

Sailing Instructions

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SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Introduction

These Sailing Instructions are effective March 31 2005 and supersede all previous instructions. They apply to all races organised by the Aldeburgh Yacht Club ("AYC") except where it is specified in the Notice of Race that separate sailing instructions shall be issued.

In interpreting these Sailing Instructions:

- (a) It shall be understood that the word "shall" is mandatory, and the words "can" and "may" are permissive
- (b) Reference to the "Club" shall mean "Aldeburgh Yacht Club"
- (c) The Aldeburgh Yacht Club Sailing Committee shall be the Race Committee as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing

1. Rules

- 1.1 All races shall be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing and RYA prescriptions, as appropriate, the Class Rules, of the relevant Class or Classes, the Notice of Race (which will normally be the Club's racing programme published annually unless a specific Notice of Race is issued) and these Sailing Instructions. In the event of conflict, these Sailing Instructions shall prevail.
- 1.2 All class boats will race under their own class rules and valid certificates must be produced on demand.
- 1.3 Lapwings shall not rank as starters unless they have passed their Annual Inspection including the Annual Buoyancy test conducted by an approved scrutineer in accordance with the current regulations as approved by the Sailing Committee.
- 1.4 The following LOCAL RULES shall apply:-
 - (a) Any boat which, while racing, fouls a moored or anchored vessel not in the race shall retire immediately. Failure to do so will render her liable to disqualification. Contact with the mooring buoy or chain is permissible.
 - (b) Every class boat shall display sail numbers in accordance with her class rules and RRS rule 77. Helmsmen of non class boats are asked to report their sail insignia/number to the race officer before the start.
- 1.5 Before any boat may start a cup race she shall be entered on the entry form displayed in the Clubhouse and the prescribed fee shall have been paid. Failure to comply with this instruction will mean that the boat shall not rank as a starter.
- 1.6 The official Club Notice Board shall be located at the Clubhouse.
- 1.7 Declarations: A general form of declaration will be posted in the Clubhouse. Competitors shall sign this form within one hour of the finishing time of the last boat in their race to the effect that the rules were observed. Any boat retiring shall report that fact on the declaration and any boat failing to declare shall be deemed to have retired.

2. Starting and Finishing Lines

- 2.1 Club Line. Between the Signal Mast on the Club Bridge and the innermost of the two black-and-white poles on the west bank.
- 2.2 South Line. Between the signal mast in front of the starter's hut approximately 200 yards south of the Clubhouse and the innermost of the two black-and-white poles on the west bank.
- 2.3 All races shall start on the Club Line unless code flag "Q" is flown on the Club Signal mast when the South Line shall be used. Races shall always finish on the Club Line except when the course is shortened as described in sailing instruction 6.1D(ii).

3. Courses and Course Direction

- 3.1 Courses shall be set by the Officer of the Day authorised by the Sailing Committee ("OOD") and displayed either on the Club Bridge or, in the case of South Line starts, adjacent to the South Line starting hut prior to the start of the Class(es) concerned. At the discretion of the OOD, indicative courses may be displayed at the Clubhouse prior to competitors going afloat. Display of such indicative courses does not constitute the signalling or designation of a course under RRS 27.1 and it shall be the sole responsibility of competitors to ascertain the actual course to be sailed which will be notified to competitors no later than the warning signal of the Class concerned as described below.
- 3.2 Courses shall be displayed as follows:
- (a) A Board showing the flag of the Class or Classes to which the course applies shall be displayed at the top left hand corner of the Course Board in the vicinity of the starting line.
 - (b) The marks to be rounded, the side on which they are to be passed and the order in which they are to be rounded, shall be indicated by lettered boards placed in order on the course board and coloured either red (indicating that the relevant mark is to be left to port) or green (indicating that the relevant mark is to be left to starboard). The course board shall be read from left to right, reading first the upper row and then the lower row.
 - (c) Cob Island Beacon and Elbow Mark shall be marks of the course. They will not be shown on the Course Board but shall be passed so as to be left to the south west whenever they are passed.
 - (d) Boats shall pass to the West of the beacons marking the Oyster Beds situated to the South of the Martello Tower. In addition boats shall not cross to the eastwards of an imaginary line joining these beacons
 - (e) If the course involves two or more rounds (each comprising the same marks rounded in the same order) then this may be indicated by placing a board showing the number of rounds located immediately adjacent to the lettered board showing the last mark of the round.
- 3.3 Marks, except for Elbow mark, Quay mark, Dove Point mark and Cob Island beacon are pillar buoys with an orange topmark carrying their identification letter. Elbow mark is also a pillar buoy but with a yellow and white topmark. Quay mark is an Orange buoy. Dove Point mark is a buoy located to the south-west of Dove Point on Havergate Island. Cob Island beacon is a metal post with topmark located on the site of the old Cob Island west of the disused Brick Dock.

