



Royal Solent Yacht Club

STANDARD SAILING INSTRUCTIONS 2015

1. ORGANISING AUTHORITY

- 1.1 The Organising Authority is the Royal Solent Yacht Club.

2. RULES

- 2.1 Races will be governed by the Rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing.
- 2.2 Race Visual signals shall be used.
- 2.3 RRS 35 is changed by SSI 12.1, RRS 60 is changed by SSI 13.3 and RRS 77 is changed by SSI 6.1.
- 2.4 RRS 32.1 is changed by adding paragraph 32.1(f): *for any reason deemed necessary by the Race Committee.*
- 2.5 RRS 60.2 is changed by adding paragraph 60.2(d): *'disqualify without a hearing any boat observed by at least two members of the Race Officer team to have sailed an incorrect course'*. This amends RRS 63.1.
- 2.6 Penalty System RRS 44.1 is changed so that two turns is replaced by a one turn penalty.
- 2.7 **Start and finish lines**, on a committee boat, at Grants or on the Club Balcony Line, are designated by Numeral Pennants flown from the Club's main flagstaff.
- Numeral Pennant '0' for starting and finishing races from Grants.
 - Numeral Pennant '9' for races starting from a committee boat and finishing at Grants.
 - Pennant '8' for starting and finishing races from a committee boat.
 - Numeral Pennant '6' for races starting at Grants and finishing on the Club Balcony line.
- See SSI 10.4 for Course Instructions, SSI 11 for Start Instructions and SSI 12 for Finish Instructions specific to each start and finish line.
- 2.8 Regulation 2.0 & 2.1 of the UK Folkboat Association shall apply and Folkboats are permitted to use spinnakers as permitted by Class rule 9.01.
- 2.9 For IRC boats IRC Rule 22.4.2 shall not apply. There are no limitations on crew number or weight except as required for boats rated as one designs which shall comply with IRC Rule 22.4.1
- 2.10 Boats may be required to display an event pennant over their class flag whilst racing.

3. CONDITION OF ENTRY

- 3.1 Boats shall not be deemed to have started unless the owner/person in charge has completed, signed and returned to the RSYC Secretariat, the Club's Condition of Entry Form .

4. SCHEDULE OF RACES & MINIMUM ENTRY

- 4.1 The schedule of races, the classes to race, the order, the date of races and the time of the starting and/or warning signals will be published in the Royal Solent Yacht Club Programme of Races and/or on the Club notice board, or in a separately issued Notice of Race.
- 4.2 There will be no race unless a minimum of two boats start in a race. Classes may be combined at the Race Officers discretion.

5. CLASS FLAGS & ENSIGNS

- 5.1 All Class 1 & 2 boats shall fly their designated class flag.
- 5.2 Ensigns shall be struck prior to the preparatory signal.

6. DISTINGUISHING MARKS

- 6.1 Under exceptional circumstances, the Race Committee may permit a boat to use sails carrying distinguishing marks other than those required by RRS 77. Competitors should seek such permission from the Race Committee in good time and stating reason for the request.

7. INSPECTION

- 7.1 Boats are subject to inspection at any time for compliance with the Racing Rules of Sailing.

8. SAFETY

- 8.1 The crews of all boats that are not fully decked and are capable of raising the keel, centre-board or dagger-board shall wear lifejackets or other adequate personal buoyancy at all times while afloat.
- 8.2 A boat racing shall, where applicable, comply with its class rules with regard to safety.
- 8.3 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.
- 8.4 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 going to sea, the boat confirms that it is fit for those conditions and that its crew is competent to sail and compete in them.
- 8.5 Following consultation with the related classes, the Race Committee may initiate '**white sail racing**' (no spinnakers). This will be signalled by hoisting **flag G** and the relevant class flag.
- 8.6 VHF radios capable of receiving channel 37A [M1] must be carried and a listening watch kept at all times; except by dinghy classes.
- 8.7 Nothing 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 organisers encompass everyone helping to run the race and the event, and include the Organising Authority, the Race Committee, the race officer, patrol boats and beachmasters.
- 8.8 The provision of patrol boats does not relieve the boat of its responsibilities.
- 8.9 No boat shall race with an anchor protruding beyond its bow/bowsprit or bumkin. A boat shall not be disqualified for a breach of this instruction without prior warning and adequate opportunity to make correction.

