

# **SYC SAILING INSTRUCTIONS 2017**

## **1 RULES**

- 1.1 All races will be sailed under the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 2017-2020. Additional Instructions for Special and Pursuit Races may be made.
- 1.2 Between the hours of sunset and sunrise yachts must display the correct navigation lights.

## **2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS**

The Race Officer may make oral changes to the sailing instructions on the water by VHF, these may overrule any written instructions on the day to allow for weather variations.

## **3 ELIGIBILITY & ENTRY FORMS**

### **3.1 SYC MEMBERS**

Yacht owners who are SYC Sailing Members for the year shall complete one Entry/Application for a handicap form for the season before their first race. Additional Entry Fees and/or Forms may be required for Offshore and Special Races. The Sailing Season shall be from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018

### **3.2 VISITORS**

Visiting yachts may compete in OPEN Events only and must deliver to the Race Officer a SYC Entry Form together with any Race Fee prior to the Preparatory Signal of the race they wish to enter. They must also comply with SYC minimum requirements.

## **4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

### **4.1 RACE STATION and Signals made ashore.**

All Starting light, sound and flag signals shall be made from the Starting Station.

### **4.2 RACING SIGNALS - Modifies RRS Race Signals**

#### **4.2.1 Starts will be controlled by lights, see additional starting information Attachment A3.**

#### **4.2.2 Courses will be signalled by a board will be displayed station designating course letter.**

#### **4.2.3 An additional red or green board will be displayed designating which side to leave marks. Red for port, green for starboard. Note Attachment A1, where marks are to be left to different sides no board will be displayed.**

### **4.3 RACE OFFICER (RO)**

#### **4.3.1 The Senior RO will be the Person(s) designated for each race on the list on the Club Notice Board or their agreed deputy.**

## **5 RATINGS**

### **5.1 CURRENT RATINGS**

All yachts must hold a current SYC Rating Certificate for the class in which they are designated. Yachts obtaining their certificate by way of being standard class yachts or level rated under class rules must comply with their class rules. All yachts will be issued with a SYC Club Number and certificate on application to the Hon. Handicapper.

## **6 CLASSES & CLASS FLAGS**

The following classes will be raced in 2017.

CLASS	CLASS FLAG	START LIGHT
1 Sportsboat	IC Numeral 1	YELLOW
2 IRC	IC Numeral 2	GREEN
3 SYC	IC Numeral 3	RED

Yachts will race in the specific classes allocated on the 2017 S.Y.C. Handicap Sheet. Classes to be at the discretion of the Sailing Committee. \*Classes may be separated into divisions if sufficient entries. Racing will be using IRC and SYC Club Handicaps. SYC Club Numbers may be changed for future races at the discretion of the Race Committee. This is usually once a yacht has completed sufficient assessable races (usually 4) and may be subject to further season revision.

## **7 RACING AREAS**

Racing will be in the North and South Bays. Addendum A2 shows the location of racing areas.

## **8 COURSES**

8.1 Attachment A1 details the courses.

## **9 MARKS**

Attachment A2 details the marks.

## **11 STARTS**

The first class will start at the time indicated on the SYC Racing Programme.

### **11.1 STARTING LINE**

A Transit of the diamond on the Club Starting Station and the diamond on the outer pier in line.

#### **11.1.1 LIMIT MARKS**

The line will be limited by (when laid) the No. 2 Buoy Outer Distance Mark (ODM) and the No. 1 Buoy the Inner Distance Mark (IDM) these are starting marks and boats shall pass between them or on their relevant required side. See Attachment A3 for further information.

### **11.2 STARTING SIGNALS**

#### **11.2.1 STARTING SIGNALS - amends RRS 26**

Yachts will start in succession in the order of Classes as defined in SI6 and Attachment 4.

#### **11.2.1 INDIVIDUAL RECALLS - Modifies RRS 29.1**

When at her Start a yacht fails to comply with RRS 29.1, a second horn will be sounded and a flashing light will be shown below the starting signals for three minutes. Code flag 'X' will not be flown.

### **11.5 GENERAL RECALLS - Modifies RRS 29.2**

11.5.1 General Recall shall be signalled by two additional horns and flashing light. There may be an announcement by VHF, classes will restart using recall sequence detailed in Attachment A4.

### **11.6 VHF RADIO**

11.6.1 The Race Station will, when possible, transmit on Channel 'M'/37 after the Warning and Preparatory signals of the first Start, giving the Course.

11.6.2 The Race Station may, when possible, also transmit recalls, course shortening, postponement, cancellation and abandonment.

11.6.3 These transmissions are secondary to the definitive standard visual and sound signals. Except in an emergency no yacht will transmit on this frequency during starting procedures. Shortened course instruction for individual classes may be announced by VHF only under flag "S".

11.6.4 All yachts shall declare their intention to race and number of crew via VHF prior to the 10 minute signal. NOTE The Race Station WILL NOT REPLY to transmissions made after the 10 minute signals unless providing information to the whole fleet or in case of emergency. VHF to remain on for the duration of the race and boats shall keep a listening watch.

### **11.7 EARLIER STARTS**

Yachts whose Preparatory signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area and of all yachts racing.

11.7.1 Any yacht motoring after their preparatory signal and before their start, shall stop their engine and complete a two-turns penalty before starting

### **11.8 NUMBER OF STARTERS**

A minimum of two starters are required to constitute a race.

11.8.1 When only one yacht in a class wishes to race they may do so in the class as detailed in 11.8.3. Points will be awarded based on their average points in that series excluding DNC. Penalties as detailed in 14.1.2 - 14.1.4 shall be applied to this average.

