



The 2022 RS Venture Connect World Championship

Sailing Instructions (SIs)

The Organizing Authority (OA) is Oman Sail, in conjunction with the International RS Venture Connect Class Association.

1 RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in 2021-2024 *The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)*. Other documents under RRS Definition Rule (g) include:
 - 1.1.1 World Sailing Equipment Inspection Regulations and Support Person Regulations (including coach boats) will apply. Support Person Regulation (SPR) 6.1 will not apply to World Sailing Appointed Coaches.
 - 1.1.2 Para-Classification Rules for World Sailing January 2018 as amended by the NoR.
 - 1.1.3 The Para World Sailing Race Management Manual (RMM) Revised draft 17 May, 2022 will apply as amended by the Notice of Race.
- 1.2 The following rules, procedures and systems will apply:
 - 1.2.1 RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.
 - 1.2.2 For the Grand Finals, World Sailing Addendum Q (as posted on the official notice board) takes precedence over any conflicting instructions.
 - 1.2.3 No national prescriptions will apply.
 - 1.2.4 RS Venture Connect Class Rules on supplied equipment regulations will apply.
- 1.3 Decisions of the International Jury will be final as provided in RRS 70.5.
- 1.4 A boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats, except in an emergency or when using equipment provided by the race committee. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.
- 1.5 In all rules governing this regatta;
 - 1.5.1 Both 'athlete' and 'competitor' mean a person competing or intending to compete in the event.
 - 1.5.2 [SP] denotes a rule for which a standard penalty may be applied by the race committee or the technical committee without a hearing or a discretionary penalty applied by the International Jury with a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1 and A5
 - 1.5.3 [NP] denotes a rule that shall not be grounds for protests by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a).

- 1.5.4 [DP] denotes a rule for which the penalty is at the discretion of the International Jury and may be less than disqualification.
- 1.6 If there is a conflict between languages, the English language text will take precedence.

2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official digital event notice board, available online (www.racingrulesofsailing.org/events/5077)
- 2.2 Notices to competitors may also be posted on a physical notice board located in the event registration area at the Barcelo Resort, Mussanah. In the event of conflict between sources, the official notice board in described 2.1 will govern.
- 2.3 In case of a conflict between Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions, the Sailing Instructions shall govern. This changes RRS 63.7

3 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to the Sailing will be posted no later than two hours before the warning signal of the race on the day 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 at the mast located at the top of the marina access ramp.
- 4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 45 minutes' in the race signal AP.

5 [DP] CODE OF CONDUCT

- 5.1 Competitors and support persons shall comply with any reasonable request, if made, from regatta officials.
- 5.2 Competitors shall handle any boats or equipment provided by the organizing authority with proper care and seamanship, and in compliance with any written instructions.
- 5.3 Boats not racing shall avoid any racecourse area which is in use, and any official boats within this area.
- 5.4 Boats shall be kept in their assigned places while they are in the harbour.
- 5.5 The organizing authority may reduce or remove a prize in the case of misconduct or refusal to comply with any reasonable request, including attendance at official functions.

6 SCHEDULE OF PRACTICE RACES

- 6.1 Boats will be available for practice racing on Tuesday, November 22nd.
- 6.2 A form to reserve a slot for this activity will be available at the Race Office from Sunday, November 20th.
- 6.3 Practice racing slots may be limited to a specific time accordingly to number of available boats.

7 SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 7.1 Racing will take place Wednesday through Sunday, November 23-27.
- 7.2 The number of races per day will vary depending on conditions. For the Round Robin series, it is the intention of the race committee for the number of races completed to not exceed 3 races per day per flight.
- 7.3 The scheduled time of the first warning signal for the first race of each flight is:
 - Flight 1: 1000
 - Flight 2: 1230
 - Flight 3: 1500
- 7.3.1 For the Grand Final Series, the first warning for the first race will be at 1200.
- 7.3.2 An updated schedule of team allocations for each of the days flights will be posted on or before 2000 the night before it takes effect.
- 7.4 On the day of the Grand Final series, no first warning signal will be made after 1500.

