



2024 J24 Fleet 55 Boat of the Year Sailing Instructions



1. The Organizing Authority for this series will be the J24 Fleet 55 Boat Owners and the Florida Yacht Club.
2. The Series will be governed by the current Racing Rules of Sailing and the J24 Class Association Rules.
3. The Series will be open to all J24 Fleet 55 Sailboats as defined by the IJCA. Competitors must meet all ownership and class membership requirements.
4. **Communications**
 - a. Signals made ashore will be communicated to the boats in the launch area and via the Skippers text message group.
 - b. VHF Channel on the course will be CH71.
5. **Schedule of Races**
 - a. The 2024 J24 Fleet 55 Boat of the Year Series will consist of the following events:
 - i. Summer Points Races
 - 6 points nights
 - Points nights will be the last Wednesday of each month, aside from September in which the last points night will be September 18.
 - If a points night is canceled, it will be rescheduled to the subsequent Wednesday and will continue to be rescheduled to the next Wednesday until it is able to commence.
 - ii. Summer Participation Races
 - 17 participation nights scheduled
 - 1st night to be April 17, last night to be September 11
 - iii. Boat of the Year Races
 - BOTY #1 - October 5 in conjunction with the Crab Trap Roundup @ FYC
 - BOTY #2 - October 19
 - BOTY #3&4 - November 16-17
 - If a BOTY race is canceled, it will not be rescheduled
 - iv. King's Day Regatta
 - November 22-24
6. **Class Flag**
 - a. The J-24 Class Flag will be used.
 - b. If another fleet participates in a race, either their class flag or any other flag communicated by the Race Committee will be used.
7. **Racing Area**
 - a. The St. Johns River East of the Florida Yacht Club.
8. **The Courses**
 - a. Windward-Leeward 2 times around with a 75ft offset at the windward mark; start pin mark is the leeward mark. (see Addendum A)
 - b. A gate will be placed at the discretion of the race committee.

9. Marks

- a. Weathermark: Tetrahedron
- b. Offset: Ball
- c. Gate: Ball
- d. Pin: Ball

10. Check In

- a. Prior to the first warning signal of the first race, boats must sail astern of the race committee boat on starboard tack to be recorded.

11. The Start

- a. The Wednesday night races will begin promptly at 1830.
- b. There will be a gather signal approximately 1 minute before the warning signal.
- c. An automatic starting system will be used for Wednesday Night Races.

12. Change of Course

- a. After the starting signal, the race committee may change the position of any mark within 20 degrees either side to maintain course configuration, provided that no boat is on that leg of the course. No signals are required. (Changes RRS 33)

13. The Finish

- a. The Finish Line will be between the blue flag on the Committee Boat and the Start/Finish Pin.

14. Penalty System

- a. Penalties will be taken on the course as turns as described by the J/24 Class Association's current rules.
- b. Any boat that does not appropriately take their penalty will be assessed a 0 score for the race in which they were the offender.

15. Time Limit

- a. Boats will be scored in position 15 minutes after the first boat finishes.

16. Protests and Hearings

- a. The Race Committee will be notified on the water ASAP of a protest.
- b. Protests will be filed in accordance with the RRS before 1830 the following day
- c. Forms are available at:
<https://www.ussailing.org/resource-library/us-sailing-hearing-request-form/>
- d. A protest committee will be formed soon after a protest has been filed.

17. Scoring

- a. See Addendum B.

18. Safety

- a. A yacht that retires from a race must notify the Race Committee either before leaving the racing area, or if that's not possible, immediately after arriving ashore.

Addendum A

BOTY Wed Night Race Course



Offset



Windward



**Gate
(at RC Discretion)**



Pin/Leeward

Start/Finish Line



Committee Boat

Addendum B

17. Scoring

a. Points Races

- i. Boats will be scored per race in a points high system based on the number of boats that participate in each race. (1st place = the number of boats in the fleet; 2nd place = # of boats in fleet -1; 3rd place = # of boats in fleet -2; etc.)
- ii. Participation in a race is defined by the number of boats that launch and sail to the racecourse with intentions to race. (Example: 8 fleet boats set up to start a race and 2 of the 8 boats are scored OCS for said race. The two OCS boats will be scored as 0 points and the remaining boats will be scored as 8 boats participated in said race.)

b. Participation Races

- i. Boats will receive 1 point for each race they start.
- ii. The top 3 boats of the night (total score for all races) will receive extra points as follows:
 - 1st Place: 4 Points
 - 2nd Place: 3 Points
 - 3rd Place: 2 Points

c. Boat of the Year Races

- i. The Best 75% of a boat's races in the BOTY series will be scored. (eg. if 12 BOTY Races are completed, only the best 8 races for each boat will be scored.)
- ii. Boats will be scored per race in a points high system based on the number of boats that participated in each race. (1st place = the number of boats in the fleet; 2nd place = # of boats in fleet -1; 3rd place = # of boats in fleet -2; etc.)
- iii. Participation in a race is defined by the number of boats that launch and sail to the racecourse with intentions to race. (Example: 8 fleet boats set up to start a race and 2 of the 8 boats are scored OCS for said race. The two OCS boats will be scored as 0 points and the remaining boats will be scored as 8 boats participated in said race.)

d. King's Day Regatta

- i. Fleet 55 boats participating in the King's Day Regatta will be scored based on their relative position to other boats in Fleet 55.
- ii. Boats will be scored per race in a points high system based on the number of Fleet 55 boats that participate in each race. (1st place = the number of boats in the fleet; 2nd place = # of boats in fleet -1; 3rd place = # of boats in fleet -2; etc.)
- iii. Participation in a race is defined by the number of boats that launch and sail to the racecourse with intentions to race. (Example: 8 fleet boats set up to start a race and 2 of the 8 boats are scored OCS for said race. The two OCS boats will be scored as 0 points and the remaining boats will be scored as 8 boats participated in said race.)

e. Bonus Points

- i. Accumulated by participating in non-Fleet 55 sanctioned regattas
- ii. Regattas eligible for bonus points include, but are not limited to:
 - Regattas part of the Florida State Championship Series
 - Any regatta posted on the J/24 official class website
 - PHRF races associated with the First Coast Sailing Association (FCSA)
- iii. Bonus points will be quantified by the following:
 - Out of town regattas will accumulate 1 point per day in which the regatta is held.
 - FCSA regattas/races posted on the www.sailjax.com 2024 schedule will accrue 2 bonus points for each event in which they participate.
- iv. The organizing authority will decide whether an event outside of the above criteria will be considered eligible for bonus points.
- v. A maximum of 10 bonus points may be accrued in the 2024 calendar year.
- vi. It is the traveling boat's responsibility to notify the Fleet Captain of any bonus points accrued.

f. Final Scoring

- i. At the end of the season, the total points will be added up and the boat with the most points wins.