

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS FOR CLUB RACING

1. Rules

- 1.1** Racing will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the prescriptions of the RYA and the rules of the relevant Class Associations, except as any of these are changed by these instructions.
- 1.2** Before racing, each helmsman must enter their name, craft number and THE HANDICAP NUMBER applicable to the appropriate handicap for the hull/rig combination approved and published by the Racing Committee, on the appropriate entry form on the Club signing-on desk. A boat not completing the sign on procedure and continuing to race will be scored DNF.

2. Notices to Competitors

- 2.1** Notices to competitors will be posted adjacent to the signing-on sheets in the ground floor Cafe.
- 2.2** Special instructions for a particular class or start will be shown on their signing-on sheet.

3. Changes to Sailing Instructions

Alterations, amendments or additions to these instructions may be made by the Race Committee at any time. Changes will be displayed adjacent to the signing-on desk, not later than 1 hour before any start affected.

4. Signals made ashore

Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flagpole number 1 (one) in front of the Club House on the shore side.

5. Schedule of Races: see Supplementary Sailing Instructions

6. Class flags will not be used: start sequences will be indicated using **numeral boards** displayed from the Committee Boat.

- 7. Racing Area:** The racing area may be indicated on the wall map above the signing-on desk in the wet bar or on the map on the west wall of the Coxswains' Shed.

8. Course and Course Instructions: see Supplementary Sailing Instructions

9. Marks see Supplementary Sailing Instructions

10. Areas that are obstructions see Supplementary Sailing Instructions

11. The start see Supplementary Sailing Instructions

12 Spare

13 The Finish see Supplementary Sailing Instructions

- 14. Penalty System:** RRS 44.1 and 44.2 apply, except that a penalty of one turn replaces the two turns penalty.

15. Time limit.

- 15.1** RRS 35 will not apply. A boat that has not finished within 20 minutes after the first boat in her class start will be scored DNF. The Race Committee may then lower all flags and make a sound signal.
- 15.2** A boat that does not finish or retires after finishing shall mark 'RTD' against her sail number no later than 30 minutes after the last boat finishes that race. When races are held 'back to back' the Committee Boat Race Officer shall be informed before the start of the next race.

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16. Protests

- 16.1** The Race Committee shall be notified of the intent to protest as soon as practicable after the race has finished. Protests or requests for redress shall be written on the form available from the Secretariat and **delivered to the Race Committee** within 60 minutes of the finishing time of the last boat in the protestor's class. The Protest Committee may waive the time limit in exceptional circumstances.
- 16.2** A boat that may have broken a rule of RRS Part 2, or RRS 31.1 or 42, may, after finishing the race concerned and before the start of a related protest hearing, notify the race committee that she accepts a 20% scoring penalty as stated in RRS 44.3(c), (except that the minimum penalty is two places if that does not result in a score worse than DNF). This penalty does not reverse an OCS score, a disqualification under RRS 30.3 or a penalty under RRS Appendix P. It is not available for a breach of RRS 2 or of class rules or for gross misconduct under RRS 69. Nor is it available to a boat that caused injury or serious damage, or gained a significant advantage by her breach: in these circumstances, her penalty is to retire.
- 16.3** When an Exoneration Penalty is accepted, (a) Neither the boat nor a protest committee may then revoke or remove the penalty. (b) The boat shall not be penalized further in a protest hearing when the protest committee decides that it was appropriate to the facts found and the applicable rules.
- 16.4** A protest or a request for redress will in the first instance be dealt with by RYA Arbitration.
- 16.5** If the parties and a member of the protest or race committee agree that RYA Arbitration is suitable, an arbitrator (who may be that member of the protest committee) will call a hearing conforming to Section B of Part 5 of the Racing Rules of Sailing, except that RRS 64.1 will not apply. Instead, when the arbitrator decides that a boat that is a party to the arbitration hearing has broken a rule for which the Exoneration Penalty is available, the party will be invited to accept that penalty, and, if it is accepted by a protested boat, the protesting boat will be allowed to withdraw the protest, changing RRS 63.1.
- 16.6** When, after RYA Arbitration, a protest is not withdrawn or the Exoneration Penalty is not applicable to the facts, there will be a normal protest hearing, at which the arbitrator may be a member of the protest committee. RRS 66 will not apply to the arbitration decision. A boat may accept an Exoneration Penalty at any time before the start of a protest hearing and receive its protection from further penalization. She may also retire.
- 16.7** Protests will be heard as soon as possible after the race. Only in exceptional circumstances will the protest/arbitration not be held on the day of the incident. The time, date and place of the protest hearing will be posted on the signing-on desk.
- 16.8** No Boat needs to display a red flag while informing a protestee of the intention to protest. This modifies RRS 61.1 (a) 2.
- 16.9** No action by a Safety Boat when performing activities deemed necessary for safety reasons will constitute grounds for protest or redress.

17. Scoring

- 17.1** The Low Point Scoring System of Appendix A will apply except that A8.2 is replaced by the following:
If a tie cannot be broken by A8.1 (most number of firsts, seconds etc.) then the tie shall be broken in favour of the best discard. If a tie still exists after the best discard is taken into consideration, then the second best discard (3rd, 4th etc.) will be considered until the tie is broken.
- 17.2** The number of races to count in a series shall be 1+30% of the number of races (ignoring fractions) available in that series. RRS - A9 will apply for club series.
- 17.3** The handicap races shall be sailed on the basis of Handicap Numbers approved by the Club Racing Committee.
- 17.4** In the event of the number of starts being reduced, fleet results will be extracted from the finishing order.

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18. Safety

- 18.1** The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone. RRS 4.
- 18.2** The provision of a race management team, RIBs and other officials and volunteers does not relieve the boat of their own responsibilities.
- 18.3** The provision of RIB cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can practically be provided in the circumstances.
- 18.4** It is a condition of racing that a Competitor shall comply with the instructions of Safety Boat crews. Any action by these crews solely intended to ensure the safety of a competitor, such as recovering crew or separated components of the boat, is not "outside help" as defined in RRS 41 and is not subject to protest from another competitor. The competitor may continue to race.
- 18.5** Where the Safety Boat crew renders assistance greater than that necessary solely for the safety considerations, such as righting or re-orientating the boat, providing spares or effecting repairs, the crew may so advise the competitor who shall retire immediately.
- 18.6** No action by a Safety Boat when performing activities deemed necessary for safety reasons will constitute grounds for redress.

19. Replacement of Crew

- 19.1** For races comprising a club series, only the helm named on the signing on sheet will be eligible to count points towards the series results.
- 19.2** If a different helm is nominated to complete a race in the same boat, they must record a separate entry on the signing on sheet.
- 19.3** Helms may change boats within the same class during a series and have their results included in that series provided they record this change on the signing on sheet.
- 19.4** In two person boats, the registered helm for a series may change crews without notifying the Race Committee.
- 19.5** Helms that change boats to any other class during a series must sign on as a separate entry.

20. Measurement compliance

- 20.1** All boats racing must hold valid certificates of measurement together with, if required by class rules, a current buoyancy test endorsement. Boat owners to whom this rule applies are required to comply with this instruction at all times. Failure to comply may result in exclusion from racing results
- 20.2** Sailing Committee reserve the right, at any time, to measure any boat, sails or gear.
- 20.3** Any helmsman intending to use sails differing in number from that of his boat must inform the Race Officer. Two boats of the same class may not use sails, other than spinnakers, with the same number without the Race Officer's prior approval. The Race Officer may treat as a non-starter any boat whose sail number is incomplete unless the helmsman can show that it was complete at the start of the race.