

## **VISA CoVID Protocols FINAL 08/03/2021**

All VISA regattas shall follow the following protocols for the Fall 2021 season. All events will be in compliance with the governor's guidelines for recreational sports and are subject to change as the guidelines are changed.

1. **No Competitors Meetings or Gatherings.** There shall be no Competitors' Meeting or other organized gathering of competitors. Instead, the information shared at the Competitor's Meetings shall be shared as follows:
  - a. a. The Sailing Instructions shall be posted on-line setting forth the basic instructions governing the regatta.
  - b. Virtual Competitors meeting notes will be emailed to the VISA General email list with any host or venue specific requirements including logistics (where parking is allowed, where bathrooms are located, launching instructions, locations for viewing and substitutions, etc.) and any changes to the sailing instructions.
  
2. **Boat Assignments - No Rotations.** Each team will be assigned specific boats, and teams shall not rotate through boats. Prior to each regatta, the VISA President or designee shall review boat assignments to assure fairness.
  - a. A random selection process shall be employed except at venues where specific teams have assumed liability for maintaining a portion of the regatta fleet. In such instances, the teams who have assumed the duty to maintain boats shall be assigned boats that they have the duty to maintain. The VISA President or designee shall review all such assignments to assure fairness.
  - b. Any team wishing to use boats assigned to teams who have the duty to maintain the boats will be allowed to use the boats if they pay a fair share of the maintenance/repair/replacement costs being shouldered by the team maintaining the boats.
  
3. **Pre-Regatta Procedures.**
  - a. The Team Responsibility duties include:
    - i. Ask screening questions of each person (spectator, coach, volunteer or sailor) entering the regatta venue before they may enter the venue. Keep a written record of the number of sailors and adults screened and any irregularities or concerns. Report irregularities and concerns in writing to the event host representative and the League Director.
    - ii. Require each person entering the regatta venue to wear an appropriate face covering (mask or gaiter).

4. **Rig-up and Launching.** Each Regatta Host Team/Venue shall provide regatta launch instructions that incorporate the following concepts:
  - a. Teams rigging boats shall be no less than 6 feet from other teams. This requirement will mean at most venues that only every-other boat may be rigged at one time and that the teams rigging boats must launch and depart the dock before the adjoining boats may be rigged.
  - b. Teams launching boats shall remain at least 6 feet from other teams.
  - c. Teams shall rig, launch and depart the launching area promptly. Teams may be penalized if its delays cause delay to the regatta.
  
5. **Substitution Dock.**
  - a. Each Team shall set up in a space on the substitution dock or on land nearby with ample room for reasonable distancing among team members. Team areas shall be separated by a minimum of 8 feet.
  - b. Team members, coaches and designated team representatives may be on the substitution dock. Spectators shall not be allowed on the substitution dock.
  
6. **Substitutions** (A/B switches and other substitutions). Boats may temporarily land at the substitution dock subject to the following rules:
  - a. Boats may land only at locations where a seaman-like landing is appropriate (eg - downwind or cross-wind dock faces, etc.).
  - b. Teams shall land only when (i) a space 6 feet from any other boat is available and (ii) team-mates to be substituted into the boat are present and prepared to make substitutions.
  - c. Team-members shall promptly switch into the boats and depart the dock if any boats are waiting to dock for substitutions. If repairs are required, repairs may be made at the substitution dock or at such other locations as the regatta host designates.
  - d. Coaches shall not delay substitutions with coaching or instructions if any boat is waiting to land for a substitution.
  
7. **Coaching from the Substitution Dock.**
  - a. Coaches shall not delay substitutions with coaching instructions.
  - b. If available, given wind conditions and directions, coaches may find other areas to coach from the dock provided they do not infringe on individual team spaces.
  - c. Coaches shall maintain social distancing of no less than six (6) feet from other teams.

**8. De-rig.**

- a. Boats returning to the dock will be held off by coaches in motor boats and will be allowed to dock only when the adjacent berths are clear such that sailors will only occupy every other berth on the dock at maximum at any given time.
- b. Boats returning to be hauled and de-rigged shall not approach the dock or ramp until ample space of at least 6 feet from all other boats is available.
- c. Teams shall promptly haul, de-rig and depart from the dock in order to allow others space to haul and de-rig.

**9. Face Covering.**

- a. Masks or gaiters are required by VISA at all spaces within the regatta venue when within ten feet of other individuals, except while sailing or within the Team's designated space on the dock or on land.
- b. Face coverings are not required by VISA while competitors are sailing or within the team's designated space (but may be required by coaches or teams dependent on testing, coach, school, parent and other internal team considerations).
- c. Masks will be put back on immediately before returning to the dock. All sailors, coaches, and on the water volunteers should have an extra mask in a ziplock bag so that a dry mask will be available when returning to the dock. Failure to do so could result in disqualification and loss of eligibility to compete at the next event.

**10. Protest hearings.**

- a. Regatta hosts may require that protests be heard after the event by zoom or other remote video access.
- b. If protests are to be heard on-site at the regatta, ample room shall be provided to adhere to appropriate social distancing and only out-door or other well ventilated spaces may be used. Face coverings must be worn.

**11. Spectators.**

- a. Spectators are not allowed in rig-up/launch areas, on substitution dock or in individual Team Designated Areas.
- b. Venues may designate a spectator area.
- c. Spectators shall be required to wear face coverings within all allowed areas of the regatta venue and shall be required to practice appropriate social distancing. Consenting adults may forgo face coverings in proximity of one another, but must remain ten feet from other individuals/groups.

**12. Waivers.** Participants and coaches will sign COVID waivers for both YSV and NYCC.

### **13. Team responsibility**

- a. Individual teams are welcome to develop protocols in addition to these which may include face coverings (gaiters) on the water, consistent skipper/crew pairs, social distancing within your group, symptom surveys, etc.
- b. It is recommended that teams have a designated parent at each event responsible for ensuring that VISA and team protocols are adhered to.

### **14. Positive and Suspected CoVID Cases**

- a. If an individual sailor either tests positive or has a suspected case of CoVID or CoVID-like illness, the sailor's guardian or coach will immediately notify NYCC, YSV, and VISA in writing.
- b. The individual sailor who either tests positive or has a suspected case of CoVID or CoVID-like illness, will be prohibited from attending regattas until two weeks after symptoms resolve, or they present written medical clearance to return to social activities to VISA.
- c. The team of a positive or suspected case of CoVID or CoVID-like illness shall not attend VISA regattas for a period of two weeks after last contact with the ill sailor. This prohibition from regatta attendance extends to any team that practices, with the positive or suspected case, with the exception of on the water drills and racing.