

Yacht sailing instructions 2010

1 Rules

Racing will take place under the current Racing Rules of Sailing 2009 - 2012 (RRS), with RYA Prescriptions, these sailing instructions, Notice of Races 2010, and the appropriate class rules.

2 Competitors Responsibility

The safety of a yacht and her entire management including insurance shall be the sole and inescapable responsibility of the owner / competitor racing the yacht.

The establishment of these sailing instructions in no way limits or reduces the complete and unlimited responsibility of the owner / competitor for his / her crew, his / her yacht and the management thereof.

3 Entry and insurance

The owners / helmsmen of all yachts wishing to take part in races must do the following :-

- a. Insure their craft for a minimum of £2,000,000 third party risks
- b. Complete, sign and return an official 2010 Entry Form to the Club before racing (available from the Club Administrator).
- c. Carry an appropriate class flag on the backstay of their yacht when racing.

For yachts racing in PY class this is flag 'Z', IRC yachts fly flag 'E'. No points or places will be given to any competitor who fails to satisfy all of these requirements.

4 Safety

Skippers of all yachts competing in Club races must ensure that their vessels are equipped with all adequate and up to date safety equipment. The minimum acceptable safety standards for keelboats competing in river and Falmouth Bay races is ORC Category 4. For Channel and COGS races see the relevant sailing instructions. Whilst it is not mandatory for river and bay races, it is highly recommended that each competing yacht be fitted with a working VHF radio, duly licensed, and have a qualified operator on board. All HRSC Members are encouraged to lodge a CG 66 form with Falmouth Coastguard. It is the responsibility of the competitors alone to decide whether or not it is safe to race. This includes an assessment of weather conditions and forecasts, the sea worthiness of their vessel and the competence, experience and fitness of its crew. Such standards may vary and the fact that a race has not been cancelled does not mean that it is safe for all competitors to take part. Competitors are individually responsible whether or not to start but the Committee reserves the right to cancel the race should conditions be unsuitable in which case Flag "N" will be flown from the Clubhouse.

5 Divers and Dive boats

Divers and dive boats are obstructions. Yachts are required to maintain a minimum 30 metre zone around a dive boat

flying code flag A, an orange pillar mark indicating a diver beneath the surface and a diver on the surface. A competing yacht shall not enter the 30 metre zone.

6 Navigation

On all courses competitors must pass to seaward of August Rock Buoy and north of Voose Buoy.

7 Start times

The start time will be listed in the Yacht Calendar unless otherwise advised on the Clubhouse notice board. Pursuit race start times will be advised individually. If, for unforeseen circumstances, a race start is delayed, competitors should remain within proximity to the start line such that they may start on time. Failure to do so will not be cause for redress.

8 Start line

Durgan starts will be between the Class flag on the Committee Boat (positioned to the east of Durgan) and Gew race mark, except when "A" suffix is displayed on the course board in which case the start will be between the Class flag on the Committee Boat and Toll race mark. Courses shown with suffix "B" followed by a mark code will start between that mark and the Committee Boat, with the first mark as shown for the designated course.

Where the start is in a westerly direction from the Durgan line, yachts shall not pass through the Start Line on the second leg of the course. Durgan pursuit starts will use the line from the Committee Buoy to Gew race mark, or Toll race mark if suffix "A" displayed. Course displayed on Clubhouse balcony.

Dennis starts will be the transit of the triangle with the post behind on Dennis Head.

Number of starters. For a race to be valid the number of starters must be at least two.

9 Finish line / Committee Boat

The finish line will be marked by the Committee Boat and the nearest mark of the course. To indicate that the Committee Boat is on station and ready to finish competing yachts, it should fly the class flag. The Club line will no longer be used.

