



Setting courses

1 How to set a standard Triangle, Sausage course

- Keep well clear of the main shipping entrance/exit to the harbour
- It is best not to have a delayed start for the sake of a perfect course unless the wind changes dramatically
- Proceed to the middle of the course area and stop the boat – take a wind bearing over a 2-3 minute spell to get an average wind direction
- Proceed to where the leeward mark will be laid and drop
- Check the wind direction again to confirm the wind bearing and proceed upwind – the beat should be $\frac{1}{2}$ mile in medium conditions and up to $\frac{3}{4}$ mile in a good breeze
- When in position stop and check the wind direction – the burgee should be pointing straight down the course at the leeward mark – if happy drop the windward mark
- The course should be set up with 3 legs of about equal length with 60° angles – in stronger winds, bring the wing mark in to give broader reaches e.g. 90° gybe
- Anchor the committee boat about $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{3}$ up the beat and slightly outside of the lay line
- Use a support boat to drop the start mark: stream the mark and proceed into the wind at a pre-determined distance, drop the anchor when position deemed correct
- The start line should be square or with a slight port end bias