



## NOTICE TO COMPETITORS No. 1

We have organized our races to accommodate experienced sailors and newcomers alike and to keep the races competitive and fun for all. However, we encourage all participants to learn all of the Sailing Rules of Racing to enhance their racing skills.

### The Race Committee

The Race Committee is in charge of running the races. They determine the course to be sailed based on the wind direction and conditions. Prior to the races, they check-in competitors by providing registration/sign-up sheets, and provide information about the course, and any changes to the Sailing Instructions.

When it is time to begin racing, the Race Committee will provide the "Signals Made Ashore". Signals will consist of different colored flags and horn blasts. All visible signals take precedence over audible signals.

At the start and during the race, the Race Committee members will be watching for any rule infringements or safety concerns. The Race Committee is authorized to change courses, assess penalties, require the use of safety gear, stop a race, finish competitors on-course, and remove competitors from races as needed.

### Competitors

#### SAFETY:

Competitors are reminded of the first rule of sailing: "Sail Safe".

Competitors participate in the regatta at their own risk. It is the responsibility of each boat's crew to insure that they are carrying and wearing appropriate safety equipment for the conditions and that their boat is seaworthy. The decision to launch is solely the responsibility of the skipper of each boat. Each competitor should be the best judge of their skills and the qualities of their crew and boat. See Racing Rules of Sailing, Part 1, Rule 4.

The Race Committee may require the wearing of approved personal flotation devices as a condition of participation. The Race Committee may also request competitors retire from racing if they feel safety cannot be adequately observed or if the competitors represent a danger to themselves or others. When the YANKEE flag is displayed and accompanied by one horn blast, competitors and their crews must wear an approved personal flotation device at all times while afloat. This applies to all boats not racing as well as boats racing.

#### RACING:

A boat is racing from her preparatory signal until she finishes and clears the finishing line and marks or retires, or until the race committee signals a general recall, postponement or abandonment.

#### EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS:

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

#### PENALTIES:

Competitors in the sport of sailing are governed by a body of rules that they are expected to follow and enforce. Sailing in particular relies on self-enforcement and a modern-era Corinthian-spirit code of conduct. The fundamental principle of sportsmanship is that when competitors break a rule they will promptly take a penalty or retire. It is hoped that all competitors will make an effort to learn the rules and apply them conscientiously to the best extent of their knowledge.



It is expected that any competitor who violates a racing rule, or when so advised by another competitor or the race committee, will promptly take a penalty or retire from the race. It is the responsibility of the competitor to be familiar with the Racing Rules of Sailing and the COLREGS as applicable.

CODE OF CONDUCT:

Competitors shall comply with any reasonable request from a regatta official.

**The Race Course**

The course, including 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, will be posted at the official notice board. All distances are approximate. All bearings are magnetic and approximate. GPS coordinates are in format degree and decimal minutes. Their physical location may vary depending on wind, tide and sea state conditions.

SIGNALS MADE AFLOAT:

Course changes may be announced during the race. Do not obstruct the Race Committee or interfere with boats racing. A "C" Charlie flag or a "S" Sierra flag or a "F" Foxtrot flag may be flown as necessary.

**RRS 69**

Any form of cheating, including not telling the truth in a hearing is a breach of sportsmanship and may result in a hearing under RRS 69 and a very heavy penalty.

**Scoring**

To request correction of an alleged error in posted race or series results, a boat may complete a scoring enquiry form available at the race office.

In order to inform competitors and promote for the next year the most competitive tool of the ORC Rating System, Race Committee will try to post near the official notice board unofficial results calculated with Performance Curve Scoring.

**Questions**

Competitors, team leaders and coaches are welcome to discuss procedure with the PRO. He will usually be available after the final results are posted and can be contacted through the Secretary Office.

Signed:

PRO – ORC Romania Cup 2015

Date: 16.05.2015