4. Time Limits. (varies RRS 35)

- 4.1 For races on any course passing Dove Point : 7 hours after starting signal.
- 4.2 For other individual cup or trophy races: 4 hours after the starting signal
- 4.3 For other races on normal club courses: 3 hours after starting signal.
- 4.4 Boats finishing outside the stated time limits will not rank as finishers.

5. Starting procedure - Visual Signals for Starting Races

- 5.1 The signals for starting a race shall be in accordance with RRS 26.1 except as varied by Rule 6 of these Instructions.

6 Variation of the RRS

6.1 The following RRS are varied or will not apply:

- (a) RRS 29.3 Starting Systems shall be varied in that when a start is subject to a General Recall the warning signal of the next Class shall not be lowered after the general recall has been signalled. Instead the recalled Class will start after the last scheduled start of that sequence of races and the programme for the other classes shall not be varied.
- (b) RRS 29.2 Individual Recall shall be varied and shall read as follows:
Individual Recall: when at her starting signal, any part of a boat's hull, crew or equipment is on the course side of the starting line, one additional sound signal shall be made and the Class warning signal shall be left flying "at the dip" until all such boats have complied with either RRS 29.1 or RRS 30.1, or until the Officer of the Day judges that the affected boats have elected to continue to race and are not going to return to restart.
- (c) RRS 29.3 General Recall shall be varied in that the Class recalled shall start following the last start of that sequence of races. In the event that more than one class is subject to a General Recall, then the re-start of those classes shall follow the last start in the scheduled starting sequence in the same order that the recalled classes would have originally started.
- (d) RRS 32 Shorten Course Signal shall be varied in that:
 - i) When displayed at the finishing line the signal shall mean: Finish the race at the prescribed finishing line the next time the leading boat in that Class crosses the line in either direction (upriver or downriver).
 - ii) When displayed afloat from a boat in the vicinity of any mark of the course it shall mean finish at that mark. In this case the finishing line shall be formed between the mark and the pole on the boat on which the shortened course flag "S" is being flown. Boats shall finish by crossing this line directly from the direction of the previous mark of the course irrespective of the side on which the mark forming part of the line would have been passed had the race not been shortened.

In either case, when flag "S" is flown above the class flag of one or more classes, then only the course for these classes is shortened.

- (e) RRS 61.3 Protests Time Limit shall be varied in that a protesting boat shall lodge her protest with the Secretary or the Officer of the Day within one hour (instead of 2 hours) of the time the last boat in her race finishes, unless the Protest Committee has good reason to extend this time limit.

7 Penalties for Infringing a Rule of Part 2 of the RRS

- 7.1 720° Turns Penalty (Rule 44.2) shall apply to all class, handicap and "all in" races, except Cruisers, "B" Cruisers and Dragons where Sailing Instruction 7.2 below will apply.
- 7.2 The Scoring Penalty (Rule 44.3) of the RRS shall apply to all class, handicap, and "all in" races for Cruisers, "B" Cruisers and Dragons.
- 7.3 Time Penalty: For All in Handicap Cup or Trophy Races and Keel Boat Handicap Cup and Trophy Races, a time penalty will apply (2% of the boat's elapsed time shall be added to her elapsed time)
- 7.4 Cruisers, "B" Cruisers and Dragons taking a penalty under 7.2 or 7.3 shall display a yellow flag as prescribed in Rule 44.3.

8. Protests

- 8.1 All protests must be made on the form available from the Secretary of the Club.
- 8.2 Protests will normally be heard beginning at 1700 hours (or as soon as possible thereafter) on the day of the race, in the Committee room of the Clubhouse.

9. Scoring System

- 9.1 The scoring system in force for each class seasons' points trophies shall be as determined from time to time by the Sailing Committee. Details of the points system in use will be printed in the Club's Annual Racing Programme.
- 9.2 Bridge Duties and Rescue Boat Duties. If a boat is precluded from racing because her normal helm is serving as Officer of the Day or assisting in rescue boat duties, such a boat shall score points equivalent to its average placing in all other races of the same series in which it ranks as a starter. Such points shall count in the overall result of the series as though the boat had sailed in that race, provided that the number of races for which average points are claimed does not exceed 20% of the total races sailed in the series. Until the end of the series when the average points may be calculated such duties shall be denoted by an asterisk against the relevant race on the series scoring sheet.

10. Handicaps

- 10.1 The handicaps in force shall be those approved by the Club's Honorary Handicapper which will normally be displayed on a Notice Board in the Club during the season.

11. Eligibility

- 11.1 There is no race unless two or more boats rank as starters. Multihull boats and sailboards shall only race in their own class or classes.
- 11.2 A minimum of four boats must start in any Club Challenge Cup or Trophy open to all and raced under handicap.
- 11.3 A minimum of three boats must participate in any points series over the course of the series before the series shall be valid and, additionally, not less than one third of the races scheduled must take place.

12. Other Rules

- 12.1 Series points trophies and individual trophies may be only awarded to members of the Aldeburgh Yacht Club unless otherwise specified in the Cups & Trophies conditions.
- 12.2 The Sailing Committee reserves the right to divide or amalgamate any race or races and to change any of these Sailing Instructions at their discretion. Any such change shall be notified in accordance with Rule 88.2(c).

