

Rules of Ensign Fleet 34

1. **The Racing Rules of Sailing** as adopted by US Sailing shall govern Ensign Fleet 34 races. Note that the definition of "Rules" include prescriptions of the national authority (US Sailing in our case), the sailing instructions of the race sponsor, the Ensign Class Association rules, the rules of Fleet 34, and any other documents governing the event.
2. A Race Committee, or Race Coordinator in conjunction with the senior Fleet 34 Officer present, may elect to cancel a race because of perceived unsafe conditions. Winds of 25 knots or more will always be cause for postponement or cancellation.
3. For scoring purposes, it is the boat's record and not the skipper's record that counts. Prior to each race, the skipper will check in with the event host. The Scorer shall not score non-member boats.
4. At least one person, in addition to the skipper, must be on board during a Fleet 34 race, unless otherwise specifically stated.
5. Boats are limited to one haulout per season in addition to emergency inspections, repairs, or travel to Regional and National Championships.
6. A member of Fleet 34 can qualify for the Ensign Nationals by placing in the top half of the Fleet Season Championship in either the current or the preceding racing season.
7. Unless otherwise stipulated, the time limit for the first boat in the fleet to finish is 3 1/2 hours otherwise, the race is abandoned.

Protests

8. US Sailing Rule 60 prevails including Rule 61.1 - Informing the protested vessel by displaying a red protest flag. Skippers shall also comply with the following:
 - a. The skipper of a protesting boat must notify the Race Committee of his or her intent to protest, and designate the protested boat(s), upon finishing or withdrawing from the race.
 - b. Unless deemed impossible by the Fleet Commodore (or designated representative) the Protest hearing will be the same day, or within a few days of the incident.
 - c. If a host yacht club prefers not to hear a protest, Ensign Fleet 34 will conduct its own hearing. The Fleet Commodore or designated representative will appoint a Protest Committee of three persons to hear the protest.
 - d. All members of Fleet 34 are subject to Protest Committee duty.

Scoring

9. For the Season Championship races and for the purpose of qualification for participation in the Ensign National Championships, the Cox-Sprague scoring system shown below is used. The accumulated points for each boat will be reported as a four digit decimal fraction of the points she would have earned had she won every race she started (percentage of perfection).

The Cox-Sprague Scoring System as recommended by the Y.R.A. of Long Island Sound																				
In each race a yacht is credited with the number of points indicated in the table below for its finishing position. The number of starters determines which column to use for each race. Divide each yacht's total score by the sum of the scores of the winners of the races in which it starts. The highest resulting score (percent) wins. Score (percent) wins.																				
Number of Starters																		20 or more		Place
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20 or more	Place	
10	31	43	52	60	66	72	76	80	84	87	90	92	94	96	97	98	99	100	1	
4	25	37	46	54	60	66	70	74	78	81	84	86	88	90	91	92	93	94	2	
(0)	21	33	42	50	56	62	66	70	74	77	80	82	84	86	87	88	89	90	3	
	(17)	29	38	46	52	58	62	66	70	73	76	78	80	82	83	84	85	86	4	
		(26)	35	43	49	55	59	63	67	70	73	75	77	79	80	81	82	83	5	
			(32)	40	46	52	56	60	64	67	70	72	74	76	77	78	79	80	6	
				(38)	44	50	54	58	62	65	68	70	72	74	75	76	77	78	7	
					(42)	48	52	56	60	63	66	68	70	72	73	74	75	76	8	
						(46)	50	54	58	61	64	66	68	70	71	72	73	74	9	
							(48)	52	56	59	62	64	66	68	69	70	71	72	10	
								(50)	54	57	60	62	64	66	67	68	69	70	11	
									(52)	55	58	60	62	64	65	66	67	68	12	
										(53)	56	58	60	62	63	64	65	66	13	
											(55)	57	59	61	62	63	64	65	14	
												(56)	58	60	61	62	63	64	15	
													(57)	59	60	61	62	63	16	
														(58)	59	60	61	62	17	
															(58)	59	60	61	18	
																(58)	59	60	19	
																	(59)	59	20	

Points in () are for DNF & DSQ.
For "20 or more" boats, the points for place 13 and higher are (79 - place)

10. When multiple races are sailed as a day's event, the Scorer will utilize the Low Point System to determine standings. The Scorer will then use the resulting standings to determine the Cox-Sprague percentage of perfection scores for that event.

11. To be eligible for a prize in the Early, Late, Season Championship or Monthly Variable Performance (MVP) Series, a boat must race in 50% or more of the races in that series.

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12. There are no discarded scores in the Early, Late, or MVP series. There can be up to 3 throw out races in the Season Championship determined by the number of races completed and the number of races a boat competes in for the series.

- A boat which competes in 2 more races than necessary to qualify will be awarded 1 throw out race.

- A boat which competes in 4 more races than necessary to qualify will be awarded 2 throw out races.

- A boat which competes in 6 or more races than necessary to qualify will be awarded 3 throw out races.

The throw out races will be the lowest % score as determined by the Cox-Sprague scoring system.

Ties are broken as described in Rule A8 of **The Racing Rules of Sailing**.

