



RYA Affiliated

Haversham Sailing Club

RYA Recognised Training Centre



Member of Milton Keynes & Bucks Champions' Club

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1.0 RULES

- 1.1 Racing will be governed by The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS 2017-2020), the prescriptions of the RYA, the rules of the classes being sailed, except as any of these are changed by these Sailing Instructions, and by these Sailing Instructions. Class Association rules apply with regard to advertising on dinghies.
- 1.2 The RYA Racing Charter will apply.
- 1.3 The Rules and Bye-Laws of HSC will apply and are displayed on the official club notice board, which is located in the corridor outside the changing rooms.

2.0 ENTRIES

2.1 General

- 2.1.1 The safety of a boat and her entire management, including insurance, shall be the sole responsibility of the owner / person in charge, who must ensure that the boat and crew are adequate to face the conditions that may arise in the course of the race.
- 2.1.2 Neither these sailing instructions nor any inspection of the boat limits or reduces the absolute responsibility of the owner / person in charge for the crew, the boat and her management.
- 2.1.3 The race organisers shall not be responsible for any loss, damage, death or personal injury, howsoever caused, to the owner / person in charge or crew, as a result of their taking part in the race or races. Moreover, every owner / person in charge warrants the suitability of the boat for the race or races.

2.2 Entries

- 2.2.1 Club Races: Entries must be made on the official club signing-on sheet before the start of each race.
- 2.2.2 Open Meetings: Completion of the official club race entry form covers entry to all races of that meeting.

2.3 Eligibility

To be eligible to enter, the competitors must either:

- Be paid up members of Haversham Sailing Club, or;
- Have completed the relevant entry form for an open meeting and paid the necessary dues, or;
- Have been specially invited with the approval of the Sailing Committee or Officers of Haversham Sailing Club.



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2.4 Personal Flotation Devices

The Preamble to RRS Part 4 and RRS Rule 40 are amended such that personal buoyancy shall be worn at all times. Flag Y will not be displayed.

3.0 **NOTICES TO COMPETITORS**

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official club notice board. For open meetings they will be posted in the display case hung on the front of the clubhouse balcony.

4.0 **CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

Any changes in the sailing instructions will be posted in the display case hung on the front of the clubhouse balcony for a minimum of one hour before the start time of the race or races concerned.

5.0 **SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

5.1 Abandonment signals made ashore will be hoisted on the flagpole located on the clubhouse balcony.

5.2 Postponement signals will be flown from the yardarm adjacent to the start line. Flag AP with two sound signals (one when it is lowered) means that the race is postponed. The warning signal will be made one minute after AP is lowered.

6.0 **SCHEDULE OF RACES**

6.1 Club Races

The schedule of races will be published in the Club Notice of Race document posted on the official club notice board or as otherwise directed by the Sailing Committee.

6.2 Open Meetings

The schedule of races will be given in the Notice of Race. The classes to race and the order and times of warning signals will be displayed on the course notice board (see 4.0).

6.3 Warning Signal

The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race each day is five minutes before the start time of the first race notified in the Notice of Race.



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7.0 CLASS FLAGS

Class flags will be:

<u>Class</u>	<u>Flag</u>
General Handicap	Numeral pennant 9
General Handicap (Fast)	Numeral pennant 9
General Handicap (Slow)	Numeral pennant 3
Gold Fleet	Numeral pennant 9
Silver Fleet	Numeral pennant 3
Bronze & Rookie Fleets	Numeral pennant 8
Laser Fleet	Laser class pennant
Topper Fleet	International Code flag T
Wayfarer Fleet	International Code flag W
Supernova Fleet	White pennant with red class insignia
Lightning Fleet	Yellow pennant with blue class insignia
Buccaneers	White on black Jolly Roger

8.0 RACING AREA

- 8.1 The course area will be displayed on the course notice board hung on the front of the clubhouse balcony (see Appendix A – Map of Sailing Area).
- 8.2 Boats should give due consideration to persons fishing. Fishing tackle may constitute an obstruction to sea room.

9.0 THE COURSE

- 9.1 The course configuration and the order of rounding of marks will be as shown on the course notice board (see 8.1). This will be repeated using coloured numbered boards (red board - round mark to port / green board round mark to starboard) displayed on the Race Officer's hut at the end of the start line. If there is any discrepancy between the course notice board and the numbered boards then the latter shall take precedence.
- 9.2 For Average Lap Races the Starting Line and the Finishing Line will be the same, the Finishing Line must be sailed through at the end of every round.
- 9.3 If there should be a course change before the warning signal this will be displayed on the numbered boards on the start line and will be signalled by International Code flag 'C', accompanied by two sound signals.



