

BOWMOOR SAILING CLUB – Sailing Instructions for club racing – February 2020

1 Rules and organisation

- 1.1 Racing will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing and in accordance with the principles of the RYA Racing Charter. Unless published separately for an event the Notice of Race is the Club Programme.
- 1.2 The Race Committee consists of the Officer-of-the Day (OOD), the duty team, and any additional people that they may co-opt.

2 Conditions of Sailing and Racing

- 2.1 A boat is entirely responsible for its own safety, whether afloat or ashore, and nothing, whether in the Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions or anywhere else reduces this responsibility. It is for the boat to decide whether it is fit to sail in the conditions in which it will find itself. By launching or sailing, the boat confirms that it is fit for those conditions and that its crew is competent to sail and compete in them.
- 2.2 The provision of safety boats does not relieve the sailing boat of its responsibilities.
- 2.3 Nothing done or not done by the organisers can reduce the responsibility of the boat nor will it make the organisers responsible for any loss, damage, death or personal injury, however it may have occurred, as a result of the boat taking part in the racing. The term "organisers" encompasses everyone helping to run the race and the event, and includes the organising authority, the race committee, the race officer, safety boat crews and beachmasters.
- 2.4 When the race committee considers that a competitor is in difficulty, it may instruct the competitor to accept help, retire, or sail ashore (changes rule 4).
- 2.5 The boat is required to hold adequate insurance and in particular to hold insurance against third-party claims in the sum of at least £2,000,000.
- 2.6 Competitors are eligible to race only after having their entry accepted by the Race Committee. Entry is by signing on in the race control hut.
- 2.7 **Buoyancy.** An adequate personal flotation device, correctly fastened, shall be worn at all times when afloat or on jetties (changes rules 1.2 and 40). Wet/dry suits do not constitute adequate personal buoyancy.
- 2.8 **Clothing.** Wet or dry suits that cover the trunk and legs from the neck to the calves shall be worn at all times when afloat during the period 1st November until 31st March inclusive.
- 2.9 Deep tread boots or shoes should not be worn when sailing or in rescue boats as stones in the tread can cause damage.

3 Notices to Competitors: Signals made ashore

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located under the race control hut.
- 3.2 Any change in the Sailing Instructions will be posted on the official notice board and flag L will be displayed at the race control hut 20 minutes before the starting time of the first race affected.
- 3.3 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagstaff at the race control hut.

4 Schedule and Class flags

- 4.1 The class flags will be as shown in the Notice of Race or otherwise on the official notice board.
- 4.2 The start time of the first race and subsequent races will be as shown in the Notice of Race. If not shown in the Notice of Race the start times of the first and subsequent races will be shown on the official notice board not later than 30 minutes before the start of each race.

5 Courses and Marks

- 5.1 The course to be sailed will be posted either:
 - a) on the race control hut course board not later than 20 minutes before the starting time of the first race or
 - b) on the course board on the committee boat not later than the warning signal for each race
- 5.2 Marks are to be rounded in the sequence displayed on the course board. The required side for each mark is denoted by the course board text colour: red (port) or green (starboard).
- 5.3 Marks of the course will be selected from fixed club marks (see plan on page 2) and/or movable marks V, W, X, Y, Z.
- 5.4 The starting mark will be a spherical orange buoy marked "S".
- 5.5 An inner distance mark (if used) will be a dan buoy.
- 5.6 There will be no set number of laps, but the approximate race duration will be specified in the Notice of Race or on the signing-on sheet. The race committee will shorten course in accordance with SI 8 at a suitable opportunity near the target finish time.

6 Starting System, Starting Line and Finishing Line

- 6.1 Rule 26 is deleted and replaced by:
Races shall be started using the following signals. Times shall be taken from the visual signals; the absence of a sound signal shall be disregarded.

<i>Minutes before starting signal</i>	<i>Signal</i>	<i>Flag</i>	<i>Sound</i>
6	Warning	Class flag	1 sound
3	Preparatory	Flag P	1 sound
0	Starting	Class & preparatory flag removed.	1 sound

When starting multiple classes, the warning signal for each succeeding class will be made with the preparatory signal of the preceding class. The preparatory flag will be left displayed until the last start in the sequence.

- 6.2 The starting and finishing line will be either;
 - a) Between the tallest mast on the race control hut and mark "S", or
 - b) Between the mast on the committee boat displaying an orange flag and mark "S" or a club mark of the course.
- 6.3 **Inner distance mark (IDM):** An IDM ranks as a mark. When an IDM is laid near the start or finish line, boats shall start or finish by passing between the IDM and mark "S".
- 6.4 **Pursuit race start:** After the normal start procedure one sound signal may be made at each start time for which boats are signed on.
- 6.5 **Pursuit race finish:** The pursuit race finish will be at the appointed time. One minute before the finish the shortened course flag will be displayed with two sounds. At the finish there will be one sound, all boats shall continue to sail the course but shall not overtake any other boat until the committee boat has noted their finishing position.

