

## East of England 420 Championship Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2017

### SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

**On Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> Feb the following Sailing Instructions will apply. On Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> the fleet will race in the AWSC Frostbite series under the Sailing Instruction applicable to that event. You should take careful note of both briefings.**

#### **1.0 RULES**

- 1.1 The event will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), and the prescriptions of the RYA (except as supplemented and amended by these sailing instructions).
- 1.2 Racing Rule 40 is changed - Flag Y will not be flown.
- 1.3 Personal flotation devices are to be worn at all times whilst on the water.
- 1.4 The crews of all Official boats, including the Committee boat and safety boats, are designated members of the race committee.
- 1.5 Rule 42.2 is changed, when at the discretion of the OOD there is a constant 13 knots of wind the Code Flag O (Oscar) flag may be raised to allow pumping. This will be raised at the same time as the warning signal.

#### **2.0 ENTRIES**

- 2.1 Condition of Entry  
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 event. Neither these sailing instructions nor any inspections of the boat limits or reduces the absolute responsibility of the owner/person in charge of the crew, the boat and her management. The race organisers shall not be responsible for any loss, damage, death or personal injury 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. This condition does not override statutory rights.
- 2.2 Eligible boats shall be entered by completing registration with the organising authority as specified in the Notice of Race.
- 2.3 Entries from persons under 18 years of age must be countersigned by a parent or guardian.
- 2.4 Each boat shall comply with its class association rules.

#### **3.0 NOTICE TO COMPETITORS**

- 3.1 Notice to competitors will be posted on the official notice board situated in the Club House.
- 3.2 Any changes to the sailing instructions will be posted on the official notice board, half an hour before the advertised start of the race or races concerned.

#### **4.0 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be hoisted on the flagpole located on the Club balcony at the western end.
- 4.2 Flag AP with two sound signals (one sound signal when lowering) means 'The race is postponed'. The warning signal will be made no less than 30 minutes after AP is lowered.

#### **5.0 SCHEDULE OF RACES AND BRIEFING**

- 5.1 The event will be sailed on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2017

- 5.2 **BRIEFING** A race briefing will be held on Saturday 25th at 10.30. On Sunday 26th a briefing will be held at 10.30 with a first start no earlier than 1100. Briefings will take place in the Club House or outside in front of the map of the reservoir.
- 5.3 **STARTS.** The event will consist of a series of up to 8 races held on Saturday 25th with the first start no earlier than 11.00.and 3 longer races held on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2017. Racing on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> February will not start earlier than 11.00 and no start sequence will commence after 15.00.
- 5.4 **SIGNING ON** Competitors are required to sign on before going afloat for the series.
- 5.5 **DID NOT FINISH & RETIREMENT.** A boat that does not finish or retires from a race or does not intend to participate in a given race shall notify the Race Committee as soon as possible and shall report this by completing an entry on the DNF & Retirement Form available from the Centre/Race Office. Failure to do so will result in the boat being scored as DNC. Boats that do not start a race WILL be scored as DNC whether or not they complete the DNF and Retirement form. If excluded from a race as a result of disqualification they will be scored DSQ.
- 6.0 COURSES**
- 6.1 Courses and number of laps to be sailed will be displayed ashore at the race briefing. In the event of a change of course or change to the number of laps to be sailed then Code Flag C will be displayed on the committee boat and the new course and/or the new number of laps displayed on a course board on the starboard side of the committee boat. Multiple sound signals will be made as Code Flag C is raised. Code Flag C will be removed on the completion of the changed course race.
- 7.0 MARKS**
- 7.1 Course marks will be yellow numbered cylindrical buoys denoted by numbers or letters or unmarked orange or yellow pillar buoys.
- 8.0 RACE START**
- 8.1 Boats will be deemed to have started and recorded as such so long as they have signed in prior to the race in question, come to the start area and crossed the start line at the start of the race in question. Any boat that does not finish a race or retires from a race shall notify the Race Committee as soon as possible and shall complete an entry on the DNF & Retirement Form available from the Centre/Race Office. Failure to do so will result in the boat being scores as DNC.
- 8.2 The start line will be a line between the mast on the committee boat flying an orange flag and a distance mark as described on the course board.
- 8.3 Races will be started as described in Rule 26. Unless otherwise modified by the OOD and Race Coach.
- 8.4 The warning signal for the will be Numeral Pennant 4.
- 8.5 Times are to be taken from the visual signals and the absence of a sound signal shall be disregarded.
- 8.6 No boat shall start later than 3 minutes after her starting signal. This changes RRS 29.1.
- 8.7 Recall procedures will be as Rule 29 with penalties as Rule 30.
- 8.8 For back-to-back races, races will start as soon as practically possible after the finish of the previous race.
- 9.0 THE FINISH**
- 9.1 THE START/FINISH LINE MUST BE CROSSED ON EVERY LAP, i.e each boat must sail between the committee boat and the distance mark. When the committee boat is on station for the finish a blue flag will be flown from its mast.
- 9.2 The Race Officer may finish any boat, at his/her discretion, that is detached from their class/fleet leader as they cross the line. Their elapsed time will be modified by an appropriate multiplication factor such that that they sailed the requisite number of laps. The intention is only to use this 'early finishing' to maintain an orderly restart sequence for back-to-back racing. An 'early finisher' will be hailed to the effect that they have finished and a sound signal given as they cross the line.
- 10.0 PENALTIES AT THE TIME OF AN INCIDENT**
- 10.1 A two turn penalty is to be taken in event of infringement of rule of Part 2 of the RRS and a single turn for rule 31 infringement. Scoring penalties as in 44.3 are not applied

