



ROYAL SOUTHERN YACHT CLUB

THE SOLENT CRUISER RACE 2018

5 - 7 May

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1 ORGANISATION

- 1.1 The organising authority is the Royal Southern Yacht Club.

2 RULES

- 2.1 In the case of conflict between the Notice of Race (NoR) and the Sailing Instructions (SIs) the SIs shall prevail. This amends RRS rule 63.7.

3 COMMUNICATION WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the Committee Vessel.
- 3.2 Signals to postpone or abandon in RRS 27.3 shall only apply to the leg due to be sailed on the day the signal is made.
- 3.3 The Race Committee will announce the instructions by VHF radio when possible. Absence of a radio message shall not be a cause for protest.
- 3.4 Any changes in Sailing Instructions will be posted for two hours before the advertised starting time of the leg if possible. Changes in the Sailing Instructions will be indicated by the Committee Vessel displaying International Code Flag 'L' above a numeral pennant signifying the sequential number of the amendment. It is the responsibility of each yacht to report to the Committee Vessel and receive the relevant changes to the Sailing Instructions. Changes will be announced on the VHF radio where possible.
- 3.5 The Committee Vessel will keep a listening watch on VHF channel 16. All race communications will be done on channel 72 unless blocked in which case the race committee may display flag "R" (drawing attention to it with one sound signal) and change to channel 06.

4 BOAT IDENTIFICATION

- 4.1 Yachts shall have sail numbers or other identification agreed by the race committee visible at the start of each leg.

5 STARTING PROCEDURE

- 5.1 The Race Committee shall start each leg by Stationary Committee Vessel or by a Gate Start. Code flag 'G' shall be displayed at the Committee Vessel for at least 8 minutes prior to the start time to indicate a Gate Start.
- 5.2 The Committee Vessel and the Outer Distance Mark (ODM) rank as starting marks.
- 5.3 Before the start the Committee vessel shall display the numeral flag for the course number being used.
- 5.4 Stationary Committee Vessel Start
 - 5.4.1 The starting line will be between a staff bearing an orange flag on the Committee Vessel and the ODM.
 - 5.4.2 An inner distance mark (IDM) may be laid near the Committee Vessel. Boats shall not cross the line between the IDM and the Committee Vessel after the one-minute signal for each race and before starting and clearing the line. A boat infringing this rule may exonerate herself by rounding the end of the starting line to the pre-start side before starting. The IDM ranks as a starting mark.
 - 5.4.3 The Starting Line shall remain manned until all competitors have started or for 10 minutes after the starting signal whichever is the earlier. A yacht that has not started at that time may be ruled Did Not Start.
- 5.5 Gate Start
 - 5.5.1 The Committee Vessel shall display International Code Flag 'G' for at least 8 minutes before the start to indicate the use of a gate start. Code Flag 'G' will be removed when all participants have started or at 10 minutes after the starting signal whichever is the earlier.
 - 5.5.2 There is a Pathfinder Committee Vessel (PCV) which beats on Port Tack across the fleet. The Start Line is the line between the stern of the PCV and the ODM. The PCV may make a practice start on port tack to indicate the approximate starting line area before the start.
 - 5.5.3 The PCV shall be released 3 minutes after the start or when all other boats have started or when it tacks onto starboard or when the race is abandoned whichever is the earlier.
 - 5.5.4 The PCV shall have Right of Way over all other boats racing from the start of the race until it is released. This changes RRS Rules 10 11 and 12.
 - 5.5.5 The PCV may use its engine to maintain position until the start of the race but not immediately after the starting signal. This changes RRS 42.1.
 - 5.5.6 A boat not having started which is on the port side of the PCV while the gate is opening shall not cross the starting line from the course side.
 - 5.5.7 After the preparatory signal a boat which interferes with or tries to pass between the PCV and the ODM or that causes another boat to interfere in these ways may be penalised without a hearing.
 - 5.5.8 The PCV shall rank as a starting mark until it is released.
 - 5.5.9 A boat that has not started by 10 minutes after the starting signal may be ruled Did Not Start.

5.6 The starting sequence shall be:

Minutes before starting signal	Visual signal	Sound signal	Means
10	Flag 'IC 8' displayed	One	Warning Signal
5	Flag 'E' displayed	One	Engine prohibited
4	Flag 'P' displayed	One	Preparatory signal
1	Flag 'P' removed	One long	One minute
0	Flag 'IC 8' removed	One	Starting signal
5 minutes after	Flag 'E' removed	One	End of engine prohibited time

This changes RRS rule 26.

