, these may include stand-up sailing, required capsizes (mast tip must hit the water), 360 degree turns, or other freestyle moves, or sailing thru/around obstacles. You must follow the referees' instructions.
  - 2.2(b) When capsizes or freestyle moves are required, you must make sure you are clear of all other sailors, and don't interfere with or immediately obstruct other sailors. Capsizing or freestyling into another boat is NOT ok.
  - 2.2(c) Competitors shall remain on or near their vessels at all times. In other words, no "boarding" other boats unless required.
  - 2.2(d) There may be a Freestyle Expression Session that will be scored separately. Sailors will compete in three-minute heats that will be subjectively judged by the Panel of Undistinguished Judges. Be creative and have fun with it. Individual or tandem teams are scored equally. Come up with your creative team names.
  - 2.2(e) The RC or Referees may change these sailing instructions verbally, on the water, by hail.

### 3 MARKS (Marks will be described in skippers meeting)

- 3.1 The turning marks of the course will be described in the skippers meeting.
- 3.2 Starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee signal boat and either a Starting Mark or a staff displaying a flag on a race Committee boat at port end.

- 3.3 The finish line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on a Race Committee finish boat and either a Finish Mark or a staff displaying a flag on a race Committee boat.
- 3.4 Minor contact of the marks of the course is permitted. Contact that causes any damage, or the location of the mark to change or drag, is not permitted.
- 3.5 Hitting the Race Committee boat, start boat, or finish boat is always prohibited.

#### **4 STARTING PROCEDURES**

- 4.1 Unless otherwise described, races will be started using a three minutes audible start sequence as follows.
  - 3 minutes to start: 3 long sound signals and rising of Class Flag
  - 2 minutes to start: 2 long sound signals and rising of Preparatory Signal
  - 1 ½ minutes to start: 1 long and three short sound signals
  - 1 minute to start: 1 long sound signal and lowering of Preparatory Signal.
  - 30 seconds to start: 3 short sound signals
  - 20 seconds to start: 2 short sound signals
  - 10 seconds to start: 1 short sound signal
  - 5-4-3-2-1 seconds to start: 1 short sound signal counting down to start
  - Start: 1 long sound signal with lowering of the Class Flag
- 4.2 Individual and General Recalls will be signaled.

#### **5 KINETICS**

- 5.1 Pumping and ooching are prohibited unless "O" flag is being displayed from the Race Committee boat. If "O" flag is being displayed, then pumping and ooching are permitted. Rocking is always prohibited.

#### **6 PROTESTS & REFEREES**

- 6.1 It is the responsibility of every competitor to sail in a manner that is fair and with due respect of their fellow competitor. Absolutely no intentional contact is permitted. The results will be decided on the water. Referees will be on the water to insure the results area valid reflection of sailing ability.
- 6.2 Regardless of whether a penalty is called by the referees or not, competitors are expected to exonerate themselves of any rule infraction by completing one 360 degree turn for each infraction. One tack and one jibe in any order is required to complete a 360 degree turn. Competitors are encouraged to enforce the rules amongst themselves in a sportsman like manner by politely hailing "protest".
- 6.3 Penalties may be given on the water by hail from the referees for violating any rules. These may take the form of requiring one or more 360 degree penalty turns. All determinations and decisions of the referees are final.
- 6.4 Hitting a mark is not grounds for protest (see SI #3.4)
- 6.5 There will be no formal protest hearings except in extreme circumstances determined by the referees.

#### **7 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS**

- 7.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board.

#### **8 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

- 8.1 Any changes to sailing instructions will be posted before 9:00 am of each day. Changes to the regatta schedule will be posted before 8:00 pm on the day before.

#### **9 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

- 9.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed near the official notice board.
- 9.2 When the AP (postponement) flag is displayed ashore, there will be no less than 15 minutes before the warning signal of the next start after the AP flag is lowered.

#### **10 SCHEDULE OF RACES**

- 10.1 There will be a mandatory competitors briefing at the Messina House at 8:30am on Wed., June 14, followed by practice racing in the afternoon.
- 10.2 The last possible warning signal will likely not be after 16:30 daily.
- 10.3 After a long postponement on the water, as a courtesy, the RC will indicate that the AP flag is about to be lowered with a succession of rapid sound signals.

#### **11 SCORING**

- 11.1 The Low Point O'pen BIC Un-Regatta scoring system will be used.
- 11.2 Boats will be scored points relating to their finish position, ie, one point for first place, 2 points for second place, 3 points for third, etc.
- 11.3 One discard score will be calculated for every four races completed.  
i.e. one discard for 4 races, two discards for 8, 3 discards for 12, etc.
- 11.4 If there is a series-score tie between two or more boats, each boat's race scores shall be listed in order of best to worst, and at the first point(s) where there is a difference the tie shall be broken in favor of the boat(s) with the best score(s). No excluded scores shall be used. If a tie remains between two or more boats, they shall be ranked in order of their scores in the last race of the series.
- 11.5 One completed race is required to constitute a series.

#### **12 MEASUREMENTS AND CHECKS**

- Boats, sails, and equipment must be in conformity with the O'BIC Class Rules.
- The Race Committee may check boats and crews before, during, & after races.

**13 ADVERTISING**

13.1 Competitors will be required to display event sponsor stickers on their sails, Provided life jackets, helmets, and event jerseys are required at all times on the water. No other advertising is permitted.

**14 SAFETY**

14.1 Special care must be taken to avoid contact with other sailors, including when special maneuvers are required. Pay particular attention to leaving enough room so your boom or mast tip does not hit another competitor.

**15 DECISION TO RACE & DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

The responsibility for a competitor's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers/his alone. Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. The America's Cup Event Authority, the Endeavour Program, BIC Sport, the O'Pen BIC Class, and all organizers, volunteers, and race officials of this event will not accept in any case any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the competition. Before entering this event, a signed waiver will be required as well as publicity/media releases.

**16 WHEN ALL ELSE FAILS, REFER TO RULE NUMBER 1.**

**CONTACTS:**

**REGATTA ORGANIZERS:**

NEVIN SAYRE  
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# WARNING:

Extreme levels of fun may be experienced during this event.  
Other sailing craft may appear less exciting  
after experiencing the O'Pen BIC.