

H.S.C. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS 2017-2020

1. Rules

Races will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing, the prescriptions of the Royal Yachting Association and the rules of the Dinghy Class sailed, except as may be changed or amended by these Sailing Instructions.

2. Entries

2.1 All yachts in Club races shall be helmed by a member of the Club except at the discretion of the Sailing Committee.

2.2 Notices to Competitors

Notices to competitors will be posted on the Notice Board located in the Club entrance hall.

3. Changes in Sailing Instructions

Any changes to the Sailing Instructions will be posted 15 minutes before the race on the day it will take effect except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 1700 hours on the day before it will take effect.

4. Signals

4.1 The flag signals will be hoisted on the flagstaff in front of the Race Control Tower.

4.2 Flag "AP" with two sound signals (one sound signal when lowered) means the race is postponed. The warning signal will be made not less than 1 minute after the flag "AP" is lowered.

5. Schedule of Races

The races are as scheduled in the annual Sailing Programme which may be amended by the Sailing Committee by due notice posted in the clubhouse.

6. Class Flags

Zulu class (Heron/Mirror/Topper Class)	International Code Flag "Z"
Heron Class	International Code Flag "H"
Mirror Class	International Code Flag "No 6"
Graduate Class	International Code Flag "G"
Romeo class (Handicap Class)	International Code Flag "R"

7. Racing Area

The racing area will be Boshaw Whams Reservoir.

8. The Course

8.1 The course to be sailed shall be signalled by a display on the course frame situated on the handrail of the Race Control Tower.

8.2 Marks which are to be rounded leaving the mark to port, shall be indicated by a white numeral on a red background.

Marks which are to be rounded leaving the mark to starboard, shall be indicated by a white numeral on a green background.

The sequence of rounding the selected marks shall be as displayed in the frame reading from left to right.

8.3 Marks that are to be passed to port at the **start** shall be indicated by a white numeral on a red background over the letter "S".

Marks that are to be passed to starboard at the **start** shall be indicated by a white numeral on a green background over the letter "S".

Marks that are to be passed to port at the **finish** shall be indicated by a white numeral on a red background over the letter "F".

Marks that are to be passed to starboard at the **finish** shall be indicated by a white numeral on a green background over the letter "F".

Marks that are to be passed to port at the start of each **intermediate lap** shall be indicated by a white numeral on a red background over the letter "I".

Marks that are to be passed to starboard at the start of each **intermediate lap** shall be indicated by a white numeral on a green background over the letter "I".

8.4 Average lap times may, at the discretion of the race officer, be used to determine finishing places and race scores when the course has been shortened and some boats have completed fewer laps than the leading boat at the finish

9. Marks

- 9.1 The marks consist of blue can buoys with a white numeral on one or more sides.
- 9.2 The course will be selected from the fixed marks numbered 1 to 9 in a clockwise direction round the reservoir starting at No 1 opposite the Race Control Tower; and X, situated approximately in the centre of the reservoir.
- 9.3 The number of laps of the course to be sailed shall be indicated in the frame by a white numeral on a blue background displayed under a facsimile of the relevant class flag.

10 Areas that are obstructions

The ramp, all banks and the reeds near no. 2

11. The Start

- 11.1 Races will be started by a warning signal and hoisting the class flag(s) 5 minutes before the start. At 4 minutes before the start the preparatory flag (Flag P) will be hoisted accompanied by a sound signal. At one minute before the start the preparatory flag will be removed accompanied by one sound signal. At the start there will be one sound signal and the class flags will be removed. Classes may be started at 5-minute intervals in the order laid down in the Sailing Programme.

11.2 The Starting Line

The starting line shall be one of the following:

- 11.2a **Transit start-** The extension of a line through the Race Control Tower Flagstaff and a Transit Pole painted in alternate COLOURED AND WHITE bands. An inner or outer limit mark may be set and will be indicated in accordance with Sailing Instruction 8.3.

OR

- 11.2b **Transit start-** The extension of a line through the Race Control Tower and a Transit Pole painted in alternate GREEN AND WHITE bands if a transit pole painted in alternate RED AND WHITE bands is also erected. An inner or outer limit mark may be set and will be indicated in accordance with Sailing Instruction 8.3.

OR

- 11.2c **Transit start-** The extension of a line through two Transit Poles, one painted in alternate GREEN AND WHITE bands and the other in alternate BLACK AND WHITE bands. An inner or outer limit mark may be set and will be indicated in accordance with Sailing Instruction 8.3.

OR

- 11.2d **Line start-** A line between two marks which shall be indicated by a white numeral on red background (port end) green background (starboard end) and displayed on the course board above LINE START. After the start either or both of these marks may be used as part of the course.

- 11.3 Boats whose preparatory signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area and of all boats whose preparatory signal has been made.

- 11.4 Delete Racing Rule 29.1 Individual Recall and substitute:

When at her starting signal any part of a yacht's hull, crew or equipment is on the course side of the starting line the Race Officer shall make a single sound signal and where possible hail any yacht starting prematurely, notwithstanding this it is the responsibility of the offending yacht to comply with Rule 29.

12. Change of course after the start

The course may be shortened at any time during the race as follows:

- 12a When International Code Flag "S" is flown accompanied by two sound signals the race shall finish at the end of the lap still to be completed by the leading yacht.

