



**RBYC**

## **WHITSUN REGATTA 2018**

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup>, Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> and Bank Holiday Monday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2018**

### **SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

The Organising Authority is the Royal Burnham Yacht Club (RBYC).

The Club, the Officers, Members and employees bear no responsibility for accidents, damage or injuries to boats or their personnel in any way or from any cause during or related to Races organised by the above defined Race Committee.

- 1. RULES** Racing will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing 2017- 2020 (RRS), IRC 2018 Rules, the prescriptions of the RYA, the Rules of the One Design Classes, the Crouch Harbour Authority Bye-Laws, the Notice of Race and these Sailing Instructions.

**Attention is drawn to ISAF RRS 4 (Decision to Race).**

#### **2. CONDITIONS OF ENTRY**

**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 crew are adequate to face the conditions that may arise in the course of the race. Neither these Sailing Instructions nor any inspection of the boat or the provision of safety boats 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 a race or races. Moreover, every owner/person in charge warrants the suitability of the boat for the race or races and that the boat contains at least the minimum specified safety equipment detailed in class rules.

**Insurance** Each boat shall have a valid third-party insurance of not less than £2,000,000 in force for the duration of all races sailed under these Sailing Instructions, for which she has entered.

**Compliance with Class Rules, Measurements and Rating Certificates** – see RRS 78

**Racing Fees and Entry Forms:** The owner of each boat competing must have completed the appropriate entry form and paid the prescribed race entry fees. For ease of entry, an on-line form is available on the RBYC website [www.rbyc.org.uk](http://www.rbyc.org.uk)

**Identification on Sails** Under exceptional circumstances and provided that Class Rules allow, the race committee may permit a boat to use sails carrying an identifying number other than that required by RRS 77 and Appendix G.

**Eligibility** Races are open to any member of a yacht club recognised by the RYA (or another National Sailing Authority).

**3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS** Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board adjacent to the quay door of the RBYC.

**4. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS** Any changes to the Sailing Instructions will either be posted on the Official Notice Board at least one hour before the race, or by communication (which may be orally) with each competitor afloat before the Warning Signal.

**5. SIGNALS** Signals made ashore will be displayed by boards on the Race Box Platform of the RBYC.

**6. SCHEDULE OF RACES** Races are scheduled as shown in the Notice of Race and in the Regatta programme. Times shown are the scheduled warning signals.

**7. CLASS FLAGS** Class flags, used as Warning Signals, will be as shown below. The use of flags C and H as Class Flags is in addition to their unchanged meanings in RRS – Race Signals.

Class	Flag
Multihulls	M
IRC/NHC Cruisers	Numeral pennant 1
RS Elites	H
Dragons	D
RCODs	C
RBODs	V
Dinghies (PY handicap 1364 and below)	R

**8. RACING AREA RBYC Club line and the Rivers Crouch and Roach.**

## 9. THE COURSE

**Course to be sailed** The courses will be taken from the 2018 RBYC/RCYC series course cards. A special course (being a course not on the Course Cards) will be indicated by the inverted letter "A" being displayed by the RBYC race box and the marks of the course may be posted on the Official Notice Boards no later than 30 minutes before the warning signal or alternatively communicated to competitors by the Race Officer before the Warning Signal.

**Display of Course** The course to be sailed will be indicated by the letters displayed on the Race Box Platform no later than the Warning Signal for that class.

## 10. MARKS

**Definitions** The Racing Marks are as defined on the Course Card.

## 11. THE START (*Starts will conform to RRS Rule 26*).

**Starting** Races will be started with the Class Flag being displayed, as a Warning Signal, 5 minutes before the Start Signal, the Preparatory Signal (P Flag) will be displayed 4 minutes before the Start Signal and removed 1 minute before the Start Signal. The Class Flag will be removed at the Start. Flags on all starts may be accompanied by sound signals.

**Absence of a Class.** Where a class is not racing the race committee may omit all start signals for that class and display flag "F", with or without a sound signal, at the scheduled start time of the class not racing. This signal will be removed at the warning signal for the next class.

**Starting (and Finishing) Line – Club Fixed Line** The Starting and Finishing Line at the RBYC is defined by two posts in transit on the south shore opposite each club.

