



## SAILING INSTRUCTIONS FOR OPEN EVENTS

The notation '[DP]' in a rule in the SI means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.

### 1 RULES

- 1.1 The event will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)*.
- 1.2 All prescriptions of the RYA will apply.
- 1.3 The race committee will, where possible, run open events in accordance with the rules/ guidelines of the associated class(es). The race committee reserves the right to apply these sailing instructions in preference to the rules/ guidelines of the class(es).

### 2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the notice board located on the front of the race box at the front of the clubhouse.
- 2.2 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted on the race box notice board, no later than 15 minutes before the warning signal of the first race to which the change applies.

### 3 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 3.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flag mast situated in front of the clubhouse.
- 3.2 When competitors are notified of a starting or finishing line located away from the vicinity of the clubhouse, signals will be displayed from the riverbank close to one end of the line.
- 3.3 When flags AP or N are displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'more than 5 minutes' in the race signals AP and N. **This changes the RRS AP and N race signal descriptions.**

### 4 SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 4.1 The schedule, including the time of each day's first race warning signal, will be included in the notice of race. The details may be amended by notices on the race box notice board, but the time of the first race's warning signal cannot be advanced from the time published in the notice.
- 4.2 On the last schedule day of racing no warning signal will be made after 16:00.

### 5 CLASS FLAGS

- 5.1 The class flags used will normally be those recommended by the authorities for the class(es) taking part in the event. The Race Officer may clarify or change these by means of a notice to competitors.

## 6 RACING AREAS

- 6.1 Addendum A shows the location of the racing area.
- 6.2 Competitors are advised that:
- (a) A considerable volume of pleasure boat traffic traverses the sailing area, frequently emerging from junctions opposite the club and at either end of the racing area.
  - (b) There is a weir located just beyond the railway bridge at the downstream limit of the sailing area. Competitors are advised to stay well upstream of the bridge and of the barrage that normally guards it.
  - (c) The river has shallow areas, particularly close to the banks and competitors should make due allowance of this. Particular note should be taken of a hidden obstacle marked as 'Billystones'.

## 7 THE COURSES

- 7.1 The race course is normally displayed using red and green numbered disks displayed on the front of the Race Box.
- 7.2 The colour of the disk indicates the required direction of rounding; red indicates that the mark must be left to port and green that it must be left to starboard.
- 7.3 The number of the disk and sequence of display indicates the position of the marks on the river, **not necessarily the sequence of rounding** (refer to addendum A for mark positions and section 10.5 for direction of start).
- 7.4 If marks other than 1 and 3 are used, a plan of the course will be displayed on the Race Box.
- 7.5 The required number of laps is normally displayed on the front of the Race Box using black panels. The number of laps is defined as the number of times that the most upstream mark is rounded as part of the course.

## 8 MARKS

- 8.1 Marks, unless otherwise notified, will comprise of coloured bladders or coloured 20 litre containers, and are identified only by position and not by other markings.
- 8.2 The *Zone* around a mark is the area within two hull lengths of the boat nearer to it. **This changes the RRS Zone definition.**
- 8.3 Marks 1 and 3, unless otherwise notified, are located approximately as shown in Addendum A.
- 8.4 The location of marks other than 1 and 3 will be displayed on the race box notice board and advised by the Race Officer.

## 9 AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS

- 9.1 The following areas are designated as obstructions:
- (a) Pleasure craft (e.g. Cruise boats, barges)
  - (b) Angler operation territory within a 21ft radius.
  - (c) The furthest point any tree growing from a river bank stretches over the river.
  - (d) The furthest point any protruding river vegetation (e.g. lilly pads) grows from the side of the river.

## **10 THE START**

- 10.1** The starting line is normally formed by a transit between the white line drawn on the front of the Race Box and one of four posts located on the opposite river bank. Three diamond shaped signs that read “3”, “2”, and “1”, with a fourth circular shaped sign as the “Start/Finish” line.
- 10.2** The applicable start line being used for a race soon to start will be displayed on the Race Box.
- 10.3** A post carrying an unmarked diamond identifier may be positioned on the clubhouse bank. This will be located approximately on the start line transit but should be used for guidance only.
- 10.4** An alternative starting line may be laid, normally formed by the transit created by two staffs displaying orange flags. Such a line may be at any position in the sailing area.
- 10.5** The direction of start (upstream or downstream) will be indicated by an arrow displayed on the front of the Race Box.
- 10.6** Boats whose class warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area. [DP]
- 10.7** A boat starting later than 5 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. **This changes RRS A4 and A5.**
- 10.8** At the Race Officer’s discretion, a fleet may be split into flights for the duration of the event. Each boat will be designated to a flight and issued a tag for display on the boat. The allocation of boats to flights, and the schedule of starts, will be notified at least 15 minutes before the warning signal for the fleet’s first race of the event.
- 10.9** A safety boat can be used to help lead boats around a course whilst displaying an “L” flag.