8 FORMAT OF RACING

- 8.1 The regatta consists of a series split into 3 flights in which teams in both Open and Para categories will compete in mixed fleets. At the end of the Round Robin series, the top 6 Open and top 6 Para teams qualify for a 'Grand Final' medal race series.
 - 8.1.1 The event hosts / organizing authority may change the format, terminate or eliminate any flight if the remaining time scheduled does not permit the completion of the intended format.
 - 8.1.2 The Round Robin series may be ended at any time on the last day of racing if 3 or more flights have been completed for each fleet.
- 8.2 Teams will be assigned to Yellow, Blue, or Red fleets as nearly as possible equal in size. Initial assignments will be made by a seeding committee appointed by the technical delegate. These assignments will be posted on or before 2000 on the day before the first scheduled race.
 - 8.2.1 Teams will be reassigned to fleets after each day of racing, except if on the first day fewer than two races are completed by all fleets. If all fleets have completed the same number of races boats will be reassigned on the basis of their ranks in the series. If all fleets have not completed the same number of races, the series scores for reassignment will be calculated for those races numbered in order of completion, completed by all fleets. These assignments will be posted on or before 2000 on the day before the scheduled race.
- 8.3 Grand Final
 - 8.3.1 The top 6 boats of each group (Para / Open) after the Round Robin series will advance to the Grand Final series, to be sailed on Sunday, November 27th if 3 races have been completed by all fleets in the Round Robin series; if fewer than 3 races have been completed by all fleets, Round Robin racing will continue on Sunday.
 - 8.3.2 The starting order for the Grand Final series shall be:
 - Para Fleet
 - Open Fleet

- 8.3.3 The warning for the Open Fleet shall be made 2 minutes after the fleet flag is removed for the Para Fleet.
- 8.3.4 The eligible boats will complete back-to-back races until one boat has registered two race wins, the result of which will conclude the event. The first boat in each fleet with two wins shall be declared the winner of their category. Places 2-6 for each fleet (Para / Open) will be determined as follows:

Each boat's Grand Final race scores shall be listed in order of best to worst. At the first point where there is a difference, the boat with the lowest score shall be ranked second. At the next point where there is a difference, the next boat with the lowest score shall be ranked third, and so on. If a tie remains between two or more boats, they shall be ranked in order of their scores in the last race.

- 8.3.5 In the event that no boat has two wins in the Grand Final series before the last possible warning signal, places for each fleet (Para / Open) will be determined as follows:

Each boat's Grand Final race scores shall be listed in order of best to worst. At the first point where there is a difference, the boat with the lowest score shall be ranked first and declared the winner of their fleet. At the next point where there is a difference, the next boat with the lowest score shall be ranked second, and so on. If a tie remains between two or more boats, they shall be ranked in order of their scores in the last race.

- 8.3.6 In the event that only one race is completed in the Grand Final series, each boat's race scores from the Round Robin series will be added to her score in the Grand Final series and places for 1-6 for each fleet (Para / Open) will be determined in accordance with RRS Appendix A. The Grand Final score shall not be discardable.

9 CLASS FLAGS

- 9.1 The Class flag will be the RS Venture Connect logo on a white background.
- 9.2 Fleet flags will be flags of the corresponding color (Red, Blue, and Yellow).
- 9.3 For the Grand Final series, the Para fleet flag will be Red and the Open fleet flag will be Blue.

10 RACING AREAS

Addendum B shows the location of racing area.

11 THE COURSES

- 11.1 The diagrams in SI Addendum A show the courses, the course designations, the approximate angles between legs, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.
- 11.2 If only one Gate mark is set a boat shall leave the single mark to port.
- 11.3 Courses will not be shortened. This changes RRS 32.
- 11.4 No later than the warning signal, the RC signal vessel will display the course to be sailed.

12 MARKS

- 12.1 Original marks will be yellow balls
12.2 New marks will be orange cones

13 THE START

- 13.1 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the race committee vessel at the starboard end and either
- (a) the course side of the port-end inflatable starting mark, or
 - (b) a staff displaying an orange flag on the race committee vessel at the port end.
- 13.2 [DP] A buoy may be attached to the race committee starting boat anchor line just below keel depth. Boats shall not pass between this buoy and the race committee starting boat at any time. This buoy is part of the race committee starting boat ground tackle.
- 13.3 [DP] When a starting sequence is in progress, boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area. The starting area is defined as a rectangle 75 meters from the starting line and marks in all directions.
- 13.4 To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, the orange starting line flag will be displayed with one sound at least five minutes before a warning signal is made.
- 13.5 Races will be started using the following signals. Times shall be taken from the display of visual signals. This changes RRS 26 and Race Signals.

