

North West Norfolk Sailing Association

General Sailing Instructions

All races will be sailed under the rules of the RRS, the regulations of World Sailing, the prescriptions of the RYA and the rules of all relevant Class Associations, except as stated below or in the sailing instructions of the individual Member Clubs. The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue *racing* is hers alone.

1 Alteration to Sailing Instructions

These instructions should be read in conjunction with, and, in the event of conflict shall be superseded by, the instructions of Member Clubs, which may be further superseded by member Clubs by means of a notice posted at the reception site. To draw attention to this notice Flag L will be flown at the reception or launching area at least one hour before the advertised time of the start of racing.

2 Advertising

A boat and her crew shall comply with World Sailing Regulation 80, Advertising Code. In addition, the organising body may require competitors to display event sponsor advertising material. Boats may be required to carry stickers carrying sponsor-advertising material provided at registration. These should be attached to the boat in accordance with the fixing method provided in the following areas: Forward 25% of both sides of the hull above the waterline.

3 Sail Numbers

Competitors may not use sails displaying numbers other than those under which they are entered unless agreed by the Officer of the Day at least 1 hour before the start of racing on that day.

4 Starting Signals

The procedure will be in accordance with the following:

6 minutes before the start: Class flag and gun or other sound signal.

3 minutes before the start: Flag P and gun or other sound signal.

Class flags will be as follows:

National 12	Letter T
Allcomers Fleet 1	Numeral Pennant 1
Supernova	Supernova Class Flag
Allcomers Fleet 2	Numeral Pennant 2

If other fleets sail, their flags will be announced at the venue briefing.

5 Shortening Course

Any fleet may have a shortening of their course indicated by Flag S plus the class flag.

6 Rules that may be applied at the start

a) I Flag Rule (Round the Ends Rule)

Flag I need not be flown for the following to be in force. Unless the black flag rule described in 6(c) or the U flag rule described in 6(b) are introduced, the following rule will apply to all starts:

Except where there are no navigable extensions at either end of the starting line, no yacht shall race within the triangle formed by the starting line outer limits and the first mark during the 3 minutes before her starting signal unless she subsequently passes outside, round to leeward, of one of the marks at the end of the start line where these marks are surrounded by navigable water.

b) U Flag Rule – RRS 30.3

If flag U has been displayed, no part of a boat's hull, crew or equipment shall be in the triangle formed by the ends of the starting line and the first *mark* during the last minute before her starting signal. If a boat breaks this rule and is identified, she shall be disqualified without a hearing, but not if the race is restarted or resailed (the disqualification is rescinded)

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c) Black Flag Rule – RRS 30.4.

If a black flag has been displayed before the class warning signal no part of a boat's hull, crew or equipment shall be in the triangle formed by the ends of the starting line and the first mark during the last minute before her starting signal. If a boat breaks this rule and is identified, she shall be disqualified without a hearing, even if the race is restarted, or resailed or rescheduled, but not if it is postponed or abandoned before the starting signal. If a general recall is signaled or the race is abandoned after the starting signal, the race committee shall display her sail number before the next warning signal for that race, and if the race is restarted or resailed she shall not sail in it. If she does so, her disqualification shall not be excluded in calculating her series score.

7 Postponement, Abandonment, and Cancellation Signals

These will be in accordance with the RRS Rules.

Attention is drawn to the fact that signals may be flown from the committee boat, ashore mast or both.

8 Recalls

Individual recalls will be in accordance with RRS Racing Rule 29.1 (Recalls) except that Flag X will be lowered not later than **two minutes** after the starting signal.

9 Time Limit

Any yacht not finishing within the time limit stated in the club sailing instructions will be deemed to have retired.

