

# YACHT SAILING INSTRUCTIONS 2018

(amended 12 June 2018)

## 1 Rules

Racing will take place under the current [Racing Rules of Sailing 2017 – 2020](#) (RRS), with RYA Prescriptions, these Sailing Instructions, Notice of Races 2018, 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:

- Insure their craft for a minimum of £2,000,000 third party risks.
- Complete, sign and return an official 2018 Entry Form to the Club Administrator together with entry fee, where applicable, before racing. (Forms available from the Club Administrator or from the club website.)
- Carry an appropriate class flag on the backstay of their yacht when racing.

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.

Each competing yacht must be fitted with a working VHF radio, which must be kept switched on whilst racing and have a qualified operator on board. For coastal and offshore races 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

A dive boat flying code flag A, an orange pillar mark indicating a diver beneath the surface and a diver on the surface are obstructions, around which competing yachts shall maintain a 30-metre exclusion zone.

## 6 Navigation

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

## 7 Start times

The start time for Yachts (except for the last two races of the late summer series) will be at 18:30 hours (GPS-time).

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

- A For the pursuit races the start line will be either the Club line for east and south east winds or a start line between Committee mark (Q) and Gew mark (G) for other wind directions. The pre-set courses listed in the 2018 Club book will be used unless instructions from Captain Yachts indicate an alternative course.
- B The start line for all other races will be determined by the Race Officer. The start line will be between the flag pole on the Committee boat and the nearest mark on the course.
- C Number of starters: for a race to be valid the number of starters must be at least two.

## 9 Finish line / Committee Boat

For conventional-start races:

- A When possible, 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(s).
- B When finishing at a mark with no Committee Boat yachts must note the (GPS) time as they cross the finish line.

For pursuit races:

- C The finish mark for pursuit races will be the mark of the course that is rounded by the leading yacht at or after 19:45 hours. If the leading yacht reaches the last mark of the course before the finish time, the race shall be extended by repeating the last two marks (i.e. the finish and the penultimate marks) of the course until the finish time (19:45 hours) is reached.
- D Yachts must note their positions and if possible the name of the yacht in front of, and behind them.

For all race types:

- E The finish line for a shortened course is between the S flag on the Committee Boat and the nearest mark on the course mark of course.
- F When 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 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. There will not be a hooked finish.
- G Abandonment. Races that have no finishers within the time limit are deemed to be abandoned with no points awarded.

## 10 Courses

The Race Officer will set the course or courses from the Committee boat.

## 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. Spring Series pursuit race courses are displayed on the Clubhouse balcony.

## 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

- A Time limit for the pursuit races is 20:15 hrs
- B Time limit for conventional-start races (where two races are run) is:
  - a. Race 1. 15 mins after the first boat to finish
  - b. Race 2. 20 mins after the first boat to finish
- C Time limit for conventional-start races (where one race is run) is 20:15 hours and provided at least one boat finishes before 20:15 hours all remaining boats must finish within 30 mins of the first boat.

Any boat outside the time limits listed above will be deemed to have retired.

## 17 Alternative penalties

RRS 31, 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. 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 Club will adopt a HRSC handicap system for Keelboat classes which 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.