

GENERAL SAILING INSTRUCTIONS FOR RACING AT GOUROCK

1 RULES

Races will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).

2 NOTICES AND AMENDMENTS

Any notices to competitors or amendments to these instructions will be posted on the Main Notice Board in the Clubhouse.

3 CLASSES AND CLASS SIGNALS,

Classes, start times and class signals will be as per the relevant instructions for each event or series. The relevant section of the Yearbook should be studied prior to any race.

Handicap Yacht Classes will be sailed under the CYCA Handicap system.

Yachts racing in the Handicap Yachts Restricted Sail are not permitted to use spinnakers or other sails that do not meet the definition of a "headsail" in RRS 50.4. Only one headsail may be set except as permitted by RRS 50.1, or where the yachts declared rig has more than one headsail (e.g. a cutter).

4 HANDICAPS AND MEASUREMENT CERTIFICATES

All Handicap Yachts must have a valid CYCA Handicap issued individually to that yacht and its current owner. Yachts not having a Handicap should apply to the CYCA office. A temporary Handicap may be issued subject to payment of the appropriate fee and submission of the Application Form. This will remain in force, subject to review, until the Handicap Committee awards an appropriate Handicap. Handicap or Class Measurement Certificates may be required to be produced.

5 COURSES

Courses are specified in the instructions for each event or series. The number and/or letter of the course to be sailed will be displayed on the Race Platform (between the Orange Pole at the east side of the Clubhouse and the east turret) and will be white on a black background. The Standard Course Table will apply except where the relevant instructions specify an alternative. Unless stated otherwise, marks shown in capital letters will be **LEFT TO STARBOARD** and those in lower case will be **left to port**. All marks are rounding marks apart from marks Z (or z) and E (or e).

6 STARTING SYSTEM

RRS 26 will apply

7 SOUND & VISUAL SIGNALS

Visual signals will be displayed on the gantry to the west of the Orange Pole on the Race Platform. All time signals will be sound signals only.

8 STARTING LINE

The Starting Line will be between the Orange Pole at the east side of the Clubhouse and a moveable outer Mark 'Z' (or z) as indicated in the Standard Course Table. If the moveable start mark Z has not been laid, then mark E (or e) will be deemed to be mark Z (or z) at the start.

9 FINISHING LINE

The Finishing Line will be between the Orange Pole and Mark E (or e) as indicated by the final letter of each round.

10 LATE ARRIVAL

In accordance with RRS 42.3(i) any yacht arriving late in the vicinity of the Starting Line may remain under power or tow after the preparatory signal for her class provided that, after stopping

her engine or casting off the tow, she carries out two full 360° turns on the pre-start side of the line or its extensions. While doing so, the yacht shall keep clear of any other yachts until she has completed her turns and is on a proper course.

11 PENALTIES FOR BREAKING RULES OF PART 2

In alteration to RRS 44 the penalty is reduced to a 360° turn.

12 LONE YACHT AT START

A yacht appearing at the start alone in her class will not be given a race and the race for that class will not be counted in that series.

13 KEEPING CLEAR OF YACHTS RACING

Yachts shall keep clear of the Starting Line when other classes are manoeuvring for their starts and after finishing shall ensure that yachts still racing are not hampered.

14 TIME LIMIT

RRS 35 is altered as follows:-

If at least one yacht in a Class has completed one or more rounds before the "Fixed Time Limit" then, where an "Extension" is specified for that class in the relevant instructions, the time limit will be extended for all other yachts in that Class by the specified time. If, under this provision, any yachts are considered by the Race Officer to be still racing at the 'Fixed Time Limit', two guns will be fired and the Class flags of those Classes eligible to continue racing, during the Extension', will be hoisted. If at the expiry of any Extension, yachts are still considered to be racing, then two guns will be fired and all flags lowered to indicate the cessation of racing.

If by the "Fixed Time Limit" no yacht in a class has finished but at least one yacht in the class has completed one or more rounds, then the results will be taken from the position of the yachts at the end of the last round completed by the leading yacht in the class.

If by the "Fixed Time Limit, no yacht in a Class has completed one round, then the race for that Class will be deemed to be abandoned.

15 POINTS SYSTEM

RRS Appendix A4.1 will apply using the "Low Point System". RRS Appendix A9 will apply to all points series (not Appendix A4.2). Discards will apply as indicated in the relevant instructions for each event or series.

Skippers who miss a points race due to being on platform duty will be awarded average points for the missed race.

16 SAFETY REGULATIONS AND INSURANCE

In addition to RRS 1.2, all yachts shall carry an anchor and warp, a tow line, two flares (one smoke) and a bailing device each of which shall be of a type and size suitable for the purpose for which they are intended. Each yacht shall carry adequate Third Party Insurance. The current recommendation is at least £3,000,000. Competitors are also reminded of RRS 48.1 and should retire immediately if unable to comply.

17 PROTESTS

In alteration to RRS 61.3 protests shall be lodged with the Race Committee immediately after the finish of the race and will be heard in the Clubhouse as soon as possible thereafter.

18 CLYDEPORT OPERATIONS LIMITED (COL) RESTRICTIONS

NARROW CHANNELS Attention is drawn to the International Regulations for the Prevention of Collision at Sea, 1972. Particular notice should be taken of Rule 9b which states 'a vessel of less than 20 metres in length or a sailing vessel shall not impede the passage of a vessel which can safely navigate only within a 'Narrow Channel or Fairway'. The Course Chart and Key to Racing Marks shows the 'Recommended Channels' marked as dotted lines. Whilst racing or on passage

in the Firth of Clyde north of Cumbrae Head, yachts must regard any such 'Recommended Channels' as a 'Narrow Channel' within the meaning of the IRPCS 9b.

Clydeport Operations Limited has also decreed that any waters of the Firth of Clyde where vessels by virtue of their size, draught, speed or proximity to land, hazards and other vessels are unable to manoeuvre freely must be regarded as a 'Narrow Channel'. This also applies in the waters of the Queen's Harbour. Clydeport Operations Limited waters are to the south and west and Queen's Harbour waters to the north, of a line from Rosneath Point to a point approximately halfway between Craigendoran Pier and Ardmore Head, (Admiralty Chart 1994 refers). Whilst racing, any yacht which is unable for reasons of lack of wind or other cause, to sail clear of a large power driven vessel shall start her engine and/or paddle in order to clear and thereafter shall report full details to the Race Committee. Competitors are reminded of the Clydeport Operations Limited Byelaw which prohibits yachts and other craft from manoeuvring within 100 metres of any ferry terminal. Particular regard shall be paid to this when in the vicinity of the Caledonian MacBrayne and Western Ferries facilities at Gourock, Dunoon, McInroy's Point and Hunter's Quay.

19 LIABILITY

Rule 4 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing 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:

(i) 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;

(ii) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;

(iii) They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;

(iv) Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;

(v) The provision of a race management team, patrol boats and other officials and volunteers by the organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;

(vi) The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances.

20 NOTES ON V.H.F.

The Race Committee may maintain a watch on Channel 37, primarily for safety purposes. Competitors are reminded that requesting information on course or any aspect of the sailing instructions will be considered an infringement of RRS 41.

21 RETIRALS

Helmsmen of yachts that retire are asked to inform the Race Officer by calling at the Clubhouse or by telephoning the office as soon as they get ashore. Tel No: 01475 632983.

22 TROPHIES & PRIZES

These shall be as shown in the Trophy List. The number of prizes for 2nd, 3rd etc. will be based on the number of competitors.