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7 Recalls

7.1 **Individual Recalls.** Rule 29.1 will apply (one additional sound signal and flag X displayed).

7.2 **General recalls.** Rule 29.2 and race signal First Substitute are amended:

- a) Single or last start in sequence: One minute after flag First Substitute is lowered, the warning and preparatory signals will be displayed together with one sound.
- b) Other starts in progress: Flag First Substitute will be flown for two minutes after which it will be lowered without a sound signal. The recalled class will restart 3 minutes after the last scheduled start and any previously recalled class.

8 Shortening Course

8.1 When the course is shortened (for one or all classes), all designated boats finish the race when they next reach the finishing line. For class races, boats that have completed fewer laps than the leader will be placed accordingly; for handicap classes, the corrected time calculation will take account of the actual lap count.

9 Time Limits

9.1 The time limit for the first boat to finish in each race is 90 minutes.

10 Protests

10.1 The time limit for the receipt of completed protest forms is 2 hours after the last boat has finished the race or the last of back-to-back races. The Race Committee shall extend the time if there is good reason to do so. Completed protest forms shall be returned to the Race Committee in the race control hut.

10.2 Protests will be heard as soon as possible after receipt by the Race Committee.

10.3 **Advisory Hearing:** When there is an incident that will not result in the lodging of a protest or a request for redress, a boat, protest committee or race committee may request an advisory hearing, and notify any boat involved in the incident. An adviser will then call a hearing to learn what may have happened and will state whether any rule appears to have been broken, and by which boat. A boat may as a result notify the race committee that she accepts an Exoneration Penalty when it applies to the incident, or choose to retire.

10.4 Exoneration Penalty

A boat that may have broken a rule of Part 2 may, after finishing the race concerned and before the start of a related protest hearing, notify the race committee that she accepts a 20% scoring penalty as stated in rule 44.3(c), except that the minimum penalty is two places if that does not result in a score worse than DNF.

This penalty does not reverse an OCS score, or a disqualification under rule 30.3 or 30.4. It is not available for a breach of rule 2 or of class rules or for gross misconduct under rule 69. Nor is it available to a boat that caused injury or serious damage, or gained a significant advantage by her breach: in these circumstances, her penalty is to retire.

When an Exoneration Penalty is accepted,

(a) Neither the boat nor a protest committee may then revoke or remove the penalty.

(b) The boat shall not be penalized further in a protest hearing when the protest committee decides that it was appropriate to the facts found and the applicable rules.

When a boat accepts an Exoneration Penalty, the designation XPA (Exoneration Penalty Accepted) will be used. If she retires, she will be scored RAF.

11 Scoring and Prizes

11.1 The low point scoring system of Appendix A will apply.

11.2 For handicap races corrected times will be calculated to the nearest integer as follows:

$$\frac{(\text{Elapsed time in seconds}) \times (\text{Laps sailed by fastest boat}) \times 1000}{(\text{Portsmouth Number}) \times (\text{Actual laps sailed})}$$

11.3 For handicap races the current RYA Portsmouth Numbers will be used except as modified by the Sailing Committee.

11.4 For personal handicap races, points will be awarded to the helm rather than the boat (amends rules A2-A10). After each race a personal handicap adjustment will be applied to benefit slower sailors and penalise faster sailors. If sailors change class their current personal handicap adjustment will be applied to the standard PN of their new class.

11.5 Points will be awarded and accumulated to a competitor using the same class of boat in an individual series. In class races, alternative rigs may be used with that class of boat, providing that rig is within the boat's class rules (Example - Laser hull with 4.7 or Radial rig). Replica rigs are allowed.

11.6 Non-members may be permitted to race at the Race Committee's discretion but will be scored DNC (Did not compete).

11.7 Races to count will be as shown in the Notice of Race. If not shown they will be in accordance with rule A2 except that no score will be excluded until three races have been completed.

11.8 **Average Points Award** (only for series run over more than one day). Whilst carrying out a club duty a competitor may be awarded points based on the lowest number of points they have accumulated in the races required to qualify for the series (including DNC) less one, divided by the number of races to qualify for that series less one. The competitor must ensure the Race Committee records their request on the result sheets. Note: Sailwave will report average points rounded and place competitors according to their rounded score. Where this places competitors incorrectly, a manual adjustment will be made at the end of the series only and the true average score will be used to identify the final placings

11.9 Ties will be resolved in accordance with ISAF rule A8 except that when a series extends over more than one day the final sentence of rule A8.1 is amended to 'Excluded scores shall be used'.

11.10 In order to qualify for a prize a competitor must count the minimum number of races to count as shown in the programme.

12 Adult-accompanied Novice Sailors

For club events local dispensation is granted for an adult helm to be accompanied by one or more persons than permitted by class rules.

This SI is intended to allow adults to give sailing experience to novices. Deviation from the spirit of the dispensation will be considered to be an infringement of this SI.

13 Racing Area

