

ROYAL HARWICH YACHT CLUB

2010 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS FOR CLUB RACING

1.0 Rules

1.1 Racing will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing 2009-2013 (RRS), the prescriptions of the RYA and the rules of the class, except as any of these are changed by these Sailing Instructions.

1.2 The Harwich Haven Authority Bylaws 1994 also apply. Quote: **'A vessel which is not confined to the Deep Water Channel by reason of her draught shall keep clear of the Deep Water Channel when necessary to avoid impeding the movement of a vessel which is proceeding in, and by reason of her draught is confined to that channel.'**

NOTE: "Competitors should be aware that a yacht sailing a converging course towards a large or unwieldy commercial vessel might be held to have impeded its safe passage by approaching within its restricted visibility zone, even without having encroached within the deep-water channel".

2.0 Notices to Competitors.

2.1 Notices to the competitors will be posted on the official course board attached to the race box.

2.2 Conditions of Entry. The safety of a boat and her entire management, including insurance, shall be the sole responsibility of the owner/competitor racing the boat, who must ensure that the boat and crew are adequate to face the conditions that may arise in the course of a race. Neither the establishment of these Sailing Instructions nor the inspection of the boat under these conditions in any way limits the absolute responsibility of the owner/competitor for his crew, the boat and the management thereof. The race organisers shall not be responsible for any loss, damage, death or personal injury howsoever caused to the owner/competitor, his skipper or crew as a result of their taking part in the races. The owner/competitor must have a minimum of £2 million Third Party liability insurance.

3.0 Changes to Sailing Instructions.

3.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted on the official course board attached to the race box at least half an hour before the start of the first race of the day.

4.0 Signals made ashore and afloat.

4.1 Signals made ashore may be displayed on the black and white flag mast near the Race Box, or on drop-down signal boards on the front of the Race Box.

4.2 Signals made afloat will be displayed on the Committee Boat.

4.3 Class Flags.Ajax	3 rd Substitute	National 12	Code Flag T
Laser	Laser insignia	RHOD	Code Flag O
Handicap	Code Flag Z	Topper	Numeral 6

4.4 Alternate signal boards.

A numerical signal system on the front of the race box may be used instead of class flags. The allocation of numbers to specific race starts shall be made at the race box on the day in question, and shown on the course board.

5.0 Schedule of Races

5.1 The Schedule of Races will be as published in the club fixture list.

6.0 & 7.0 Not adopted

8.0 The Course

8.1 Course Instructions. The marks of the course and the number of rounds will be shown on the course indicator board which will be situated either on the race box, or on the Committee Boat. Ajax and RHOD courses may be shown on paper copies pinned to the class notice board in the club foyer. In the event of any discrepancy between the drawn course and the written course, the written words will take precedence.

8.2.1 When the course involves going seaward of Fagbury buoy, the following marks shall be left to Port when leaving the Harbour and Starboard when entering the harbour - Pepys, College, Shotley Horse, Guard, Grisle, N.Shelf, S.Shelf, Cliff Foot, Landguard and Deane.

8.2.2 No yacht shall navigate within the Deep Water Channel to seaward of the Guard buoy, as defined by straight lines joining consecutive such channel marks. For the purposes of the Racing Rules of Sailing such lines are to be regarded as a **Continuing Obstruction**.

8.2.3 No yacht shall enter the Exclusion Zone - Harwich Shelf Works Area, as defined in the Harwich Haven Authority Notice to Mariners No 7 of 2009, and which is marked on its western side by the Guard buoy, a line of yellow buoys and Cliff Foot buoy. For the purpose of the Racing Rules of Sailing a straight line joining consecutive such marks shall be regarded as a **Continuing Obstruction**.

8.2.4 All the buoys listed in 8.2.3 shall be left to port when leaving the harbour and to starboard when entering the harbour.

8.2.5 All competitors shall maintain a minimum distance of not less than 100 metres from any dredging craft working on the widening of the Deep Water Channel

8.3 When courses are set in the River Stour, the following marks shall be left to Port when sailing up the Stour and to Starboard when sailing down the Stour, - Ganges, Bristol, Parkeston, Ramsey - except that if one of the marks is being used as a turning mark, then the turning mark shall be rounded in accordance with the course instructions.

9.0 Not adopted

10.0 Areas that are obstructions

(Also see paragraph 8.2.2 and 8.2.3 above)

10.1 Club Hard Post. Boats shall pass on the channel side of the post at the end of the Club hard while racing. The post has a red can top mark.

10.2 RHYC Marina: Boats shall not pass inside of a line extending from the outer (channel side) edge of the RHYC Marina as far as the Club Hard Post whilst racing unless coming ashore to effect repairs.

11.0 The Start

11.1 Races shall be started using RRS Rule 26. The starting sequence for all classes is: 5 minutes, 4 minutes, 1 minute, START.

