

# 2018 SERVICES' OFFSHORE REGATTA

18 – 23 June 2018

## SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. The organising authority is the Association of Service Yacht Clubs (ASYC).
2. The primary intent for the 2018 Services' Offshore Regatta (the event) is for a team from each Service, racing 2 Victoria 34s from JSASTC and a J109 yacht, to compete for the inter-Service team prize, the Madden Bowl. The Race Committee (RC) reserve the right to allow only 2 team yachts to count if one or more Services are unable to crew three yachts to the minimum standard laid down by JSASTC or the yacht SOPs.
3. **Rules**
  - 3.1. The event will be governed by The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) (2017 - 2020), the prescriptions of the RYA, and by these sailing instructions. RRS Appendix D do not apply.
  - 3.2. RRS part 2 rules are replaced with the right-of-way rules of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (IRPCAS) between the hours of local sunset and sunrise. A scoring penalty (RRS 44.3) will apply for infringements under the right-of-way rules of IRPCAS.
  - 3.3. J109 racing in the 2018 Services' Offshore Regatta are to comply with parts 4, 5 and 6 of the Measurement Rules described in the J109 (UK and Ireland) Class Association Rules 2016.
  - 3.4. J109 and IRC yachts taking part in 2018 Services' Offshore Regatta are to conform to the requirements of OSR Category 3 Monohulls with Life Raft (January 2018) and may be subject to scrutineering for compliance with OSR Cat 3 Monohulls with Life Raft and, where appropriate, J109 Class Association Rules.
  - 3.5. JSASTC Victoria 34 yachts taking part in 2018 Services' Offshore Regatta are to comply with to JSASTC Standard Operating Procedures throughout the event.
  - 3.6. **Use of lifejackets**
    - 3.6.1. All crew are to be made aware of their responsibility in rules observance and in particular RRS1.2 (wearing personal flotation devices adequate for the conditions).
    - 3.6.2. It is strongly recommended that lifejackets shall be worn when on deck:
      - a. Between the hours of sunset and sunrise;
      - b. When alone on deck;
      - c. When reefed;
      - d. When the true wind speed is 25 kts or above;
      - e. When the visibility is less than 1 nautical mile.
4. **Entries**

IRC yachts may be entered by registration with the organizing authority. The RC will allocate two JSASTC Victoria 34s to each Service through a ballot.

5. **Notices to Competitors**

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official SOR notice board in Hornet Services Sailing Club, the Royal Air Force Yacht Club or the Royal Western Yacht Club or they may be announced at the daily Skippers' Brief.

6. **Changes in Sailing Instructions Ashore**

Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be texted to every competing skipper's mobile number before 0700 on the day it is due to take effect or announced at the daily Skippers Brief.

7. **Signals Made Ashore**

The location of the starting area will be texted to every competing skipper's mobile number approximately 2 hours before the start of racing, or otherwise notified to competitors.

8. **General**

8.1. The inter-Service competition within the Services' Offshore Regatta 2018 will comprise an Offshore Series of up to three passage races, and a number of short races, known as the Inshore Series, sailed by Service teams comprising 2 Victoria 34s and a J109.

8.2. **Time Limits.** Inshore races may have a specified time limit announced with the course. If no yacht in a class finishes within the time limit the race shall be abandoned. On all races apart from the Offshore Series the cut off time for finishers is 30 min after first yacht for that class. This changes RRS 35. There shall be no time limit for the passage races.

8.3. **Committee Boat.** Detail of the Committee Boat will be provided to skippers where appropriate.

8.4. **Retirements.** Yachts retiring shall inform the RC at the earliest opportunity.

8.5. **Changes to SI Afloat.** Changes will be passed on VHF.

9. **Class Flags**

9.1. Class flags are to be displayed as follows:

<i>Division</i>	<i>Class Flag</i>	
J109	Flag J	J109 yachts racing in class
IRC	Numeral 1	Yachts with a TCC between 0.950 and 1.099
Victoria 34	French courtesy flag	Must sail with the full JSASTC inventory

9.2. All competing yachts are to display the RAF100 racing pennant from the backstay above their class flag.

## 10. Races

10.1. Races are scheduled as follows:

<i>Event</i>	<i>Day and Date</i>	<i>Time of warning first signal</i>
Inshore Series Day 1	Mon 18 Jun	1555
Passage Race 1 to Plymouth via marks	Tues 19 Jun	0755
Inshore Series Day 2	Thu 21 Jun	0855
Passage Race 2 to the Solent via marks	Fri 22 Jun	0755

10.1.1. The course will be announced 5 minutes before the Warning Signal on VHF channel 37, with channel 72 as an alternative in case of interference. Time checks will be given each day, on VHF, 25 minutes before the first Warning Signal.

