

# MASSA Procedural Rules

MASSA is governed by its Bylaws. MASSA Regattas (including venue selection, qualification for regattas, conduct of regattas, etc.) are governed by these MASSA Procedural Rules.

## ISSA Procedural Rules

MASSA's primary rules are set forth in the ISSA Procedural Rules. As allowed under the ISSA Procedural Rules, the MASSA Procedural Rules modify certain ISSA rules and supplement the ISSA rules as appropriate to best govern and promote high school sailing within the Mid-Atlantic States.

## MASSA's Leagues

MASSA is organized into the following geographical leagues:

- a. NYISA– NW (New York including Canadian schools)
- b. NYISA– SE (Long Island and surrounding area of Southeast New York state)
- c. NJISA (New Jersey and eastern PA )
- d. MDISA (Maryland, DC area, and Delaware)
- c. VISA (Virginia)

## District Championships

SPRING:

Spring Team Race Championship: Schools wishing to attend must qualify within their League. The Championship will be a 2 day event. The 1st day is seeded qualifiers using whatever local facilities to maximize participants with the goal of qualifying teams for the 2nd day. Racing ends at the earlier of 2pm on Sunday or the completion of the NOR specified rounds. Final championship rounds for up to top 6 may continue until 4:00 pm (or later if agreed by all affected teams). The Venue is rotated among the Leagues per MASSA's League rotation rules.

Spring Fleet Race Championship: Schools wishing to attend must qualify within their League. The Championship will be a 2 day event with races ending 2pm on Sunday or the completion of 1 full round robin whichever comes first. The Venue is rotated among the Leagues per MASSA's League rotation rules.

FALL:

Fall Team Race Championship: Schools wishing to attend must qualify within their League. The Championship will be a 2 day event. The 1st day is seeded qualifiers using whatever local facilities to maximize participants with the goal of qualifying teams for the 2nd day. Racing ends at the earlier of 2pm on Sunday or the completion of the NOR specified rounds. The Venue is rotated among the Leagues per MASSA's League rotation rules.

Fall Fleet Race Championship: Schools wishing to attend must qualify within their League. The Championship will be a 2 day event with races ending 2pm on Sunday or the completion of 1 full round robin whichever comes first. The Venue is rotated among the Leagues per MASSA's League rotation rules.

**District Qualifiers:**

SPRING:

Baker Qualifier: The District's Spring Team Race Championship shall be the qualifier for the ISSA Baker National Championship. The Fall Team Race Championship is the back-up qualifier.

Mallory Qualifier: The District's Spring Fleet Race Championship shall be the qualifier for the ISSA Mallory National Championship. The Fall Fleet Race Championship is the back-up qualifier.

FALL:

Cressy Qualifier: The District shall hold in September a byob qualifier for the ISSA Cressy National Championship. All sailors from properly registered and paid schools shall have the right to attend

ACC's Qualifier: The Fall District Fleet Race Championship is used to determine who qualifies to represent MASSA at the ACC's. The at-large-bids available to MASSA schools are to be awarded in the order of finish at the Fall District Fleet Race Championship and then to schools on a first come basis.

Great Oaks Qualifier: There shall be no regatta qualifier. Selection process is first come, first served by interested schools signing up directly with the Great Oaks hosts. Teams can make travel arrangements in advance, which will reduce dropouts.

National Keel Boat Champ Qualifier: This qualifier is to be held at a location that can provide reasonably matched keel boats for the participants. If the number of applicants grows larger than can be handled by a single District Qualifiers, League qualifiers will be used to qualify schools for the event.

### **District Championship and Qualifier Eligibility:**

To be eligible to sail in fall or spring District events, school teams must meet the following requirements:

- a. Registration must be completed and dues (ISSA and MASSA) must have been received by the League Director, or an official League representative, at least 14 days before the District event.
- b. For ISSA Qualifiers and District Championships that serve as an ISSA Qualifier, all ISSA Eligibility Requirements must be satisfied.
- c. For the Fall District Championships, all ISSA Eligibility requirements must be met, except that 8<sup>th</sup> graders may sail. If a back-up Fall District Championship is actually used as the qualifier for a national championship, then any teams that had sailors under 9th grade sailing in that event would not be qualified to participate in that National Championship.