OR

- 12b When International Code flag "T" are flown accompanied by two sound signals, the next mark of the course to which the leading yacht is sailing shall be deemed to be the last mark of the course. Yachts shall finish by proceeding to the Finish Line set up in accordance with Sailing Instruction 13.

OR

- 12c During races when using the average lap timing system, the Race Officer may shorten the course as in 12a. as any boat approaches the last mark of the course. All boats should then complete their current lap and cross the line to finish.

13. The Finish

The Finish Line shall be the extension of a line through the Race Control Tower and a Transit Pole painted in alternate RED AND WHITE bands. An inner and/or outer limit to the Finishing Line may be set and will be indicated in accordance with Sailing Instruction 8.3.

14. Penalty System

14.1 Appendix P will not apply.

15. Time Limit

- 15.1 The Time Limit for each race will be 10 minutes before the start of the next race or 20 minutes after the first yacht finishes in the class whichever is the shorter.
- 15.2 All yachts failing to complete the course within the time limit will be deemed to have retired. Expiration of the time limit will be indicated by one long and one short sound signal.

16. Protests

- 16.1 Protests shall be written on forms available at the Race Control Tower and delivered there within the time limit.
- 16.2 The time limit is 30 minutes after the last yacht has finished.
- 16.3 Protests will be heard in approximately the order of receipt beginning as soon as practical after the race.
- 16.4 Posting on the Notice Board will inform competitors when and where there is a hearing in which they are parties to a hearing or named as witnesses.
- 16.5 On the last day of racing for a Series a party to the hearing may ask for a reopening of the matter after being informed of the decision.
- 16.6 The Exoneration Penalty [and the Advisory Hearing and RYA Arbitration procedures] of the RYA Racing Disputes Procedures will be available.

16.7 Exoneration Penalty

- 16.7.1 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 30.3, or a penalty under Appendix P. It is not available for a breach of rule 2 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.
- 16.7.2 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.

16.8 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 adviser will then call a hearing to learn what may have happened and will state whether any rule appears to have 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, although there is no requirement to do either.

16.9 RYA Arbitration

- 16.9.1 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.
- 16.9.2 If the parties and a member of the protest or race committee agree that RYA Arbitration is suitable, an arbitrator (who may be that 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 will not apply. Instead, when the arbitrator decides that a boat that is a 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.
- 16.9.3 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 a normal protest hearing, at which the arbitrator may be a member of the protest committee. Rule 66 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.
- 16.9.4 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.

17. Scoring

The low point scoring system, as set out in RRS Appendix A, will apply. The number of races scheduled and the number of races to qualify for a series will be as set out in the Sailing Programme.

- 17.1a A yacht which ranks as a starter by sailing in the vicinity of the Start Line on or after her Preparatory Signal and does not finish, including a yacht which infringes the Rules and retires within a reasonable time, shall be

awarded points equal to the number of yachts that ranked as starters plus 1 in that race with a minimum of 6 points.

- 17.1b A yacht which is the only entrant in any fleet and which sails in the vicinity of the Start Line after her Preparatory Signal shall rank as a competitor and if it does not complete the race shall be awarded 6 points.
- 17.1c A yacht that is the only representative of a fleet, may start and sail with the other fleet and will be awarded points according to its finishing position in that race. These points will then be transferred to its own fleet series results. **When awarding points to the main fleet of the race the result allocated to the solo yacht will be ignored.**
- 17.1d A Laser will be handicapped as if sailing with a full rig unless the helmsman has informed the Race Officer prior to the race that a Radial or 4.7 rig will be used for that race.
- 17.2 The yacht having the lowest number of points from the qualifying number of races in a series will be the winner.
- 17.2a In the event of any series resulting in a tie then all the results where the boats competed together shall be added. If a tie still remains then the result of the last race in which they competed together shall be used to break the tie
- 17.2b The number of races to qualify in a series shall be as set out in the Sailing Programme. In the event of races being abandoned the formula for reducing the number of qualifying races to count in a major series shall be:

ABANDONED	REDUCTION	ABANDONED	REDUCTION
1	0	5	2
2	1	6	3
3	1	7	3
4	2	8	4

18. Safety regulations

- 18.1 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race officer as soon as possible.
- 18.2 A trapeze or hiking harness shall have a device that can quickly release the competitor from the boat at any time while in use.

19 Prizes

Prizes will be awarded as set out on the Event Result Sheets and displayed on the Notice board.

20. Disclaimer

Competitors participate in the clubs racing entirely at their own risk. See rule 4, *Decision to race*. The club will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after racing.

21. Insurance

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance, with a minimum cover of £3,000,000

22. Afloat at the Preparatory Signal

Racing Rule 45 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states that "A boat shall be afloat and off moorings at her Preparatory Signal". Under these Sailing Instructions a yacht infringing this rule may exonerate itself by doing a 360° penalty turn as soon as practical after the start, on the course side of the Start Line.

23. Anchoring

When anchoring or making fast in accordance with Racing Rule 45 a yacht shall not do so on or in the vicinity of the Start Line.

24. Buoyancy

All Helmsmen and Crew shall wear adequate personal buoyancy at all times on the water (Wet or Dry suits are not considered adequate). If the buoyancy aid is of the inflatable type it must be kept fully inflated.

25. Suspension of these Sailing Instructions

These Sailing Instructions shall be suspended when an Open Event is being held on the Club's water.

1st January 2017