



HAVERSHAM SAILING CLUB

RYA Affiliated | RYA Recognised Training Centre | MKBYSA Racing

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1.0 RULES

- 1.1 Racing will be governed by The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS 2021 - 2024), the prescriptions of the RYA and the rules of the classes being sailed, except as any of these are changed 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 AND ELIGIBILITY

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, however 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 forms covers entry to all races of that meeting.

2.3 Eligibility

- 2.3.1 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



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- Have been specially invited with the approval of the Sailing Committee or Officers of Haversham Sailing Club.

2.4 Personal Flotation Devices

- 2.4.1 The preamble to RRS Part 4 and 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

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official club noticeboard. For Open Meetings they will be posted on the course noticeboard which is the display case hung on the front of the clubhouse balcony.

4.0 CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 4.1 Any changes in the sailing instructions will be posted on the course noticeboard 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 before a race start will be hoisted on the flagpole located on the clubhouse balcony. After a race has started (see rule 32) the signal will be hoisted on the yardarm adjacent to the start line. If it is intended to restart the race Flag N displayed with three sound signals means that the race is abandoned. The warning signal will be made one minute after flag N is removed with one sound signal.
- 5.2 Postponement signals will be flown from the yardarm adjacent to the start line. Flag AP with two sound signals means that the race is postponed. The warning signal will be made one minute after AP is removed with one sound signal.

6.0 SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 6.1 Club Races: The schedule of races and times 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 3.1).
- 6.3 Pursuit Races: the start numbers allocated to classes, the starting interval and the race duration will be displayed on the course notice board.
- 6.4 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

Class	Flag
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 Fleet	Numeral pennant 8
ILCA/Laser Fleet	ILCA/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
Streaker Fleet	Blue stripe at slight angle on white background.
Buccaneers	White on black Jolly Roger

8.0 RACING AREA

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

9.0 THE COURSE

- 9.1 The course configuration showing the order in which marks are to be passed and the side on which each mark is to be left will be as shown on the course notice board (see 8.1). This will be repeated using coloured numbered boards (red board - mark to be left to port / green board - mark to be left to starboard) displayed on the



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Race Officer's hut at the end of the start line. 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 lap. 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 shall be the same, the finishing Line must be sailed through at the end of every lap. In extreme circumstances the Race Officer may use their discretion to shorten the race in accordance with SI 13.5.
- 9.3 Any course change before the warning signal will be displayed on the numbered boards on the start line and will be signalled by International Code flag L accompanied by one sound signal.
- 9.4 Number of Laps - 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.
- 9.5 Number of Laps - Average Lap Races: The number of rounds is not predetermined for average lap races.

10.0 MARKS

- 10.1 Course marks 0 - 9 are orange spherical buoys with black numbers on the side.
- 10.2 Replacement marks are orange spherical marks with no markings on the side.
- 10.3 The starting and finishing marks and inner distance mark 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 shall be started using Rule 26 with classes starting at 5 minute intervals in the order Fast Handicap Fleet followed by the Slow Handicap Fleet, or normally the Gold Fleet with Silver Fleet followed by Bronze Fleet.
- 11.3 The Race Officer shall have discretion to alter the SI11.2 starting groups for a specific race e.g. to avoid an excessive number of starters on one start. This should be signalled on the course notice board (see 8.1) as well as by displaying Flag L with one sound signal and the appropriate flag sequence at the Race Hut. In addition the Safety Boat will endeavour to visit each boat on the water before the first warning signal.



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- 11.4 Pursuit Races: Races shall be started using Rule 26 for the first start. Classes shall start according to the start numbers allocated to each class. A signal board showing start numbers will be displayed adjacent to the mast at the Race Hut. Two numeral zeros will be displayed before the start. At the start and subsequently at the starting interval the numbers on the signal board will be changed.
- 11.5 Pursuit Races: Each class shall start when the start number for that class is displayed. Where possible a single sound signal will be made when the start number for a competing class is displayed.
- 11.6 Pursuit Races: recalls will not be signalled. This changes Rules 29.1, 29.2 and Race Signals. Premature starters will be hailed if possible if they do not return to the pre-start side of the starting line.
- 11.7 For more than two starts or for short races, races will be started using a three minute start sequence (at 3 minutes the General Handicap flag will be displayed, at 2 minutes the P flag will also be displayed, at 1 minute the P flag will be removed and at 0 minutes - the start - the GH flag will be removed). In this case Rule 26 shall not apply. When the previous race has finished the shortened course flag (S) will be removed and the postponement flag (AP) will be displayed to the accompaniment of two sound signals. The start sequence for the next race will commence 1 minute after the postponement flag is removed with one sound signal.
- 11.8 For back to back races subsequent races shall start swiftly after the completion of the previous race. When the previous race has finished the shortened course flag (S) will be removed and the postponement flag (AP) will be displayed to the accompaniment of two sound signals. The start sequence for the next race will commence 1 minute after the postponement flag is removed with one sound signal.
- 11.9 The starting Line will be between the mast at the race hut and the course side of the starting (outer distance) mark.
- 11.10 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.
- 11.11 The length of the line may be determined by an inner and / or outer distance mark (see 10.3), which may not necessarily be on the line.
- 11.12 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.



