

**ROYAL NAVAL SAILING ASSOCIATION**

**Portsmouth Branch**

**Thursday Evening Dinghy Handicap Series**

**7 Jun -19 Jul 18**



**Principal Race Officer**

**Lt Matt Irwin**

## Part 1 – General Instructions

### Venue

- 1 The event will be held at the Royal Navy Sailing Centre (RNSC), Portsmouth. All racing will take place within Portsmouth Harbour.
- 2 Changing facilities are available at RNSC; please note that there is no secure storage for valuables. Loan clothing is available from the centre but competitors are encouraged to bring their own sailing clothing if available.
- 3 Parking is available at HMS Excellent but competitors are to ensure that the area around the RNSC remains clear for access.

### Programme of events

- 4 Races are scheduled for the following Thursday evenings:

Race	Date
1	7 Jun
2	14 Jun
3	28 Jun
4	12 Jul
5	19 Jul.

- 5 Timings will be identical for each race and are as follows:

1645 latest Muster RNSC to rig boats  
1700 Race Brief  
1730 First warning signal  
1830 Racing complete  
1900 Disperse

## Part 2 – Sailing Instructions

### Rules

- 1.1 Racing will be governed by the *rules* as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
- 1.2 The right of appeal is denied in accordance with rule 70.5(a).
- 1.3 When boats are provided by the Organising Authority they shall be deemed to conform to their class rules. When class rules change rule 42, such changes shall not apply.
- 1.4 Neither umpires nor observers will be used.

### Entries

- 2.1 Entries will be accepted each evening until the 1700 Race Brief.
- 2.2 After registration, no crew member may be changed without the prior permission of the race committee which will be given only in exceptional circumstances.
- 2.3 As a RNSA competition, each boat must contain at least one RNSA Member. Non- RNSA members may take part in race but their points will not be counted.
- 2.4 All competitors are to wear personal buoyancy and wet or dry suits at all times when afloat.

### Notices to competitors

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located in the Sailing Centre.

### Changes to Sailing Instructions

- 4.1 Changes to these SIs will be signalled by flying flag L from the shore signal position. Such changes will be posted on the official notice board not less than 10 minutes before the warning signal of the first affected race. In addition, if circumstances dictate, changes may be given verbally to competitors by the Race Officer.

### Signals made ashore

- 5.1 The shore signal position is the flagpole outside the Sailing Centre.
- 5.2 When displayed ashore, flag AP with two sound signals (one sound signal when lowered) means "Races not started are postponed". The warning signal for the next race will be made not less than 10 minutes after flag AP is lowered. This amends race signal AP.

## Boats

- 6.1 Competitors may use their own boat or an RNSC boat. Other than with the express permission of the Race Officer or Committee, competitors shall not modify RNSC boats cause them to be modified in any way except that a wind indicators, including yarn or thread, may be tied or taped anywhere on the boat and a burgee may be flown.
- 6.2 Spinnakers, trapezes and the gear specifically provided for the utilisation of these shall not be used.
- 6.3 Before starting and after finishing or retiring, boats shall sail to minimise any delay to the race schedule and without interfering with any race in progress.
- 6.4 The penalty for not complying with one of the above rules will be disqualification from all races sailed in which the rule is broken.

## Schedule of races

- 7 The intention is to run a single PY handicap race per evening lasting approximately one hour. The format may be modified during the event in a fair and practical way as solely determined by the race committee taking into account the entries, weather conditions, time constraints and any other relevant factors.

## Course and time limits

- 8.1 Unless otherwise specified:
  - 8.1.1 The starting line will be between the mast of a committee boat and a starting mark;
  - 8.1.2 The finishing line will be between the mast of a committee boat and a finishing mark.
- 8.2 The starting mark, finishing mark and course marks will be described at the 1700 race brief.
- 8.3 Unless otherwise signalled ashore or on the Committee Boat there will be 1 round.
- 8.4 The course configuration will be displayed on the official notice board.
- 8.5 The race committee may move marks of the course at any time. Rule 33 will not apply.
- 8.6 Unless otherwise specified, the time limit for each race will be 60 minutes. Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat finishes will be scored DNF. This amends rule 35.

## The Start

- 9.1 Races will be started by using the following signals. Times shall be taken from the start of each sound signal; the failure of a visual signal shall be disregarded. This amends rule 26.

<i>Signal</i>	<i>Minutes before starting signal</i>	<i>Sound</i>	<i>Visual signals</i>
Warning	3	One	3 battens
Preparatory	2	One	2 battens
One-minute	1	One	1 batten
Starting	0	One	No battens

- 9.2 When a boat is subject to rule 29.1, flag X need not be displayed for more than 1 minute after the starting signal; this amends rule 29.1. The race committee may hail the sail numbers or the total number of premature starters.
- 9.3 A boat that fails to start within 10 minutes of her starting signal will be scored DNS without a hearing. This amends rules A4 and A5.

- 9.4 Attention may be drawn to an imminent warning signal by a series of short sound signals. If flag AP has been flown, these signals may be used in place of the standard one minute interval. This amends race signal AP.

## Scoring

- 10.1 Scoring will be the Low Point System iaw A4.1 (one point for 1st, 2 points for 2<sup>nd</sup> etc.).  
10.2 Discards will be awarded as follows:

No. of Races Sailed	No. of Discards
5	2
4	1
3 or fewer	0

- 10.2 The series winner will be the helm (or helm and crew) with the lowest number of points.  
10.4 In the event of a tie, the winner will be decided iaw Rule A8.

## Penalty turns

- 11.0 Penalty turns are to be conducted iaw RRS (2 complete turns comprising one tack and one gybe each) except for touching a mark of the course (1 complete turn comprising one tack and one gybe).

## Protests

- 12.1 Protests and requests for redress that have not been decided afloat shall be notified to the race office within 10 minutes after the relevant incident or, if the incident is afloat, within 10 minutes after coming ashore.  
12.2 When a competitor breaks additional rule 1.8, personal flotation device, or 1.9, wet or dry suits, the competitor's team shall be penalised one race win without a hearing. This amends rule 63.1.  
12.3 When a protest committee decides that a breach of a rule, other than a rule of Part 2, has had no significant effect on the outcome of a race, it may make any arrangement it decides is equitable, which may be to order a re-sail or to impose no penalty. This amends rules 64.1.

## Risk Statement

- 13.1 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."  
13.2 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:  
13.2.1 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;  
13.2.2 They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;  
13.2.3 They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;  
13.2.4 Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;  
13.2.5 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;  
13.2.6 The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances.