

THE INTERNATIONAL DART ASSOCIATION CHAMPIONSHIP RULES

Rules for running World and Continental Championships and for guidance at other major events.

Issued by the International DART Association (I.D.A.)

Latest amendment dated May 2011

1. RESPONSIBILITY FOR VENUE AND ORGANISATION

- a. The I.D.A. International Committee (I.D.A.I.C.) shall be responsible for considering and selecting suitable venues and dates for World and Continental Championships.
- b. The dates for World and Continental Championships shall be decided in accordance with I.D.A. International Committee.
- c. The I.D.A.I.C. shall send a copy of these Championship rules to prospective host clubs who must assure the I.D.A.I.C. that they can comply with these Championship Rules. There shall be a written agreement between the I.D.A.I.C. and the host.
- d. The I.D.A.I.C. having satisfied themselves that the host club can meet their requirements, shall then delegate their responsibility to the National Dart 18 Fleet to conduct all aspects of the event in association with the host club, or if there is no National Dart 18 fleet, to the host club.
- e. The National Dart 18 Fleet shall be responsible for arranging the financing of the event or if there is no National fleet, the host club.
- f. The I.D.A.I.C. shall approve the naming of Championship Events. Advertising at I.D.A. Championship Events shall be in accordance to ISAF Regulation 20.

2. APPOINTMENT OF JURY AND THEIR TERMS OF REFERENCE

- a. An International Jury shall be appointed as provided under the *ISAF Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)*. Nominations for the Jury shall be approved by I.D.A.I.C.
- b. If it is not possible to appoint an International Jury, a competent Protest Committee can be appointed with an International Judge as Chairman.
- c. It is desirable that the Jury or Protest Committee should include at least one person experienced in the Dart 18 Catamaran competition.

3. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRIES

- a. The current champion shall have the right to defend his/her title and the current I.D.A. President shall be allocated entry without qualifying.
- b. The host club shall not restrict the number of entries. However, entries received less than 28 days before the first scheduled Championship Race shall only be accepted at the discretion of the host club.

- c. All helmsmen shall be full paid members of their National Dart 18 Associations which in turn must be financial members of I.D.A.. Evidence of current membership shall be produced.
- d. Helmsmen non-resident in their country of origin shall not be prevented from representing their country of origin.
- e. Crew substitutes shall only be allowed after the first race in case of sickness, accident or special circumstances, and only with the permission of the Jury or Race Committee. Weight of substituted crew shall be considered.

4. ENTRY FEE

- a. The entry fee shall be agreed between the National Dart 18 fleet and the host club and for Continental or World Championships shall be subject to approval of the I.D.A. International Committee.

5. SCRUTINEERING

- a. The host club shall provide facilities for scrutineering boats.
- b. The scrutineering shall be under the control of the Class Measure. The National Authority shall appoint an event Measurer subject to the approval of I.D.A. International Committee.
- c. A boat shall be allowed to race only if a completed and signed Measurement Form is presented.
- d. Each boat may measure only one complete set of sails for the event. The jury may allow replacement of any items damaged beyond repair to continue the event. Replacement items must measure within the Dart 18 rules to the satisfaction of the measurer.
- e. Any repairs to boat or sails which could affect measurement shall be reported to and under the control of the measurer.
- f. No official measurement shall take place after Race 1 except as a result of a protest or due to the replacement, alteration or repair of any item, however the event Measurer may check measure any competing boat at any time during the regatta.
- g. No competitor may protest on a question of measurement later than the normal protest time applying to Race 1 except on the grounds that there has been subsequent alteration of the boat or its equipment.

6. RACING RULES & CONDITIONS

- a. All races shall be conducted under the current *ISAF Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)* and the Sailing Instructions for the event laid down by the host club and under the International Dart 18 Class Rules. The sailing instructions must conform with the *RRS* and shall be approved by the I.D.A. International Committee.
- b. The races should be sailed in open waters and as far as possible from headlands, shoals and obstructions. It is desirable that the nearest mark of the course shall be within 2 nautical miles of the official boat park. This is the preferred option, alterations are possible only with the approval of the I.D.A. International Committee.