10.1.2. The Race Committee may vary the number of races to be sailed according to the prevailing weather conditions.

10.1.3. The Race Committee may use navigation marks that are listed in the Almanac. Additional marks may be specified and their positions will be given with the course.

### 10.2. The Start

10.2.1. Races will be started in accordance with the RRS Rule 26 using the 5, 4, 1, Go sequence. The warning signal will be the Class Flag. There will be a 5 minute interval after class starts before the next sequence commences. Individual recalls will be broadcast on the working channel using the word 'X-ray' plus yacht details (addition to RRS 29.1). Class starts may be combined.

10.2.2. In case of a Committee Boat start the starting line will be between the orange flag on the mast of the Committee Boat and a nearby mark, which will be announced with the courses on VHF. An IDM may be laid or streamed from the stern of the Committee Boat, in which case it is to be deemed a mark of the course.

10.2.3. In case of a fixed transit start, details of the transit and any ODM will be provided to the skippers before sailing. Note: The ODM may not lie on the transit.

10.2.4. Starting at the RWYC club line will be by sailing in a Westerly direction to pass an extension of a transit from the club flag mast and a yellow and black striped transit staff on the shore below it. The outer limit of the finish line is a line extending east – west through the mooring buoys on the northern boundary of the Controlled Mooring Area as explained at 10.4.

### 10.3. Change of Course After the Start

The course will not be changed after the start, though it may be shortened. In the event of a mark not being present competitors are to round a GPS waypoint in the position specified for the mark as though the mark was in place.

### 10.4. Prohibited Racing Area

Whilst racing, yachts are prohibited from entering the Controlled Mooring Area located north of Mountbatten peninsula and south of the Plym navigation channel. Yachts must remain north of a line extending from the westerly mooring buoy positioned on the south side of the Plym navigation channel, east through each mooring buoy on the northern boundary of the Controlled

Mooring Area and west of a line extending from the most westerly mooring buoy on the south side of the Plym navigation channel due south to the Mountbatten peninsula.

## 10.5. **The Finish**

10.5.1. All yachts are to call the Race Officer on channel 37 when they estimate they are 30 minutes from the finish of the Passage Races. If no reply on channel 37 yachts are to call the Race Officer with their ETA on 07808 764461.

10.5.2. The finishing line will be between the orange flag on the mast of the Committee Boat and the nearby finish mark.

10.5.3. If the Committee Boat is not on station for any finish, the finish will be:

- a. a line extending 100 metres from the finish mark on a nominated bearing;
- b. or a fixed transit as specified in the course announcement (an ODM or distance limit may or may not be specified);
- c. or the RWYC club line, sailing in an Easterly direction to pass an extension of a transit from the club flag mast and a yellow and black striped transit staff on the shore below it. The outer limit of the finish line is a line extending east – west through the mooring buoys on the northern boundary of the Controlled Mooring Area as explained at 10.4.

10.5.4. If there is no Committee Boat present at the finish of any race yachts are to note their finishing time and text that time to the Race Officer on 07808 764461. Finishes may be observed from ashore.

## 10.6. **Penalty System**

10.6.1. When the right-of-way rules of IPRCAS apply (between the hours of local sunset and sunrise) a scoring penalty applies. The scoring penalty will be 10 minutes added to the yacht's corrected time for each penalty.

10.6.2. When a scoring penalty does not apply, a yacht may take a Two Turns Penalty for breaking a rule of RRS Part 2 or a One Turn Penalty when she may have broken RRS 31.

## 10.7. **Protests**

10.7.1. Protests shall be written on forms available from the RC and delivered to the Race Officer within 2 hours of the last yacht's finish in the last race of the day.

10.7.2. Protests will be heard in approximately the order of receipt, and as soon as possible.

10.7.3. Protest notices will be posted within 30 minutes of the protest time limit to inform competitors where and when there is a hearing in which they are parties to a hearing or named as witnesses.

10.7.4. Breaches of Sl's 3.6, 10.6.1 13, and 16 shall not be grounds for a protest by another boat. This changes rule 60.1. Penalties for these breaches may be less than disqualification if the Protest Committee so decide.

