



Standard Sailing Instructions for Open Events

Issue 1

January 2007

1.0 RULES

Racing will take place under the Racing Rules of Sailing 2005-2008 (RRS), these Sailing Instructions and the Rules of appropriate Class Associations. The event will be designated Category B unless designated otherwise by the Class Association.

2.0 CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

2.1 General

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 her crew are adequate to face the conditions that may arise in the course of the race. Neither the notice of race nor any inspection of the boat, limits or reduces the absolute responsibility of the owner/person in charge for the crew, the boat and her management. The race organisers shall not be responsible for any loss, damage, death or personal injury howsoever caused to the owner/person in charge or crew, 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.

2.2 Measurement Certificates

Before a boat is eligible to race, her valid measurement certificate shall be presented at the Race Office. Only under exceptional circumstances will RRS78.2 be applied.

2.3 Measurement

Boats may be measured before or after any race at the discretion of the Race Committee.

2.4 Identification on Sails

A boat shall comply with the requirements of Appendix G governing class insignia, national letters and numbers on sails.

2.5 Eligibility

All helmsmen must be paid-up members of the appropriate Class Association and shall sign a declaration to this effect on the Entry Form.

2.6 Insurance

All helmsmen must be fully insured against Third Party claims and shall sign a declaration to this effect on the Entry Form.

2.7 Personal Buoyancy

RRS 40 shall not apply. Adequate personal buoyancy for crew members shall be worn at all times. Neither a wet-suit nor a dry-suit constitute adequate personal buoyancy.

2.8 Anchors

All boats are advised to carry anchors and 60 feet of warp although this is not mandatory. If necessary people shall be recovered before boats.

2.9 Tallies

A tally board will be located adjacent to the official notice board. Each helm intending to start in a race shall remove the wrist band bearing his/her number allocated at registration and retain this on their person at all times whilst afloat. The wristband shall be returned to the tally board within 30 minutes of coming ashore. Competitors retiring are required to indicate their retirement on the retirement board adjacent to the tally board. Anyone not complying with this procedure is liable to disqualification without a hearing.

If for any reason the Tallies are not used, then all Helms are required to sign on before going on the water and sign off within 30 minutes of coming ashore. Competitors retiring are required to indicate their retirement on the retirement board. Anyone not complying with this procedure is liable to disqualification without a hearing.

3.0 NOTICE TO COMPETITORS

3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located on the terrace at the entrance of the clubhouse.

4.0 CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

4.1 Any changes in Sailing Instructions will be posted for one hour before the advertised start of the race or races concerned. Changes in the sailing instructions will be indicated by displaying flag 'L'. When no further changes have been made, flag 'L' will be lowered after the start of the last race of that day.

5.0 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

5.1 Signals made ashore will be hoisted at the clubhouse bridge.

5.2 Flag 'AP' with two sound signals (one sound signal when lowered) means the race is postponed.

6.0 SCHEDULE OF RACES

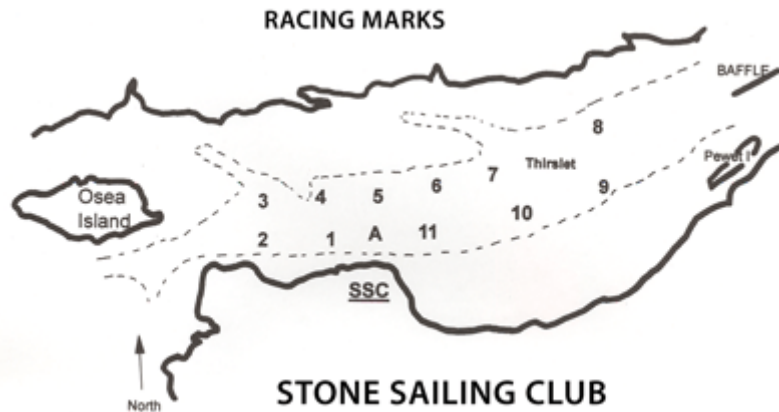
6.1 The schedule of races will be as published in the notice of race and posted on the official notice board. Races shall be numbered sequentially in the order of completion.

7.0 CLASS SIGNALS

7.1 Class signals will be in accordance with the International Authority's prescription. Any variations and / or additions will be posted on the official notice board.

8.0 COURSE AREA

8.1 The course area is shown on the diagram below.



8.2 Location

Courses will be laid down river, east of the clubhouse for committee boat starts. Should it be necessary to use the club start line the course will be shown on the course board adjacent to the official notice board.

9.0 THE COURSE

9.1 If using the club buoys the course will be shown on the course board at the entrance to the clubhouse.

9.2 For committee boat starts the course configuration and the order of rounding the marks will be displayed on a diagram at the official notice board. Mark 1 is the intended windward mark at the start. The diagrams indicate the number of legs required to complete particular rounds. They do not indicate the angles between legs. A red flag flying on the committee boat before the warning signal means all buoys to port. A green flag flying on the committee boat before the warning signal means all buoys to starboard. The full course will comprise the number of rounds indicated according to Sailing Instruction 9.2 plus a finishing leg to the finish line where indicated on the diagram.

