



# 2025 Snipe new rules

# Class Rules

- A few changes approved
- In force until 2028
- Only minor amendments to modify unclear rules or inconsistencies are possible

Effective date: 2025-01-01  
Status: Approved



## Class Rules

Snipe Class International  
Racing Association



The Snipe was designed in 1931 by William F. Crosby and was adopted as a World Sailing class in 1932. Photo taken by Matias Capizzano

sport / nature / technology





# Class Rules - 1

- C.7.2 LIMITATIONS
- C.8.3 LIMITATIONS
- C.9.2 LIMITATIONS
- C.10.3 LIMITATIONS



Replacement of damaged hull, appendages, rig or sails shall be authorized by the event's Technical Committee if present

# Class Rules - 2

## C.8.4 DAGGERBOARD

### (a) LIMITATIONS

The daggerboard retracted position limit mark shall be: [...]

- Marked with paint or an approved tape in a contrasting colour on both sides. Tape must have been specifically approved by SCIRA on a case-by-case basis. The list is promulgated as a Circular Letter by the SCIRA Technical Committee Chairman.
- Minimum 25 mm high.
- Extend the full width of the daggerboard



Added the possibility to use a specific tape (not any kind of tape) other than paint to draw the limit mark

Established that the mark shall extend full width of the board

# Class Rules - 3

## C.10.1 GENERAL

- a) Sails manufactured before **the effective date of these class rules** shall comply with the class rules in force at the time of manufacture.
- (b) Sails manufactured from **the effective date of these class rules** shall comply with these class rules.



The reference date for the sails compliance is no more a fixed date. Nothing changes in the sails shape.



# Class Rules - 4

## APPROVED BY THE BOARD

Bare mast weight,  
Clean mast weight does not include spreaders,  
shrouds or stay with their corresponding hardware,  
any type of support for the compass, any type of  
support and pulley for launching the whiskerpole.  
For mast built after Jan 1st, 2024



Beginning **2028**, new bare masts shall  
have a minimum weight of 7,9kg.

**Not effective in 2025**

# Constitution

Added inclusivity and flexibility.  
Sections remodelled to add  
coherence



SNIPE CLASS INTERNATIONAL RACING ASSOCIATION

## CONSTITUTION

*As approved by the Board of Governors - Effective January 1<sup>st</sup> 2025 – New rules in red.*

### Section 1. *Name*

The organization shall be known as the Snipe Class International Racing Association. It is a non-profit corporation under the laws of the State of Ohio, U.S.A.

### Section 2. *Insignia and Emblem*

The insignia of the International Snipe Class shall be a silhouette of a flying Snipe as illustrated and the crest of the Class, both which are trademarks of the Association that are registered in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

### Section 3. *Object*

To promote racing of sailboats of the International Snipe Class properly regulated to ensure that all boats have identical racing capabilities to as great a degree as possible.

### Section 4. *Jurisdiction*

The Association shall have jurisdiction over all Snipe activities, and these shall include: (a) establishment of a proper constitution and by-laws (b) regulation of all rules and restrictions established to insure the above stated purpose (c) the collection of necessary fees from the members to insure supervision of the class and the execution of proper supervision.

### Section 5. *Eligibility*

Membership is open to all those who sail Snipe Class sailboats that have been properly measured and are currently registered, displaying the decal of the current year and in compliance with the requirements of the Snipe Class.

### Section 6. *Organization*

The Association shall consist of members usually organized into Fleets. These may be members of one Yacht Club or where more practical, from several yacht clubs in an area. A member may be unattached to a regular Snipe Fleet where formation of an official Fleet is impracticable.

### Section 7. *Charters*

A new Fleet may be granted a charter and Fleet number from the Association upon application to the Executive Director through the National Secretary. Such application can only be made after the Fleet has been provisionally organized and the necessary Fleet officers and measurer elected to office in accordance with the SCIRA Rule Book. A charter may be refused by the Association.

### Section 8. *Charter Renewal*

Each Fleet number shall be assigned according to the order of application and the charter shall be automatically renewed from year to year until revoked by the Association.

### Section 9. *Fleet Formation*

*A new Fleet may organize with one-boat minimum, built to conform to the rules, under a temporary charter for one year; the second year, they can have an official fleet with only two boats; the third year, three or more boats; the charter to be granted by the Association.*

Such fleets shall be headed by a Fleet Captain, elected by the members. There shall be a Measurer or Measurement Committee for each Fleet, also elected by the members. Meetings may be called by the Fleet Captain either at regular intervals or at the request of three or more members of such Fleets. A quorum shall consist of at least 50% plus one of the members that have paid dues for the current year. Vacancies occurring among the officers of a Fleet shall be filled by an election as soon as possible after the vacancy. In other respects, each Fleet shall be entirely self-governing except in matters conflicting with the rules of the Class. It is recommended that Fleet officers be elected for a 2-year term, taking office January 1<sup>st</sup> of each even-numbered year.