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- 11.13 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.
- 11.14 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid an area both 15 metres behind and in front of the start line, and shall keep clear of all boats whose warning signal has been made.
- 11.15 For a boat to have come to the starting area for a race it shall have launched and be on the lake and the helm shall have signed on for the race. To be scored DNS after having come to the starting area the helm shall over mark DNS in the relevant box on the signing on sheet on returning ashore.
- 11.16 A boat that is behind the start line and its extensions at its starting signal but does not start within 10 minutes will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes Rules A4 and A5. Any boat on the course side of the start line or its extensions at its starting signal is subject to Rule 29.1.
- 11.17 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 normally be between the mast at the race hut and the course side of the finishing 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 either be a mark of the course or an inner / outer distance mark (see 10.3).
- 13.2 Open Meeting Single Class Races: The course may be shortened using 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. The Race Officer shall have discretion to finish slower boats before the



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shortened course flag is displayed by displaying the Q (yellow) flag with no sound signal.

- 13.4 Pursuit Races: when the specified race duration after the start has elapsed flag 'S' will be displayed on the yardarm adjacent to the Race Officer's hut with two sound signals. The finishing position of every boat on the course at that instant will be estimated by the Race Officer and / or Safety Boat. To assist in correctly placing all boats competitors are requested to note the boats immediately ahead of and behind them when the race finish is signalled.
- 13.5 In order to achieve a result for a race rather than abandon it the Race Officer may shorten course in accordance with RRS 32.2(a). This changes SI 9.2.

14.0 TIME LIMITS

- 14.1 Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5.1. If flag "S" is flying at this time it will be removed with three sound signals.
- 14.2 The Race Officer may reduce the 30 minute limit for a planned short race (or series of races) by notifying competitors prior to the start of that race (or series of races)

15.0 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 15.1 The RYA Rules Dispute Advisory Hearing is available at this event / series.
- 15.2 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 black 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 RRS Rule 61.3 to



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extend the protest time limit to allow the protester 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/her decision and the time it was given.
- 15.9 The exoneration penalty is 20% of the score for DNF rounded to the nearest whole number.
- 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 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 on hand at the time and place notified.
- 15.12 RRS Appendix M may be used and Rule 67 and RYA prescription will be applied. The protest Committee may penalise without a hearing a boat that has broken Rule 42.

16.0 SCORING SYSTEM

- 16.1 For one or two day events RRS A5.2 applies. A boat that did not start, did not sail the course, did not finish, retired or was disqualified shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats entered in the series. Refer to HSC Notice of Race for Club Race Series and Trophy Events for abbreviations.
- 16.2 For events longer than one or two days RRS A5.3 applies. Rule A5.2 is changed so that a boat that came to the starting area but did not start, did not sail the course, did not finish, retired or was disqualified shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats that came to the starting area. A boat that did not come to the starting area shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats entered in the series.
- 16.3 Series ties will be resolved in accordance with the rules of RRS Appendix A 8.1 and then Appendix A 8.2.
- 16.4 The RYA Portsmouth Yardstick Scheme will be used and Portsmouth Numbers will be used except for any club numbers listed on the HSC website and the club notice board
- 16.5 Portsmouth Numbers and Club Numbers will be adjusted at the start of the Spring series. Club numbers may also be adjusted at the start of the Winter series.



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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 club notice board, or as otherwise directed by the Sailing Committee.

17.2 Discards - Open Meetings: If less than three races are sailed then all results will count. Otherwise, one less than the total number of races sailed will count.

17.3 Boats making Repair: Any boat making repairs under Rule 45 must return to the race as soon as the repairs are complete, or retire.

17.4 Outside Assistance: RRS Rule 41 is amended for club racing as follows:

Add 41(e) - help from the safety boat crew, following a capsize, 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.

17.5 Outside Assistance: RRS Rule 41 is not enforced for the Bronze Fleet.

17.6 The ILCA class rules are amended for club racing such that helms may sail with their rudder not fully down when the wind is less than 10 knots (force 3) AND the lake is affected by multiple patches of floating weed.