

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES.

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 2009 - 2012 together with the National Prescriptions of the UK. Except that rules 44.3 and 52 shall not apply, rules 29.2, 33, 62.1. (a) and 41 are altered. Additionally,
- 1.2 For IRC TCC yachts, 2011 ISAF (OSR) Cat 4 Mono-hull. 2011 IRC Rules parts A, B and C with the following exceptions. IRC Rule 22.4 shall not apply. There will be no limitations on crew numbers or weight. IRC Rule 13.7 is amended to read "In the particular case of a boat with a one design certificate, as noted on the certificate, the rating requires compliance with one design class rules." This shall not apply in respect of crew number and weight.
- 1.3 For J80 yachts, 2011 International J/80 Class Rules. (NB 1.2 shall not apply, J80's shall sail in class rules trim) .
- 1.4 For Multi-hulls, MOCRA rules and 2011 ISAF (OSR) Category 4 Multi-hull.
- 1.5 For locally handicapped cruisers, 2011 ISAF (OSR) Category 4 Mono-hull.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS.

Notices to competitors shall be posted on the official notice board located at the Race Office.

3. CHANGES TO THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS.

- 3.1 Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted at least three hours before the first start of the first race of each day.
- 3.2 Any change to the Schedule of Races will be posted by 18:00 on the day before the schedule change takes place.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE.

Signals made ashore will be displayed from the Haven Ports Yacht Club flag staff on the Clubhouse Lightship.

5. CLASSES.

- 5.1 IRC TCC boats will be divided by their rating into four classes. See para; 6.
- 5.2 J80s will sail in IRC Class 2.
- 5.3 The Cruiser Classes will be divided into Class 5 (Cruiser, no spinnaker), Class 6 (Cruiser with spinnaker).
- 5.4 Multi-hulls will sail as one class (Class 7).

6. COMMITTEE BOATS

The Off Shore Race Committee Boat ("Regatta One"), shall display an "Adnams" flag.

The In Shore Race Committee Boat ("Regatta Two") shall display a Suffolk Yacht Harbour (SYH) flag.

7. RACING AREA AND CHECK-IN.

Racing will be held in Dovercourt Bay and the Harwich Harbour approaches.








Suggested charts - Admiralty 5607/2, 5607/4.

All boats shall, before the first race of the day, check-in by hailing committee boat RegattaTwo. Regatta Two shall be positioned in the approaches to the start area. All boats shall identify their class, sail number, number of people on board *and shall secure an acknowledgement.*

Failure to check-in may result in being scored as "DNS".

No check-ins will be accepted via VHF radio.

8. CLASS FLAGS. (to be worn on the back stay or near)

Yacht	Class	Rating	Flag
Multi-hull	7	MOCRA . 1.130 - 1.600	
Cruiser	6	Cruiser, with Spinnaker	
Cruiser	5	Cruiser, no spinnaker	
IRC	4	TCC 0.750 - 0.899 0.959899	
IRC	3	TCC 0.900 - 0.959	
IRC	2	TCC 0.960 - 1.009	
IRC	1	TCC 1.010 and above	

9. COURSES.

9.1 Courses shall be devised by the Race Committees.

9.2 Regatta One shall broadcast the intended location of the start line not later than 30 minutes before the first race of the day. All classes shall start from this start line for the first race each day. Subsequent starts for IRC classes shall be under the direction of Regatta One. Multi-hull and Cruiser Classes shall start the second race on Saturday near their course finish under the directions of Regatta Two.

9.3 Courses shall be broadcast on VHF and may be displayed on the Race Committee boat, before the relevant class Warning Signal.

9.4 Race Committee Boat "Regatta One" will use VHF Ch 72 to communicate with the fleet, addressing the fleet as 'Felixstowe Regatta Fleet'.

9.5 Race Committee Boat "Regatta Two" will finish classes 5, 6 and 7 for all their races. 'Regatta Two' will set the course and start these classes for the second race on Saturday.

"Regatta Two" shall use VHF Ch 77 for communications.

Classes 5, 6 and 7 should switch from VHF Ch 72 to VHF Ch 77 (Regatta Two) shortly after their correct start with Regatta One.

9.6 All boats should monitor VHF Ch 72 from at least one hour before the start time of the first race of the day.

9.7 Shortening course. Addition to RRS 32.2 (d) at the finish line. The Race Committee may set a course that does not require boats to pass through the Finish Line at the end of each lap.

The Race Committee may make a SHORTEN COURSE signal at the defined finish line. This signal shall be made as the leading boat clears a rounding mark and boats shall then sail from that rounding mark directly to the Finish Line.