9.3 Number of Rounds

The number of rounds to be sailed will be displayed on a board on the committee boat before the warning signal. In some cases the Race Officer may chose to sail for an approximate time limit for the first boat in the race, display a shortened course flag and sound two signals to denote the end of the race.

9.4 Magnetic Bearing of Mark 1

The approximate magnetic bearing of Mark 1 may be displayed on the committee boat before the warning signal.

10.0 MARKS

10.1 Course marks are cylindrical orange, yellow or black buoys.

11.0 STARTS

11.1 Prior to start of race

Prior to the start of each race all competitors are required to indicate their intent to start by sailing past the committee boat displaying their sail number.

11.2 Signals

A Blue/ Orange Flag displayed from the Committee Boat indicates a fixed line start and Sailing Instructions 11.3.1 and 11.3.2 will apply. Flag 'G' displayed from the committee boat indicates a gate start and sailing instructions 11.4 to 11.15 in Appendix 1 will apply.

11.3 Starting Lines

11.3.1 Committee' Boat Starting Line

A Blue/Orange flag or board will be displayed on the Committee Boat when it is on station. The starting line will be between the main mast of the Committee Boat and a buoy which may be a Mark of the course. A further buoy may be laid a short distance from the Committee Boat, but not necessarily on the line: boats may not pass between this buoy and the Committee Boat at any time. If a manned boat is stationed a short distance beyond the buoy at the end of the line, no boat may pass between the boat and the buoy at any time.

11.3.2 Fixed 'Club' Starting Line

This will be a line from the Club Flag staff on the Bridge through the triangle mete on the foreshore, extending to the limit Mark 'A'. The limit marks will not necessarily be accurately on the starting line but must be left to the north when starting.

A further limit mark may be laid inshore at the discretion of the Race Committee. This mark must be left to southwards when starting.

11.4 Starting Procedure

The starting procedure will be in accordance with RRS 26.

11.5 Alternative Starting Procedure

If an alternative starting procedure is used this will be posted on the notice board.

11.6 Back to Back Racing

On back to back racing sound signal will be given 1 minute before your next warning signal.

11.7 Leaving the race area

If a boat leaves the race area they must report their intentions to either the Committee Boat or Safety Boat, failing this they must report to the appropriate personnel as soon as they are ashore.

12.0 RECALLS

12.1 Individual Recalls

Individual recalls will be signalled in accordance with RRS 29.1

12.2 General Recalls

General recalls will be signalled in accordance with RRS 29.2 . When at the starting signal several unidentified boats are on the course side of the starting line or there has been an error in the starting procedure, the race committee may signal a general recall (flag First Substitute). The preparatory signal for a new start for the recalled class shall be made one minute after the First Substitute is lowered, and the starts for any succeeding classes shall follow the new start.

13.0 STARTING PENALTIES

13.1 After a general recall, at the discretion of the Race Officer, either of the following prohibited area penalties may be implemented:

13.1.1 'I Flag Rule'

If flag 'I' has been displayed before or with her preparatory signal, and any part of a boat's hull, crew or equipment is on the course side of the starting line or its extensions during the minute before her starting signal, she shall sail to the pre-start side of the line around either end before starting.

13.1.2 'Black Flag Rule'

If a black flag has been displayed before or with her Preparatory signal, and any part of a boat's hull, crew or equipment is identified within the triangle formed by the ends of the starting line and the first mark during the minute before her starting signal, the boat will be disqualified without a hearing. If the race is restarted, re-sailed or re-scheduled, she is not entitled to compete in it. If a general recall is signalled or the race is abandoned, the race committee shall display her sail number.

14.0 CHANGING THE COURSE AFTER THE START (In accordance with RRS 33)

At any rounding mark the race committee may signal a change of the direction of the next leg of the course by displaying flag 'C' with repetitive sound signals and the compass bearing of that leg before any boat begins it. The race committee may change the length of the next leg by displaying flag 'C' and a '-' if the leg will be shortened or a '+' if the leg will be lengthened.

15.0 FINISHING

15.1 Committee Boat Finishing Line

The finishing line will be between the mast displaying a blue/orange flag aboard the finishing vessel and the nearby rounding mark.

15.2 Club Finishing Line

This will be a straight line between the flag staff on the Bridge and the limit Mark 'A'. Competitors should haul their sails when finishing for identification purposes.

16.0 TIME LIMITS

16.1 RRS 35 shall not apply.

- (a)** The time limit for each race will be 2.5 hours. The race will be valid for all those boats finishing within the time limit.
- (b)** When the first boat finished within the last 30 minutes of the prescribed time limit, the race will be valid for those boats which finish within 30 minutes of the finishing time of the first boat.
- (c) Back to Back Racing**
Time limit on "Back to Back" Racing will be 1.5 hours or time limit notified on the notice board. The race will be valid for all those boats finishing within the time limit. On back to back racing when the first boat finished within the last 30 minutes of the prescribed time limit, the race will be valid for those boats which finish within 30 minutes of the finishing time of the first boat or as stated on the notice board.