- 8.10 **A boat which retires from a race shall make every effort to ensure that the Race Committee is notified as soon as possible and before returning to her berth. FAILURE TO COMPLY MAY RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION FROM THE SERIES.**

9. AMENDMENTS

- 9.1 Amendments to sailing instructions will be posted on the notice board located opposite the Sailing Office, not later than one and a half hours before the start of a relevant race and notified by flying **Flag ‘L’** on the signal flagstaff at the RSYC starting line at Grants and/or on the RSYC flagstaff situated on the Club jetty.
- 9.2 Any information displayed at the Club will if possible be displayed on the Royal Solent Yacht Club’s website-www.royalsolent.org or will be available by phoning the Secretariat on 01983 760256 or contacting the class captain. In the event of bad weather on the morning of the race competitors are advised to check via one of these methods. Failure to display information on the Club’s website or not being able to contact a class captain, will not be grounds for redress.

10. COURSE INSTRUCTIONS

- 10.1 Course instructions and general information may be transmitted on VHF Channel 37A [M1] at the discretion of the Race Committee. Failure of any boat to receive any such transmissions shall not be regarded as grounds for any protest or any request for redress.
- 10.2 Boats in whatever direction they are racing, other than Dinghy Classes, shall pass to the Southwards of:
- (a) The Royal Lymington Yacht Club starting platform.
 - (b) “Cross Boom” and all other booms, beacons and posts in the Lymington River Entrance. Boats may pass on either side of “Jack in the Basket”.
- 10.3 Boats shall not pass through the barrier South of Durns Point which is an obstruction to sea room.
- 10.4 Courses will be selected from the navigational buoys and racing marks which have been allocated code letters, numbers or symbols as shown in the SI Appendices 1 and 2.
- (a) Course started from Committee Boat
The course to be sailed will be displayed at or before the warning signal in a frame on the main committee boat. Letters, numbers or symbols on a red background indicate that such marks shall be rounded to port and similarly, letters, numbers or symbols on a green background indicate that such marks shall be rounded to starboard.
 - (b) Course started from Grants
The course to be sailed will be displayed at or before the warning signal at Grants in the frame eastwards of the signal flagstaff when the sequence of letters, numbers or symbols displayed shall be read from top left to bottom right. Red letters, numbers or symbols displayed on either a black or white background indicate that such marks of the course shall be rounded to port. Green letters, numbers or symbols displayed on either a black or a white background indicate that such marks of the course shall be rounded to starboard.
- 10.5 When two or three white diamond shapes are displayed with the course signal, the course shall be sailed two or three times round respectively. Boats shall pass through the gate formed by the committee boat or the Grants Inner White Post and a Distance Mark, from the direction of the previous mark, at the end of each round before commencing the next round.
- 10.6 When ‘□’ is displayed as part of the course signal, it indicates that boats shall pass through the gate

described in 10.5 above from the direction of the previous mark.

- 10.7 **When 'S' flag over 'H' flag** is displayed by a committee boat adjacent to a mark of the course it denotes that boats shall pass that mark in the required manner and shall then proceed directly to cross the finishing line in the direction from that mark. The committee boat may make repeated sound signals to draw attention to the visual signal.
- 10.8 Boats in whatever direction they are racing, shall pass to the Northwards of an spherical white buoy (marked YARMOUTH SPICE) situated to the southeast of the inner trot of Moorings, located to the west of Yarmouth Pier.
- 10.9 Direction of the Course from the last Mark - **Grants & the Club Line.**

Boats finishing at the Grants finishing line and the Club balcony line from 'E' (Pylewell), F' (Berthon) and all marks that are both to the east of these and to the north of the deep water navigation channel in the Solent shall finish by crossing the finishing line from east to west.

Boats finishing at the Grants finishing line and the Club line from 'D' (RLYC ODM) and all marks that are both to the west of this mark and to the north of the deep water navigation channel in the Solent shall finish by crossing the finishing line from west to east. 19 is to the West of Grants when 19 is a mark of the course.

11. STARTING

11.1 Starting Line (Grants)

The starting line at Grants, is approximately 200 metres to the East of the Royal Solent Yacht Club. The starting line is formed by bringing the signal flagstaff bearing a horizontally striped orange and white diamond shape into line with a white post topped with a white diamond framed orange cross which is about 15 metres to seawards from the sea wall.

11.2 Limit Marks

- (a) The inner limit mark for all races is the seaward post with a diamond shaped top of the starting line transit. Please note that this mark may not necessarily be in water deep enough for some boats.
- (b) The outer limit mark for all races, (except for dinghy classes), is a yellow cylindrical buoy marked with '9' in black, Charles Stanley in blue and Stockbrokers in black thereon with a with a yellow X topmark, located approximately 450 metres northwards of the signal flagstaff.
- (c) The outer limit mark for dinghy classes is a yellow buoy with '19' thereon and a yellow top mark about 120 metres northwards of the signal flagstaff.