### **League Allocations:**

Allocations for district fleet racing events will be based on the ratio of the number of teams in a league that have been actively fleet racing throughout the season, divided by the number of teams actively fleet racing in the district throughout the season. Similarly, allocations for district team racing events will be based on the ratio of the number of teams in a league that have been actively team racing throughout the season, divided by the number of teams actively team racing in the district throughout the season. The League Directors will provide these numbers to the District Director by the Tuesday prior to the weekend before the District Fleet or Team Racing Regatta to give the District sufficient time to calculate allocation numbers by the weekend before that District Regatta. League Director will provide the names of the team(s) that will attend the District event the Monday before the event. Each league will be allowed a minimum of 1 team to attend the District Fleet or Team Racing Regatta. If the District holds a semifinal preliminary regatta to select teams to attend a final District Fleet or Team Racing Regatta, the allocation system will apply only to the semifinal preliminary regatta. For the purposes of allocations, an "active" fleet racing team means a team that actually races in at least one fleet racing regatta during this season, and an "active" team racing team means a team that actually races in at least one team racing regatta during this season.

### **Team Attendance / Drop-Outs:**

By the Monday before the event, each League Director must notify the District Regatta Host and the District Director of the names of the teams who will fill the League's allocated berths at a district event. If a team drops out after that Monday commitment, the team will forfeit their qualification berth at the next district event for which they would otherwise be qualified by their league to attend. The District

Director may waive this penalty for valid reason, e.g. if the team had no way of knowing that it was not able to participate in the regatta until too late.

### **Participation of 7th & 8th Grade Sailors in District and League Events**

7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders are not allowed in MASSA Qualifiers for ISSA Championships. All ISSA eligibility requirements must be met for all MASSA qualifiers for ISSA Championships. ISSA does not allow participation by 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders in ISSA Championships.

MASSA allows 8<sup>th</sup> graders to participate in the Fall District Championships. However, the Fall District Championships are the backup qualifiers for the Baker and Mallory National Championships. If a backup Fall District Championship is actually used as the qualifier for a national championship, then any teams that had sailors under 9th grade sailing in that event would not be qualified to participate in that National Championship.

Leagues are allowed to make their own rules about whether 7th and 8th graders can participate in league regattas. Students attending feeder schools in grades under 9th grade will be allowed to sail on the feeder school's high school team subject to any league and district age requirements. A feeder school for a high school is a school from which, after a particular student graduated from it, he or she would attend that high school.

### **Regatta Venue Selection Procedures - League Rotation**

MASSA regatta venues are selected by rotating venues through the leagues with approved venues. To get in the rotation for a District event, a league must establish an acceptable venue.

Venue requirements for fleet events: 18 evenly matched boats, reasonably reliable wind, adequate sailing area; reasonable location for rotations, bathrooms (can be port-a-potties) and a place to get out of the rain (can be a tent).

Venue Requirements for team racing regattas: two 18 boat fleets in reasonably close proximity, with two suitable racing areas with reasonably close rotation docks; reasonably reliable wind; bathrooms (can be port-a-potties) and a place to get out of the rain (can be a tent). To become a venue for a MASSA team race qualifier, the venue shall be tested in a fall team race championship (unless it has hosted high college team race championships or qualifiers). Rochester is being tested in fall 2014. There are three BOD approved team race "qualifier" venues: AYC/SSA; St Mary's/SCC; and NYCC/ODU

## **Regatta Standards**

Click [here](#) to see MASSA Regatta standards.

## **Miscellaneous MASSA Regatta Rules**

**WET/DRY-SUITS:** Wet or dry suits, may be required in the reasonable discretion of a race committee at any MASSA regatta.

**TEAM PINNIES/UNIFORMS** - All student-athletes competing in MASSA doublehanded championship regattas shall wear a pinnie (or similar uniform) designating their high school. The pinnie shall be worn over the lifejacket, or the school designation may be applied directly to lifejackets. To designate the high school, any combination of the high school's name, nickname, mascot, or other identifying image shall be present on the back of the uniform and, except for an individual's name or number, shall be the same for all team members competing. MASSA recommends that the image used to designate the high school be at least 8" X 8" in size. A high school team whose student-athletes fail to wear uniforms for each race in a MASSA doublehanded championship regatta shall be penalized as described below, without a hearing, by the Regatta Chairperson (Changes RRS 63.1 & A5). For a MASSA fleet racing championship regatta the team shall have 20 POINTS PER DIVISION added to their final regatta score. For a MASSA team racing championship regatta the team shall have TWO WINS subtracted and TWO LOSSES added to their final regatta score.