- c. The Championship event must be sailed on its own course and not at the same time as any other event unless approved by the I.D.A. International Committee.
- d. The Championship may consist of a series of 10 races of which 4 races must be completed to constitute a series. When 5 or more races have been completed, a yacht may discard her worst result.
- e. Two races shall be sailed normally per day. The Race Officer may announce 3 races for the next day only with the approval of the I.D.A. International Committee if the regatta may fail the minimum number of races to constitute a series.
- f. Races may be abandoned if the Race Officer determines that fair sailing has been compromised.
- g. No races may be started if the average wind (measured over the previous 15 minutes) is less than 3 knots nor more than 25 knots. The Race Committee should also take into account the wave conditions to ensure safe sailing conditions.
- h. There must be an adequate number of rescue boats, appropriate to the local conditions. At least one rescue boat per 15 entered boats is recommended.
- j. No race may be started after 1500 on the last day of the event.

7. COURSES

- a. The Dart 18 Championship Course is shown in Appendix 2. All starts shall be to windward and the magnetic course to the windward mark may be clearly indicated on the committee boat at or before the warning signal.
- b. The sequence of mark roundings for the Dart 18 Championship Course shall be: Start - 1 - 2 - 3A/3B - 1 - 2 - 3A/3B - 1 - 2 - 3A/B - Finish.
- c. Marks 3A/3B may be disregarded on the first windward leg, Start – 1.
- d. The windward marks, Mark 1 and Mark 2, shall be rounded to port. Mark 2 shall be set approximately 200 meters to port of Mark 1. The bearing to Mark 2 from Mark 1 shall be approximately 90 degrees to port of the bearing to Mark 1 from the Start or previous leeward gate - Marks 3A/3B.
- e. The leeward marks, Marks 3A and 3B, shall be set as a gate. Except on the first windward leg, all boats shall pass through the gate entering from the direction of Mark 2 before rounding Mark 3A to starboard or Mark 3B to port.
- f. The course length shall normally be set so the race will last approximately 60 - 70 minutes in the anticipated wind conditions. A race time outside this range shall not be grounds for redress.
- g. The starting line should be the length in meters (approximately) of 5 times the number of boats starting.

- h. The leeward gate marks should be set between 40 and 80 meters apart depending on the number of entries received and the prevailing wind strength.
- i. A change of course after the start shall be in accordance with RRS 33. In addition, any mark to be rounded after rounding the new mark may be relocated to maintain the original course configuration. When in a subsequent change of course a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced with the original mark.

8. START / FINISH

- a. Races shall be started in accordance with RRS 26.
- b. The Start Line and the Finish Line shall be between the flagstaff on the Start/Finish boat and a mark as described in the Sailing Instructions.

9. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS AND SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- a. Notices to competitors, including any changes to the Schedule of Races or the Sailing Instructions shall be made on an official notice board located near the host club Regatta Office.
- b. Signals made ashore shall be displayed on a flag staff located near the host club Regatta Office.
- c. Any changes to the Sailing Instructions shall be posted before 09:00 hours on the day that they will take effect, except that any change to the Schedule of Races shall be posted prior to 20:00 hours on the day before it will take effect.

10. TIME AND WIND LIMITS

- a. A race shall be abandoned if no boat has finished within 2 hours. Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat shall be deemed not to have finished and shall be scored as a DNF.
- b. If the wind reduces to less than 2 knots for a period of 15 minutes or more before the first boat finishes, then the race may be abandoned if shortening the course is not possible.
- c. If the wind increases to more than 28 knots for a period of 15 minutes or more before the first boat finishes, then the race may be abandoned. Consideration should also be given to shortening the course if this is a safer option.

- d. If during a race the wind significantly shifts to preclude fair sailing, as determined by the Race Officer or Jury, the race may be abandoned.

11. SCORING

- a. The Low Point System as in Appendix A of the RRS shall be used.
- b. Provisional Results should be posted on the Regatta Notice Board as soon as possible after the completion of each race.

12. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- a. Protests shall be written on the forms available from the host club Regatta Office no later than one (1) hour after the Race Committee returns to the Race Site after the last race of the day.
- b. All protests shall be heard by the International Jury, if appointed, and, in accordance with the RRS there shall be no appeal from decisions of the Jury.
- c. When a boat infringes a rule of RRS Part 2, the Alternative Penalty Rule 44.2 shall apply except that the 720° turn shall be replaced by a 360° turn and shall include one complete tack and one complete gybe.
- d. Where necessary the host Club shall appoint one or more interpreters familiar with nautical terminology who shall be at the disposal of the Jury to assist at protests.

