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**2017**

**BLIND FLEET RACING WORLDS**

**Sail Sheboygan**

**Sheboygan, Wisconsin, USA**

**in conjunction with World Sailing**

**September 11-17, 2017**

**NOTICE OF RACE**

**1 RULES**

**1.1** The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing.*

**1.2** RRS Appendix P, Special Procedures for RRS 42, will apply.

**1.3** Addendum B states the US Sailing Prescriptions that will apply.

**1.4** The Para World Sailing Race Management Manual 2017-2020 (RMM) will apply as amended by this Notice of Race.

**1.5** If there is any conflict between languages English text will take precedence.

**2 ADVERTISING**

**2.1** The World Sailing Advertising code, Regulation 20 shall apply.

**2.2** Boats may be required to display identification numbers and 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 (OA) at registration.

**3 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY**

**3.1** The regatta is open to National & State teams. One or more teams may be entered in each of the B1, B2, and B3 Divisions provided they have reached sufficient competitive standard and their entry is approved by their National Blind/Disabled Sailing Authority or can demonstrate to DSC/Para World Sailing that they have reached the above level of competency.

**3.2** Teams must be affiliated to a World Sailing Recognised National Authority.These are listed on the World Sailing Website at [www.sailing.org/about/members/mnas/](http://www.sailing.org/about/members/mnas/%20)

**3.3** Competitor Countries / States must be a current financial member of Blind Sailing International (BSI). The fee of 50 USD per Country / State may be paid at registration.

**3.4** All Vision Impaired (VIP) competitors shall present at Registration on September 11 a copy of the attached Blindness Grading Form completed and signed by an accredited Ophthalmologist.

**3.5** Eligible boats may enter by completing the entry form, available at the website [www.sailsheboygan.org](http://www.sailsheboygan.org) and sending it, together with the required fees to:

Sail Sheboygan

 P.O. Box 649

 Sheboygan, WI 53082-0649

 U.S.A.

 Or send it eletroncilicy to with subject line as Blind Worlds 2017

 BJ Blahnik Bj.blahnik@gmail.com

 Rich Reichelsdorfer rich@marineproservice.com

 Payment by check or by PayPal. If paying by PayPal, a paypal invocie will be sent.

**3.6** If a country or state enters more than one team for a division, they shall nominate their trophy qualifying crews for each division no later than registration.

**3.7** The organizing authority may accept late entries at its sole discretion.

**4 CLASSIFICATION REQUIREMENTS / CLASSIFICATION**

The event will be sailed in three classes: B1, B2 and B3.

 Class B1 team will comprise of:

* a B1 VIP Helmsperson
* a B1 or B2 VIP Mainsheet hand
* a Sighted Tactician who shall not handle any controls at any time while racing
* a Sighted Crew who can handle all controls with the exception of the Helm, the Mainsheet, and the Mainsheet Traveller

 Class B2 team will comprise of:

* a B1 or B2 VIP Helmsperson
* a B1 or B2 or B3 VIP Mainsheet hand
* a Sighted Tactician who shall not handle any controls at any time while racing
* a Sighted Crew who can handle all controls with the exception of the Helm, the Mainsheet, and the Mainsheet Traveller

 Class B3 team will comprise of:

* a B1 or B2 or B3 VIP Helmsperson
* a B1, B2, or B3 VIP Mainsheet hand
* a Sighted Tactician who shall not handle any controls at any time while racing
* a Sighted Crew who can handle all controls with the exception of the Helm, the Mainsheet, and the Mainsheet Traveller

**4.1** Para sailors shall have valid International Classification under the current World Sailing Functional Classification System

**4.2** There shall be no substitution of team members except in an emergency and only with the written permission of the Organising Authority.

**4.3** The World Sailing Sailor Classification Code will apply. Each Sighted Tactician and Sighted Crew shall be a Group 1 competitor in accordance with World Sailing Regulation 22 *ISAF Sailor Classification Code.*

**4.4** Vision impaired competitors will undertake an ophthalmological examination as part of the registration process on Tuesday September 11.

**4.5** Vision impaired competitors may be subject to ophthalmological examinations at any time during the event. Competitors shall cooperate with the classification staff as requested.

**4.6** At the discretion of the classifier, the ophthalmological examination at registration may be less than the requirements for an IBSA International Classification.

**4.7** International Blind Sports Federation (IBSA) Medical and Protest Procedures will be adopted for this event with the following changes:

a) Classifiers are not required to be accredited IBSA International Classifiers

 b) Classifiers may classify a competitor from their own country

 c) All protest fees regarding classifications will be 100 USD.

 d) World Sailing shall appoint the classifiers and other classification officials

**5. BOATS**

**5.1** All boats will be supplied by the Organising Authority and will be provided with sails..

**5.2** The Regatta will be sailed in Sonar’s.

**5.3** (a) Boats shall have a total crew of four.

 (b) Spinnakers shall not be used.

 (a) Membership of the class is not required.

 (c) Boats will be allocated on a rotation basis. This will be confirmed in the sailing instructions.

 (d) The use of any electronic navigational aids is not permitted.

**5.4** Competitors shall wear a personal flotation device (PFD) approved by the US Coast Guard (or for international competitors, the equivalent authority of their home country.) .Crews shall supply their own bouyancy aids.

**6 FEES**

**6.1** Required fees are as follows:

 **$**1,250 USD for each boat team entered (i.e.3,750 USD Countries / States with three boat teams). Fees include admission to the Opening Ceremony and Prize Giving Ceremony for the teams and one coach or team manager. However, the fees do not include travel or accommodation.

**6.2** OtherFees for Social Events will be notified at a later date.
Check the website [www.sailsheboygan.org](http://www.sailsheboygan.org) for latest details.