### Section 10. *Fleets Within Yacht Clubs*

In cases where a Fleet is formed within the membership of a yacht club, the Fleet Captain and Measurer shall function according to the Class Rules and the Fleet shall live up to the Class Rules in every way.

### Section 11. *Activities*

Each Fleet is encouraged to subdivide according to age and skill. A Junior Fleet should be enthusiastically encouraged, trained, supported, and promoted. A sailor is considered a Junior until the year of his/her twenty-second birthday. The Junior Fleet shall come under jurisdiction of its Senior Fleet but may elect its own officer and hold its own meetings and point-score races exactly like any other Fleet but shall not be recognized as a Fleet by the Association. Junior Fleets shall



# Constitution-1

- Section 9. FLEET FORMATION

A new Fleet may organize with one-boat minimum, built to conform to the rules, under a temporary charter for one year; the second year, they can have an official fleet with only two boats; the third year, three or more boats; the charter to be granted by the Association.



To eliminate the incongruence between the first and last paragraphs of Section 9, it has been clarified the correct process to charter a fleet. Also updated Section 14 to comply with the new requirements



# Constitution-2

- Section 18. RECOGNITION OF NATION

To represent a Nation, a Member (owner or non-owner) shall be associated to that Country's Association and citizen or resident from at least one year **and member of the MNA (Member National Authority recognised by World Sailing)** of the Country he/she represents.

**Once at least one boat is registered and a National Secretary is elected, a Country is recognised by the Association.**



According to Section 6 of the Constitution, it's no longer necessary that a Fleet is chartered to recognize a Nation

# Constitution-3

- Sections 23 to 30



Paragraphs moved to make the sections coherent.

Central Europe sub continent created,  
East Europe eliminated  
Elections terms and events schedule  
rewritten to comply with the current  
situation.



# Rules of Conduct-1

3.5 All claims of damage requiring replacement shall be petitioned to the Race Committee in writing and all replacements **shall comply with the Class Rules** and shall be approved by the event's **Technical Committee** (if present)



To comply with the RRS and the Class Rules

# Rules of Conduct-2

5.5 A **permanent** wind variation of 20 degrees or more from the posted bearing during the first leg of a race shall **be ground to apply RRS 32.1**

5.6 A **permanent** variation of 40 degrees or more off the posted bearing during the first lap shall **be ground to apply RRS 32.1**.  
For the purpose of this rule a lap means the rounding of mark 3 for the first time.



When a permanent wind variation occurs, the RC is no longer forced to abandon a race,  
but shall apply RRS 32.1



# Rules of Conduct-3

5.7 A fleet may be split with more than 80 boats



New rule.

This rule is subject to change only  
under approval of the Board for local  
requirements only

# Rules of Conduct-4

8.4 Z, U and Black flags rules are modified so that Race Committee may display at the first mark, or on the Race Committee boat in case of a general recall, the sail number(s) or bow number(s) of those boats that have infringed the rules. **The failure of posting an incomplete or wrong list will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).**




To avoid any confusions with the standard Sailing Instruction



# Rules of Conduct-5

11. Any five boats should be checked for required equipment and rule compliance immediately after their finish in each race **or the last race of the day if no return ashore.**



To avoid excessive or useless controls if case of multiple races in a single day

# Rules of Conduct-6

15.2 Penalties for breaking Class Rules may be less than disqualification. This changes RRS 64.2.



New rule.  
The class has a list of penalties for each violation.



# Deeds of Gift

All the DoGs have been updated to comply with all the new rules and with the current situation, giving more flexibility



# Notice of Race

- Updated to comply with the 2025 Class Rules and RoC
- Updated according to the WS RRS 25-28 requirements and template

## Standard Notice of Race Template

Event Hosts (affiliated Clubs or organizations) shall use this Notice of Race and the Class Sailing Instructions for all Championships. The regatta chairman or his/her designee for the regatta shall fill in the appropriate information were requested by < > or delete it as appropriate. Additional comments and instructions are found in red, and they must be deleted. No additions or deletions to this Notice of Race shall be permitted to alter the intent of the Class rules or instructions. No additions or changes shall be made without the prior approval of the regatta SCIRA Representative.