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- 9.4 A numbered board consisting of a white 'X' on a black background, displayed after the last course mark board, indicates that boats should sail through the Finishing Line at the end of every round.
- 9.5 Number of Rounds – Single Class Races: For Single Class Races the number of rounds to be sailed will be displayed on the course notice board and on the Race Officer's numbered boards using a white numeral on a black background.
- 9.6 Number of Rounds – Average Lap Races: The Number of Rounds is not predetermined for Average Lap Races.

10.0 MARKS

- 10.1 Course marks 1 – 9 are pink spherical buoys with black numbers on the side.
- 10.2 Replacement marks are pink spherical buoys with no markings on the side.
- 10.3 Inner and / or outer distance marks are yellow spherical buoys.

11.0 THE START

- 11.1 Single Start Races: Races will be started by using RRS Rule 26.
- 11.2 Average Lap Races: For up to two starts, races will be started using RRS Rule 26 with classes starting at 5 minute intervals in the order Fast Handicap Fleet followed by the Slow Handicap fleet, or Gold Fleet with Silver Fleet followed by Bronze Fleet with Rookie Fleet.
- 11.3 For more than two starts, races will be started using a 3 minute interval. In this case, RRS Rule 26 shall not apply.
- 11.4 The Starting Line will be a line formed between the mast at the race hut and a yellow spherical outer distance mark.
- 11.5 In the event that the Race Officer is unable to set a suitable line from the race hut they may use the projection of a line formed by a red post carrying a red triangle and a yellow post carrying a yellow inverted triangle which is in-filled with a white board.
- 11.6 The length of the line may be determined by an inner and / or outer distance mark (see 10.3), which when using the alternative line may not necessarily be on the line.
- 11.7 An inner distance mark may be laid adjacent to the bank. Inner distance marks are marks of the course and must be passed on the same side as the starting line they guard. Boats shall not sail or manoeuvre in the area between the inner distance mark and the bank after the first warning signal of the starting sequence.
- 11.8 Starting flags will be displayed on the yardarm adjacent to the Race Officer's hut. Additionally, the first substitute flag may be displayed on the safety boat in the case of a general recall.
- 11.9 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall keep out of the starting area, defined as a box both 15 metres behind and in front of the start line, and shall keep clear of all boats whose warning signal has been made.



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11.10 A boat starting later than 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS Rule A4.

11.11 A class may have more than one fleet for the purpose of scoring (e.g. Gold, etc.) If more than one fleet or class is being started simultaneously using a single flag, the finishing Signals shall apply to all fleets / classes in that start.

12.0 CHANGE OF COURSE AFTER THE START

To change the next leg of the course, the Race Officer and / or Safety Boat will move the original mark (or the finishing line) to a new position.

13.0 THE FINISH

13.1 The Finishing Line will be a line formed between the mast at the race hut and a yellow spherical outer distance mark. In the event that the Race Officer is unable to set a suitable line from the race hut they may use the projection of a line formed by a red post carrying a red triangle and a yellow post carrying a yellow inverted triangle which is in-filled with a white board. The length of the line may be limited by an inner or outer mark that may be either a mark of the course or an inner / outer distance mark (see 10.0).

13.2 Open Meeting Single Class Races: The course may be shortened using RRS Rule 32 and all boats will be finished when they next cross the finishing line. Boats will be ordered first in descending number of rounds completed and then by ascending finishing time.

13.3 Average Lap Races: Shortly before the finish, the flag "S" will be displayed on the yardarm adjacent to the Race Officer's hut with two sound signals. This is the "About to Finish" Flag. All boats will finish the Race when they next pass through the finish line at the end of the current round.

14.0 TIME LIMITS

14.1 For Single Class Races the time limit for each class shall be 75 minutes. The race shall be valid for all boats finishing within the time limit.

14.2 For Average Lap Races of a planned duration of 60 minutes, there is an absolute time limit of 90 minutes. Otherwise the limit from a boat's start is dependent on the Number of rounds sailed by that boat. In this case RRS Rule 35 shall not apply.

No. of Rounds	Time from Start (minutes)	No. of Rounds	Time from Start (minutes)
3	84	6	72
4	79	7	71
5	75	8	69

14.3 Boats not finishing the current round within the time limit will be counted as "Did not Finish" without a hearing. This changes RRS Rule A4.



