

BUCS YACHTING CHAMPIONSHIPS

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

9th-13th April 2017

1. RULES

- 1.1. The championship will be governed by the current Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the prescriptions of the RYA, Sunsail Match First 40 Class rules, the Notice of Race and these Sailing Instructions.
- 1.2. The event is to be raced under the principles of the RYA Racing Charter.
- 1.3. [Harbour byelaws and regulations](#) and a copy will be posted on the Official Notice Board.
- 1.4. Southampton Harbour Bye-law. The attention of all competitors is drawn to Notice to Mariners No 3 of 2016: The Moving Prohibited Zone shall be deemed an obstruction and the race committee may disqualify a boat that infringes this instruction without a hearing except that the offending boat shall be entitled to a hearing on request. This changes RRS 63.1 and A5.
- 1.5. Portsmouth Harbour Regulations. Competitors are reminded of their strict obligation NOT TO IMPEDE SHIPS in Main Buoyed channels and when proceeding in and out of Portsmouth Harbour to use the Small Boat channels as prescribed in the QHM's [Notice to Mariners](#).
- 1.6. The Exoneration Penalty, the advisory hearing and the RYA Arbitration of the RYA Rules Disputes Procedures will be available. Decisions from RYA arbitration can be referred to a protest committee but cannot be re-opened or appealed.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board (ONB) at the Port House Café, Port Solent (Sunday evening, Monday morning and Thursday afternoon) and at Tiger Tiger, Gunwharf Quay (Monday evening through till Thursday morning). Notices will also be posted on the [Event Webpage](#).

3. SAFETY

- 3.1. Safety briefings will take place each morning at 8:00am at the following venues.
 - 3.1.1. Monday 10th April – The Port House Café, Port Solent.
 - 3.1.2. Tuesday 11th April - Tiger Tiger, Gunwharf Quay
 - 3.1.3. Wednesday 12th April – Tiger Tiger, Gunwharf Quay
 - 3.1.4. Thursday 13th April – Tiger Tiger, Gunwharf Quay
- 3.2. Each skipper and one other crew member shall register their attendance by signing the register at the mandatory safety briefings. It is the responsibility of the skipper to ensure they have signed the register each day. Failure to comply with this instruction will result in the following.
 - 3.2.1. The penalty for not attending on the first occasion will be a 5% penalty and will be added to the score, without a hearing, for the first race of the day.
 - 3.2.2. For all subsequent offences a 20% penalty will be added to the score, without a hearing, for the first race of the day. This amends rule 63.1 and A5.
- 3.3. Each boat shall conduct an on-board safety exercise prior to the 1st race in the series. This exercise shall comprise of a man-overboard drill, a gas leak drill, and a water ingress/emergency evacuation drill.
- 3.4. Personal Flotation Devices shall be worn at all times whilst afloat. This changes RRS40 and Race Signals.
- 3.5. All boats shall keep a listening watch on VHF 72.
- 3.6. Boats retiring from a race shall notify the race committee by VHF 72 and await an acknowledgement.

4. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 4.1. Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted before 08:00 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the Schedule of Races will be posted by 20:00 on the day before it will take effect.

5. BOATS AND CREW

- 5.1. Boats will be provided for all competitors, who shall not modify them or cause them to be modified in any way and shall adhere to the Sunsail Match First 40 Class rules at all times whilst racing. In addition to these rules, competitors should be advised that they are prohibited from climbing the mast unless directed by Sunsail bosuns.
- 5.2. The team of eight registered crew shall be present on the boat whilst racing. All requests for changes to the registered crew list shall be submitted in writing to the race committee.
- 5.3. The registered skipper shall be in charge of the boat at all times. Helming during racing may be delegated to a registered helm. Helms shall identify themselves at registration.
- 5.4. Sail plan flag signals:
 - 5.4.1. If no sail plan flag signals are displayed from the committee boat then the full main, headsail and spinnaker are allowed.
 - 5.4.2. If international code flag W is displayed from committee boat no spinnakers shall be used.
 - 5.4.3. If international numeral pennant 1 is displayed from the committee boat 1 reef in mainsail shall be used.
 - 5.4.4. If international numeral pennant 2 is displayed from the committee boat 2 reefs in mainsail shall be used.
 - 5.4.5. If international numeral pennant 3 is displayed from the committee boat 3 reefs in mainsail shall be used.
 - 5.4.6. Sail plan flags maybe used in any combination.
 - 5.4.7. If sail plan flags are used they will be displayed prior to the warning signal and maybe relayed by VHF 72. The failure to receive such broadcast shall not be ground for redress.
- 5.5. In the event of contact which causes or may have caused structural damage, a boat shall inform the race committee by VHF 72 immediately. The race committee may direct a boat to retire and proceed ashore and the boat shall comply with the race committee's decision.
- 5.6. Whilst all reasonable steps are taken to equalise the boats, variations will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.

6. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

All signals made ashore will be made from the committee boat whilst moored at Port Solent or Gunwharf Quay.

7. SCHEDULE OF RACES

The intended race schedule details are as follows in the table below. However the race committee may alter or reschedule the above schedule for any reason to preserve championship status.

