



OUSE AMATEUR SAILING CLUB

Sailing Instructions for Racing at Saddlebow and King's Lynn

issued April 2016

1. RULES

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Racing will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing and the prescriptions of the RYA as published on the RYA Website and the individual class measurement rules except that.

1.1 Racing Rule 40 PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICES will be changed as follows:
Competitors shall wear personal flotation devices, except briefly while changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment. Wet suits and dry suits are not personal flotation devices. This changes the rule in that the rule is always in force during racing and code flag Y need not be displayed to indicate this. Failure to wear a personal flotation device will result in disqualification.

1.2 All races are classified as Category A events unless stated otherwise in the sailing programme.

1.3 Racing Rule 44.3 Scoring Penalty will not apply

2. ENTRIES

2.1 Eligible boats may be entered by the completion of a Race Entry Forms/Insurance disclaimer before the start of any race or series of races.

2.2 Unless the event is part of an open series, helmsmen must be members of the OASC or have paid a temporary entry fee. Exemption to this ruling may be granted by the Sailing Committee to helmsman who are not members of the OASC

2.3 Multihulls and Sailboards will be allowed to race only with the prior dispensation of the race committee.

3. NOTICE TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board in the club's Saddlebow premises and or Ferry Lane.

4. **CHANGES TO THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

4.1 Any change in the sailing instructions will be posted at least 1 hour before the start of the race to which it will apply, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 1300 on the day before it will take effect.

4.2 Any class with an entry of 4 or more boats may be entitled to a separate start at the Race Officer's (RO) discretion; the decision to do so will rest with the RO and will be advised to competitors verbally before the start.

5. **SIGNALS**

5.1 Signals will be displayed from the flagstaff in front of the club premises.

5.2 Code flag Answering Pennant, (AP) with two sound signals, means the race is postponed for an indefinite period. One sound signal will be given when the AP is lowered. The warning signal for the start of the race will be given not less than one minute after the AP is lowered.

6. **SCHEDULE OF RACES**

6.1 Races are scheduled as detailed in the Sailing Programme.

6.2 Races scheduled to be sailed on the River Great Ouse in King's Lynn will only be held if a minimum of four helmsmen notify the Sailing Secretary or other nominated person of their intention to race, or by signing up on the website, by the Wednesday before the race. If there are insufficient entries, the race will be cancelled.

6.3 A minimum of three boats are needed for racing to take place at Saddlebow

7. **CLASS FLAGS**

Class flags will be as prescribed in the relevant Class Rules. Handicap classes will use code flag O, or if two handicap classes are racing, the fast handicap will use O, and the slow handicap code flag No 2.

8. **THE COURSE**

8.1 At Saddlebow, the course will utilise the buoys as indicated on the diagram displayed in the clubhouse. The course will be indicated by a series of boards positioned in front of the club building in correct sequence and with the background colour indicating the direction of the rounding. On the River Great Ouse, courses will be detailed at a briefing before the race.

8.2 The course will be that shown at the time of the first class to start's warning signal.

8.3 The course will consist of 6 laps.

8.4 The course may be shortened at the Race Officers discretion. This will be signalled by Code Flag "S".

i) Handicap Races. All boats will finish on the next occasion they cross the finishing line, coming from the last mark and having sailed the course correctly.

ii) Class Races. All boats will finish when they have completed the same number of laps as the leading yacht.

8.5 If signal F is flown with a class flag and 2 sound signals made, then competitors in that class will finish the next time that they cross the finish line irrespective of completing the current lap. If no class flag is flown with signal flag F, then all classes will so finish. Different fleets may finish in different directions.

8.6 At the discretion of the race officer, the race may be finished at the next rounding mark in accordance with Rule 32.2a.

NB Where boats have completed differing numbers of laps, average lap times will be calculated.

9. THE START

9.1 The racing will be started in accordance with racing rule 26.

9.2 The start line will be a transit between the flagstaff in front of the club premises at Saddlebow , and a yellow post positioned on the bank.

On the river Ouse, the start line will be between the flagstaff on the balcony at Ferry Lane, and a mark to be advised on the day of the race.

