

SHOREHAM SAILING CLUB

CLUB RACING SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

- 1.1 Racing will take place under the ISAF Racing Rules of Sailing (*RRS*) 2009-2012, the RYA prescriptions, and appropriate class rules (except where any of these are altered by these Sailing Instructions). All references to the Race Committee in the RRS will be taken to refer to the SSC Race Officer.

2. ENTRIES

- 2.1 The safety of a boat and her entire management shall be the sole responsibility of the owner / person in charge. He or she warrants its suitability for racing and must ensure that the boat and her crew are adequate to face the conditions that may arise. Neither the establishment of these Sailing Instructions nor any inspection of the boat limits or reduces this absolute responsibility. Neither the Shoreham Sailing Club nor the Race Officer will be responsible for any loss, damage, death, personal injury or inconvenience, howsoever caused, occurring as a result of participation in a race.
- 2.2 It is a condition of entry that boats shall be insured at a minimum against Third Party liability as recommended by the RYA. Owners / persons in charge are personally responsible for their insurance and the Club can accept no liability if a competitor's insurance is found to be inadequate.
- 2.3 Entrance fees are not normally charged for club racing, but may apply to special events. If so, these shall be paid as advertised.
- 2.4 Prior to going afloat **to any club race**, all those intending to race must complete the "Sign on sheet" located in the upper room of the clubhouse, giving class and sail number of boat. All competitors under 18 must be signed on by a parent or guardian. **Failure to do so may result in disqualification.** No declaration after the race is required.
- 2.5 Boats must be identifiable on the race course by sail number, and any change in number must be notified to the Race Officer and approved. Otherwise the boat may receive no finishing position.

3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the Race Notice Board, located in the main upstairs room of the clubhouse.
- 3.2 Any changes to the Sailing Instructions will be posted at least 60 minutes before the advertised starting time of the race or races concerned. Flag L may be displayed from the club balcony or flag post to indicate this.

4. PROGRAMME OF RACES

- 4.1 The schedule of races will be in accordance with the current Race Programme and any other notice advertising the event, unless varied on the Race Notice Board.

4.2 Racing will be held for the following fleets:

First race on “2-race” days for the Spring, Summer and Autumn series

- **Fast Handicap overall** (SSC club PY up to 1000), with class/fleet results extracted for **Catamarans, Fireballs, Merlin Rockets & Fast Handicap only**
- **Medium Handicap overall** (SSC club PY 1001 - 1200), with class/fleet results extracted for **Lasers, Phantoms, Wayfarers & Medium Handicap only**
- **Club Championship and Youth Club Championship** results are based on the Spring, Summer and Autumn series races

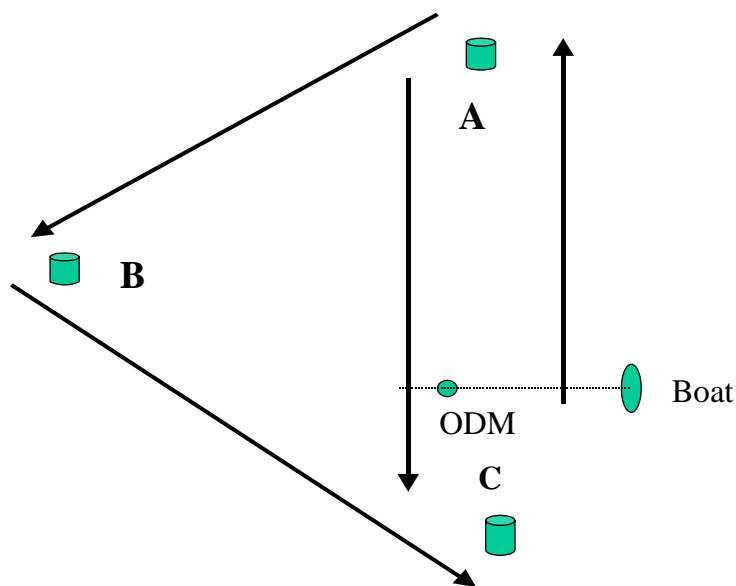
All other races including PM, Easter Cup, Wednesday and Cooler series

- General Handicap.

5. RACE AREA AND COURSES

5.1 Races scheduled to be held at sea may be held in the river at the discretion of the Race Officer.

5.2 **Races at sea** will normally be held to the West of the harbour mouth. Unless indicated on the Race Notice Board, the course configuration and order of rounding will be as shown below, though this does not indicate the angles between legs.