- (d) When no boat finished within the prescribed time limit, the race will be abandoned. Signals will be in accordance with RRS 32 'N' or 'N over H or A': (Race Committee Signals). Notification of any re-sail date and time will be posted on the notice board as soon as possible.

17.0 PROTESTS

Protests should be submitted on the appropriate form (available in the clubhouse) to the Race Officer within 1 hour of the last boat to finish. If races are held back to back protests should be submitted within 1 hour of the finish of the back to back races. The Protest Committee may consider taking action against a competitor under RRS Part 5.

18.0 SCORING SYSTEM

18.1 Race Scores

Points awarded for each race will be 1 for the winner, 2 for second, 3 for third and so on.

A boat that retires, is a premature starter or does not finish will be awarded points equal to the number of starters in that race plus 1.

A disqualified boat will be awarded points equal to the number of starters in that race plus 2. A boat that does not compete will be awarded points equal to the number of entrants for the meeting plus 2. If a boat is given average points for any reason whatsoever, and it includes a decimal point, it will be rounded up to the next whole number.

This scoring system shall be used unless the Class Association specifies an alternative.

18.2 Discards

For a 4 Race Series: If 3 or 4 points races are sailed there will be 1 discard, if only 1 or 2 races are sailed both races count.

For a 6 Race Series: If 4,5 or 6 points races are sailed there will be 1 discard, if only 1, 2 or 3 races are sailed all races will count.

18.3 In the Event of a Tie

When there is a tie in series points between two or more boats, the tie will be broken in favour of the boat with the most first places, or, if the tie remains, the most second places, or lower places if necessary, using only the scores for each boat that count for her series score.

When a tie still remains, it will be broken in favour of the boat with the best score in the last race in which the tied boats raced and scored differently.

19.0 ALTERNATIVE PENALTIES

19.1 Touching a Mark

A boat shall exonerate herself in accordance with RRS 31.2

19.2 Penalties for Breaking Rules of Part 2

Alternative penalties, RRS 44.1, 44.2 and 44.4 '720 degrees Turns Penalty', will apply for infringement.

APPENDIX 1 - GATE STARTS

11.8 Starting Area and Starting Mark

The starting area will be to leeward of the course. The leeward end of the starting line will be the starting mark which is an orange, black or yellow cylindrical buoy.

11.9 Distinguishing Flags and Signals

The Gate Launch will display flag 'G'. When used the Guard Launch will display flag 'U'. The signals for starting a race will be made on the committee boat. The committee boat will manoeuvre in the vicinity of the projected track of the Pathfinder.

11.10 Selection of Pathfinder

The Pathfinder for the first race sailed will be nominated by the race committee. For subsequent races, the Pathfinder will be the boat which finished tenth in the preceding race. When this boat is unable to race, or has been Pathfinder previously during the event, the Pathfinder will be nominated by the race committee, and will normally be the boat which finished 11th in the preceding race. Her distinguishing number will be posted daily on the official notice board. The Pathfinder shall report to the Gate launch before the preparatory signal.

11.11 Positioning of Pathfinder, Gate & Guard Launches

Approximately 15 seconds before the starting signal, the Pathfinder shall come within hail of the Gate Launch and place herself under the direction of the race officer. She shall then pass close to the starting mark, close hauled on port tack. She will be followed by the Gate Launch which shall keep station close astern of her. When used, a Guard Launch will protect the Pathfinder, and shall keep station off her starboard bow.

11.12 Starting Line

The starting line for all boats except the Pathfinder will be between the starting mark and the centre of the Gate Launch.

11.13 Pathfinder Course

The Pathfinder shall maintain her close hauled course for a minimum of one minute and any further time which the race officer deems necessary. The Pathfinder will then be released.

11.14 Length of Starting Line

After releasing the Pathfinder, the Gate Launch shall maintain her course and speed for a further period of time at the discretion of the race officer. She shall then stop and make a sound signal.

11.15 Closure of Starting Line

Flag 'G' will be lowered on the Gate Launch to indicate the closure of the starting line. The time of lowering this flag shall be at the discretion of the race officer.

11.16 Starting from the Course Side of the Line

A boat, not having already correctly started, which is on the port side of the Gate Launch while she is opening the gate shall not return across the starting line from the course side.

11.17 Interference with Pathfinder, Gate & Guard Launches

After the preparatory signal, a boat shall not threaten the unobstructed sailing of the Pathfinder. A boat which interferes with, passes between, or attempts to pass between, the Pathfinder and the Gate or Guard Launch, or which caused another boat to interfere in any of these ways, shall retire from that race and any subsequent restarts of that race, unless she

can subsequently satisfy the race committee that her actions were caused by either another boat or some other unavoidable circumstance.

11.18 Ranking as Marks

The starting mark and the Gate Launch rank as starting marks until the starting line is closed as described in sailing instruction 11.13. The Pathfinder so ranks until she has tacked off. The Guard Launch so ranks until she lowers flag 'U' or the starting line is closed.

11.19 Touching a Mark

When a boat cannot otherwise avoid touching a starting mark, she may hail a right of way boat for room, and shall thereafter retire immediately. A right of way boat shall make every effort to respond to the hail, and thereafter protest when necessary.