



Staunton Harold Sailing Club

SHSC Sailing Instructions for Club Races 2013

1. Rules

- 1.1 Racing will take place under the Racing Rules of Sailing 2013-2016 (RRS), the prescriptions of the RYA, these Sailing Instructions and the appropriate class rules. In the event of conflict, these Sailing Instructions shall prevail.
- 1.2 These events are designated Category A or C under RRS Appendices section II, Appendix 1

2. Conditions of Entry

- 2.1 General: RRS Rule 4 Decision to race applies. The safety of a boat and her entire management, including insurance, shall be the sole responsibility of the boat 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 limits, or reduces the absolute responsibility of the owner/person in charge of the boat, the crew 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 the race or races. Moreover, every owner/person in charge warrants the suitability of the boat for the race or races.
- 2.2 Measurement Certificate: Before a boat is eligible to race, her valid measurement certificate shall be presented at the Race Office if requested by the Race Committee.
- 2.3 Measurement: Boats may be measured before or after any race at the discretion of the Race Committee.
- 2.4 Identification - Sail Numbers: Under exceptional circumstances, and providing 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.
- 2.5 Personal Buoyancy: Effective personal buoyancy shall be worn at all times whilst afloat, and if it is of the inflatable type, must be kept inflated. Neither a wetsuit nor drysuit constitutes adequate personal buoyancy. This supersedes RRS 1.2.
- 2.6 Signing On: Before going on to the water helmsmen shall enter the race by "Signing On" using the appropriate sheet on the "Signing On Board" adjacent to the galley. Helm, crew, class and sail number shall be entered on the sheet. Any helmsman not complying with this procedure will be considered not to have entered the race and score DNC.
- 2.7 Declarations: A declaration is only required by a boat that has retired, or has not complied with the rules. The helmsman shall make this declaration to the Race Committee.

3 Notice to Competitors

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located within the clubhouse adjacent to the reservoir plan.

4 Changes in Sailing Instructions

Any changes in the sailing instructions will be posted at least 15 minutes before the advertised starting time of the race or races concerned. Changes in the sailing instructions will be indicated by displaying International Code Flag 'L'. When no further changes have been made Flag 'L' will be lowered after the start of the last race of that day.



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5 Signals Made Ashore

Signals made ashore will be hoisted on the flag staff in front of the club house or from the race control box.

6 Schedule of Races

The schedule of races, the classes to race and the order and times of warning signals are indicated in the Sailing Programme. Where there is to be a follow-on race such as in the Frostbite/Twilight series, the race committee may indicate this by flying Code Flag 'F' from the mast of the Committee boat at the finish of the race before the follow-on race.

7 Flags

Class flags will be:

Class	Flag	Class	Flag
Handicap, Fast Handicap	Code Flag H	RS200	RS200 Class Flag
Laser	Laser Class Flag	Mirror & Topper	Code Pennant No. 6
Slow Handicap	Code Flag W	Optimist	Code Flag O
Fireball	Code Pennant No. 8	Scorpion	TBC
Enterprise	Code Flag E	Comet	Comet Class Flag
GP14	Code Flag A	Solo	TBC

8 Course Area

The course area is as shown on the reservoir plan in the clubhouse.

9 The Course

- 9.1 The course configuration and the order of rounding marks shall be displayed on the notice board, or on the Committee Boat using coloured boards. The background colour refers to the side to which the marks are to be rounded. In addition a diagram of the course may also be drawn.
- 9.2 The start line and number of rounds to be sailed shall be displayed either on the notice board, or on grey boards on the Committee Boat.
- 9.3 The start line may also be a gate signified by course mark G which must be passed through each lap.
- 9.4 In Handicap races all boats shall sail the same course and the same number of rounds, except where the Race Committee consider that to enable all classes of boat to sail for approximately the same duration of time the shortening of the course is desirable. See 19.1(e)

10 Marks

- 10.1 Course marks are defined by the numbers and letters: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, G (gate), D (Dam), M (Middle). In addition, a movable mark W may be used as the windward mark.
- 10.2 Occasional marks used for inner and outer distance marks, outer starting and finishing marks and other marks the Race Committee may wish to use will be orange spherical or pillar marks.
- 10.3 All marks used in the race other than starting, finishing and gate marks are defined as rounding marks.