Minutes before starting signal	Visual signal displayed	Visual signal removed	Sound signal	Means
6	Fleet flag (red, blue, or yellow)		No sound	Event to start and applicable rules
5	RS Venture Connect class flag		One	Warning signal
4	Preparatory signal 'P', 'U', or 'Black' flag		One	Preparatory signal
1		Preparatory signal	One (Long)	One minute
0		RS Venture Connect class flag	One	Start signal
+1		Fleet flag	No sound	

13.6 The warning signal for each succeeding race will be made as soon as practicable.

13.7 The sail combination to be used will be signaled from the RC boat with the orange starting line flag. The signals will have the following meanings:

Signal flag	Mainsail	Foresail (Jib)	Gennaker (Spinnaker)
No flag	Full	Yes	Yes
B	Reefed	Yes	Yes
D	Reefed	Yes	No

13.8 A boat starting later than 4 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start. This changes RRS A4 and A5.

14 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

14.1 To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will lay a new mark, move the finishing line, or move the leeward gate. When a new mark is laid, the original mark will be removed as soon as possible. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.

14.2 A single gate mark may be adjusted without a signal.

15 THE FINISH

The finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on the race committee vessel and either

(a) the course side of the nearby inflatable finishing mark, or

(b) a staff displaying a blue flag on the nearby race committee vessel.

16 TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES

16.1 For the Round Robin series, the time limits and target times are as follows:

Time Limit	Mark 1 Time Limit	Finish Window	Target Time
45	15	15	30

16.2 For the Grand Finals, the time limits and target times are as follows:

Time Limit	Mark 1 Time Limit	Finish Window	Target Time
35	10	5	20

- 16.3 If no boat rounds Mark 1 within the Mark 1 time limit, the race committee will abandon the race.
- 16.4 Any boat that does not finish within the Finish Window (time after the first boat finishes) shall be scored DNF without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1 and A5.
- 16.5 Failure to meet the target time will not be grounds for redress. This changes rule 62.1(a).

17 INTERNATIONAL JURY. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 17.1 An International Jury will be appointed in accordance with rule RRS 91(b).
- 17.2 Hearing requests should be delivered online at the event Online Notice Board (www.racingrulesofsailing.org/events/5077). Alternatively, physical hearing request forms are available at the Race Office or Jury Office and can be delivered there.
- 17.3 For each class, the protest time limit is 60 minutes after the last crew member disembarks from their boat at the dock.
- 17.4 Notices will be posted within 30 minutes of the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held beginning at the time posted. Hearings may be scheduled to begin up to 30 minutes before the end of protest time Limit.
- 17.5 A list of boats that have been penalized under SI 19.7 will be posted on the Official Notice Board.

- 17.6 Should the case go to a hearing, penalties for breaches of class rules or rules in the NoR/SIs marked [DP] may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.
- 17.7 For breaches of NoR / SIs marked [SP], the race committee or the technical committee may apply a standard penalty without a hearing. A list of these breaches and the associated standard penalties will be posted on the Official Notice Board. However, the race committee or the technical committee may protest a boat when they consider the standard penalty to be inappropriate. A boat that has been penalised with a standard penalty can neither be protested for the same incident by another boat nor can another boat request redress for this race committee action. This changes RRS 60.1, 63.1 and Appendix A5.
- 17.8 On the last day of a series, or on the last scheduled day of racing, a request for reopening of a hearing or a request for redress based on a jury decision shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the decision was posted. This changes RRS 62.2 and 66.
- 17.9 If RRS Appendix N1.4(b) applies, the time limit for requesting a hearing under that rule is 30 minutes after the party was informed of the panel's decision.