11.8.2 A single yacht sailing will be eligible for a class flag if they complete the course.

11.8.3 Single Class 1 yacht to compete in Class 3, single Class 2 yacht to compete in class 3, Single class 3 yacht to compete in class 2.

## **13 FINISHING**

### **13.1 FINISH LINE**

13.1.1 The Finishing Line will be the transit of the Diamond on the Race Station and the No2 buoy. If the no.2 buoy is not laid or missing then competitors must finish within 100 meters of the outer pier.

### **13.2 FINISH SIGNALS**

13.2.1 A horn and a light may be given to each yacht that crosses the finishing line from the course side.

## **14 PENALTIES**

- 14.1 RRS 44.1 & 44.2 shall apply. (Two-turns penalty to exonerate infringement of a rule in Part 2 of the RRS)

## **15 TIME LIMITS**

- 15.1 The Bay Race Time Limit for all yachts will be 1 hour 30 minutes after High Water of the tide on which the race is sailed, which will be extended by 30 minutes if a yacht in any fleet finishes within the time limit.
- 15.1.1 Should all yachts in a class not finish by being out-of-time, the time of the last passing of the Start-Finish line will be taken as the End-of-Race. Any yacht retiring after this time shall be classified as a finisher.
- 15.2 The Midweek Pursuit Race Time Limit will be the earlier of 2.5 hrs after the Starting Signal or 2 hrs after High Water, no extension.
- 15.3 Unless specified in other Instructions, the Time Limit for Coastal Series Races will 2000 hrs, which will be extended by 30 minutes if any yacht finishes within the time limit. If the race station is closed your own time must be recorded.
- 15.3.1 Should all yachts not be able to finish within the time limit, the time of passing the last mark will be taken as the End-of-Race. Any yacht retiring after this time shall be classified as a finisher. Yachts should record their time rounding each mark

## **16 PROTESTS**

- Protests shall be in writing and given to the Race Officer within two hours of finishing the race or one hour of returning to harbour, whichever is earlier. Boats should Notify the Race Office of intention to protest ASAP after finishing.
- 16.1 Protests will be heard by the Protest Committee in accordance with Part 5 of RRS.
- 16.2 The Exoneration Penalty [and the Advisory Hearing and RYA Arbitration procedures] of the RYA Rules Disputes Procedures will be available. See the official notice board for details.

## **17 SCORING**

- 17.1 SCORING SYSTEM - Modifies RRS Appendix A
- 17.1.1 The Low Point System as described in RRS Appendix A and A9 for a long series will be used.
- 17.2 DISCARDS  
For any series of races 4-6 Races complete - 1 discard. 7 Races - 2 discards

## **18 SAFETY**

- 18.1.1 Only yachts complying with SYC SIs 18, 20 & 30 are eligible to compete. (Minimum Safety requirements and responsibilities)
- 18.1.2 Bay Races: All yachts whilst Racing shall comply structurally with and have on board ALL the gear and equipment specified in the SYC "Minimum Requirements". Also any new yachts should have an RNLI Sea Safety Advisory visit. The responsibility for compliance rests with the person in charge of the yacht and cannot be delegated. Entries will not be accepted from any yacht not agreeing to and fully complying with these requirements.
- 18.1.3 Coastal Races: All yachts shall conform to ISAF (World Sailing) Special Regulations Category 4.
- 18.1.4 Minimum Requirements checklist for either Bay or Coastal races must be completed and returned to SYC Sailing Committee before racing.
- 18.2 RETIREMENT
- 18.2.1 Bay Races: Any Yacht "Retiring" during the race MUST immediately inform the race station. If the Race Station cannot receive the transmission due to the Castle Headland the Yacht should keep trying until the Race Station acknowledges.
- 18.2.2 Coastal Races: Any Yacht "Retiring" during the race must inform the rest of the racing fleet, stating where they are retiring to - even if they are retiring to Scarborough.
- 18.2.3 Any yacht wishing to retire after finishing shall report this at once to the Race Officer.
- 18.3 PERSONAL BUOYANCY  
Lifejackets as specified in SYC Minimum Requirements (not buoyancy aids) are to be worn on yachts with no guard rails for all coastal races, also when the 'Y' flag is flown and/or when race officer states in special instructions and/or via VHF, this changes RRS rule 40.

## **20 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS**

A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions. On the water, a boat can be instructed by a race committee measurer to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection. Spot checks WILL be carried out and any yacht found racing and not complying will be penalised and may be disqualified.

## **29 Risk Statement**

RRS Rule 4 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone."

Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:

- a) They are aware of the inherent element of risk involved in the sport and accept responsibility for the exposure of themselves, their crew and their boat to such inherent risk whilst taking part in the event;
- b) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;
- c) They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omission;
- d) Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
- e) The provision of a race management team, patrol boats and other officials and volunteers by the event organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
- f) The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances;
- g) They are responsible for ensuring that their boat is equipped and seaworthy so as to be able to face extremes of weather; that there is a crew sufficient in number, experience and fitness to withstand such weather; and that the safety equipment is properly maintained, stowed and in date and is familiar to the crew.

## **30 INSURANCE**

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £3,000,000 per event or the equivalent.

**31** The penalty for breaking rule 55, Trash Disposal, is at the discretion of the protest committee (DPI) and may be less than disqualification.

**32** Changing RRS 52 Autohelms may be used on coastal races only if sailing single or two handed.