

## **CLUB SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

### **1. Rules**

**1.1.** Club racing shall be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the prescriptions of the RYA, and any appropriate class rules, except as any of these are changed by these sailing instructions. Any class rule that may give any class an unfair advantage by, for example, altering the penalty system or permitting the touching of marks, shall not apply in Club races. However all class rules relating to construction, buoyancy and manner in which the boat is sailed shall apply.

**1.2.** All sailing is controlled by Draycote Water Sailing Club and may only take place when the Club Burgee is flying on the flagstaff in front of the Clubhouse.

### **2. Eligibility**

**2.1.** All craft shall comply with and hold a valid class certificate where appropriate.

**2.2.** Competitors must be members or temporary members of the Club or signed-in guests of a member.

**2.3.** All craft shall have a valid certificate of insurance against third party risks providing the minimum cover of £2,000,000.

**2.4.** All boats shall compete under their registered numbers to comply with Rule 77. Under exceptional circumstances a boat may be permitted to carry sail numbers or letters in contravention of Rule 77 or her class rules provided that written application, stating the circumstances, is made to the Race Committee prior to the race.

**2.5.** All competitors shall show their intention to race by signing on to the appropriate race sheet.

### **3. Safety**

**3.1.** Adequate personal buoyancy shall be worn at all times whilst on the water unless specifically agreed in writing by the Committee. Wet suits and dry suits are not adequate personal buoyancy. This changes Rule 40.

**3.2.** During the months of November, December, January, February and March, all persons on the water shall wear exposure proof clothing. For the purpose of this instruction 'Exposure proof clothing' shall mean an adequate expanded neoprene wet suit providing protection from neck to ankle or a dry suit providing watertight cover from neck to ankle.

**3.3.** The safety of a boat and her entire management, including insurance, shall be the sole responsibility of the owner / person in charge who must ensure that the boat and crew are adequate to face the conditions that may arise in the course of the race. Neither these sailing instructions nor any inspection of the boat limits or reduces the absolute responsibility of the owner / person in charge for the boat, the crew, and her management. Neither the race organisers nor Draycote Water Sailing Club shall be responsible for any loss, damage, death or personal injury howsoever caused to any person, as a result of their taking part in the race or races. Moreover every owner / person in charge warrants the suitability of the boat for the race or races.

**3.4.** A black cone (Triangle) may be flown from the Club flagstaff if the wind strength exceeds 11 knots (Force 4 plus). This is to act as a warning to inexperienced sailors that they should seriously consider staying ashore. If the Bosun feels that sailors are not coping adequately with the conditions, he may instruct them to return to the shore.

**3.5.** A black ball flown from the Club flagstaff signifies adverse conditions both on and off the water. All those intending to go afloat must report to the bosun before doing so. If the Bosun, at this, or any other later stage, feels that conditions are not suitable, he may instruct any water users to remain on or return to the shore.

#### **4. Notices to Competitors**

**4.1.** Notices to competitors shall be posted on the Official Noticeboard outside the wet bar, adjacent to the Club flagstaff.

#### **5. Changes to Sailing Instructions**

**5.1.** Any change to the sailing instructions shall be posted at least 30 minutes before race time on the day it will take effect and shall be valid for all subsequent races in the series unless indicated to the contrary. The posting of such notice shall be signalled using a halyard on the Club flagstaff.

#### **6. Schedule of Races**

**6.1.** The timing of races shall be displayed on the Official Noticeboard and on the Club's website.

**6.2.** The schedule of races will be determined by the individual fleets.

#### **7. Class Flags**

**7.1.** Class flag(s) shall be the numerical pennant equivalent to the start number.

#### **8. The Course**

**8.1.** The course(s) shall be displayed on the Clubhouse and / or the Committee Boat.

#### **9. Marks**

**9.1.** The marks shall be the lettered Club marks and any other additional marks signified on the course board. A map of the position of the Club marks may be purchased from the Club.

#### **10. Areas That Are Obstructions**

**10.1.** Fishing boats, whether engaged in fishing or not, shall rank as obstructions. For this purpose, the area within which a fishing line extends from, or is being cast from a fishing boat, shall form a part of the fishing boat.

**10.2.** Rescue boats and Committee Boats, when not displaying definitive start or finish flags, shall similarly rank as obstructions.

#### **11. Exclusion Areas**

**11.1.** Boats shall not sail at any time within 30 metres of the shore except at the Club compound, nor, during the fishing season, within the buoyed area in Toft Bay or within 80 meters of Draycote Bank (the bank to the North West of the reservoir near the water pumping tower). These areas rank as obstructions.

**11.2.** Landing in an exclusion area is allowed only in an emergency.

**11.3.** The pontoon and moorings in front of the Clubhouse are for use only by official boats.

## 12. The Start

**12.1.** The starting line shall be between a staff displaying a green flag on the Committee Boat and the start mark indicated on the course board. Alternatively, if a Club line start is used, the line will be between mark OL and the transit line on the front of the OOD box.

