



CLUB SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

2021 - 2024

1.0 Rules

Racing will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing 2021 - 2024

2.0 Statement of Risk

2.1 Rule 3 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states: **"The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone."**

Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:

(a) They are aware of the inherent element of risk involved in the sport and accept responsibility for the exposure of themselves, their crew and their boat to such inherent risk whilst taking part in the event;

(b) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;

(c) They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;

(d) Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;

(e) The provision of a race management team, patrol boats and other officials and volunteers by the event organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;

(f) The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances;

(g) It is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks specific to this venue or this event referred to in the Sailing Instructions and to attend any safety briefing held at the venue.

2.2 All boats shall be insured against a third-party claim, for a minimum figure of £3,000,000 at all times when on the Club premises.

2.3 Competitors must be fully paid up members of the Club in order to score points.

2.4 Under exceptional circumstances the race committee may permit a boat to use sails carrying a distinguishing number other than that required by rule 77. The person in charge should ensure that the correct number for the boat appears on the race result sheet.

3.0 Safety

3.1 Rule 40.1 only applies if flag Y is displayed ashore with one sound signal before or with the warning signal, while racing in that race. This alters rule 40.1(b), 3.2 Personal buoyancy and thermal clothing shall always be worn by all competitors between 1st November and 31st March and by Junior Members, without the flying of flag Y . Failure to comply shall result in disqualification without protest, which changes rule 63. Wet/dry suits alone do not constitute adequate personal buoyancy. This changes rule 40.

4.0 Notices to Competitors

4.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board, which is to the right of the entrance to the changing rooms in the club house.

5.0 Changes in Sailing Instructions

5.1 These sailing instructions may be changed up to 10 minutes before the warning signal.

6.0 Signals Made Ashore

6.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the halyards on the starting bridge.

7.0 Schedule of Races

7.1 Races are scheduled as printed in the current Club Handbook or as updated on the Club website.

8.0 Class (Warning) Flags

8.1 The warning for the first start sequence in any race will be flag Q  and for the second start sequence it will be flag F . Other flags will be stated on the course board.

9.0 Course and Marks

9.1 i] The course can be made up using any of the Club buoys, together with additional ones laid by the race committee. The course will be shown on the official course board, which is above the middle slipway, and extra marks described thereon. Limit marks for the start and finish will usually fly a blue or orange flag. All marks are rounding marks unless otherwise stated.

ii] For windward-leeward courses the course will consist of a windward gate and a leeward gate. For the windward gate boats must pass between the two marks from the direction of the leeward gate before rounding either one of the two marks. For the leeward gate boats must pass between the two marks from the direction of the windward gate before rounding either one of the two marks.

9.2 For all races, boats must pass through the finish line as defined in Sl.14 at the end of each lap; the inner and outer distant marks will rank as passing marks. Any boat failing to do so will be scored as DNF, without protest, which changes rule 63 and Appendix A.

9.3 Provided the flag remains on the buoy there shall be no penalty when a boat touches any part of a flag which does not surround the staff of a mark. This amends rule 44.1

10.0 Number of Laps - Race Duration

10.1 Average Laps Races

The first lap is completed, when after rounding all the marks, a boat first crosses the finishing line in the direction of the course from the last mark. After the race has started at a time chosen by the race

officer, flag S  will be hoisted accompanied by 2 sound signals. All boats will finish when they next cross the line in the direction of the course from the last mark, having rounded all the marks in the correct order.

10.2 Pursuit Races

The first lap is completed, when after rounding all the marks, a boat first crosses the finishing line in the direction of the course from the last mark. At the end of

the race time flag S  will be hoisted accompanied by 2 sound signals. All boats will finish when they next pass a mark of the mark of the course or cross the finish line.

10.2 All Other races

For all other races, the number of laps will be shown on the course board. If the shorten course signal is made from the shore line, the leading boat finishes when it next crosses the finishing line in the direction of the course from the last mark, after having rounded all the marks in the correct order. All boats then finish in the same manner after the leading boat.

11.0 The Start

- 11.1 The starting sequence will be in accordance with rule 26.1.
- 11.2 For handicap races there will normally be two start sequences; the first is intended for those who are beginners or who are not confident about starting with the "expert" racers. Competitors can choose which start to use, however boats must start on a given start if requested to do so by either the race officer or the Hon. Sailing Secretary. Any boat failing to start as requested will be scored as DNS, without protest, which changes rule 63 and Appendix A.
- 11.3 The race officer may start any race using a single start sequence, therefore requiring all boats to start together,

by flying Numeral Pennant 1  at least 5 minutes before the warning signal.