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14.4 Boats that fail to finish within 30 minutes of the finishing time of the first boat will be scored "Did Not Finish" without a hearing. This changes RRS Rules 35, A4 and A5.

15.0 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

15.1 The RYA Rules Dispute Advisory Hearing is available at this event / series.

15.2 A boat, the Sailing Committee or the Protest Committee may request a hearing with a rules advisor appointed by the Organising Authority to assist with rules disputes.

15.3 The request shall be made as a written request in the pink log book within the protest time limit and shall identify the race in question (if applicable) or time of incident, the other party or parties, and when necessary contact information. For club races, the log book is held by the Race Officer. For open meetings the log book will be in the clubhouse.

15.4 The party requesting the hearing shall inform the other parties of this request.

15.5 If a boat is identified as having broken a rule, but no party takes any further action, then the penalty for this infringement is zero.

15.6 If a boat is identified as having broken a rule, the boat may exonerate herself by taking the exoneration penalty detailed below prior to the start of any protest hearing.

15.7 If a boat initially requests an advisory hearing and then submits a protest for the same incident, the Protest Committee shall use its flexibility under rule RRS Rule 61.3 to extend the protest time limit to allow the protestor to submit a written protest promptly after the conclusion of the advisory hearing.

15.8 The advisor shall update the log in 15.3 above with his decision and the time it was given.

15.9 The exoneration penalty is 20% of the number of boats ranking as starters, to a minimum of 2 and a maximum of 5 points. However, if a boat caused injury or serious damage or gained a significant advantage in the race or series by her breach, then her exoneration penalty shall be to retire.

15.10 Protests shall be written on RYA Protest Forms available from the Race Officer for club races and in the clubhouse for open meetings. The protest time limit is 25 minutes from the last boat finishing, unless extended at the discretion of the Race Committee. Protests will be heard in approximate order of receipt as soon as possible. A fee of £1.00 will be submitted with the protest form, which will be paid by the club to the RNLI.

15.11 The protester and those protested will be informed of the time and place of the hearing. They shall ensure that the relevant persons, including witnesses, are notified and are on hand at the time and place notified.

15.12 RRS Appendix P may be used and RRS Rule 67 will be applied. The Protest Committee may penalise without a hearing a boat that has broken RRS Rule 42.



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16.0 SCORING SYSTEM

- 16.1 The Low Point scoring system as detailed in RRS Appendix A will apply.
- 16.2 The RYA short series scoring will be used for one or two day events: DNC, DNF, OCS, DSQ, RAF and DNE score No. of Boats in Series + 1.
- 16.3 The RYA long series scoring system will be used for longer events: DNC scores No. of Boats in Series + 1; DNF, OCS, DSQ, RAF and DNE score No. of Boats in Race + 1.
- 16.4 Series ties will be resolved in accordance with the rules of RRS Appendix A 8.1 and then Appendix A 8.2.
- 16.5 The RYA Portsmouth Yardstick Scheme as set out in the current YR2 will be used.
- 16.6 The Portsmouth Numbers will be those as published by the YR2 except for any Club Numbers listed in the event Notice of Race.
- 16.7 Boats without Portsmouth Numbers or a Published Club Number will be allocated numbers by use of the Trial Number Method as described in paragraph 7.3 of the current YR2.
- 16.8 Portsmouth Numbers will be adjusted by the method set out in the current YR2 at the start of the Spring Series and again at the start of the Autumn Series.

17.0 LOCAL VARIATIONS

- 17.1 **Discards – Club Races:** The number of qualifying races will be published in the Club Notice of Race document posted on the official club notice board, or as otherwise directed by the Sailing Committee.
- 17.2 **Discards – Open Meetings:** If less than three are sailed then all results will count. Otherwise, one less than the total number of races will count.
- 17.3 **Boats making Repair:** Any boat making repairs under RRS Rule 45 must return to the race as soon as the repairs are complete, or retire.
- 17.4 **Outside Assistance:** RRS Rule 41 is changed for club racing as follows:

41(e) help from the Safety boat crew, following a capsized, to right the boat and hold the boat while the crew re-boards the vessel. However the Safety boat has the right to advise the crew to “retire” should they think the crew is in danger of any kind.

However, a boat that gains a significant advantage in the race from help received under 41(e) may be protested and penalized; any penalty may be less than disqualification.
- 17.5 **Outside Assistance:** RRS Rule 41 is not enforced for the Rookie and Bronze fleets.



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17.6

APPENDIX A: MAP OF SAILING AREA

