

A Resolution to Change the ILCA
Document Governing All Lightning Class Championships –
Articles Which Apply Specifically to the North American Championship,
Article XIII Racing Conditions

WHEREAS, The International Lightning Class Association, Inc. (ILCA) has rules that govern the conduct of the North American Championship, and

WHEREAS, Article XIII of those Rules addresses the conduct of the 2024 North American Championship, and

WHEREAS, The ILCA, and its member competitors, benefit from increased participation in District and Area Championships, and

WHEREAS, The following proposed changes to Article XIII of the Document Governing North American Championships would improve the quality of the sailing experience at the 2024 North American Championship and possibly encourage increased participation, and

WHEREAS, It is in the best interest of the ILCA, and its member competitors, to make measured changes that are evaluated on an experimental basis, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the ILCA Governing Board, in quorum assembled, SUBSTITUTES the following for the Document Governing North American Championship, Article XIII, and be it further

RESOLVED, That this change shall take effect on March 7, 2024 and shall expire on October 1, 2024 at which time, the original language shall, again, be in force.

ARTICLE XIII- RACING CONDITIONS

1. The format for North American Championship when fewer than sixty-six (66) are registered shall be a single fleet without qualifiers, with up to ten (10) races maximum, with one (1) drop race upon the completion of six (6) races.
2. Qualifying and Championship Format for North American Championship when sixty-six (66) or more boats are registered.
 - 2.1. There will be a Qualifying round followed by a Championship round if enough races have been completed in the Qualifying round. Up to (10) races maximum will constitute the series, split between the Qualifying round and the Championship round in configurations described below.

2.2. The Qualifying round will be used to split the fleet into two (2) or (3) fleets for the Championship round, the Championship fleet (Blue), the Presidents fleet (Green), and the Governors fleet (Yellow) if necessary.

2.2.1. If there are sixty-six (66) to ninety-eight (98) boats registered, the total number of registrants will be divided by two (2), and all competitors in the top half will be placed in the Championship fleet, the remainder placed in the Presidents fleet. If there is a numerical tie in total score with the last boat in the Championship fleet and any boats in the President's fleet, those boats would also be placed in the Championship fleet. If the number of registrants is an odd number, add one (1) before dividing by two (2). (Example, with 79 boats, $79+1=80/2=40$. Top 40 to the Championship fleet. If three boats positioned 40, 41 and 42 are tied on points, they all make Championship fleet, the remaining 37 are in the Presidents fleet).

2.2.2. If there are ninety-nine (99) boats or more, the total number of registrants will be divided by three (3), and all competitors in the top third will be placed in the Championship fleet, plus any boats numerically tied to the last boat in the Championship fleet. The remaining registered boats will then be divided equally between the Presidents and Governors fleet, with tied numerical scores on the cut line resulting in placement in the President's fleet. If the number of registrants is not divisible by three (3), use the next highest number divisible by three (3). (Example, with 101 boats, use 102, $102/3=34$. If two boats positioned 34 and 35 are tied on points, they both make Championship fleet, remaining 66 are then grouped 33 in the Presidents fleet, plus any ties, the remaining in the Governors fleet).

2.3. The Qualifying round is scheduled for the first two (2) days of the regatta. The regatta schedule is five (5) Qualifying round races and five (5) Championship round races, for a ten (10) race maximum series. A maximum of three (3) races can be sailed each day, and a minimum of three (3) races is required to complete the Qualifying round. In the discretion of the Race Committee, a maximum of six (6) Qualifying round races may be sailed on the first two days and counted toward the fleet split. If six (6) Qualifying round races are sailed, there will be a maximum of four (4) Championship round races. If at least four (4) Qualifying round races are sailed, there shall be one (1) drop race, which will be taken into account when finalizing the fleet split. If three (3) races have not been completed by all fleets before the start of the third day of the regatta, that day's racing will also be used for qualifying. If three (3) races have not been completed by all fleets before the start of the fourth and final day of the regatta, all remaining races will be sailed in the Qualifying round format.

2.4 Competitors shall sail in their assigned fleet for the entire day.

2.5. A boat that receives a scoring penalty as described in RRS A 5.2 shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats in the fleet in which she was racing.

3. Procedure for fleet assignments when there are more than 66 boats registered

3.1. Day one: assignment to a fleet for the first day of racing will be seeded by the Class Executive Secretary and the Class President. If there are sixty-six (66) to ninety-eight (98) registered boats, the fleets will be split in two (2). If there are ninety-nine (99) or more registered, the fleets will be split into three (3).

3.2. Day two: the results of previous day shall be seeded B-GG-BB-GG, etc. If there are ninety-nine (99) boats or more, the results of previous day shall be seeded B-G-Y-Y-G-B-B-G-Y, etc., unless no previous racing was conducted on Day one. If no races were sailed on Day one, the fleet assignments remain the same as Day one.

