**NOTICE OF RACE**

2017 Boston Open BLIND SAILING Regatta

October 14 (Rain Date October 15)

Charles River Basin

Boston, Massachusetts

Organizing Authority (OA): Community Boating, Inc. (CBI)

**1. Rules**

1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The 2017-2020 Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) and US Sailing Prescriptions.

1.2 US Sailing Prescription Appendix S will apply. This replaces Rule 26.

1.3 US Sailing Prescription Appendix T, Section A, Rule T1 will apply. This changes Rule 44.1.

1.4 Rule 61.1(a) is changed so that a protesting boat is also required to inform the Race Committee after finishing of its intent to protest another boat and provide the sail number of the protested boat.

1.5 Where there is a conflict between this Notice of Race (NOR) and the Sailing Instructions (SIs) the SIs shall prevail. This changes rule 63.7.

**2. Advertising**

2.1 Advertising is permitted in accordance with ISAF Regulation 20.

2.2 Boats may be required to display advertising of event sponsors. Additional advertising at the venue may be permitted only as authorized in advance by the OA.

**3. Boats**

3.1 This regatta will be sailed in Sonar Class, 7-meter keel boats. All boats and sails will be provided by the OA.

3.2 The blind helmsperson from each team will draw for their initial boat number at the Skippers' Meeting on Saturday, October 14. Thereafter, boats will be rotated at the conclusion of each race.

3.3 Boats shall have a total crew of four (4) sailors.

3.3.a Blind sailors must be categorized as IBSA Classification B1, B2, or B3 and group 1 sailors in accordance with the ISAF Sailors Classification Code (ISAF Regulation 22).

3.3.b Sighted sailors must not be categorized as group 3 sailors in accordance with the ISAF Sailors Classification Code (ISAF Regulation 22).

3.4 Spinnakers shall not be used.

3.5 Membership in the Sonar Class Association is not required.

**4. Roles**

4.1 A crew will be comprised of:

4.1.a A blind sailor designated as the helmsperson, ;

4.1.b A blind sailor designated as the main sail trimmer, ;

4.1.c a Sighted sailor designated as the tactician and ;

4.1.d a Sighted sailor designated as the sighted crew.

4.2 Restrictions on blind sailors while racing:

4.2.a The helmsperson is unrestricted in their ability to steer the boat, trim all sails and adjust all sail controls.

4.2.b The main sail trimmer may steer the boat only in cases of emergency or collision avoidance. Incidental contact with the helm will not constitute "steering".

4.2.c The main sail trimmer is unrestricted in their ability to trim all sails and adjust all sail controls.

4.3 Restrictions on sighted sailors while racing:

4.3.a Sighted sailors shall not touch the helm.

4.3.b The tactician shall not trim any sails nor adjust any sail controls.

4.3.c Except for the main sheet and the main sail traveler, the sighted crew is unrestricted in their ability to trim all sails and adjust all sail controls.

4.4 Even in cases of emergency or collision avoidance, any violation of the restrictions defined in Sections 4.2 and 4.3 shall cause the boat to complete a One Turn Penalty as soon as possible after the incident.

4.5 Any additional restrictions of the roles of the sailors, if any, will be outlined in the SIs.

**5. Entry and Fees**

5.1 The fee for participation in the regatta is $40 per team.

5.2 Teams may register by contacting the Regatta Contact listed at the end of the NOR.

5.3 Each participating team shall lodge with the OA a credit card number to be held in the event of boat damage. Damage charges will be limited to $500.

**6. Schedule**

Saturday, October 14:

0900-0945 On-site Registration and Check-in

0950 Skippers' Meeting and Boat Draw

1045 Initial Warning Signal

1630 No Warning Signal will be made after this time

After Racing Awards in the CBI Main Bay and on-dock BBQ

Sunday, October 15 Rain Date

**7. Sailing Instructions**

7.1 SIs will be available on-site at registration and by request in electronic form one week prior to the regatta.

**8. Venue**

8.1 Racing will take place on the Charles River Basin between the Longfellow and Massachusetts Avenue Bridges.

**9. Courses**

9.1 All courses will be Windward-Leeward.

9.2 Specific course details will be provided in the SIs.

**10. Radio Communications**

10.1 Each boat is required to carry a VHF radio on-board, which can be provided by the OA upon request.

10.2 Except in an emergency or as directed by the race committee, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.

**11. Scoring**

11.1 One race shall constitute a series.

11.2 A boat’s worst finish will be discarded after six (6) races have been completed. This changes Rule A2.

**12. Safety**

12.1 An approved personal flotation device (PFD) shall be worn, properly fastened, at all times while launching and when sailing except while temporarily adding or removing clothing. Failure to comply with this rule may result in disqualification as deemed appropriate by the Protest Committee. This changes rule 40.

12.1.a PFDs will be available for use from the OA.

12.2. A boat retiring from a race shall notify a Race Committee vessel before leaving the course, or when that is not possible, a CBI staff member upon arrival ashore.

**13. Prizes**

13.1 Prizes will be awarded to the skipper and crew for the top three finishers.

13.2 Additional prizes may be presented, at the discretion of the OA, based on criteria other than scores.

**14. Media Rights**

14.1 Competitors give absolute right and permission for video footage and photographs of themselves to be published in any media for press, editorial, or advertising purposes.

**15. Disclaimer of Liability**

15.1 Sailing is an activity that carries with it an inherent risk of damage and injury. Competitors participate in this regatta entirely at their own risk and are reminded to pay special attention to rule 4, Decision to Race. The race organizers, including the OA, Race Committee, Protest Committee, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, volunteers, or any other affiliated organization or official, will not be responsible for damage to any boat or other property or the injury to any competitor, including death, sustained as a result of practice for or participation in this event on the water or ashore. By participating in this event, each competitor agrees to release the race organizers from any and all liability associated with such competitor’s participation in this event to the fullest extent permitted by law.

**16. Regatta Contacts**

Andrew Alletag

*Director of Operations*

*Community Boating, Inc. (CBI)*

*America's Oldest Public Sailing Organization*

21 David G. Mugar Way

Boston, MA 02114

Tel. (617) 523-1038, Extension 13

Email: Andrew@community-boating.org

Duane Farrar

Tel. (617) 997-6217

Email: duano@mindspring.com