## 10.8. Scoring

- 10.8.1. The 2018 Services' Offshore Regatta will comprise the Offshore Series and the Inshore Series.
- 10.8.2. The scoring will be in accordance with the low-point scoring system as defined in Appendix A of the 2017 – 2020 Racing Rules of Sailing. The IRC Class will be scored on corrected time by TCC.
- 10.8.3. The event consists of an Inshore series of race(s) and an offshore series. The inshore race(s) on 18 and 21 June will comprise the Inshore series and the 2 (possibly 3) passage races will comprise the offshore series. One race must be completed to constitute either series. No discards are allowed.
- 10.8.4. Each boat's total score will be the sum of her scores for all races sailed.
- 10.8.5. DSQ will receive points for one place worse than DNF in her class (changes RRS A4.2)
- 10.8.6. The team prize for each series will be awarded to the team with the lowest total score from their three yachts in that series. In the event of a points tie for a team prize within a series, it will be awarded on countback against the J109. This changes RRS A8.1.
- 10.8.7. The 2018 Services' Offshore Regatta champions will be the team with the lowest total score from their three yachts across all races. In the event of a points tie for the Madden Bowl it will be awarded on countback against the J109 in the Offshore Series. This changes RRS A8.1.

## 11. Fleet Restrictions

- 11.1. **JSASTC Yachts.** Adjustment or alteration of either the storage layout or the standing rigging of JSASTC yachts is prohibited without prior reference to, and written approval from, JSASTC.
- 11.2. Any JSASTC yacht involved in a collision, grounding or suffering gear failure must retire from that race and contact JSASTC to discuss a damage survey. JSASTC may require a yacht to return immediately to Gosport for rectification.
- 11.3. **Haul-out.** All yachts are to be afloat by 0800 on the day preceding the first scheduled race and shall not be hauled out or lifted during the regatta except with, and according to the terms of prior written permission, from the RC.
- 11.4. **Diving and snorkelling.** Yachts are not to be dived or snorkelled on whilst alongside or at anchor after 0800 on the day preceding the first scheduled race.

## 11.5. Engine Running & Fuel Management

- 11.5.1. JSASTC yachts are to leave Gosport fully fuelled.
- 11.5.2. JSASTC yachts are to report fuel levels to the RC on completion of sailing. The RC may require all JSASTC yachts to refuel to full prior to departing Plymouth for the Solent.
- 11.5.3. Engines must not be run to burn fuel in order to lighten the yacht and gain tactical advantage.

## 12. Radio Communication

- 12.1. The RC will communicate on VHF channels 37 or 72. Except in an emergency, a yacht that is racing shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all yachts. This restriction specifically covers the use of

mobile telephones for tactical advantage. Any breach may be considered as a breach of good sportsmanship under RRS 69.

12.2. All yachts equipped with Automatic Identification System transmitters are to ensure that they are transmitting whenever the vessel is at sea.

12.3. Yellowbrick trackers are not to be removed or switched off while racing.

### 13. **Lighting and IRPCAS**

Lighting between dusk and dawn is to be strictly in accordance with IRPCAS. Lighting is not to be switched off in an attempt to gain tactical advantage.

### 14. **Safety**

14.1. Under RRS 4 the responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or continue racing is hers alone. The safety of a boat and her crew is the sole and inescapable responsibility of the Person in Charge who shall do his/her best to ensure that the boat is fully found, thoroughly seaworthy and manned by an experienced and appropriately trained crew who are physically fit to face bad weather. The Person in Charge shall assign a person to take over his/her responsibilities in the event of his/her incapacitation.

14.2. Neither the establishment of the OSR nor their use by the Organising Authority nor the inspection of a boat under the OSR in any way limits or reduces the complete and unlimited responsibility of the Person in Charge.

### 15. **Advertising**

Advertising may be displayed in accordance with World Sailing Regulation 20, Advertising Code.

### 16. **Gash Disposal**

Boats shall not intentionally dispose of trash at sea, however discarding wool bands when setting a sail is permitted. This changes RRS 55.

### 17. **Prizes**

Prizes will be awarded as follows:

The winning Service team across the entire event.

The winning Service team in the Inshore Series.

The winning Service team in the Offshore Series.

The winning Victoria 34 in the Inshore Series.

The winning Victoria 34 in the Offshore Series.

The winning J109 in the Inshore Series.

The winning J109 in the Offshore Series.

The winning IRC yacht in the Inshore Series\*.

The winning IRC yacht in the Offshore Series\*.

\*Subject to entries.

All Service team personnel are required to attend prize giving. All other crews are encouraged to attend.