5.3 Marks A, B and C will normally be orange cylindrical or triangular inflatable buoys. The course will either be set up with marks left to port (a red flag will be flown) or to starboard (a green flag will be flown).

5.4 The **starting line** is defined as the line between a mast on the committee boat (normally bearing an orange flag) and the centre of the outer distance mark. The **finishing line** is the same, except that a blue flag will be hoisted. The outer distance mark will normally be a small orange buoy.

5.5. All boats must pass through the start / finish line (“gate”) **on each leg sailed from C to A**. Boats may pass through the gate when sailing from A to C, but are not required to do so.

5.6 Unless indicated otherwise, the full course will comprise the following:

- Fast Handicap Start A,B,C A,C A,B,C A,C Finish
 - Medium Handicap Start A,B,C A,C A,B,C Finish
- OR
- General Handicap Start A,B,C A,C A,B,C A,C Finish

5.7 **River courses** will be as indicated on the Race Notice Board, and/or on a board at the top of the slipway. In either case, this will show a course diagram and/or description of marks, start and finish lines and the number of rounds. During river races, the beacons on Soldiers' Point automatically form marks of the course and **shall be passed to the North**.

6. STARTING PROCEDURE

6.1 The procedure will be in accordance with RRS Rule 26, illustrated as follows:

Title	Signals	Time before start	Sounds
Warning	Class flag hoisted	5 Minutes	one
Preparatory	Preparatory flag P hoisted	4 Minutes	one
One Minute	Preparatory flag P lowered	1 Minute	one
Start	Class flag lowered	0 Minute	one

The **class flags** are:



Flag O Fast handicap fleet



Flag Z Medium handicap fleet



Flag 4 General Handicap fleet

Note International Code Flag Z will not be used for the purpose of RRS Rule 30.2 in connection with RRS Rule 44.3, as per section 9.1 below.

6.2 Fast and Medium Handicap fleets will usually be started separately, a minimum of 5 minutes apart (*though this is at the Race Officer's discretion.*) Note that the Medium fleet's 5 minute warning Signal, will not necessarily coincide with the Fast fleet's start. In all General Handicap races, fleets will be started together. When fleets are started separately, boats whose warning signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area and all other boats whose preparatory signal has been made.

6.3 **Individual recalls** shall be indicated in accordance with RRS Rule 29.1 and indicated by one further sound signal and hoisting International Code Flag X.

6.4 **General recalls** shall be in accordance with RRS Rule 29.2 and indicated by two additional sound signals and hoisting International Code Flag 1st Substitute.

6.5 A **one-minute "black flag" rule** may be introduced as specified in RRS Rule 30.3. This will be indicated by a black flag hoisted either before the starting sequence or at the 4-minute signal (in the latter case, it may be flown either in place of Flag P or additionally to it.) The area formed by the start line and Race Mark 'A' will then form a prohibited area during the 1 minute prior to the start. If any part of a boat or its crew enters this area during that time, it shall be liable to disqualification from that race, unless it is postponed or abandoned prior to the start. The disqualification will apply even if the race is subsequently

re-started or re-sailed. The sail numbers of disqualified boats may be displayed and/or competitors informed verbally.

- 6.6 A boat not starting within **5 minutes** of her starting signal may be designated as "Did Not Start" at the *Race Officer's discretion*.

7. CHANGE OR SHORTENING OF COURSE

- 7.1 **A change of course direction** after the start will be signalled before the leading boat has begun the first leg to be changed, although the new mark may not yet be in position. A red or green flag may be used to indicate the required change in heading to the next mark: this varies RRS Rule 33. Any subsequent mark to be rounded may be relocated without further notice so as to maintain the course configuration.
- 7.2 **Shortening Course.** Courses may be shortened to finish at any mark of the course (rather than at the start/finish "gate".) The finishing vessel shall take up station near the mark and as the leading boat approaches it, International Code Flag S will be hoisted and two sound signals given. If a class flag is also displayed above the Code Flag S, the shortening will apply **only** to that fleet, (e.g. Fast or Medium Handicap.) The blue finishing flag should also be displayed.
- 7.3 **A race may be abandoned at any time**, indicated by Code Flag N with 3 sound signals. If a race is abandoned for reasons of safety, competitors are advised to return to the harbour without delay.