**12.2.** Club races (with the exception of Pursuit Races) shall be started as follows. This changes Rule 26.

	Time	Flags	Sound signal	Start number displayed on course board
Warning	0 minutes	Yellow flag hoisted	Sound signal	
Preparatory	+1 minutes	Yellow flag lowered Blue flag hoisterd	Sound signal	Number 1
	+3 minutes	Blue flag lowered		
Fleet 1 start	+4 minutes	Red flag hoisted	Sound signal	Number 2
	+6 minutes	Red flag lowered		
Fleet 2 start	+7 minutes	Red flag hoisted	Sound signal	Number 3
	+9 minutes	Red flag lowered		
Fleet 3 start	+10 minutes	Red flag hoisted	Sound signal	Number 4

The sequence is continued until all races are started.

**12.3.** The preparatory signal for the second and subsequent starts is indicated by the hoisting of the red flag for the previous start. Boats whose preparatory signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area and of all boats whose preparatory signal has been made.

**12.4.** In the case of a General Recall, the recall start shall start 3 minutes after all other starts and previously recalled starts. This alters Rule 29.2.

**12.5.** For Pursuit Races the start procedure is displayed on the Official Noticeboard.

**12.6.** A race may not be started if, in the opinion of the Race Officer, the wind is so light that there is a risk that a significant number of boats may not complete the course before the expiration of the Time Limit set.

## 13. Shortening or Abandoning After the Start

**13.1.** Racing for any or all classes may be abandoned, or shortened, in accordance with Rule 32. If the shorten course or abandonment flags are displayed with one or more numerical pennants, then the shortened course or abandonment only apply to those starts indicated by the numerical pennants. The changes Rule 32.

## 14. The Finish

**14.1.** For all races except Pursuit Races, the finish line shall either be the original start line, or from the OOD box to the OL mark, or between a staff displaying a green flag on a race Committee Boat and a mark of the course.

**14.2.** For Pursuit Races, the finish line shall be a rolling line formed by two power boats which will work their way back through the fleet from the first boat at the end of the race to the last competitor. There may also be fixed finish points at marks of the course, as decided by the Race Officer.

## 15. Time Limit

**15.1.** The Time Limit shall be two hours from the start for that class. Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat of her class finishes or within the Time Limit, whichever is later, shall be scored "Did not finish". This changes Rule 35.

## **16. Declarations**

**16.1.** Competitors shall declare that they have completed the race correctly by signing the relevant column of the signing-on sheets.

**16.2.** For competitors retiring from or not starting a race, the standard codes of RRS Appendix A11 Scoring Abbreviations should be used.

## **17. Exoneration Penalty, Advisory Hearing and RYA Arbitration**

**17.1.** The Exoneration Penalty and the Advisory Hearing and RYA Arbitration procedures of the RYA Rules Disputes Procedures may be available. Decisions from RYA Arbitration can be referred to a protest committee but cannot be reopened or appealed. See the Protest Kit for details.

## **18. Protests**

**18.1.** Protests shall be written on forms available at the Race Office and delivered there within 30 minutes after the time of the last boat's finish, except when races have been notified to competitors as being run contiguously ('back-to-back'). In this case protests for all 'back-to-back' races must be made within 30 minutes of the time the last boat finishes for the last of them. The Race Committee may extend this time limit in exceptional circumstances.

**18.2.** The Protest Committee shall hear protests in approximately the order of receipt as soon as possible.

**18.3.** Rule 66 is changed by adding this sentence: "On the last day of racing, a party to a hearing may ask for a reopening no later than one hour after being informed of the decision".

**18.4.** If a Protest Committee awards average points for a series, it should be for races sailed in the whole series, not races so far.

## **19. Scoring**

**19.1.** The scoring system and discards will be determined by the individual fleets for their own series.

**19.2.** In the case of a handicap race where for some reason finishing times are not available, a boat shall be scored as per RRS A10(a) or the number of boats finishing that race, whichever is the lower.

## **20. Support Boats**

**20.1.** Team leaders, coaches, and other support personnel shall not be in the racing area from the time of the preparatory signal for the first class to start until all boats have finished, or the race committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment. The penalty for failing to comply with this requirement will be the disqualification of all boats associated with the support personnel who so do.

## **21. Radio Communications**

**21.1.** A boat shall neither make radio transmissions whilst racing, nor receive radio communications not available to other boats.

## **22. Local Rules**

**22.1.** All entrants and authorised guests shall also comply with the Club and Water Authority Regulations. DWSC reserves the right to disqualify, without a hearing, any

competitor who does not comply with these local rules (this changes RRS 63.1 and A5) and particularly:-

- a)** No parking of vehicles on any roadways, slipways or grass areas, or blocking roadways or slipways.
- b)** All motor vehicles shall be parked in accordance with the Club Regulations and any instructions given by the Committee.
- c)** No motor vehicle shall be used on the Club slipways.
- d)** No boat trailer or launching trolley shall be left on any boat slipway or where it could be a hazard to others.
- e)** All craft arriving at the Club shall be washed before launching.

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