11.2 Starting Times. Intended starting times are as given in the Club Fixture List.

11.3 Starting Lines. The four starting line options are as shown in 11.4 to 11.7.

11.4 Line 'A' (Club) This line is a transit of two posts on the south bank of the Orwell, just to the east of the RHYC Marina, the riverside post being red with an orange triangle top mark. The rear post is the black and white mast behind the Starting Box. The northern limit of this line is a white topped wooden pole to the north side of the buoyed channel and the moorings.

11.5 Line 'C' (Committee Boat). This line is between the mast of the Committee Boat flying an orange flag and

an adjacent mark.

11.6 Line 'CH' (Clamp House). This line is between the mast of the Committee Boat flying an orange flag and the large yellow mooring buoy lying downriver and SE from the channel buoy 'No 4'.

11.7 Line 'MM' (Measured Mile). This line is a transit of two posts on the south bank of the Orwell just downstream of Bay and No.4 navigation buoys, the riverside post with an orange triangle top mark (apex up) and the rear post with an orange triangle top mark (apex down). The northern limit of this line is a committee boat, anchored or moored on the north side of the buoyed channel.

11.8 Line Selection. The line selected will be indicated with the course.

12.0 Changing of the next leg of the course.

12.1 The Race Officer can move the next mark at his absolute discretion. This changes Rule 33.

13.0 The Finish

13.1 Finishing Lines. The Finishing Line is Line 'A' unless otherwise indicated on the Official Course Board or for keel boats, noted on the course sheets.

14.0 Penalties

14.1 For the Ajax and RHOD classes rules 44.1 and 44.2 are changed so that only one penalty turn, including one tack and one gybe, is required.

15.0 Time Limits

15.1 The time limit for dinghies is two hours.
The time limit for keelboats is four hours or 1730 hrs, whichever is later.

15.2 Boats failing to finish within 45 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored DNF. This changes rules 35 and A4.

15.3 If the first boat finishes within the time limit in 15.1, the time limit shall be extended to 30 minutes after the first boat finishes.

16.0 Protests.

16.1 Protest forms are available from the Race Office. Protests shall be delivered there within the protest time limit.

16.2 The intention to protest shall be communicated to the Race Committee no later than 30 minutes after the protesting boat has finished that race. Protest forms shall be lodged no later than 90 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day. The Race Committee shall extend this time if there is good reason to do so.

16.3 The Exoneration Penalty and the Advisory Hearing and RYA Arbitration procedures of the RYA Rules Disputes Procedures will be available. See the Official Notice Board for details.

17.0 Scoring System

17.1 Club races constitute series longer than a regatta. A9 Appendix A shall apply to all racing.

17.2 Handicaps will be as published by the Sailing Committee and displayed on the dinghy handicap notice board.

17.3.1 The Class Captain in each Class will determine the number of discards to be allowed in each series. This

will be determined before the series starts. This changes A2 Appendix A.

17.3.2 In the dinghy classes, for club series races, unless otherwise stated, the number of races to count shall be 50% of the races completed in the series, plus 1 (rounded down where necessary).

18.0 Safety Regulations

18.1 **Ranking as a Starter.** Dinghies and Yachts using Line A shall enter each race by entering their details and crew numbers on the race sheet. Dinghy race sheets will be located in the race box. For back to back races, entry on the first race is sufficient.

Boats not taking part in the 2nd race must inform the Race Committee accordingly.

Ajax and RHOD race sheets will be posted on the class notice boards at least one hour before the start.

Alternatively, entry details may be lodged with the Race Officer by Radio.

18.2 Boats using Lines 'C', 'CH' and 'MM' shall ensure that before they start, they are entered by the Race Committee on the Committee Boat and their entry is acknowledged.

18.3 Retiring boats shall inform the Race Committee as soon as possible.

18.4 Adequate personal buoyancy shall be worn in dinghy classes at all times. Wet or dry suits do not constitute adequate personal buoyancy. Ajax & RHOD's shall comply with their respective Class Rules.

18.5 Keelboats sailing outside the Harwich breakwater must carry portable VHF radios as a means of summoning assistance.

18.6 If a yacht is disabled or out of control in the Deep Water Channel she shall promptly advise Harwich VTS (VHF Channel 71), or Ipswich Port Radio (VHF Channel 68), if carrying a radio.

19.0 to 26.0 Not adopted

27.0 Disclaimer of Liability

Competitors participate in the racing entirely at their own risk. See rule 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after racing.

28.0 Insurance. See Para 2.2 above.

29.0 Local Rules

29.1 Moored Boats. Any boat, even if capsized, whose hull or equipment touches a moored yacht (excluding her mooring buoy) shall retire immediately unless she claims that she was wrongfully compelled to touch it by another yacht, in which case she shall protest. (Fending off by crew or helm is permitted).

29.2 Safety boats may escort commercial vessels through the race area, and if the safety boat is flying a red flag then no boat shall pass between the support boat and the commercial vessel. Failure to comply with this rule shall result in disqualification without a hearing. This changes Rule 63.1.

29.3 The Race Officer may give warning of the approach of a commercial vessel by making five sound signals.