18 SCORING

- 18.1 The Low Point System of RRS Appendix A will apply to the Opening Series (Round Robin) series, except as modified by SI 8.3.
 - 18.1.1 The Grand Final Series shall be scored according to SI 8.3.
- 18.2 Three races are required to be completed by all competitors in order to constitute a valid event.
- 18.3 When fewer than three opening series (Round Robin) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores. When three or more opening series races have been completed, a boat's score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score. No scores shall be excluded in the Grand Finals.
- 18.4 If a competitor is unable to start a race because the organizer cannot supply a boat for them, the race committee will score a boat for this race according to RRS A9(b) without the hearing. This changes RRS A2 and A5
- 18.5 To request correction of an alleged error in posted race or series results, a boat may complete a scoring enquiry form online at the event Online Notice Board (www.racingrulesofsailing.org/events/5077). Alternatively, physical scoring enquiry forms are available at the Race Office or Jury Office and can be delivered there.

19 [DP][NP] SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 19.1 Competitors shall wear personal flotation devices at all times as per RMM 8.1 and in accordance with the specification outlines in RS Venture Connect class rule C.4.1(a). This changes RRS 40.
- 19.2 [SP] Boats not leaving the harbour or shore for a scheduled race shall promptly notify the Race Office.
- 19.3 [SP] Before leaving to race on each scheduled racing day, a competitor from each boat shall personally sign out on the required form.
- 19.4 [SP] Immediately after returning ashore, but no later than the protest time limit for that event, a competitor from each boat shall personally sign in on the required form.
- 19.5 A boat that retires from racing shall notify the race committee before leaving the racing area, or if that is not possible, shall notify the Race Office as soon as possible after returning ashore but no later than the protest time limit, by completing a retirement declaration form.
- 19.6 Boats shall avoid any commercial water-based traffic and shall cross any shipping channels that may be present in and around the field of play as close to right angles as practical, unless changed in the Sailing Instructions.
- 19.7 [SP] Flag AP over H displayed ashore means 'Boats shall not leave the harbour. Wait for further instructions.' This adds to Race Signals AP over H.
- 19.8 When the race committee displays flag V with repetitive sounds, all official and support boats shall monitor the race committee radio channel for that racing area for search and rescue instructions. The race committee will announce 'Flag Victor' using the designated VHF Channel.

20 [DP] [NP] Replacement of Crew or Equipment

- 20.1 Substitution of competitors will not be allowed without prior written approval of the Race committee or Technical Committee.
- 20.2 Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed unless authorized by the Technical Committee. Requests for substitution shall be made to the committee at the first reasonable opportunity.
- 20.3 Additional equipment will not be allowed unless authorized by the RS Venture Connect Class as specified in Addendum C. Requests for substitution shall be made to the Technical Committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

21 [DP] Measurements

- 21.1 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions. On the water, a boat can be instructed by a race committee equipment inspector or measurer to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.
- 21.2 The fact that race officials may conduct inspections of a boat does not reduce the responsibilities of each competitor set out in NoR, SIs and the EIR.

22 [DP] Identification and Advertising

- 22.1 All boats may be required to display identification numbers and/or sponsors advertising for the duration of the event in accordance with World Sailing Regulation 20.4. These items will be supplied free of charge by the Organizing Authority at registration.
- 22.2 Competitors are not permitted to display advertising or other promotional material on supplied equipment (charter boats), except for what is provided by the Organizing Authority.

23 Prizes and Social Function Requirements

Medals will be awarded to the top 3 boats in the competition for both the 'Para' and 'Open' categories of the event.