8. TIME LIMITS

- 8.1 The time limit shall be **2 hours** for any given class race. Expiry of this limit will be indicated by two sound signals. If no boat has finished within that time, race results may be calculated on the basis of positions at a previous mark of the course. This changes RRS Rule 35. If this is infeasible, the race shall be abandoned.
- 8.2 Any boat that has not finished within **45 minutes** of the first finisher in her class shall receive "Did Not Finish" points (unless otherwise disqualified). This changes RRS Rule 35.

9. PENALTIES & PROTESTS

- 9.1 The penalty system will be in accordance with RRS Rule 44.1, (two-turns penalty if a rule of Part 2 of RRS is broken, or a one-turn penalty after touching a mark). The scoring penalty system (RRS Rule 44.3) will not apply.
- 9.2 Any protest shall be submitted within **2 hours** of the last boat finishing the last race of the day, on a form obtainable from the club office. Where possible, a protest will be heard on the same day. The time and place of the hearing shall be advised by the Race Officer.

10. SCORING

- 10.1 The ISAF low point scoring system (Appendix A) shall apply, except as follows:
- A boat that came to the starting area but did not start (DNS), did not finish (DNF), retired after finishing (RAF) or was disqualified (DSQ or OSC) shall be scored points equal to the number of boats in the **race**, plus 1
 - A boat that did not come to the starting area shall be scored points equal to the number of entries in the **series**, plus 1.

- 10.2 Fleet/Class results will be extracted from the Fast and Medium Handicap races, subject to there being at least two starters in that Handicap race. Any Class result will stand even if there is only one entrant in that Class.
- 10.3 Points will be awarded to a helm in **one class of boat only** in any given series, (except the Club and Youth Championships which are based on the helm.) Any change of class or rig resulting in a change from one PY rating to another (e.g. Laser and Laser Radial rigs) will be considered a new entry in the series, and scores for each class or rig will be counted separately.
- 10.4 Races to count will be approximately 60% of total number of races sailed (when 5 or more races are sailed). The table below shows the number to count in all cases:

Races sailed	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	>11
Races to count	1	2	2	3	3	4	4	5	5	6	7	~60%

- 10.5 Duties: Average points will be awarded to Helms at the end of each series, for Race Officer, Assistant or Support Boat duties they performed in that series. The number of results to be averaged will be the allowed number of duties performed in the series (as below) less than the number of races to count in the series. Upto 2 duties (i.e. 2 races) per series can be counted towards final average points, except for cases where a series counts 3 races or less, e.g. the Easter Cup, when only 1 duty may be counted. For the Club Championship and Youth Club Championship upto 3 duties maybe counted. This is so as not to aversely bias/influence the results.

11. SPECIAL RULES: SAFETY

- 11.1 All competitors shall comply with RRS Rule 1.2. *"A boat shall carry adequate life-saving equipment for all persons onboard, including one item ready for immediate use, unless her class rules make some other provision. Each competitor is individually responsible for wearing a personal flotation device adequate for the conditions"*. The Race Officer may use RRS Rule 40 to indicate that the wearing of personal flotation devices is mandatory, by displaying International Code Flag Y. Wetsuits and drysuits are not personal flotation devices.
- 11.2 **All competitors must comply fully with Shoreham Port Authority General Byelaws.** Failure to do so will result in disqualification and possible disciplinary action by the committee in addition to other liability. In particular, signals are made as follows:

Middle Pier Control Station Signal - Amber light occulting every 3 seconds, focusing to seaward, by day and by night	Major vessel maneuvering or about to leave the Port. No vessel shall enter the Port except that small vessels need not comply providing that they do not hinder the movement of the major vessel
Lifeboat House Signal - Red light, occulting every 3 seconds, focusing over East Arm, by day and by night	Major vessel about to enter the Port or leave the West Arm. No other vessel to navigate in the East Arm except small vessels providing they do not hinder the movement of the major vessel

If these signals are displayed, small craft must clear the main channel as soon as possible and keep to the side of the harbour. More generally, shipping and large craft always have priority in the river or harbour, and near the harbour mouth.

- 11.3 While sailing at sea, all competitors are advised to carry a 9 metre (30 foot) towing painter, an anchor with 30 metres (100 foot) of line and a paddle.