### NOTICE OF RACE SNIPE CLASS INTERNATIONAL RACING ASSOCIATION <name of the regatta> <name of deed of gift> <date>

**ORGANIZING AUTHORITY:**  
<insert name of the affiliated club and National Authority>, in co-operation with the Snipe Class International Racing Association

[SP] denotes a rule for which a standard penalty may be applied by the race committee or technical committee without a hearing or a discretionary penalty applied by the International Jury with a hearing. (Changes rule RRS ~~60.5(b)~~, A4 and A5).  
[NP] denotes a rule that shall not be grounds for protests by a boat. (Changes RRS 60.1 ~~(a)~~)

## 1 RULES

The regatta will be governed by:

- 1.1 → The rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing. (RRS)
- 1.2 → The SCIRA Rules of Conduct for Conducting National and International Championship Regattas (RoC) available at [https://www.snipe.org/images/2021/SCIRA\\_2021\\_Rules\\_of\\_Conduct\\_final.pdf](https://www.snipe.org/images/2021/SCIRA_2021_Rules_of_Conduct_final.pdf)
- 1.3 → The Deed of Gift, available at <http://www.snipe.org/class/deeds-of-gift>.
- 1.4 → The RRS 30.4, 32.1, 32.2, 33, 35, ~~60.5(c)~~, ~~64.3~~ 61.5(c), ~~61.4(b)(1)~~ A4 and A5 are changed, as specified in the Sailing Instructions according with SCIRA Rules of Conduct for Conducting National and International Championship Regattas (RoC).
- 1.5 → **[\*Optional – if pertinent\*]** The RoC sections <insert the appropriate section> modified as specified in the Sailing Instructions.
- 1.6 → **[\*Optional\*]** No national prescriptions will apply. *(OR)* No national prescriptions will apply, except the following: <Insert prescriptions>
- 1.7 → No drones are allowed closer than 500 m from racing areas from the Warning Signal for a race and after the last boat has finished the last race of the day. This does not apply to OA drones.
- 1.8 → **[\*For regattas employing an international jury according appendix N\*]** The decision of the Jury will be final in accordance with RRS 70.5.
- 1.9 → **[\*Optional\*]** RRS Appendix T will apply.
- 1.10 → Appendix P will apply.
- 1.11 → **[\*Optional\*]** Rule 40.1 Personal Flotation Device applies at all times while afloat. *(This changes RRS Preamble of Part 4)*
- 1.12 → If there is a conflict between languages the English will take precedence.

## 2 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 → The sailing instructions will be available after <time> on <date> at <location>.

## 3 COMMUNICATION

- 3.1 → The online official notice board is located at <URL> *(OR)* <location>.
- 3.2 → Except in an emergency or when using equipment provided by the race committee, a boat that is racing shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.



# Sailing Instructions

- Updated to comply with all the 2025 Class Rules and RoC
- Updated according to the WS RRS 25-28 requirements and template
- A combined NoR and SI template is also available

Standard Sailing Instructions

Template

In accordance with RRS Part 7, 89.1(d) the organizing authority for all Class Championships and Sanctioned Regattas is the Snipe Class International Racing Association. Event Hosts (affiliated clubs or organizations) shall use these Sailing Instructions for all Championship and Sanctioned regattas. The Principal Race Officer (PRO) for the regatta shall fill in the appropriate information where requested as indicated by < > or delete sections not relevant. Specific advice and directives are bracketed [ \* - \* ]. No additions or deletions to these instructions shall be permitted to alter the intent of the Class rules. No additions or changes shall be made without the prior approval of the regatta SCIRA Representative.

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

SNIPES CLASS INTERNATIONAL RACING ASSOCIATION

<Name of the Regatta>

<Name of Deed of Gift Trophy>

<Date>

<Name of Yacht Club>

<Location>

[SP] denotes a rule for which a standard penalty may be applied by the race committee or technical committee without a hearing or a discretionary penalty applied by the International Jury with a hearing.

[NP] denotes a rule that shall not be grounds for protests by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1

1 → RULES

The regatta will be governed by:

1.1 → The rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)

1.2 → The SCIRA Rules of Conduct for Conducting National and International Championship Regattas (RoC) available at [https://www.snipe.org/images/2021/SCIRA\\_2021\\_Rules\\_of\\_Conduct\\_final.pdf](https://www.snipe.org/images/2021/SCIRA_2021_Rules_of_Conduct_final.pdf)

1.3 → The Deed of Gift, available at <http://www.snipe.org/class/deeds-of-gift>

1.4 → If there is a conflict between languages the English will take precedence

2 → CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

2.1 → Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before <insert time> on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by <insert time> on the day before it will take effect.

2.2 → Any change or amendment to the Sailing Instructions shall be approved with the SCIRA Representative.