10 General Recalls

General recalls will be in accordance with RRS Racing Rule 29.2 (Recalls) except that the First Substitute Flag will be lowered **two minutes** after the starting signal without a sound signal. In the event of a general recall the starting signals for subsequent classes will be made at the intended time. Recalled classes must keep clear of the starting area until their new warning/preparatory signals are made. After non-recalled classes have started, the first substitute flag will be re-hoisted without a sound signal. The warning signal for a new start for the recalled class shall be made one minute after the First Substitute is removed (one sound).

11 Protests

Any competitor wishing to lodge a protest must notify the Race Officer or another appropriate officer of the club or Association within **1 hour** of the finish of racing for the day. The RYA Arbitration rules will be applied before the dispute goes to a full protest meeting, a 30% or 3 place penalty may be agreed between both parties and an arbitrator.

If Arbitration fails the competitor must lodge the protest in writing on the RYA Protest Form, together with a deposit of £10.00, within **2 hours** of the finish of racing for the day.

12 Declarations

All competitors will be required to sign on and off from all races. Declaration sheets will be on display at all club houses and must be signed before going afloat and within sixty minutes of the end of racing for the day. Competitors who sail but fail to sign on and/or off may be disqualified from the race/races that day. Competitors who retire from a race must sign off and indicate their retirement on the declaration sheet.

13 Measurement Certificates

Where applicable these must be valid for the current season and must be produced within twenty four hours on demand. Any competitor failing to produce a valid current certificate will be required to sign an undertaking to produce a certificate within fourteen days after the start of the first race and to lodge

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a deposit of £10.00 which will be forfeited if such a certificate or true copy is not submitted within the time limit.

14 Safety

Competitors shall wear personal flotation devices at all times when afloat, except briefly while changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment. Wet suits and dry suits are not personal flotation devices. This changes RRS40 in that the rule is always in force during racing and code flag Y need not be displayed to indicate this.

15 Safety Boat Facilities

- a) Safety Boat facilities may be available but no responsibility for any accident, mishap or damage, however caused, can be accepted by the Association, member Clubs, their officers, officials or safety craft crews. All persons who enter Member Club property and use Member Club waters do so at their own risk.
- b) It is a condition of entry that a Competitor shall comply with the instructions of Safety Boat crews, whose priority is to help competitors in distress or danger before retrieving boats.
- c) Any action by these crews solely intended to ensure the safety of a competitor, such as recovering crew or separated components of the boat, provided this does not materially advantage the boat concerned, is not "outside help" as defined in RRS 41 and is not subject to protest from another competitor. The competitor may continue to race. This amends RRS 41.

16 Insurance Certificates

All yachts must have a current Certificate of Insurance valid for the entire period of the meeting. The minimum Third Party Cover must be £2,000,000. A declaration must be signed by the owner of the yacht on the official entry form before the first race is entered.

17 Membership of Host Clubs

Member Clubs welcome all competitors to make full use of their facilities as temporary members during the meeting.

18 Compensatory Points

Competitors entered for the week who are unable to sail at their own club due to **club duties essential to racing** that day may apply for average points from all other races in the series provided the request is made at least **one week before** the date of race. Award of compensatory points will be at the discretion of the NWNSA Committee. Requests for compensatory points inside this timescale will be considered at the discretion of the NWNSA Committee.

19 Scoring

- a) The Low Points Scoring System, Appendix A of the Racing Rules, will apply.
 - If 11 or more races are sailed 2 scores may be discarded.
 - If 7 races are sailed 1 score may be discarded.
 - If 6 or fewer races are sailed there will be no discards.
- b) Competitors wishing to qualify for weekly points must have entered **ALL races** 1 hour before the start of the first race. This may be varied in exceptional circumstances by the committee of, or an officer thereof the North West Norfolk Sailing Association.
- c) A yacht that retires before or after finishing will be scored points one more than the number of yachts qualifying under b) that started in that race.
- d) A yacht that is disqualified will be scored points three more than the number of yachts entered for the series.
- e) A yacht that fails to start a race will be scored points two more than the number of yachts entered for the series.