24 Risk Statement

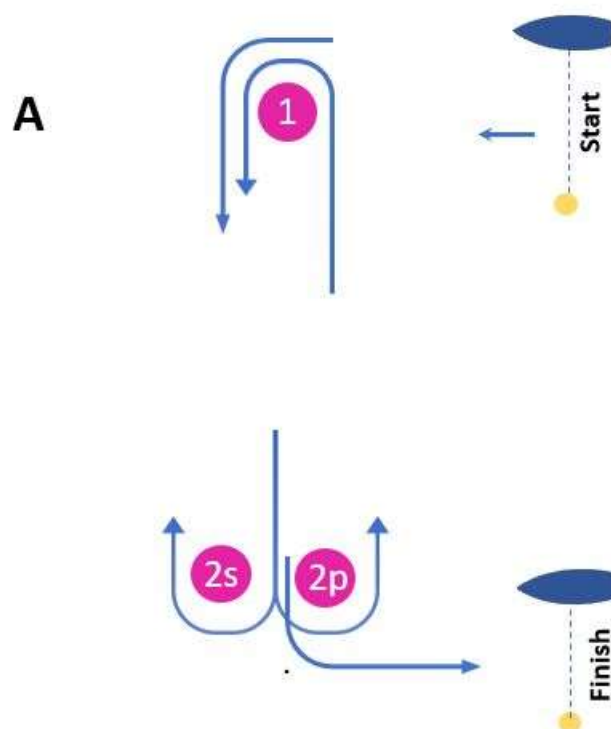
- 24.1 Competitors and support team participate in the series entirely at their own risk and they are reminded of the provisions of RRS 3, Decision to Race. Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:
 - 24.1.1 They are aware of the inherent element of risk involved in the sport and accept responsibility for the exposure of themselves, their crew and their boat to such inherent risk whilst taking part in the event.
 - 24.1.2 They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore.
 - 24.1.3 They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions.
 - 24.1.4 By participating in any race, they are satisfied that their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate.
 - 24.1.5 The provision of a race management team, patrol boats, umpires and other officials and volunteers by the organizer, does not relieve them of their own responsibilities.
 - 24.1.6 The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances.

24.1.7 They will familiarize themselves with any venue/event specific risks, adhere to rules and information produced for the venue/event and attend any venue/event safety briefings.

25 [NP] [DP] Insurance

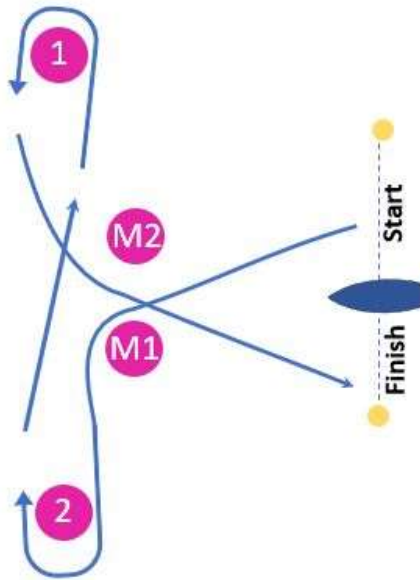
- 25.1 Each 'person in charge' (see RRS 46) shall hold a valid insurance certificate showing proof of third-party liability with a minimum coverage per incident of € 1,500,000 (or equivalent) for the event.
- 25.2 The Organizing Authority is not responsible for verifying the status or validity of certificates.

Addendum A Course Diagrams



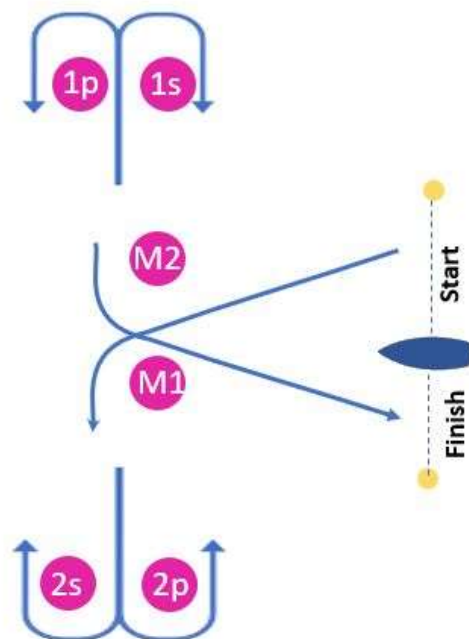
Signal	Mark Rounding Order
A1	Start – 1 – 2s or 2p – 1 – 2p – Finish
A2	Start – 1 – 2s or 2p – 1 – 2s or 2p – 1 – 2p – Finish