**6.3** Each participating team shall lodge with the Organizing Authority a damage deposit of 1,000 USD (i.e. three boat team will be 3,000 USD). Funds shall be deposited with the Organizing Authority to reimburse costs for damage that may occur during the regatta and to maintain a 1,000 USD damage deposit balance for the duration of the regatta.

**64** No refunds will be made after 1800 on August 15.

**7 SCHEDULE**

**7.1** Monday, September 11

0900-1500 Registration and sight classification

0900-1700 Practice (practice times will be by random draw)

1730 Competitors briefing

1830 Opening ceremony

Tuesday, September 12 to Sunday, September 17

1000 Racing days, first warning signal each day

Sunday, September 17

1500 No warning signal after this time

1800 Closing ceremany and awards

* 1. The target time for races is 30-40 minutes. This may be varied by the Race Committee.

**8 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

**8.1** Provisional sailing instructions will be available on the web site www.sailsheboygan.org before the Regatta.

**8.2** The sailing instructions will be available at Registration 0900 September 11 at the Sheboygan Yacht Club.

**9 VENUE**

**9.1** The regatta will be held at Sheboygan Yacht Club which is located at 214 Pennsylvania Ave, Sheboygan, WI

**9**.2 Racing will be on Lake Michigan, southeast of the harbor entrance. Addendum A shows the location of the racing area.

**10 COURSES**

**10.1** The courses to be sailed will be Windward Leeward configuration.

**10.2** The length and duration of races will be at the discretion of the Race Officer.

**11 PENALTY SYSTEM**

**11.1** An International Jury will be appointed and decisions of the Jury will be final as provided in Rule 70.5

**11.2** Penalty turns. Rule 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

**11.3** If either the Sighted Tactitian or the Sighted Crew touch either the Helm or the Mainsheet at any time while racing, whether it be an emergency or not, the boat is required to complete a One-Turn Penalty as soon as possible after the incident.

**12 SCORING**

**12.1** The low points system of RRS Appendix A will apply.

**12.2** Five races are required to be completed to constitute a series.

**12.3 a)** When fewer than seven (7) races have been completed a team’s series score will be the total of their race scores.

 **b)** When seven (7) to twelve (12) races have been completed a team’s series score will be the total of their race scores excluding their worst score.

 **c)** When thirteen (13) or more races have been completed a team’s series score will be the total of their race scores excluding their two worst scores.

**12.4** Nations / States entering teams in all three divisions will have their scores aggregated for the Sqaudron Cup teams event. For teams not entering all divisions the aggregated score shall include points equal to a DNS in each race for those divisions in which they are not entered.

**13 SUPPORT BOATS**

**13.1** The sailing instructions may set restrictions on the use of Team Support Boats.

**14 BERTHING**

 Boats shall be kept in their assigned places in the harbour.

**15 HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS**

 Competitors shall not haul out boats during the regatta except with and according to the terms or prior written permission of the race committee. The event Bosun may haul boats for inspection and or cleaning purposes.

**16 DIVING EQUIPMENT AND PLASTIC POOLS**

 Underwater breathing apparatus and plas­tic pools or their equivalent shall not be used around keel boats between the pre­paratory signal of the first race and the end of the regatta.

**17 RADIO COMMUNICATION**

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. The RC intends to make curtesy announcements over VHF radio. Competitors shall supply their own VHF radios capable of broadcasting and receiving on USA frequencies.

**18 PRIZES**

**18.1** Medals will be awarded as follows:
Gold, Silver & Bronze in each division.

**18.2** Blind Sailing InternationalSquadron Cup for the Teams event.

**18.3 Blind Sailing International** Colin Spanhake Trophy for the B1 Division

**18.4** If a country or state enters more than one team for a division, they must nominate their trophy qualifying crews for each division in advance, latest at registration.

**19 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

Competitors participate in the Regatta at their own risk. See Rule 4 Decision to Race.

The Organising Authority, Blind Sailing International and World Sailing has no liability for loss, damage or penalty suffered by any vessel crew or any person taking part in this event.

**20 INSURANCE**

 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance. Proof of insurance is required at registration.

 **FURTHER INFORMATION**

 For further information please contact:

 BJ Blahnik – Event Chairman

Bj.blahnik@gmail.com

1-920-980-6317

Rich Reichelsdorfer - PRO

 Rich Reichelsdorfer rich@marineproservice.com

 1-920-889-0758

 **Blind Fleet Racing World Championship**

**NOTICE OF RACE ADDENDUM A**

**Blind Fleet Racing World Championship**

**NOTICE OF RACE ADDENDUM B**

The following US Sailing prescriptions will apply:

**Rule 67 DAMAGES**

US Sailing prescribes that:

(a) A boat that retires from a race or accepts a penalty does not, by that action alone, admit liability for damages.

(b) A protest committee shall find facts and make decisions only in compliance with the rules. No protest committee or US Sailing appeal authority shall adjudicate any claim for damages. Such a claim is subject to the jurisdiction of the courts.

(c) A basic purpose of the rules is to prevent contact between boats. By participating in an event governed by the rules, a boat agrees that responsibility for damages arising from any breach of the rules shall be based on fault as determined by application of the rules, and that she shall not be governed by the legal doctrine of ‘assumption of risk’ for monetary damages resulting from contact with other boats.

**Rule 76.1 EXCLUSION OF BOATS OR COMPETITORS**

US Sailing prescribes that an organizing authority or race committee shall not reject or cancel the entry of a boat or exclude a competitor eligible under the notice of race and sailing instructions for an arbitrary or capricious reason or for reason of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or age.