- 5.7 Yachts shall start under sail only. Engines shall not be running even if not clutched into the propeller from 5 minutes before the Start (Code Flag 'E' displayed) until 5 minutes after the yacht has started. A yacht using her engine whilst Code Flag 'E' is displayed or within 5 minutes of starting shall be liable to disqualification or such other penalty as the Committee may prescribe.
- 5.8 A yacht failing to answer a Recall Signal may have 30 minutes added to her Elapsed Time for that leg of the course or be disqualified at the discretion of the committee.
- 5.9 A yacht on the course side of the Starting Line may motor back to the correct side of the line after flag 'E' has been lowered but shall cross the line under sail only and shall not use her engine for 5 minutes after crossing the starting line.
- 5.10 A yacht that has not started when Code Flag 'E' is lowered may use her engine for propulsion up to the starting line but shall cross the line under sail only and shall not use her engine for 5 minutes after crossing the starting line.
- 5.11 A boat that touches a Starting Mark or any buoy RIB or tender attached to it may be penalised or disqualified without a hearing but shall be entitled to a hearing on request. This changes RRS 63.1

6 TIME LIMIT

- 6.1 There is no time limit on any leg.

7 FINISHING

- 7.1 Each yacht shall take her own Finishing Time in hours minutes and seconds taken from GPS.
- 7.2 Each yacht shall complete a Declaration Form at the end of each leg which shall record:
- 7.2.1 The actual distance for that leg of the course
 - 7.2.2 Any Excess Engine Time carried forward from the previous leg of the course
 - 7.2.3 The names or sail numbers of the yachts finishing ahead and astern.
 - 7.2.4 Each time the engine started and stopped being used for propulsion with the estimated chart position and the name or sail number of the nearest yacht ahead and astern at that time.
 - 7.2.5 Start and finish times in hours minutes and seconds.
 - 7.2.6 Any other matters that the Race Committee shall decide.

- 7.2.7 The owner or skipper in charge of each yacht shall sign the Declaration Form. He shall ensure that one copy of the completed declaration form is handed to the Race Committee on the Committee Vessel at the finishing port within 30 minutes of arrival in port.

8 PROTESTS

- 8.1 A yacht can protest against any other yacht except that a protest for an infringement of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea can be made only by a yacht directly involved in or witnessing the incident.
- 8.2 A protest for an infringement of the Rules or Sailing Instructions occurring during the race shall be notified to the Race Committee at the first possible opportunity. The protesting yacht shall inform the yacht protested against that a protest will be lodged at the first reasonable opportunity and fly code flag 'B'. Such a protest shall be in writing and be signed by the owner or his representative and include the following particulars:
- The date time and position of the incident; and
 - The Rule or Sailing Instruction or Regulation alleged to have been infringed; and
 - A statement of facts; and
 - A diagram of the incident unless irrelevant.
- 8.3 The protesting yacht shall deliver her protest to the Race Committee within two hours of the time she finishes the leg of the course on which the alleged incident occurred. Protests received later may be heard at the discretion of the Race Committee.
- 8.4 Protesting boats are responsible for informing the protestee(s) of the time and place of the protest. This changes RRS 63.2.
- 8.5 No claim for damages arising from an infringement of the Rules or Sailing Instructions shall be adjudicated upon by the Race Committee or Appeal Authority but shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the Courts.
- 8.6 Penalties arising from protests are at the discretion of the Protest Committee. If the Protest Committee considers that points for retiring from a race make an insufficient penalty in the circumstances it may impose a higher penalty. This changes RRS 64.1(a).
- 8.7 For the purpose of determining the results of the race the decisions of the Royal Southern Yacht Club Protest Committee shall not be subject to appeal.

9 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 9.1 Competitors participate in the event entirely at their own risk. See RRS Rule 4 Decision to Race. The Organising Authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to or during or after this event. Attention is drawn to paragraph 9 of the Notice of Race.

10 PRIZE GIVING

- 10.1 There will be a prize for the overall winner. If there are enough entries other prizes may be presented.
- 10.2 A prize will be awarded for the yacht with lowest percentage of engine time.
- 10.3 The prizes will be presented at the annual prizegiving in November.

11 COURSES

- 11.1 Courses are given in Appendix A. The race committee may change the courses or times due to weather or other circumstances.

12 FURTHER INFORMATION

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