## **11.0 EXONERATION PENALTY, ADVISORY HEARING & ARBITRATION HEARING**

### **11.1 EXONERATION PENALTY**

**11.1.1** A boat that may have broken a rule of Part 2, or Rule 31 or 42, may, after finishing the race concerned and before the start of a related protest hearing, notify the race committee that she accepts a 20% scoring penalty as stated in Rule 44.3(c), (except that the minimum penalty is two places if that does not result in a score worse than DNF). This penalty does not reverse an OCS score, a disqualification under Rule 30.3 (Black Flag Rule) or a penalty under Appendix P (Rule 42). It is not available for a breach of Rule 2 (Fair Sailing) or of class rules or for gross misconduct under Rule 69. Nor is it available to a boat that caused injury or serious damage, or gained a significant advantage by her breach: in these circumstances her penalty is to retire.

**11.1.2** When an exoneration penalty is accepted:

(a) Neither the boat nor a protest committee may then revoke or remove the penalty.

(b) The boat shall not be penalized further in a protest hearing when the protest committee decides that it was appropriate to the facts found and the applicable rules.

### **11.2 ADVISORY HEARING**

When there is an incident that will not result in the lodging of a protest or a request for redress, a boat, protest committee or race committee may request an advisory hearing with the race office, and notify any boat involved in the incident. An advisor will then call a hearing to learn what may have happened and will state whether any rule appears to have been broken, and by which boat. A boat may as a result notify the race office that she accepts an Exoneration Penalty when it applies to the incident, or choose to retire.

### **11.3 RYA ARBITRATION**

**11.3.1** When a protest or request for redress is lodged, a boat may at the same time request RYA Arbitration, or the protest committee or race committee may offer it.

**11.3.2** If the parties and a member of the protest or race committee agree that RYA Arbitration is suitable, an arbitrator (who may be a member of the protest committee) will call a hearing conforming to Section B of Part 5 of the Racing Rules of Sailing, except that Rule 64.1(a) will not apply. Instead, when the arbitrator decides that a boat that is party to the arbitration hearing has broken a rule for which the Exoneration Penalty is available, the party will be invited to accept that penalty, and, if it is accepted by a protested boat, the protesting boat will be allowed to withdraw the protest, changing Rule 63.1.

**11.3.3** When there is not an agreement to use RYA Arbitration, or when, after RYA Arbitration, a protest is not withdrawn or the Exoneration Penalty is not applicable to the facts, there will be a normal protest hearing, at which the arbitrator may be a member of the protest committee. Rule 66 (Reopening a Hearing) will not apply to the arbitration decision. A boat may still accept an Exoneration Penalty at any time before the start of a protest hearing and receive its protection from further penalization. She may also retire.

**11.3.4** When redress is offered and accepted at the RYA Arbitration, the protest committee or race committee may seek to have this reviewed by asking for a full hearing. When redress is offered and not accepted, or not offered at all, the boat may have her request heard before a protest committee.

## **12.0 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**

**12.1** A boat which fails to start or finish correctly or to sail the course as set and thus fails to comply with Rule 28 may be disqualified without protest or a hearing. The race committee shall record the finishing time or place as appropriate as well as noting the disqualification. Boats may apply for redress if they believe an error has been made. This changes Rule 63.1.

**12.2** As an alternative to a protest hearing for an alleged breach of a rule in Part 2 of the Racing Rules of Sailing, the Exoneration Penalty (and Advisory Hearing and RYA Arbitration procedures) of the RYA Rules Disputes Procedures will be available.

**12.3** Notice of intended protest shall be lodged with and acknowledged by the Race Officer at the end of the relevant race. For back-to-back races, this should be done verbally whilst still on the water and before the next race is sailed.

**12.4** Protests shall be written on forms available after the race at the Centre office and delivered

back there within 30 minutes after the last boat comes ashore.

- 12.5 The Protest Committee will hear protests as soon as possible in approximately the order of receipt of the protest forms.
- 12.6 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 party to a protest or named as witnesses.
- 12.7 Notice of protests by the race committee or the protest committee will be posted to inform boats under Rule 61.1(b).
- 12.8 Breaches of instructions 1.3, 4, 7 and 14 will not be grounds for protest by a boat. This changes Rule 60.1. Penalties for these breaches may be less than disqualification if the protest committee so decides.
- 12.9 On the last scheduled day of racing a request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered:
  - 12.9.1 Within the protest time limit if the requesting party was informed of the decision on the previous day.
  - 12.9.2 No later than 30 minutes after the requesting party was informed of the decision on that day. This changes Rule 66.
- 12.10 On the last scheduled day of racing a request for redress from a protest committee decision shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the decision was posted. This changes Rule 62.2.

### **13.0 SERIES SCORING**

- 13.1 The low points scoring system, Appendix A2, will apply. Ties will be broken by the procedure laid down in Appendix A8.
  - 5 races sailed - 1 discard
  - 10 races sailed – 2 discards
  - Less than 5 races sailed - no discard.

### **14.0 RACE TIME LIMIT**

- 14.1 The time limit for the first competitor to complete each race will be 2 hours. All boats finishing within 30 minutes of the first boat in their fleet will be scored. The remaining boats will be classed as DNF.

### **15.0 LOCAL VARIATIONS**

- 15.1 By entering the event, all competitors agree to read and abide by the Alton Water Sports Centre Rules and Regulations, see <http://www.altonwater.co.uk/index.php?pid=212>.