

Open meeting sailing instructions

Racing will be governed by The Racing Rules of Sailing, the prescriptions of the RYA, the rules of the class, except as any of these are changed by these sailing instructions, and by the notice of race. Competitors are required to behave in accordance with the RYA Racing Charter.

Entries

Eligible boats must be entered by completing registration for the event with the Nantwich & Border Counties Sailing Club (N&BCSC) or relevant class association for online entries where applicable, including the full payment of the designated entry fee.

Eligibility requirements for boats are

A valid Measurement Certificate as required by class rules must be held by all boats racing and be available for inspection by the Race Committee if requested. All boats must carry a Third Party Indemnity of £3,000,000 The race Officer may permit a boat to use sails carrying an identifying number other than that required by RRS Appendix G, providing the sail number is not being used by another boat of the same class competing in the race(s)

Eligibility requirements for competitors are

All competitors are to wear adequate personal buoyancy. A wet-suit or a dry-suit is not considered to provide adequate buoyancy. Failure to comply with this instruction will result in disqualification.

Safety

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 race. Neither these sailing instructions nor any inspection of the boat limits or reduces the absolute responsibility of the owner/person in charge for the crew, the boat and her management. The race organisers shall not be responsible for any loss, damage, death or personal injury howsoever 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.

Notices to Competitors

Notices to competitors will be posted on 'Open Event' notice board and/or on temporary boards located inside the clubhouse near the main entrance. A verbal briefing for all competitors will take place at approximately 10.30hrs.

Changes in Sailing Instructions

Any changes to these instructions will be announced by the Race Officer and conveyed to all competitors as is deemed appropriate at the time.

Signals Made Ashore

Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagpole adjacent to the two-storey race box. Flag AP with two blasts of a klaxon (one blast when lowered) means 'The race is postponed'. The warning signal will be made not less than ten minutes after AP is lowered.

Schedule Of Races

The event will normally consist of a series of three races with the earliest times for the warning signal for the first race at 11.00 The start of subsequent races will be at the discretion of the Race Officer and dependent on the conditions.

Class Flag

The Class Flag will be Numeral Pennant 1 (White + Red Circle) unless advised otherwise by the race officer during the verbal briefing.

The Course and Mark-Room

The course will be displayed on the Race Committee Boat prior to the warning signal for each race and will be selected from numbers 1 to 6 with each number representing a numbered mark. The sequence of displayed numbers will indicate the order of passing the marks for one complete lap. The coloured background, red or green, for each number indicates the direction of rounding, port or starboard. A white number on a black background will indicate the number of laps. The Mark-Room Zone shall be the area around a mark within three hull lengths.

Marks

The main course marks are Six Orange/Red round buoys distributed around the lake and numbered 1 to 6 in a clockwise direction starting with number 1 immediately opposite the Racebox.

The Start

Races will be started using RRS 26. The 'Z' flag will not be used. The starting line will be between the mast on the Committee Boat and an Outer Distance Mark (ODM). A plop buoy (Inner Distance Mark) may be laid near the Committee Boat. If laid, boats approaching the line to start shall pass between this mark and the ODM. A boat shall not start later than 5 minutes after the starting signal.

Change of Course After the Start

No changes to the course, other than a shortened course, will be made after a race has started.

The Finish

The finishing line will be between the mast on the Race Committee Boat and the the first windward mark of the course. Boats must cross the finishing line from the direction of the last mark. If the course is shortened, the finishing line will between the mast on the Race Committee Boat and any windward mark of the course. The Race Committee Boat will make a sound signal (two hoots) as the leading boat rounds the penultimate mark. Boats must cross the finishing line from the direction of the last mark. Any boat not sailing the course correctly or which does not cross the finish line will be scored as 'Did Not Finish' in the absence of any other known scoring status.

Penalty System

RRS 44.3 (Scoring Penalty) will not apply.

Time Limit

The time limit will be 1 hour 30 minutes for each race. Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat finishes or within the time limit, whichever is the later, will be scored "Did Not Finish". This changes RRS 35.

Protests and Arbitration

Protests shall be written on Protest Forms available from the Racebox and delivered to the Race Officer within 20 minutes of the last boat coming ashore. Protests will be heard in approximately the order of receipt beginning approximately 30 minutes after the last boat comes ashore.

Alternatively, a Protester may opt for an Advisory or Arbitration Hearing, in place of or prior to a full Protest Hearing, in accordance with RYA Document A5 – Rules Disputes Best Practice and Guidance Notes. A 20% exoneration penalty, or a minimum of two places dropped, whichever is the largest, is available under the Arbitration procedure.

Scoring

The Low Point Scoring System detailed in RRS Appendix A will apply. If 3 races sailed then 2 races to count (i.e. one discard) If less than 3 races sailed then all races to count (i.e. no discard)

Prizes

Prizes will be awarded for each member of the crews placing first, second and third in the series event. Other prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the organising committee.