## **11 ALTERING THE COURSE DURING A RACE**

- 11.1** If the course is altered during a race, a safety boat will display a “C” flag together with an “L” flag, and proceed to lead boats around the new course.

## **12 THE FINISH**

- 12.1** The finishing line will normally be formed by a transit between the white line on the front of the Race Box and a post located directly opposite on the south river bank identified by an unmarked circular disk.
- 12.2** Another post carrying an unmarked circular disk may be positioned on the clubhouse bank. This will be located approximately on the finish line transit but should be used for guidance only.
- 12.3** An alternative finish line may be laid away from the clubhouse, normally formed by the transit created by two staffs displaying blue flags.
- 12.4** If an alternative finish line is used then this will be displayed on the front of the Race Box.
- 12.5** The direction of finishing (upstream or downstream) will be the same as the direction of starting unless the set course prescribes otherwise or the course is shortened.

## **13 PENALTY SYSTEM**

- 13.1** A boat that breaks RRS 31 (touches a mark) must re-round the mark and must stay clear of other boats whilst doing so. **This changes RRS 44.1.**
- 13.2** A boat breaking a rule in RRS Part 2 and RRS 31 in the same incident must take both penalties. **This changes RRS 44.1 (a).**
- 13.3** RRS 69 will be implemented in accordance with the RYA Racing Charter.

## **14 TIME LIMITS**

- 14.1** Unless otherwise advised by the Race Officer, the time limit for each race will be 90 minutes after the starting signal, or 30 minutes after the first boat in the same class sails the course and finishes, whichever comes the earliest. **This changes RRS 35.**
- 14.2** Boats failing to finish within the time limit will be scored "DNF" without a hearing. **This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5.**

## **15 DECLARATIONS**

- 15.1** Each competitor finishing a race must sign a declaration form, confirming compliance with the Racing Rules of Sailing, the RYA Racing Charter and these instructions.
- 15.2** Any competitor who does not start a race or who retires from a race must sign the declaration form as DNC or RET respectively.
- 15.3** The time limit for the signing of the declaration form is the same as for the lodging of a protest.
- 15.4** Competitors failing to correctly sign the declaration form within the time limit will be scored Did Not Compete without a hearing. **This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5.**

## **16 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**

- 16.1** Protest forms are available at the Race Box. Protests shall be delivered there within the protest time limit.
- 16.2** The protest time limit is 30 minutes after the last boat in the fleet has finished the race.
- 16.3** If the schedule of races does not permit a competitor to come ashore to lodge the protest, the time limit shall apply from the last race sailed before coming ashore.
- 16.4** The same time limit applies to protests by the race committee. **This changes RRS 61.3 and 62.2.**
- 16.5** Notices will be posted within 30 minutes after the protest time limit of the last race of the day, to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses.
- 16.6** Hearings will normally be held in the cadet room, located on the ground floor at the rear of the clubhouse, beginning as soon as possible after the posting of the above notices.
- 16.7** Breaches of SIs 10.7, 18.2 and 21 will not be grounds for a protest by a boat. **This changes RRS 60.1(a).**
- 16.8** On the last day of the event a request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered
- (a) Within the protest time limit if the party requesting reopening was informed of the decision on the previous day;
  - (b) No later than 30 minutes after the party requesting reopening was informed of the decision on that day.
- This changes RRS 66.**

## **17 SCORING**

- 17.1** At least two races are required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 17.2** Series scores shall be calculated as follows:
- (a) When fewer than 3 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
  - (b) When all 3 scheduled races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
- 17.3** Where flights are used, no race tie resolution will be used. **This changes RRS A7.**

## 18 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

- 18.1 Substitution of competitors will not be allowed without prior approval of the race committee.
- 18.2 Substitution of sails bearing a different number to that of the boat will not be allowed without the prior approval of the race committee. [DP]

## 19 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

- 19.1 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions.

## 20 SUPPORT

- 20.1 Team leaders, coaches and other support personnel shall stay outside areas where boats are racing 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. [DP]

## 21 PRIZES

Prizes will be given as follows:

- 21.1 Perpetual trophies may be awarded where these are identified in the notice of race. All such trophies remain the property of Trent Valley Sailing Club and shall be returned to the club before the event is next sailed or within 12 calendar months of the award, whichever is sooner.
- 21.2 Other prizes will be awarded to leading competitors, at least those in positions better than the square root of the number of event entries.

## 22 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 22.1 Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 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 the regatta.

## 23 INSURANCE

- 23.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £2,000,000.

## ADDENDUM A – SAILING AREA