13. The Scorer will calculate Monthly Variable Performance (MVP) scores using the Low Point System

- a. To be eligible for the Leuze Trophy, a boat must have raced in more than 50% of the races sailed in that series, and
- b. The boat must not have finished in the top four in the Fleet 34 Season Championship Series in any of the previous three years, and
- c. The boat must not have won the Leuze Trophy in any of the previous three years.
- d. Each boat's MVP score is the average of her finish position in the month's Fleet 34 Championship Series races (May/June and September/October are considered a single month).
- e. The MVP average for a boat from the last month or five races in the most recent Season Championship Series is her beginning MVP at the start of each season. On approximately July 1, August 1, and September 1 new MVP averages are calculated. Note: DNFs and DSQs do not count.
- f. The MVP average for a boat with no previous record shall be the mid-point of last year's Fleet MVP average.
- g. The monthly MVP score for each boat is her average finish position minus her MVP average from the previous year. Often these scores are negative numbers.
- h. The boat with the highest positive average monthly score for the season; the boat showing the most improvement in the current year earns the Leuze Trophy.

Courtesies

In addition to the above rules, there are certain courtesies, which greatly assist the administration of Fleet activities and enhance the reputation of Fleet 34:

A. The Commodore shall appoint a coordinator to handle affairs with each organization (yacht club) which hosts races for our Fleet. Coordinators should be the sole contact between our Fleet and the persons running Fleet 34 races. Therefore, please do not make comments directly to the Race Committee; instead address your suggestions, criticisms, questions and other comments to the Coordinator (or the designated replacement), or to the senior Fleet officer present

B. All Ensigns racing in Fleet 34 scored events shall conform to Part II of the Ensign Class Rules. All boats are subject to immediate inspection if questioned.

C. Our Fleet gives us all an opportunity to participate in some very exciting and fun races. However, the size of the Fleet has the potential to create problems since communications can become difficult. Please exercise caution, restraint, sensitivity, courtesy, etc., when interacting with each other and with the volunteers who help us by running these races.

D. The competition and fun of sailing make many sailors want to compete, no matter what the conditions. However, SAFETY must be of primary concern and skippers should always use good judgment concerning the ability of their boat and crew to compete in a given race. The final responsibility to participate in a race event always rests with the skipper.

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E. Sailing Instructions are available from the event host and frequently posted on the Fleet 34 web site at <http://www.ensignfleet34.com/>. Members should review Fleet 34 Rules annually and Sailing Instructions prior to each race. Study them carefully so you minimize unnecessary questions.

F. Non-members may skipper Fleet 34 Ensigns. It is important for members to be sure that all skippers using their boats have all the necessary rules and instructions pertaining to any given race.

G. Substitute skippers will not be restricted through legislative action. However, the Fleet will keep substitute skippers to a minimum in accordance with the spirit of Fleet 34 racing.

H. A skipper retiring or withdrawing from a race shall notify the Race Committee as soon as possible on the designated VHF/FM channel.

J. It is very important to know and to observe the racing rules. Skippers should carefully study **The Racing Rules of Sailing**. Following the rules will avoid unnecessary conflict and possibly even serious damage to your boat or injury to you and/or your crew.

K. A number of local yacht clubs offer guest privileges to our fleet by hosting our Fleet and our events. As a representative of Fleet 34 be grateful of their hospitality, and conduct yourselves accordingly.

Races and Trophies

Robert S. Jones Trophy

A perpetual trophy donated in 1967 by Robert S. Jones for the winner of the first race of the season, usually Memorial Day weekend.

Ayers Trophy

A perpetual trophy donated by Alice Ayers in 1974 to be awarded to the boat having the best record for **all** the races conducted in the month of June, including tune-up and Season Championship Races.

Season Championship Trophies

A perpetual trophy, an Ensign half hull model, acquired by the Fleet in 1973 awarded each year to the Fleet Champion for the season. The Fleet Champion, as well as the second and third place finishers also earns keeper trophies.

Early & Late Series Trophies

The season will consist of two series - the Early and the Late Series. The first place boat in each Series will be awarded a keeper prize. There is no provision in the schedule for make up of canceled races; therefore, any cancellation could alter the basis of the Early and Late Series calculations.

Bill Jones "Around the Island Race" Trophy

A perpetual trophy donated in 1970 by Bill Jones awarded to the winner of the race around Fisher's Island (or in Fisher's Island Sound if the weather is bad). This race takes place in mid-September. The winner of this race is responsible for running the race and hosting the post race party the following year.

Allen B. Smith Trophy

A trophy, donated by Al's daughter Priscilla in 1981, awarded **only** when appropriate for outstanding sportsmanship. Fleet members should submit written nominations to the Commodore before Labor Day for consideration by the Fleet Officers, who are responsible for awarding this trophy.

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Bill Leuze Memorial Trophy

Carolyn Leuze donated a perpetual trophy to the Fleet in 1982 to honor Bill Leuze and perpetuate the spirit in which he raced his Ensign, **YANKEE**, #51, in Fleet 34 competition. The boat with the highest positive average monthly score (MVP) for the season; the boat showing the most improvement in the current year earns the Leuze Trophy and a keeper trophy.