

# Event Appendix: SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

## Alton Water RS300 Inland Championships

### 2018. October 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>

#### **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.

#### **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 Entries from persons under 18 years of age must be countersigned by a parent or guardian.

#### **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 consist of a series of Up to 6 races held on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> October and Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> October. Three back to back races will be held on each day unless at the discretion of the Principal Race Officer in consultation with the Class Representatives it is decided to revise the programme to allow for any inclement weather forecasts.
- 5.2 On Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> October a briefing will be held at 1100hrs with the first race starting no earlier than 1200hrs. On Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> October the briefing will take place at 1030 with first start no earlier than 1100. On Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> October the remaining series races will be sailed.
- 5.3 Dependent on weather conditions it is intended that races be sailed back-to-back.
- 5.4 A boat that does not finish or retires from a 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.
- 5.5 Entrants shall acknowledge they have completed any penalty turns by signing the form available at the Centre /Race Office.

#### **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 'outer' 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. If a committee boat is not being used, the above signals will be made from the shore.

#### **7.0 MARKS**

- 7.1 Course marks will be yellow numbered cylindrical buoys denoted by numbers or letters or unmarked inflatable pillar buoys.

7.2 The RS 300 association rule allowing entrants to strike marks is suspended and Rule 31 will apply and the penalty for touching a mark will be one 360 degree turn

## **8.0 RACE START**

8.1 If races are started from a Committee boat, 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. If a Club line start is used, the start line will be from the central flagpole on the roof of the Centre to the distant mark.

8.3 Races will be started as described in Rule 26.

8.4 Times are to be taken from the visual signals and the absence of a sound signal shall be disregarded.

8.5 Recall procedures will be as Rule 29 with penalties as Rule 30

8.6 For back-to-back races, races will start as soon as practically possible after the finish of the previous race.

8.7 The warning signal will be a numeral 3 pennant.

## **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.

9.3 After finishing and clearing the finish line, boats shall keep clear of the finishing area and of all boats not yet finished. At the discretion of the race committee, any boat not complying with this instruction may be disqualified without a hearing.

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

### **10.0 EXONERATION PENALTY**

- 10.1.1 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.
- 10.1.2 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.

### **10.1 ADVISORY HEARING**

- 10.2.1 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.

### **10.3 RYA ARBITRATION**

- 10.3.1 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.
- 10.3.2 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.
- 10.3.3 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.
- 10.3.4 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.

## **11.0 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**

- 11.1 Boats which fail to start or finish correctly or to sail the course as set and thus fail 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.
- 11.2 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.
- 11.3 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.
- 11.4 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.
- 11.5 The Protest Committee will hear protests as soon as possible in approximately the order of receipt of the protest forms.
- 11.6 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.

- 11.7 Notice of protests by the race committee or the protest committee will be posted to inform boats under Rule 61.1(b).
- 11.8 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.
- 11.9 On the last scheduled day of racing a request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered:
- (a) Within the protest time limit if the requesting party was informed of the decision on the previous day.
  - (b) No later than 30 minutes after the requesting party was informed of the decision on that day. This changes Rule 66.
- 11.10 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.
- 11.11 A £5 donation to the RNLI will accompany all protest forms.

## **12.0 SERIES SCORING**

12.1 The low points scoring system, Appendix A2, will apply. Ties will be broken by the procedure laid down in Appendix A8.

12.2 The number of races to be discarded will be as follows:

- 4 races sailed - 1 discard
- Less than 4 races sailed - no discard.

## **13.0 RACE TIME LIMIT**

13.1 The time limit for the first competitor in each fleet 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.

## **14.0 LOCAL VARIATIONS**

14.1 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>.