9.3 Boats whose preparatory signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area and of all boats whose preparatory signal has been made.

9.4 A boat starting later than 5 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not start without a hearing.

10. RECALLS

10.1 Individual recalls will be signalled by the prompt displaying of flag X with one sound signal and the preparatory signal being held at the dip for two minutes or until all boats have started correctly, whichever is least. The responsibility lies with the Helmsman to ensure that he has started correctly.

10.2 A General Recall is signalled by Code Flag First Substitute and two sound signals. A new warning signal will be made one minute after the lowering of Code Flag "First Substitute".

10.3 When a General Recall has been signalled, the starts for the succeeding classes will be postponed accordingly.

11. THE FINISH

11.1 The finishing line will be the same as the start line for that race, subject to the provisions of Sailing Instruction 8.

11.2 Boats that have finished their own race should keep clear of all other boats that are still racing, in accordance with rule 24.1

12. TIME LIMIT

The time limit will be 2 hours for all classes. If no Yacht finishes within the time limit, the race shall be Abandoned. Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first yacht finishes, or within the time limit, whichever is later, will be scored as "Did not finish".

13. PROTESTS and ADVISORY HEARINGS

13.1 Advisory Hearing

When there is an incident that will not result in the lodging of a protest or a request for redress, a boat, protest committee or race committee may request an advisory hearing with the race office, and notify any boat involved in the incident. An adviser will then call a hearing to learn what may have happened and will state whether any rule appears to have been broken, and by which boat. A boat may as a result notify the race office that she chooses to retire.

Protests

13.2 Protests shall be written on forms available in the club premises and lodged with the Race Officer within 30 minutes of the last yacht finishing.

13.3 The Protest Committee will hear protests in approximately the order received and as soon as possible.

13.4 Protest notices will be posted within 30 minutes of the protest time limit, to inform competitors where and when there is a hearing in which they are parties to a protest or named as witnesses.

13.5 A deposit of £10 shall be lodged with the Race Officer and will be returned if the protest is found not to be trivial.

14. RESULTS

The RYA Portsmouth Yardstick Scheme as set out in the latest YR2 will be used. Portsmouth numbers will be as published in YR2 for each class. Any boat not included in YR2 will be allocated a number by the Race Committee.

15. SCORING

The Low Point Scoring System, Appendix A2.2 of the racing rules will apply except that:

15.1 When a boat misses a race whilst carrying out a duty, it shall be given the average points it has scored for that series.

15.2 Any boat failing to start a race, shall score 1 point higher than the number of entrants for that series.

15.3 Any boat that retires will be scored one point higher than the number of starters in that race.

15.4 The number of discard races in a series will be as follows, unless stated otherwise:

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ie: 1 discard at 3 races, 2 at 7, 3 at 11 and so on. Unsailed races are not included

15.5 At the end of a series, only those boats which have completed at least 25% of the sailed races will have their score calculated in the final result

16. ALTERNATIVE PENALTIES

The "720" Turns Penalty, rule 44.2 of the racing rules, will apply.

17. PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded as prescribed in the sailing programme

19. SAFETY

Safety cover will be provided whenever possible but your attention is drawn to RRS Fundamental Rule 1.1: A boat or competitor shall give all possible help to any person or vessel in danger.

and Rule 4: The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone.

If necessary, the Safety Boat crew may request assistance from competitors to effect a rescue, and this assistance must be given. Any competitor affected this way will be able to seek redress.

The Safety Boat must be regarded as an obstruction

Large islands of dense weed are classed as an obstruction. Where such weed has lodged around a racing mark, boats must be given room to clear both the mark and the weed safely.

Competitors must not sail between the safety boat, and a vessel in distress, or under tow.

Assistance from the safety boat will not always result in disqualification.

20. **CERTIFICATES**

All boats shall have a valid class racing certificate.

21 **DISCLAIMER**

Competitors participate in the racing entirely at their own risk. See rule 4, Decision to Race. The club will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the race.

21. **INSURANCE**

All boats shall have the minimum Third Party Insurance as recommended by the R.Y.A.