

2018 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS FOR DINGHY AND KEELBOAT RACING CLUB SERIES

1. Rules

- 1.1 Racing will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing 2017-2020 (RRS), the prescriptions of the RYA and the rules of the class sailed, except as these Sailing Instructions change any of these
- 1.2 The Port of Ipswich and the Harwich Haven Authority Bylaws 1 also apply. Competitors should note that **‘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.’** Competitors should also 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. Notices to Competitors

- 2.1 Notices to the competitors will be posted on the official course board attached to the Race Office.

3. Changes to Sailing Instructions.

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

4. 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 by the use of Boards on the front of the Race Office.
- 4.2 Signals made afloat will be displayed on the Committee Boat.

5. Schedule of Races

- 5.1 The Schedule of Races will be as published in the Notice of Race.

6. Class Flags

- 6.1 For starts using Lines A and B the starts will be numbered 1 and 2.
- 6.2 For other starts class flags will be allocated as follows:

Topper - Numeral 6; Optimist - “Oscar”; Laser - Laser Class Emblem; Handicap - “Mike”; Yachts - “Yankee”; Ajax - “3rd Substitute”

- 6.3 For open event class flags will be posted on the Official Notice Board

7. Racing Areas

- 7.1 For dinghies courses will be set on the River Orwell. For yachts and Ajax races courses may be extended to include the River Stour and Dovercourt Bay.

8. The Courses

- 8.1 Course Instructions. The marks of the course and the number of rounds will be shown on the course indicator board at the race box, or, if indicated, on the Committee Boat. Courses for Ajax and Yacht races may be shown as a written list of marks in the race Box, or may be announced via radio to competitors.
- 8.2 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 Spit, Guard, Grisle, North Shelf, South Shelf, Cliff Foot, Landguard and Deane.

8.3 No boat 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.

8.4 When courses are set in the River Stour, the following marks shall be left to Port when sailing up the River Stour and to Starboard when sailing down the River 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. Marks

9.1 Courses will be set using navigation marks, club marks and posts and special marks. Special marks will be described on the course board.

10. Areas that are obstructions

10.1 Club Hard Post. Boats shall pass on the channel side of the post at the end of the Club hard while racing.

10.2 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. The Start

11.1 Races will be started using RRS 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal.

11.2 Starting Lines:

Start Line A - The starting line will be the line between the red post with an orange triangle top mark in front of the Starting Box and the Outer Distance Mark (white topped post).

Start Line B - The starting line will be between the Outer Distance Mark (white topped post) and Middle (white topped post).

Start Line C - The starting line will be between the forward mast of the Committee Boat flying an orange flag and an adjacent mark.

Start Line CH - The starting line will be between the forward mast of a Committee Boat flying an orange flag and the large yellow mooring buoy lying downriver of channel buoy "No 4".

Start Line MM - This line is a transit of two posts on the south bank of the River 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.

11.3 The line selection will be indicated as part of the course.

12. 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. The Finish

13.1 Finishing Lines.

Finish Line A – The finishing line will be the line between the red post with an orange triangle top mark in front of the Starting Box and the Outer Distance Mark (white topped post).

Finish Line B – The finishing line will be between the Outer Distance Mark (white topped post) and Middle (white topped post).

Finish Line C – The finishing line will be between the mast of the Committee Boat flying either an orange or blue flag and an adjacent mark.

13.2 A course may also indicate and define a finish line between two marks.

13.3 For class racing, after the first boat has finished, or if the course has been shortened, competitors may be finished at any point on the race course using a line between either the Committee Boat, or a safety boat and an adjacent mark of the course.

14. Penalties

14.1 Rules 44.1 and 44.2 will apply. For the Ajax class and Yachts rule 44.2 is changed so that the Two-turns penalty is replaced by a One-turn penalty.

15. Time Limits

15.1 The time limit for dinghies is 90 minutes. The time limit for the Ajax class and Yachts is the red post with an orange triangle top mark in front of the starting Box 4 hours or 17:30 whichever is earlier.

15.2 If the first boat finishes within the time limit in 15.1, the time limit shall be extended to 15 minutes after the first boat finishes.

16. 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 as soon as possible. Protest forms shall be lodged no later than 30 minutes after the last boat has come ashore after finishing the last race of the day.

16.3 The Advisory Hearing and RYA Arbitration procedures of the RYA Rules Disputes Procedures will be available.

17. Scoring System

17.1 The Low Point System (Rule 90.3 and Appendix A) shall apply. One race shall constitute a series. For open events, single day or weekend events a discard will apply once three races have been sailed.

17.2 For club points series the discard will be 50% of the races sailed less one.

18. Safety Regulations

18.1 Competitors shall enter for each day. For club point series recording the boat and crew details on the entry form in the Race Office shall do this. The Ajax class and Yachts may also enter by radio.

18.2 Retiring boats shall inform the Race Committee or a Safety Boat as soon as possible.

18.3 For dinghies, adequate personal buoyancy shall be worn at all times. Wet or dry suits do not constitute adequate personal buoyancy.

19. to 22. Not adopted

23. Support Boats

23.1 Only support boats registered with the Race Officer as safety boats may enter the course area. All other support personnel shall stay outside the racing area from the time of the preparatory signal until all boats have finished or retired, or the race committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment.

23.2 Crews of authorised safety boats may provide coaching assistance to competitors – this overrides Rule 41 (outside assistance).

24. Trash Disposal

24.1 Trash may be placed aboard support boats.

25. to 28 Not adopted

29. Disclaimer of Liability

29.1 Rule 4 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 explore 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, support boats and other officials and volunteers by the event organizer does not relieve them of their own responsibilities; and

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

29.2 The fact that the race committee conducts inspections of a boat does not reduce the responsibilities of each competitor set out in these sailing instructions.

30. Insurance

30.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £3m per incident.

31. Local Rules

31.1 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.

- 31.2 Support boats may escort commercial vessels through the race area, and if the support 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.
- 31.3 The Race Officer may give warning of the approach of a commercial vessel by making five sound signals.