3 → COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

3.1 → Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board(s) located at <URL> (OR) <location>

4 → CODE OF CONDUCT

4.1 → [DP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.

4.2 → [DP] Competitors and support persons shall <place advertising provided> by the organizing authority with care, seamanship, in accordance with any instructions for its use and without interfering with its functionality.

5 → SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

5.1 → Signals made ashore will be displayed at <Insert location>

5.2 → When the "AP" race signal is displayed ashore, "1 minute" is replaced with "not less than <Insert number of minutes> minutes" in the race signal "AP". This changes Race Signals.

5.3 → [DP] Flag D with one sound means "Boats shall not leave the [harbour][shore] until this signal is made. The warning signal will not be made before the scheduled time or less than <number> minutes after flag D is displayed."

6 → SCHEDULE OF RACES

6.1 → Dates of racing:

Date	Time of Warning Signal	
		Practice race
		Racing
		Racing



# Measurement Handbook

- Updated to the 2025 Class Rules
- New photos added
- Several improvements to the instructions and the information
- Full coverage of the procedures at events, with remote and on site measurements guidelines

Snipe Class International Racing Association



2025 Snipe Class

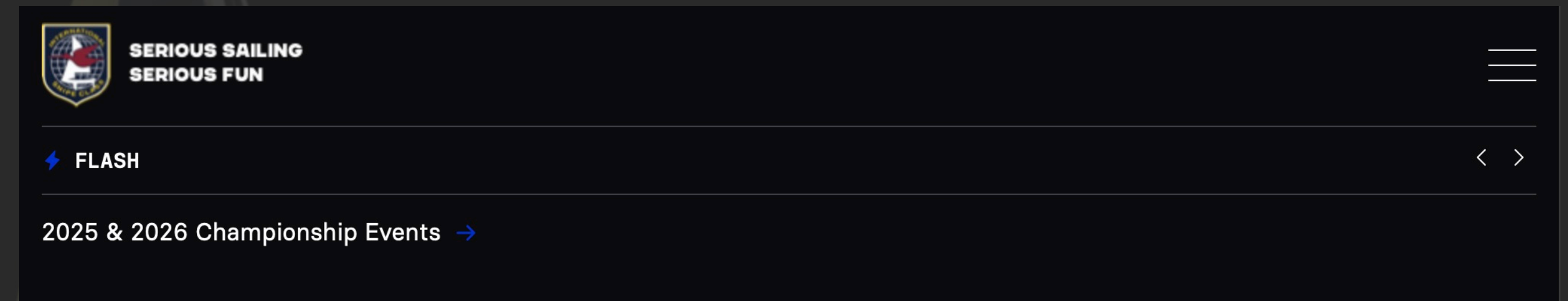
## Measurement Handbook



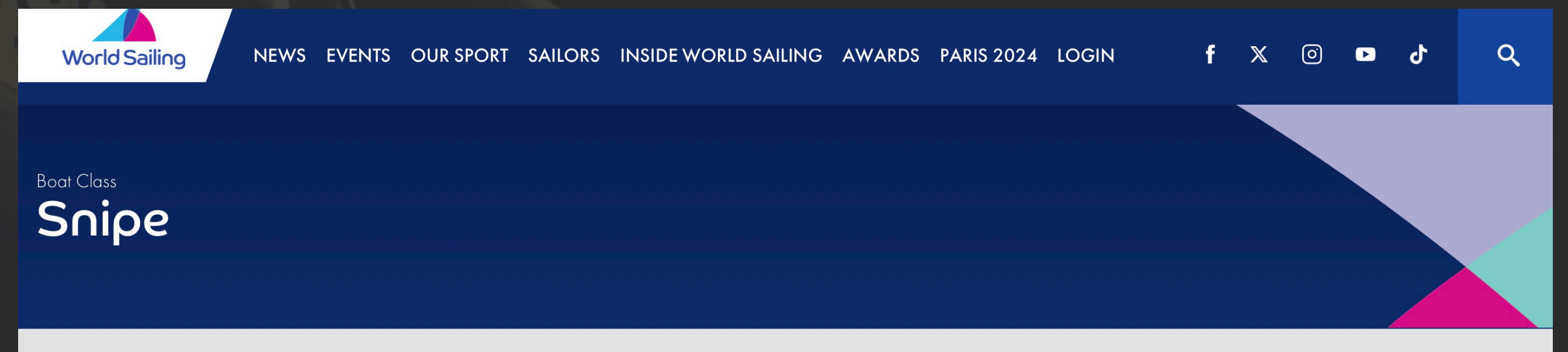


# Finding info

snipe.org



sailing.org



snipetonight.org



and on several official socials