B



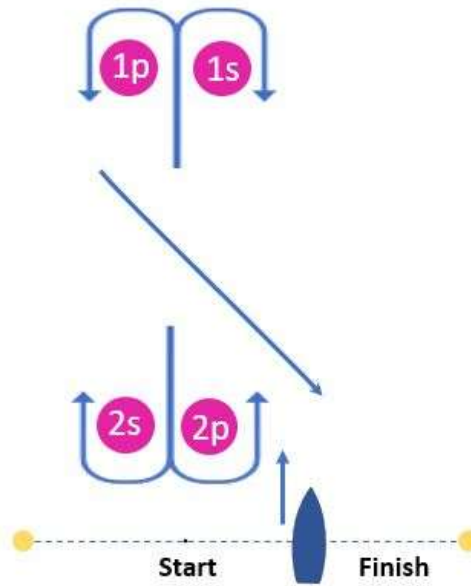
Signal	Mark Rounding Order
B1	Start – M1 – 2 – 1 – M2 – Finish
B2	Start – M1 – 2 – 1 – 2 – 1 – M2 – Finish

BG



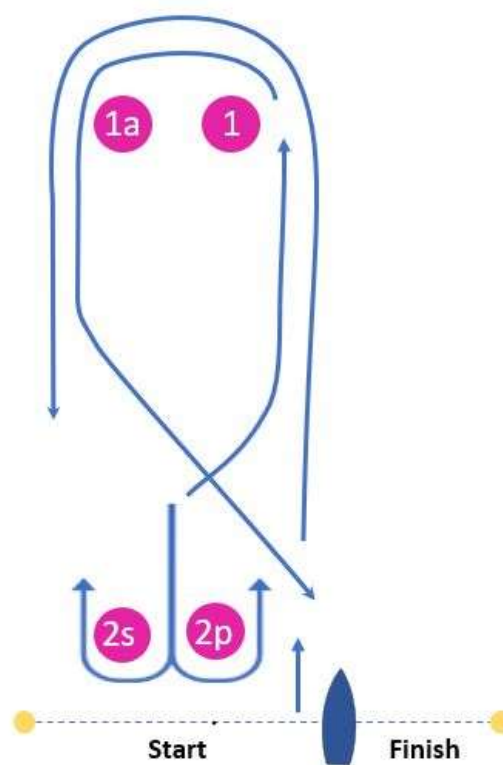
Signal	Mark Rounding Order
BG1	Start – M1 – 2s or 2p – 1s or 1p – M2 – Finish
BG2	Start – M1 – 2s or 2p - 1s or 1p – 2s or 2p – 1s or 1p – M2 – Finish

C



Signal	Mark Rounding Order
C2	Start – 1s or 1p – 2s or 2p – 1s or 1p – Finish
C3	Start – 1s or 1p – 2s or 2p – 1s or 1p – 2s or 2p – 1s or 1p – Finish

LA



Signal	Mark Rounding Order
LA2	Start – 1 – 1a – 2s or 2p – 1 – 1a – Finish

Addendum B

Location of Race Area



Addendum C

Boats Provided by the Organizing Authority

1 Boats

- 1.1 RS Venture Connect sailboats will be provided for all competitors, who shall, as part of their attendance at the event, refrain from modifying them or cause them to be modified in any way except that:
 1. (a) a compass may be tied or taped to the hull or spars;
 2. (b) wind indicators, including yarn or thread, may be tied or taped anywhere on the boat providing that they can easily be removable.
- 1.2 Any additional equipment shall have received formally issued class approval prior to the first day of racing and may be used providing that attachments do not puncture and are not bonded to the surface of the boat or sails. No alterations shall be made to any part of the boat, its equipment, spars or fittings, or fittings removed, even if subsequently replaced, without the written approval of the Technical Committee.
- 1.3 All equipment provided with the boat for sailing purposes shall be in the boat while afloat.
- 1.4 The penalty for not complying with one of the above instructions will be disqualification from all races sailed in which the instruction was broken.
- 1.5 Competitors shall report any damage to or loss of equipment, however slight, to the organizing authority's representative immediately after securing the boat ashore. The penalty for breaking this instruction, unless the protest committee is satisfied that the competitor made a determined effort to comply, will be disqualification from the race most recently sailed.
- 1.6 Failure of supplied equipment will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 60.1(b).
- 1.7 Class rules requiring competitors to be members of the class association will not apply.