13. Juniors

- 13.1 For the purpose of racing only, a Junior is one who will not have reached his or her 17th birthday by 1st September of the year in which he or she is racing. Similarly a Junior Junior is one who will not have reached his 14th birthday by 1st September of the year in which he or she is racing.
- 13.2 Adults may sail with Juniors. However, conditions as printed in the Club's Challenge Cups & Trophies Booklet will apply and in no case may a Junior helm win any junior cup or trophy if an adult has been carried during the series or race.
- 13.3 Mirror Dinghy spinnakers may be used in Junior and Junior Junior Lapwing races.

14. Disclaimer

- 14.1 The Aldeburgh Yacht Club provides races only on the understanding that the Club, its Officers & Representatives bear no responsibility for any loss, damage, death, injury or inconveniences to yacht, competitors, skippers or crew howsoever arising directly or indirectly from its rules, policy, courses or rulings during the races or related activities. Moreover, by manoeuvring in the vicinity of the start with the intention of racing every owner/competitor warrants the suitability of his yacht for the race or races, and shall draw to the attention of their crew this disclaimer before the start of any race.
- 14.2 The provision of safety equipment and boats by Aldeburgh Yacht Club is neither a guarantee that assistance can be rendered to any competitor in need, nor an acceptance of any responsibility for rescue of competitors. Further in the event that assistance is rendered to any competitor, no liability for any loss, damage or injury to the competitor and/or boat and its equipment is accepted by either the Club or crew of such rescue craft.

15. Insurance

- 15.1 All competitors must hold a valid certificate of insurance providing third party liability cover of £2 million or greater whilst racing.

16. Safety Precautions

- 16.1 RRS Rules: Attention is drawn to the following Fundamental Rules included in Part 1 of the Racing Rules.
- i) Helping those in danger: A boat or competitor shall give all possible help to any person or vessel in danger.
 - ii) Life saving equipment and Personal Buoyancy: A boat shall carry adequate life saving equipment for all persons on board, including one item ready for immediate use, unless her class rules make some other provision.
- 16.2 Each competitor is individually responsible for wearing personal buoyancy adequate for the conditions.
- 16.3 By participating in a race conducted under the Racing Rules of Sailing, each competitor and boat owner agrees:
- (a) to be governed by the rules;
 - (b) to accept the penalties imposed and other action taken in accordance with the rules subject to the appeal and review procedures provided in them as to the final determination of any matter arising under the rules;
 - (c) with respect to such determination, not to resort to any Court or Tribunal not provided by the rules.
- 16.4 **Decision to race:** A boat is solely responsible for deciding whether or not to start or continue racing.
- 16.5 Class requirements: All boats must conform with the safety requirements laid down by their Class Rules, or by the provisions of the Class in which they are sailing
- 16.6 **Club Motor Boats:** When a motor boat is accompanying a race as a safety boat it may not interrupt its duties to ferry crews to or from their craft on moorings. Persons using the Club motor boats to be ferried out to their boats shall obey any instructions given by the Boatman, or other person in charge of that boat, in respect of all matters including the numbers of persons on board and the authorised capacity of that boat. Failure to do so may result in the disqualification of the yacht or any yacht helmed or crewed by offenders from the race or series of races.

16.7 Junior Sailing

- (a) Parents and Guardians are reminded that SAILING IS POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS. They cannot expect the Club to know the capability of every child or ward to cope with fair or marginal sailing conditions, and the responsibility for allowing Juniors to sail lies solely with Parents or Guardians.
- (b) The Club will, whenever possible, provide a safety boat for official Junior races.
- (c) It may not be possible for a safety boat to be provided for other races.
- (d) All those sailing in Junior events must always wear personal buoyancy, and it shall be the sole responsibility of the child's parent or guardian to ensure this rule is observed. A wet suit or dry suit is not adequate personal buoyancy. Responsibility for the efficiency and maintenance of the personal buoyancy lies with the parents or guardians who are urged to check this item regularly.

17. Traditional Courses.

- 17.1 Certain Cups and Trophies are by tradition sailed over a particular course and Officers of the Day are requested to adopt the traditional course unless conditions on the day make this undesirable. Additionally for those Cup and Trophy races marked with an asterisk below then the Officer of the Day shall set the traditional course listed:

CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE ALDE *	}	
CLARKE CUP *	}	All sailed over
SIR ERNEST RONEY CUP *	}	Course "D"
THE JUBILEE BOWL *	}	
VAUGHAN BROWN CUP *	}	
ADAIR HILL WOOD CUP *	}	
SHELDRIK CUP *	}	
THE MILNE CUP *	}	
THE MARGARET RONEY CUP	}	
DAVID GALSWORTHY TROPHY	HC	twice round
ACHESON TROPHY	HC	three times round
FENWICK CUP	HZ	twice round
MRS GROGONO'S CUP *	MW	four times rounds
THE LITTLE GARRET CUP	K	ignoring Cob Island beacon