13. COACH & SUPPORT BOATS

- a. Each coach boat shall display her national flag or country letters with a minimum height of 300mm clearly visible from both sides of the boat during the regatta.
- b. Coach boats shall remain outside the racing area whilst yachts are participating in a race.
- c. The penalty for infringing these requirements will be at the discretion of the Jury, but may include disqualification of one or all boats associated with the infringing vessel.

14. ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS

Alterations and additions to these rules shall only be made by agreement between the I.D.A. International Committee and the Jury.

15. TROPHIES AND PRIZES

- a. The World Championship and Continental Perpetual Trophies shall be awarded at each event to the highest five ranking qualified finishers from the final standing.
- b. Trophies or prizes should be awarded to at least the top 10 finishers (for both helmsman and crew) of each regatta unless otherwise agreed with the I.D.A. International Committee.

16. INSURANCE AND DISCLAIMERS

- a. A valid third party insurance for a minimum of 1,500,000 Euro shall exist for each participating boat and proof of this insurance shall be available at all times.
- b. All those taking part in the regatta do so at their own risk and responsibility. The I.D.A. International Committee, the Host Club, organizing authority, National Federation and all parties involved with the organization of the regatta disclaim any and every responsibility whatsoever for loss, damage, injury or inconvenience that might occur to persons and goods, both ashore and while afloat as a consequence of participation in the regatta covered by these Championship Rules.

17. RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

- a. No transmitting equipment or radio receivers shall be carried on board any competing boat.

Appendix 1:

The I.D.A. preferred schedule for races is:

Schedule of Races

Day 1 Sat Registration/Measurement

Day 2 Sun Registration/Measurement & Practice Race

Day 3 Mon Races 1 & 2

Day 4 Tue Races 3 & 4

Day 5 Wed Races 5 & 6

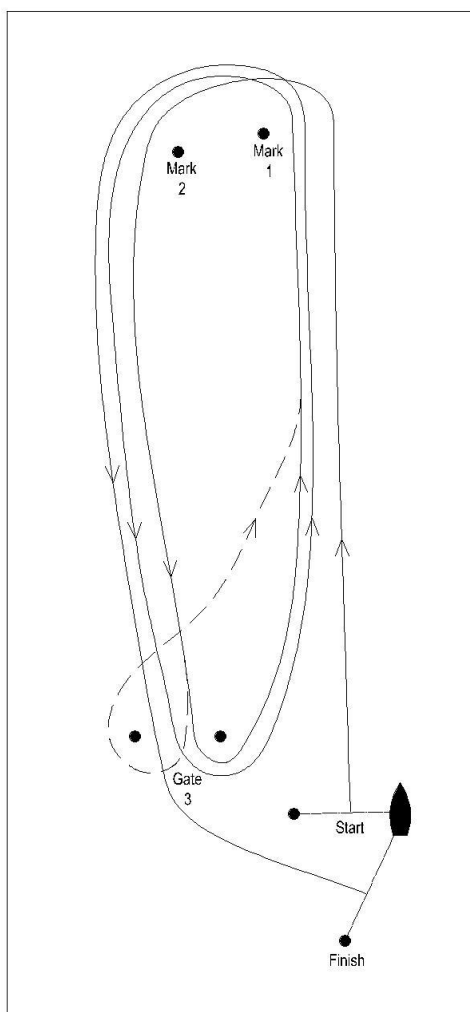
Day 7 Thu Races 7 & 8

Day 8 Fri Races 9 & 10 & Presentation/ Awards

Appendix 2:

Diagram of course.

Start - 1 - 2 - 3A/3B - 1 - 2 - 3A/3B - 1 - 2 - 3A/B - Finish.



I.D.A. Recommendations to the Organizing & Race Committee

- The color of the original course and altered course marks (Course marks should contrast the background as far as is possible. White cannot be seen on a rough day! – Black cannot be seen against dark cliffs and yellow cannot be seen against a sandy beach!)
- In relation to Championship Rule 8 (Start/Finish), apart from the Flags/Signals used for racing, no other flags shall be flown from the Start/Finish vessel without the prior permission of the I.D.A. International Committee.
- GPS or other similar locating devices shall be used for the laying of all course marks. The Windward-Leeward distance should vary between 1.2Nm for light wind and 1.5Nm for strong wind. This distance can also vary depending on fleet size.