11 Starts

- 11.1 Signals: An orange flag displayed from the Committee Boat indicates a fixed line start and sailing instructions 11.2(a) and 11.3 will apply.
- 11.2 Starting Line:



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- (a) Starting Line – Committee Boat: The starting line is defined as the line between a mast bearing an orange flag on the Committee Boat and an outer starting line mark which may be a rounding mark of the course, or an orange spherical or pillar buoy which may not be a designated rounding mark of the course.
- (b) Starting Line – Race Control Box: The starting line shall be an extension of the line between the transit markers on the Race Control Box. The length of the line shall be limited by an outer distance mark, inside which all boats shall pass. There may also be an inner distance mark, outside which all boats shall pass.
- 11.3 Starting procedures will be as follows: Raising the class/fleet flag will be the warning signal for the first fleet and shall be made six minutes before the start. Three minutes before the start the preparatory flag and the class/fleet flag will be raised for the second class/fleet. The first class/fleet flag will be lowered at the start of the first fleet and third class/fleet flag will be raised. Subsequent classes/fleets will be started at three minute intervals. The preparatory flag will remain flying until all classes/fleets have started. This is a change to RRS 26.
- 11.4 A boat shall not start later than six minutes after her class start.
- 11.5 Individual recalls will be signalled in accordance with RRS 29.1 'Code Flag X'
- 11.6 General Recalls will be signalled in accordance with RRS 29.2 'First Substitute'. The class concerned shall be restarted three minutes after either the start of the last class in the scheduled sequence, or the start of any previously recalled class (es), whichever is the latter. This is a change to RRS 29.2.
- 11.7 Prohibited area penalties: The preparatory flag will be Code Flag I. If any part of a boat, its hull, crew or equipment is on the course side of the start line or its extensions during the three minutes prior to the start, she shall return to the pre-start side of the line by rounding either end before starting. No sound signal will be made and Code Flag I will NOT be removed one minute prior to a fleet start. This is a change to RRS 26 and 30.1.

12 Shortening the Course

- 12.1 The course may be shortened by flying Code Flag S from the Committee Boat, or the Race Control Box, accompanied by two sound signals. The flag may be raised any time before the first boat crosses the finish line, all boats will finish the next time they cross through the finish line unless the course is shortened for an individual class as stated in 12.2 below.
- 12.2 If the course is only shortened for certain classes, the appropriate class flags will be flown in addition to Code Flag S.
- 12.3 When shortening the course in Handicap races boats shall sail whole lap courses only. The Start Line shall also be the Finishing Line, or alternatively the Outer Starting Line Mark shall be the finishing mark. Part laps are not permitted. See 19.1(e)

13 The Finish

- 13.1 Finishing line – Finishing Boat: The Finishing Boat shall fly a blue flag. The finishing line will be between the mast displaying the blue flag and the finishing mark, which may be a mark of the course, an orange spherical or pillar buoy, or, for a shortened course, the nearby rounding mark.
- 13.2 Finishing Line – Race Control Box: The finishing line shall be an extension of the line between the transit markers on the Race Control Box. The length of the line shall be limited by an outer distance mark, inside which all boats shall pass. There may also be an inner distance mark, outside which all boats shall pass. Alternatively, the finishing line may be the extension of the line between the transit markers on the Race Control Box and a nearby rounding mark of the course.
- 13.3 Finishing Line – Pursuit Racing: Seventy five minutes after the start of the double handed Mirrors a horn will be sounded from the Committee Boat flying a blue flag. The race will finish at this time and the Committee



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Boat and the Safety Boat (if free to participate) will record the finishing positions as they pass through the fleet. The finish line will be at a ninety degree angle to the leg of the course being sailed. If on a beat, in order to establish a final position between two widely separated boats, the boats should immediately tack so as to converge, whilst ensuring that the right of way is maintained. All boats not on a beat should continue sailing, holding position, until released by the OOD. The OOD's decision in all matters regarding finishing position is final and non-protetable.

- 13.4 Finishing Line – Handicap Racing: In Handicap racing the Start Line shall also be the Finishing Line, or alternatively the Outer Starting Line Mark shall be the finishing mark. Part laps are not permitted. See 19.1(e)

14 Time Limits

- 14.1 The time limit for each race will be two hours. The race will be valid for all those boats finishing within the time limit.
- 14.2 When the first boat finishes within thirty minutes of the prescribed time limit, the race will be valid for those boats that finish within thirty minutes of the finishing time of the first boat. This is a change to RRS 35.
- 14.3 When no boats finish within the prescribed time limit, the race will be abandoned. Signals will be in accordance with RRS 32. Notification of any re-sail date and time will be posted on the notice board on the same day as the abandoned race.