- a. The finish line for a shortened course is between the S flag on the Committee Boat and the next mark of the course for the lead boat.
- b. For Pursuit races, if the leading yacht reaches the last mark of the course before the finish time, the race shall be extended by repeating the last triangle (i.e. the last 3 marks) of the printed course until the finish time is reached.
- c. All Dennis Start courses will finish at the last mark on the displayed course or the first mark after the time limit for the race. Yachts are required to time their own finish and (if possible) note the yachts ahead and astern and advise by declaration card to the Club Administrator by the following Wednesday morning.

d. Finishing at a mark with no Committee boat
The finish line is deemed to be a line extending from the finish mark, at right angles to the course from the previous mark. The finish mark should be left on the same side as it would have been rounded. There will not be a hook finish. The length of the line shall be two boat lengths. All yachts must finish within 2 boat lengths of the finishing mark passing on the side indicated by the displayed course.

e. Abandonment

Races that have no finishers within the time limit set are deemed to be abandoned with no points awarded.

10 Courses

The Race Officer will set one of two types of courses from the Committee boat.

a. Pre-determined courses.

These are the numeric courses listed in the year book and will be indicated by one or two numbers possibly followed by letter "A", to denote a Toll start or "B" see 8 above.

b. Dynamic courses

Dynamic courses will be indicated by lettered boards representing marks located in a frame on the Committee boat. Board lettering will be red to indicate a port rounding and green to indicate a starboard rounding. The course must be read horizontally from top left to bottom right. All named marks and their code letters are referred to in the HRSC 2010 Year Book on page 35. A black pole mark may be laid on the day of the race and will be referred to as mark "X". Its bearing from the Committee boat will be displayed on a board on the Committee boat. The movable mark may appear at any position in the indicated course, and may not be visible from the Committee boat area.

11 Starts and starting signals

RRS 26 will apply. This will not apply to pursuit races where each yacht will start at its own given start time. Courses will be signalled by course boards which will be hung on the Committee Boat. They will be displayed before or with the warning signal. RRS 30 (Starting Penalties) will not apply. All competitors must take every precaution to keep clear of all moored craft in the river. Particular attention is drawn to those rules concerning right of way at obstructions. Pursuit race courses will be displayed on the Clubhouse balcony. Dennis line starts will not have a Committee Boat. A designated yacht will fly Flag "E" or "Z" from her backstay and she shall not start before the advertised start time, and no later than 2 minutes after. All other yachts shall cross the start line at least one length behind the designated start yacht, regardless of the time she starts.

12 Recalls In accordance with RRS 29.

13 Postponements / abandonments In accordance with RRS 27.3.

14 Shortened courses In accordance with RRS 32.2, except as modified by these Sailing Instructions.

15 Retirements

All competitors retiring should notify the Race Officer as soon as he / she comes ashore. In the case of races where no Race Officer is present, Captain Yachts or Rear Commodore Sailing should be notified instead.

16 Time limits

Time limits for Z and E classes on Wednesday evening races will be two hours after the start time for class E for mass starts. Provided that one competitor finishes within this time limit, all other entries will have a further half hour to finish. Competitors failing to finish within these time limits will be deemed to have retired. Time limits for pursuit races are given in the yacht calendar. RRS 35 will not apply.

17 Alternative penalties

RRS 44.1 and 44.2 will apply.

18 Protests

Protests will be heard in accordance with RRS 60 - 71 (part 5). This procedure must be followed correctly and in full, or the protest may not be heard. A fee of £10 must be presented with the protest, which will be refunded if the protest is upheld. When a protest is raised within a race it must be verbally communicated to the Race Officer/Captain Yachts, within 2 hours of the last boat finishing. A protest report form should then be completed and returned to Captain Yachts within 24 hours of the last boat finishing the race. Protest forms available from the Club office.

19 Assistance to another boat

It is the duty of every yacht to render all possible assistance to any vessel or person in distress in accordance with Fundamental Rule 1.1. The Race Committee will subsequently make every effort to reach an equitable decision regarding the outcome of the race in accordance with RRS 62.

20 Points

The Low - Point scoring system, Appendix A4, A8 and A9 of the RRS will apply for all Points Series races.

21 Handicapping

The handicap system for keelboat classes will be arranged and organised by the Handicap Committee, to whom all queries should be addressed in writing.

22 Declarations

When competing in pursuit races the onus is on each competitor to complete the declaration sheet in the Clubhouse to include his own finishing time or ensure this is completed on his behalf.