10. MARKS

No	Mark	No	Mark	No	Mark
1	Beacon Hill	6	Pye End	11	Wallet No 4
2	Armada	7	Outer Ridge	12	South Cork
3	Cork Ledge	8	Stone Banks	13	NE Gunfleet

4	Fox's	9	Medusa	14	Roughs Tower and its buoys
5	Pennyhole	10	Wallet No 2	15	Cork Sand Yacht Beacon
Drop Marks		V, X, Y, Z			

Notes:

- (1) Mark No1, Beacon Hill is the Harwich Town Sailing Club's yellow spherical racing buoy situated approximately 2 cables north of the seaward end of the Dovercourt breakwater.
- (2) Mark No's 2, 3, 4 and 5 are seasonal special racing marks. Their approximate positions are
Armada 51° 52'.83 N, 01° 22'.19 E **Cork Ledge** 51° 54'.50 N, 01° 23'.40 E
Pennyhole 51° 53'.55 N, 01° 18'.00 E **Fox's** 51° 54'.00 N, 01° 21'.00 E.
- (3) Marks V, X, Y & Z (Drop Marks) are coloured inflatable type racing marks. Their position and description will be broadcast with the course.
- (4) Pye End, Outer Ridge, Stone Bank, Medusa, Wallet No 2, Wallet No 4, South Cork, NE Gunfleet, Roughs Tower and its buoys, Cork Sand Yacht Beacon, are all fixed navigation buoys.
- (5) A SPREADER mark (brightly coloured inflatable) may be laid adjacent to the first mark. This mark shall be laid approximately 100 mtrs from the first mark and square to the course to the first mark.

11. AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS.

The Harwich Deep Water Channel is a prohibited area.

The Harwich Deep Water Channel is marked by buoys indicated in current Admiralty Charts and/or designated by Harwich Haven Authority Notices to Mariners. These mark the Harwich Deep Water Channel and include Landguard and Guard buoys.

Competitors, while racing, shall not pass on the channel side of any buoys marking the Harwich Deep Water Channel, neither shall they cross an imaginary straight line between any two adjacent marker buoys. If any boat fails to comply with this instruction, she shall retire promptly.

If a boat becomes disabled and begins to encroach on the Deep Water Channel, or any designated commercial shipping channel, she shall immediately advise Harwich VTS on Ch 71 and comply with all Harwich Haven Authority instructions.

12. THE START.

12.1 First race of the day ('Regatta One'), starting order.

Class	Warning Signal
7 (Multi-hull)	10.10 hrs
5 and 6 (cruiser)	10.15 hrs
IRC Class 4	10.30 hrs

12.2 IRC classes. The warning signal for class 4 shall be at 10.30 hrs.

IRC classes shall start at 5 minute intervals in the class order 4, 3, 2, 1.

The warning signal for subsequent classes shall be displayed at the start of the previous class.

12.3 Subsequent IRC races . The Race Committee "Regatta One" (VHF 72) shall advise the fleet of the Warning Signal time for class 4. The starting sequence shall follow the format outlined in 12.2.

12.4 Second race on Saturday, Multi-hulls and Cruisers.

The Race Committee "Regatta Two", (VHF 77) shall advise classes 5, 6 and 7 individually of their warning signal time.

12.5 The start/finish line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Committee Boat and the outer limit starting mark which may be an independent buoy, a mark as listed in SI 10, an inflatable mark, or a boat wearing an orange flag on a staff or mast.

- 12.6 The Committee Boat (at the start or finish) may be protected by an Inner Limit (or Stand Off) Mark. If present, boats shall not pass between the Inner Limit mark and the Committee Boat when it is on station. A dinghy, or other floating object secured alongside or streamed astern, shall be regarded as part of the Committee Boat.
- 12.7 A yacht whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the start line. This instruction shall not be grounds for protest or redress by a competing yacht. See SI 15.2 Penalties.
- 12.8 The Race Officer may use the relevant VHF radio channel to advise time checks and a count down to signals. After the One Minute Signal, the Race Committee may advise that boats are 'OCS'. After the start, the Race Committee may advise individual sail numbers of boats recorded as "OCS". Failure to make a broadcast or to time it accurately shall not be grounds for a request for redress. This changes Rules 62.1(a), and is in addition to Rule 41.

13. COURSE ALTERATIONS.

Rule 33 is altered. RRS 33(a)(2) shall not apply. The Committee vessel may in addition, broadcast a marks new magnetic compass bearing on the fleets communications channel.

14. THE FINISH.

- 14.1 The finishing line will be between the finishing mark and a Committee Boat wearing an Orange flag (End of finishing Line) and a Blue flag (boat on station for a finish).
- 14.2 In the event of a Committee Boat not being on station, the finishing line runs from the finishing mark at 90 degrees to the rhumb line from the previous mark, for a distance of 1 cable. Boats shall finish in the direction from the previous mark leaving the finishing mark to the hand indicated by the given course. Competitors should take their own finishing time, and the names of the boats finishing immediately before and after them if in sight, and present this information and the timepiece used to take the time to the Race Office within 2 hours of finishing the day's racing.

