Support Team Regulations



ADDENDUM "Support Team Regulations"

1. General

- 1.1 These Support Team Regulations (STR) shall apply at all times while support persons are at the venue or on the racing area.
- 1.2 For the purposes of these regulations, a support boat includes any boat that is under the control or direction of a person who does or may provide physical or advisory support to an athlete, including the gathering of data that may be used at a later time.
- 1.3 The organizing authority may inspect boats at any time to ensure that they comply with these regulations, and the person responsible for the boat shall facilitate such inspection.
- 1.4 An alleged breach of any of these regulations may be referred to the international jury for a hearing. As a result of the hearing the international jury may take action under RRS 64.4 or exclude the person from the event or venue or remove any privileges or benefits for a specified period or for the remainder of the competition. Note also, action may be taken under RRS 69.2.
- 1.5 The organizing authority may change these regulations at any time. Any changes will be published on the official notice board.
- 1.6 The organizing authority may, at its discretion, refuse to register support boats not deemed to be suitable. Generally, open boats more than 4.0m and less than 7.5m in length and having minimal or no superstructure (cabin, support house, bridge, etc.) are considered suitable.
- 1.7 All support persons shall be registered at the race office by 18:00 hrs. on the day before the first race. Support boats and designated drivers shall be registered at the race office either before leaving the venue by water for the first time or by 18:00 hrs. on the day before the first race of the class/event that it is supporting, whichever is earlier.
- 1.7.1 Only accredited persons may be designated drivers.
- 1.7.2 The person registering the support boat shall confirm that:
 - a) a valid insurance certificate showing proof of third-party liability coverage as required by the notice of race;
 - b) each designated driver has a motorboat driving license recognized by a national authority appropriate to the shipping waters; and
 - c) anyone who will be using a radio has an appropriate radio operation license recognized by a national authority.

2. Sailing Venue

- 2.1 Support boats shall use the designated slipway/area for launching. Once launched, trailers shall be moved immediately to the trailer park directed by the organizing authority.
- 2.2 When not in use, support boats shall be appropriately berthed at the sailing venue in the allocated areas for support boats.

3. Safety

- 3.1 Support boats shall carry on board:
 - life jackets / personal flotation devices for all passengers and the driver
 - first-aid kit;
 - VHF radio;
 - device for making sound signals;
 - compass;
 - adequate anchor and tackle for conditions and depth;
 - tow rope (minimum 15m long and 10mm thick);
 - operational engine kill cord (also known as a safety lanyard or automatic engine immobilizer);
 - hand pump or bailer;

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- knife;
- red-white-striped hazard tape;
- any additional safety equipment required by local maritime law.
- 3.2 Support persons shall wear personal flotation devices at all times while afloat, except briefly while changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment. Support persons shall use the kill cord at all times when the engine is running.
- 3.3 The number of passengers shall never exceed the maximum plated / certified passenger limits for the boat.
- 3.4 Team leaders are responsible for overseeing the safe operation of their support boats on the water, including knowledge of who is afloat and ensuring their safe return to the venue.
- 3.5 At all times support persons including the registered driver(s) of a support boat shall comply with directions given by or under the authority of a race official. This includes assisting in rescue operations when requested to do so.

4. General Restrictions

- 4.1 The registered driver(s) of a support boat shall be responsible for the control of the boat at all times.
- 4.2 Support boats shall not leave any device, piece of equipment, buoy, marker or similar item permanently in the water. Temporary use of floating objects is allowed for current measurement. These objects shall be removed from the water as soon as the measurement has been taken.
- 4.3 Support boats shall take particular care to minimize their wash.

5. Race Area Restrictions

- 5.1 Support boats shall not be positioned:
- 5.1.1 Closer than 50 meters of any boat racing.
- 5.1.2 Within 50 meters of the starting line and starting marks from the time of the warning signal until all boats have left the starting area, or the race committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment.
- 5.1.3 Between any boat racing and the next mark of the course.
- 5.1.4 Between the inner and outer trapezoid courses when boats are racing on both courses.
- 5.1.5 Within 50 meters of any mark of the course while boats are in the vicinity of that mark.
- 5.1.6 Within 50 meters of the finishing line and finishing marks while boats are finishing.
- 5.2 In addition, support boats that are motoring above 5 knots shall remain at least 150 meters from any boat racing.