- 11.4 The start signal for the first starting sequence will be the warning signal for the second starting sequence.
- 11.5 For handicap races no boat shall start later than 4 minutes after the starting signal.
- 11.6 For pursuit races there will be single start sequence, with individual boats starting at the times posted on the official notice board

- 11.7 For pursuit races flag X , indicating that a boat was on the course side of the line at the start, will be lowered after 30 seconds even if the offending boat has not yet returned to the non-course side of the line. A boat that was on the course side of the line must return to start correctly even if flag X  has been lowered, a boat may start any time after their allocated start time. This changes rule 29.1.

12.0 Starting Line

One of following starting lines will be used and stated on the official notice board. The same line may not always be used as the finishing line.

- 12.1 The extension of a line from the mast on the starting box roof, through a floating mast to an outer distant mark as the limit at the other end.
- 12.2 A line between a floating mast, adjacent to the committee boat, and an outer distant mark at the other end.

13.0 Changing the position of the next mark

- 13.1 When, after the race has started and before any boat has passed the mark for the first time, provided that no boat is on that leg of the course, the race officer may move one or more of the marks. Rule 33 is changed in that no visual or sound signals will be made.
- 13.2 When, after the race has started and if a mark has either drifted or been dragged out of position, provided that no boat is about to pass the mark, the race officer may move the mark back to its approximate original position. Rule 33 is changed in that no visual or sound signals will be made.

14.0 Finishing Line

- 14.1 Unless otherwise stated on the course board before a race, the following will be the standard finishing line: A line between a floating mast at one end and the outer distance mark at the other end.
- 14.2 Alternatively, one of the lines stated in SI.12 will be used for the finishing line and will be stated on the course board. This may not always be the same as the starting line, except for Average Lap races when it will always be the same.

15.0 Obstructions

- 15.1 No boat shall pass between the platform off the Clubhouse shore, and the nearest shore. This area ranks as an obstruction and any boat entering it will be scored as DNF without protest, which changes rule 63 and Appendix A.
- 15.2 Any vessel involved in weed clearing operations will fly flag W  and ranks as an obstruction, boats should keep clear of the vessel and any equipment being used by the vessel. These vessels have limited maneuverability and any boat in collision with such a vessel or its equipment (above or below the water line) will be scored as DNF, without protest, which changes rule 63 and Appendix A.

- 15.3 The vessels will normally be either the orange weed cutter or a power boat towing harrowing equipment which will be marked by a buoy.

16.0 Time Limit

Rule 35 is changed as follows:

- 16.1 When the leading boat fails to complete the first lap within 30 minutes, the race shall be abandoned and shall be resailed at the first opportunity. The time of such resailed race will be stated on the official notice board as soon as possible after the abandonment of the race in question. Signals will be in accordance with rule 32 (N over H ). No postal notification will be made.
- 16.2 Any boat that fails to complete the course within 30 minutes of the leading boat or in time for the next race to start, whichever is the shorter will be scored as DNF which changes rule 63 and Appendix A.

17.0 Protests

- 17.1 Protests should be submitted within 30 minutes after the time of the last boat to finish in that race.
- 17.2 Parties to a protest shall not leave the Club until they have been advised of the time and place when the protest will be heard. This will usually be as soon as convenient after racing. The Protestor shall be responsible for ensuring that the Protestee is aware that a protest has been lodged.

18.0 Declarations

Declarations will be required, and the race sheet shall be signed within 15 minutes of the last boat to finish in that race. The race sheet will be found in the Clubhouse to the right of the door leading to the ladies' cloakroom. The owner should ensure that the correct sail number/name is shown.

19.0 Scoring System

- 19.1 The Low Point scoring system of Appendix A will apply.
- 19.2 Boats that do not go to the starting area will be scored points for DNC that will be determined by the Hon. Sailing Secretary at the start of each series. This number may be changed and the results recalculated to reflect the maximum number of entries in the series.
- 19.3 Average points may be awarded to the Duty Officer and Race Officer if they are unable to compete in a race when on duty. Anyone wishing to be awarded average points should indicate so on the race sheet. When calculating average points these will exclude discarded races in that series. Appendix A is thereby changed.

20.0 Trophies

- 20.1 The number of races to count for trophies and discards to be applied will be as stated in the Club Handbook or The Hon. Sailing Secretary may change these as necessary and publish the new requirements on the club web site.