3.3. Day three: If the Qualifying round was not completed, Day three will be seeded using the scores up through Day two using the method stated in 3.2. If the qualifying round was completed on Day two, the fleet will be split into Championship fleet (Blue), Presidents fleet (Green), and Governors fleet (Yellow) if necessary.

3.4. Day four: If the Qualifying round was not completed, Day four will be seeded using the scores up through Day three using the method stated in 3.2. If the qualifying round was completed, on Day three, the fleet will be split into Championship fleet (Blue), Presidents fleet (Green), and, Governors fleet (Yellow) if necessary.

3.5 In the Qualifying round, no fleet is allowed to get ahead by more than one race. If all qualifying fleets do not complete the same number of races by 2000 hours of that day, the highest number of races completed by all fleets shall be scored, and the races ahead are considered abandoned and not scored.

3.6. Fleet assignments in the Qualifying round will be made by 2000 hours the evening before they are to take place. No protest or scoring inquiry will change the fleet assignments if not finalized before 2000 hours.

3.7. Should the Qualifying round be completed before Day three or Day four, Fleet assignments for the Championship round will take into account all protests, scoring reviews and redress decisions unless they are still undecided at 0800 on the day of Championship round.

3.8. The race committee's decision on fleet assignments will be final and cannot be grounds for redress. This change is added to RRS 62.1a.

4. Championship Round when there are more than 66 boats registered
 - 4.1. If the Qualifying Round has been completed before Day three or Day four, Blue, Green and (if necessary) Yellow will race as separate fleets.
 - 4.2. Assignment to the Blue, Green and Yellow fleets will be based on a competitor's overall finishing position in the Qualifying round and the number of total registrants (see section 2.2.1 and 2.2.2).
 - 4.3. Assignment to each fleet will be final for the entire Championship round.
 - 4.4. A boat's overall score for the regatta will be the boat's total score from the Qualifying round plus her total score from the Championship round. If at least four (4) races are sailed, there shall be one (1) drop race for all of the counted races. The drop race may or may not be the same race dropped to qualify for a fleet. (For example, if a boat scores 3-3-5-9 in the qualifying round, the score for the fleet split is 11. If in the Championship fleet, the boat then scores 20-21-11, the 21 would be dropped, the 9 would come back in, and the score would be 51 (3-3-5-9-20-X-11))

5. Identification when there are more than 66 boats registered

Boats shall display from their backstay a colored ribbon that corresponds with their assigned fleet at all times while racing.

Existing Language:

ARTICLE XIII — RACING CONDITIONS

A—ELIMINATION RACES

1. All boats entitled to enter the North American Championship Regattas shall be divided into equal flights and shall sail a Qualifying Series. Boats shall be rotated between flights so that each Skipper will have an opportunity to sail against as many different Skippers as possible. Four elimination races shall be scheduled, to be sailed the first two days. If all are sailed, three will be scored. If less than four are sailed, all will be scored. If, by the end of the second day, at least three races have been sailed, the Qualifying Series will be terminated. If less than three races have been sailed in the first two days, the Qualifying Series will continue on the third day. As soon as a total of three races have been sailed (including those sailed previously) the series will be terminated and yachts scored on the basis of the races sailed. If, after three days, only one race has been completed, the Qualifying Series will continue until two races have been completed. This changes RRS A2 and shall be included in the Sailing Instructions to be valid.

2. The right of appeal shall be denied for the qualifying series per RRS 70. The Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions shall so state and there are specific

stipulations in RRS 70. The Executive Committee may waive this requirement if the host venue can not meet the requirements of RRS 70.

3. The 33 Skippers receiving the lowest number of points in the races plus the reigning North American Champion and all Skippers tied for 33rd place shall be entitled to sail the final series to determine the North American Champion. However, if the reigning Champion chooses and so notifies I.L.C.A. at least thirty days ahead of the first elimination race, he may sail in the Qualifying Series. If he qualifies for the final series to determine the North American Champion the Fleet will be increased to 34 and all Skippers tied for 34th place. The remaining Skippers shall sail for the Presidents' Cup, except that where more than 35 remain after selection of the Championship group, a Governors' Cup series will be conducted. In such case the remaining Skippers shall be divided equally between the two series with those totaling the least points sailing in the Presidents' Cup series. Skippers tied for the last qualifying position in the Presidents' Cup series shall be entitled to sail in that series as shall the odd Skipper should the number to be divided be unequal.

B-FINAL SERIES

1. The number of races scheduled in each of the final series, Championship, Presidents' Cup and Governors' Cup, shall be six, five of which will be scored. If, at the end of scheduled racing, two races or less have been completed, the final results of the Qualifying Series (including ties) will be counted as one race in the Championship Series, Presidents' Cup and Governors' Cup.

In case the defending North American Champion chooses not to sail in the Qualifying Series, his or her average points for the race(s) sailed in the Championship Series will be counted as one race. This changes RRS A2 and shall be included in the Sailing Instructions to be valid.