15 Protests

- 15.1 Protest forms are available at the race office.
- 15.2 Any person intending to protest shall notify the Race Officer, at the finish of the race, or lodge their intention to protest at the race office as soon as practicable.
- 15.3 The time limit for protests is within 30 minutes of the protesting boat reaching the shore.
- 15.4 The Advisory Hearing and RYA Arbitration procedures of the RYA Rules Disputes Procedure will be available. For these purposes an exoneration penalty of 20% shall apply although the final position of a penalised boat shall be no worse than if she had retired. At an informal hearing rules 61.2, 63.5, 63.6 RRS shall not apply.

~~In addition to traditional protest procedures the use of RYA advisory hearings, arbitration hearings and exoneration penalties will be allowed. Protests shall be written on RYA or ISAF Protest Forms available from the Race Control Office, and shall be lodged there within thirty minutes of the last boat in its fleet/class finishing, unless extended at the discretion of the Race Committee. Protests will be heard in approximate order of receipt as soon as possible.~~

16 Scoring

- 16.1 Scoring will be as RRS Appendix A4, Low Point System.
- 16.2 Boats given the positions DNF, DNS, OCS and RAF shall score points equivalent to the number of boats entered in the race + one. Boats given the position DNC shall score points equivalent to the number of boats entered in the series + one. Boats given the position DSQ or DNE shall score points equivalent to the number of boats entered in the series + two. These are changes to RRS Appendix A4.2
- 16.3 Boats score points for each race NOT abandoned in a series and in order to qualify for prizes must compete (NOT scored DNC) in a minimum of half of these races, with the exception of the Late Summer Sunday series for which half the races – 2 must be completed.



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- 16.4 When crews are prevented from racing by performing club duties, boats may be given the position 'Duty' and shall score their average points for the races in which they compete during the series in which the duty occurs. Duty points can only be claimed for a single race in a Wednesday, Morning series, and for two races in all other series.
- 16.5 When class racing, boats having the option of different rig combinations shall all start together in a class fleet, scores will be determined by on the water finishing positions, without application of handicap. Separate prizes for each rig combination shall be awarded.
- 16.6 Double handed boats without a recognised single handed Portsmouth Yardstick can be sailed in handicap or pursuit races using the double handed Yardstick number less 5%.

17 Substitution of crew and equipment

- 17.1 The substitution of any crew member in a one day event shall only be allowed if separate results are produced for each team.
- 17.2 Within a race series or one day event, each change of rig for a boat having different rig combinations will constitute a separate entry within that series. Helmsmen must ensure by signing on that the Race Committee is aware of the rig configuration and hence which entry is being used.
- 17.3 The substitution of any equipment, other than in 17.2, in any club event other than an open meeting shall be allowed provided the race committee is informed of any change to sail numbers

18 Prizes

Prizes will be awarded for first, second and third places in special events and series always provided that the Race Committee considers that there are sufficient qualifiers. In addition prizes may also be given for other categories as appropriate.

19 Local Rules

- 19.1 Local rules not covered by the above sailing instructions are:
- Competitors shall not go afloat if the Red Flag is flying from either the main flagstaff in front of the clubhouse, the flag gantry in front of the Race Control Box, or the Committee Boat.
 - All boats shall immediately come off the water when the Red Flag is flown from either the main flagstaff in front of the clubhouse, the flag gantry in front of the Race Control Box, or the Committee Boat. Attention will be drawn to the flag by the sounding of four blasts on the klaxon repeated every twenty seconds.
 - Only sailors who are involved in special events such as training or open meetings shall go afloat if the rectangular yellow flag is displayed from the main flagstaff in front of the clubhouse.
 - As defined in the SHSC Constitution and Rules, all competitors are reminded of Rule 19, which states that "No boat shall be sailed within 5 boat lengths of the bank except along the bank of the demised premises".
 - In Handicap races all boats shall sail the same course and the same number of rounds, except where the Race Committee consider that to enable all classes of boat to sail for approximately the same duration of time the shortening of the course is desirable. When shortening the course in Handicap races boats shall sail whole lap courses only. The Start Line shall also be the Finishing Line, or alternatively the Outer Starting Line Mark shall be the finishing mark. Part laps are not permitted. Calculation of elapsed time will be by averaging the time taken divided by the number of laps sailed, and then multiplying by the number of laps sailed by the boat sailing the most laps.



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