11.3 Starting Line (Committee Boat)

- (a) The main committee boat will be identified by a white flag with 'Royal Solent YC Committee' thereon.
- (b) The starting line will be between an orange flag on the committee boat and the course side of the outer distance mark.
- (c) Please note that the distance mark or committee boat may not necessarily be in water deep enough for some boats.

11.4 VHF Communications:

- (a) The Race Officers may at their discretion use VHF radios (Channel M1) to broadcast the complete or part thereof of the countdown sequence to the start of a race. Also they may announce the names of boats being recalled. In this event all boats being recalled for a particular start will be announced. This is for assistance to competitors and does not replace the formal starting procedure described in the Notice of Race.

- (b) Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make nor receive radio transmissions while racing that is not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.

12. FINISHING

12.1 Time Limit

RRS 35 is varied in that:

- (a) The time limit for all races shall be 3 hours after the valid starting time except for Folkboat, XOD, YOD, Cruisers and dinghy races held on Sundays and/or Bank Holidays when the time limit shall be 2 hours.
- (b) When the first boat in her race finishes within the time limit, the race shall be valid only for those boats which finish within the time limit or within 45 minutes of the first boat in her race, whichever is the later.
- (c) For races of more than one round when the first boat in her race fails to finish within the time limit, but has completed one or more rounds of the course, the results of the race will be determined by the placings at the end of the last completed round.
- (d) When the first boat in her race fails to complete a round of the course or passed through the Gate '□' as part of the course by the time limit, the race shall be abandoned or abandoned and resailed.

12.2 Finishing Line (Grants)

- (a) The finishing line, (except for Dinghy classes), will be an imaginary line between the signal flagstaff and the finishing mark which is the yellow cylindrical buoy (No 9), approximately 450 metres Northwards of the signal flagstaff.
- (b) For Dinghy classes racing from Grants, the finishing line will be an imaginary line between the signal flagstaff and the yellow spherical buoy (No: 19) approximately 120 metres Northward of the signal flagstaff.

12.3 Finishing Line (Committee Boat)

- (a) The finishing line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the committee boat and the course side of the finishing line outer distance mark.
- (b) Boats shall cross the finishing line from the direction of the last mark. If an inner limit mark is laid, boats shall pass between it and the outer distance mark.

12.4 Finishing Line (Club Balcony)

- (a) The Finishing line will be an imaginary line between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Eastern end of the Club Balcony and the Outer Distance Mark (9).

13. PROTESTS

13.1 Protests shall be made in accordance with RRS Part 5 and transmitted to the RSYC Secretariat within two hours of the time the last boat in her race finishes. Protest forms are available from the RSYC Secretariat.

13.2 The time and place of the hearing will be posted on the RSYC notice board and it is the responsibility of the protestor and the protestee to acquaint themselves of this information and to present themselves at the appropriate time with any witnesses they may wish to call. In the event of either party failing to be present at a hearing the protest may be heard in their absence.

13.3 The Race Committee or the Protest Committee may initiate a protest as a result of information received from any source concerning contact which has caused damage or injury. This amends RRS 60. In the event of conflict between RRS 60 and this SI, this SI will prevail.

14. ARBITRATION

- 14.1 RYA Arbitration of the RYA Rules Disputes Procedures will be available. See Official Notice Board for details.

15. RESULTS & NOTICEBOARD

- 15.1 Unless otherwise notified, the results of races will be posted on a RSYC notice board as soon as practicable or placed in the bar.
- 15.2 The notice board is located outside the Sailing Office, or in the bar.

16. RISK STATEMENT

- 16.1 Rule 4 of the RRS states: “The responsibility for a boat’s decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.” Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:
- (a) They are aware of the inherent element of risk involved in the sport and accept responsibility for the exposure of themselves, their crew and their boat to such inherent risk whilst taking part in the event;
 - (b) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;
 - (c) They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;
 - (d) Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
 - (e) The provision of a race management team, patrol boats and other officials and volunteers by the race organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
 - (f) The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances;
 - (g) For offshore races, they are responsible for ensuring that their boat is equipped and seaworthy so as to be able to face extremes of weather; that there is a crew sufficient in number, experience and fitness to withstand such weather; and that the safety equipment is properly maintained, stowed and in date and is familiar to the crew.

17. INSURANCE

- 17.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third party Liability Insurance with a minimum cover of £2,000,000.