15. PENALTIES.

- 15.1 The Scoring Penalty, rule 44.3 shall not apply.
- 15.2 Ref; SI 12.7. Yachts on the start line before their Warning Signal. The Race Committee may impose a two points race score penalty on a transgressing yacht. This penalty shall not be grounds for protest or redress.

16. TIME LIMITS. J80S AND IRC TCC CLASSES ONLY.

Boats failing to finish within 1 (one) hour after the first boat in its class sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes rules 35, A4 and A5.

17. PROTEST AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS.

- 17.1 Protest forms are available at the Race Office. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit.
- 17.2 The protest time period will commence at 17:00 hours or two hours after the last boat has finished the last race of the day, whichever is the later. The opening of the protest time period shall be signalled by displaying International Flag Code B (Bravo) ashore with one sound signal. The protest time period shall close one hour later and shall be signified by lowering International Code Flag B, with one sound signal. The same time period applies to requests for redress or reopening.
- 17.3 Notices will be posted on the official notice board within 30 minutes of the end of the protest time period to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the jury room located at East Anglia Sea School, Suffolk Yacht Harbour at the times stated. The time of the first hearing will be posted and hearings will be conducted in the order they are listed.
- 17.4 Notices of protest by the Race Committee or Protest Committee will be posted as in SI 16.3 to inform boats being protested under rule 61.1(b).
- 17.5 Breaches of Sailing instruction 11.9, shall not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes rule 60.1(a). The scoring abbreviation for a discretionary penalty imposed under this instruction will be DPI.
- 16.6 On the last day of the Regatta a request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered
- (a) within the protest time period if the party requesting reopening was informed of the decision on the previous day;
- (b) no later than 30 minutes after the party requesting reopening was informed of the decision on that day. This changes rule 66.

18. SCORING.

18.1 Races and the Series will be scored using RRS 2009-2012 Appendix A, Low Point System.

Scoring under rule A4.2 shall be altered as follows:

DNC – Declared entry plus one. DNF,DNS, OCS and RAF – Starters plus one. DSQ – Starters plus 3.
This alters rule A4.2 .

18.2 Discards.

J80s and IRC TCC yachts. Five races completed, a boats worst race score shall be excluded.

Four or less races completed, no race scores shall be excluded. Regatta Team Challenge. No race scores shall be excluded. Multi-hull and Cruisers (with, or without spinnaker). No race scores shall be excluded.

19. SAFETY.

19.1 Any boat significantly delayed while racing, but not requiring assistance, shall report her situation and Estimated finishing time to the Race Committee.

19.2 A boat that leaves the race area with the intention of not starting further races that day shall report her decision to its Race Committee.

A boat that retires from a race shall notify its Race Committee as soon as possible.

Important Note: Any boat not accounted for at the end of racing may be reported to Thames Coastguard as overdue. To avoid unnecessary emergency action, any boat which, while racing, suffers serious damage or gets into difficulties but does not require assistance, shall advise Thames Coastguard of her situation by normal VHF procedure or by telephone (01255 675518). She shall then, if possible, advise the Race Committee.

20. REPLACEMENT OF EQUIPMENT.

Substitution of damaged or lost equipment shall not be allowed unless approved by the Race Committee. Requests for substitution shall be made to the Race Committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

21. EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS.

A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions. On the water, a boat may be instructed by a Race Committee official to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.

22. OFFICIAL BOATS.

Official boats shall display ICF "Q".

23. LIABILITY.

Competitors participate in the Regatta entirely at their own risk. See rule 4, Decision to Race. The organising authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personnel injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the Regatta.

A boat is entirely responsible for her own safety, whether afloat or ashore, and nothing, whether in the Notice of Race or Sailing Instruction or anywhere else, reduces this responsibility.

It is for the boat to decide whether she is fit to sail in the conditions in which she will find herself. By launching or going to sea, the boat confirms that she is fit for those conditions and her crew is competent to sail and compete in them.

Nothing done by the organiser can reduce the responsibility of the boat nor will it make the organisers responsible for any loss, damage, death or personnel injury, however it may have occurred, as a result of the boat taking part in the racing. The organisers encompass everyone helping to run the race and the event, and include the organising authority, the Race Committee, the race officers and committee boats.

The boat is responsible to ensure that she is equipped and seaworthy so as to be able to face extremes of weather; that there is a crew sufficient in number, experience and fitness to withstand such weather and that the safety equipment is properly maintained, stowed and in date and that the Crew knows how to use it.

The fact that the Race Committee may conduct inspections of a boat does not reduce the responsibility of the boat set out herein.

24. INSURANCE.

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £2,000,000 or the equivalent.