**Keeping Clear** Boats whose Preparatory Signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area (an area of 50 metres either side of the Starting Line) and of all boats whose Preparatory Signal has been made.

**General Recall** When at the Starting Signal the race committee is unable to identify boats 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 (display First Substitute with two sounds). The warning signal for a new start for the recalled class shall be made one minute after the First Substitute is removed (one sound), and the starts for any succeeding classes shall follow the new start.

## 12. CHANGE OF COURSE AFTER THE START (*RRS 32 is amended*)

**Shortening Course at Finishing Line** When Flag S is displayed, with two sound signals, at or near the Finishing Line, it will have the following meaning for all classes (where Flag S is displayed over a Class Flag this instruction will apply to that class only): The leading boat will finish when she crosses the designated Finishing Line and all other boats will finish when they do so having sailed the same course.

**Shortening Course at a Mark** When Flag H is displayed, with two sound signals, from a vessel flying the Club Burgee near a mark of the course, it will have the following meaning for all classes (where Flag H is displayed over a Class Flag this instruction will apply to that Class only): The course is shortened and this is the last mark of the course. Pass it on the required side and sail to the designated Finishing Line, having first sailed the same number of laps as the leading boat, and finish.

When Flag S is displayed, with two sound signals from a vessel flying the Club Burgee near a mark of the course its meaning is as in the RRS – Race Signals.

**Shortening Course other than at Finishing Line or Mark** A vessel flying the Club Burgee, which is authorised by the Race Officer, may finish the race at any time for improving sailing and/or safety, the instruction for which may be given orally and shall be followed at all times. Where possible this instruction shall be accompanied by Flag H with two sound signals. (Where Flag H is displayed over a Class Flag this instruction will apply to that Class only). The course is shortened and the race will be to the designated Finishing Line, having first sailed the same number of laps as the leading boat, and finish. The finish line is to be crossed from the direction of the last mark.

**13. THE FINISHING LINE** – see SI's 11 above

**14. TIME LIMIT** Time limits will not apply.

**15. PROTESTS** Protests shall be written on forms available from the Race Officer and delivered to the Office or to the Race Officer within one hour after the time of the last boat's finish unless the Race Officer decides to allow a longer period.

**16. SCORING** - (RRS 90.3 is amended).

Scoring for individual classes shall be in accordance with RRS Low Points system. Two races are required to constitute a series.

If four races are completed, a boat's series score shall be the total of her race scores excluding her worse score.

**17. ALTERNATIVE PENALTIES** – (RRS 44.1 and 44.2 are amended). A one turn penalty rule (a turn in the same direction which includes one tack and one gybe) will apply to all classes.

**18. HAULING OUT; MAKING FAST; ANCHORING.** (RRS 45 is amended). RRS Rule 45 will apply EXCEPT: A boat shall be afloat and off her moorings at her **WARNING** signal.

**19. OTHER REQUIREMENTS WHEN AFLOAT**

**Personal Buoyancy** RRS 40 will apply. Boats competing in keel boat classes are required to carry a minimum of two currently dated hand-held distress flares and adequate personal buoyancy for all crew members.

**Safety Equipment** Any boat found deficient in safety equipment according to the rules of their Class during a race or during a spot check will be considered to have infringed Rule 1 of these Sailing Instructions.

**Moored vessels** A boat racing that collides or causes a collision with a moored vessel shall report this in writing to the Race Officer within the Protest Time Limit, and protest or retire from that race. The owner/person in charge shall report the collision to the Crouch Harbour Authority, Channel M1 on VHF or 01621 783602 or mobile 07903 132644. NB: A moored vessel includes its mooring buoy and any other items attached including but not limited to tenders, fenders and other items attached to the vessel.

**Communications** Except in an emergency, a boat that is racing shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communications that is not available to all boats.

**VHF Radio** It is required that all competitors in keelboats carry a hand-held VHF radio on board for communications from the Race Box and for use in an emergency.

**20. DECLARATIONS AND RETIRING** Declarations are not required. From the moment a race starts, it is the responsibility of the owner/person in charge who retires to advise the Race Officer without delay, and in all cases within the Protest Time Limit.

**21. TROPHIES** Trophies will be awarded in the Royal Burnham Yacht Club on Monday afternoon as soon as practicable after racing is completed.