Sunday 9th April	Registration: 17:00 – 18:45 at Port Solent Skippers Briefing: 19:00 at the Port House Café, Port Solent
Monday 10th April <i>HW Portsmouth 11.44 4.4m</i>	Practice starts / race: 10:00 warning signal
	Race 1 (Windward – Leeward) 11.15 warning signal
	Race 2 (Windward – Leeward) ASAP after race 1.
Tuesday 11th April <i>HW Portsmouth 11.25 4.5m</i>	Race 3 (Windward – Leeward) ASAP after race 2.
	Race 4 (Windward – Leeward) 09:30 warning signal
	Race 5 (Windward – Leeward) ASAP after race 4.
Wednesday 12th April <i>HW Portsmouth 13.06 4.5m</i>	Race 6 (Inshore coastal race – approx. 2 – 2 ½ hrs duration) ASAP after race 5.
	Race 7 (Windward – Leeward) 09:30 warning signal
	Race 8 (long inshore race – approx. 5 hrs duration) ASAP after race 7.
Thursday 13th April <i>HW Portsmouth 13.47 4.5m</i>	Race 9 (Windward – Leeward) 09:30 GOLD fleet warning signal. SILVER fleet 09:36 warning signal.
	Race 10 (Windward – Leeward) a.s.a.p. after Race 9.
	Race 11 (Windward – Leeward) a.s.a.p. after Race 10.
	Prize Giving 16:00 at the Port House Café, Port Solent (Or earlier if possible)

No

race shall start after 13:00 on the last day of racing, accept as a result of an general recall.

8. CLASS FLAGS

- 8.1. The Sunsail Match First 40 class flag will be displayed as the warning flag in the starting sequence for the qualifying series.
- 8.2. The class flag for the GOLD Fleet will be the Sunsail Match First 40 class flag displayed over a yellow flag for the final series.
- 8.3. The class flag for the SILVER Fleet will be the Sunsail Match First 40 class flag displayed over a blue flag for the final series.

9. RACING AREAS AND OBSTRUCTIONS

- 9.1. The racing will be in The Solent and adjacent waters. The race committee will advise competitors of the intended starting area using VHF channel 72 initially 60 minutes prior to the first warning signal of each day.
- 9.2. Cable and Pipeline Area. High voltage electricity cables and gas pipelines are laid across The Solent within an area marked off Stone Point and Gurnard Bay. Boats shall not anchor or kedge within this area.

10. COURSES

- 10.1. Courses will be advised by VHF channel 72 before each class warning signal, using the [2017 SCRA Solent mark list](#).
- 10.2. The course axis compass bearing and range shall be provided by the race committee for windward / leeward courses when using laid inflatable marks.
- 10.3. To change the next leg of the course when using a laid inflatable mark, the race committee will lay a new mark (or move the finishing line) and may remove the original mark as soon as practical. In addition to rule 33, the race committee will use VHF radio to assist in communicating the change of the next leg of the course.

11. MARKS

Descriptions of any laid inflatable marks will be confirmed by the race committee during the course announcement using VHF 72.

12. THE START

- 12.1. The starting line will be between a mast displaying an orange flag on the race committee boat and a laid inflatable buoy.
- 12.2. When an Inner Distance Mark (IDM) is laid near the committee vessel, it is a starting limit mark that shall be left on the same side as the nearby committee vessel. After the one-minute signal for each race and before starting and clearing the line, boats shall not cross the line between an IDM and the staff displaying an orange flag on the nearby committee boat. Boats infringing this rule will be scored DNS unless they exonerate themselves by rounding the nearby committee boat before starting. This changes RRS A 5
- 12.3. In addition to RSS 29.1 the race committee may broadcast the sail number of boats that have infringed the U or Black Flag Rules on VHF 72. The failure to make or receive such broadcast shall not be grounds for redress, this changes RRS 62.1(a).
- 12.4. A boat starting later than 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored DNS. This changes RRS Appendix A4.

13. THE FINISH

- 13.1. The finish line will be between the mast displaying an orange flag on the Committee boat and the nearby finish mark.

14. TIME LIMITS

- 14.1. The time limit for the first boat in the Windward / Leeward races will be 100 minutes. Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat finishes will be scored TLE (Time Limit Expired). This changes RRS 35 and A5.

14.2. The time limit for the first boat to finish the inshore coastal race and long inshore race will be 17:00. Boats failing to finish within 60 minutes after the first boat finishes will be scored TLE (Time Limit Expired). This changes RRS 35 and A5.

15. PENALTIES

15.1. RRS 44.1 is changed such that the penalty shall be a One -Turn Penalty (1 tack and 1 gybe). However, if a boat may have broken a rule of Part 2 while any part of any boat involved in the incident was in the *zone* (three hull lengths from the mark) the penalty shall be a Two -Turns Penalty (2 tacks and 2 gybes).

16. SCORING

16.1. The Low Point System of Appendix A will apply except as modified as below.

16.2. A boat scored TLE (Time Limit Expired) shall be scored points equal to the number of finishers for that class race plus one. This changes rules 35, A 4.1, A5 and 63.1.

16.3. The qualifying series shall comprise at least three completed races.

16.4. If three or more races have been completed by the end of racing on Wednesday, a final series will be sailed on Thursday.

16.5. If less than three races have been completed by the end of racing on Wednesday, the qualifying series will continue on Thursday and no final series will be sailed.

16.6. Weighting: points will be multiplied by the points factor applying to the race. For windward/leeward races the points factor will be 1.0, the coastal race the points factor is 1.5 and the Long Inshore Race the points factor is 2.0 (changes A4.1).

16.7. A boat that is disqualified shall receive points for one place worse than DNF (changes A4.2).

16.8. If three or more windward / leeward races are completed in the qualifying series, a boat's worst score for these races shall be discarded.

16.9. All races in the final series shall count towards a boats's championship ranking.

16.10. A boat's championship ranking shall be based on the total of her qualifying series score (after any discard is applied) and her final series score.

16.11. If at least one final series race is complete for either fleet, SILVER fleet boats shall be ranked below the lowest ranked GOLD fleet boat.

16.12. The recipient of the Sunsail award will be the most improved team during the course of the regatta. The winning team will be decided at the discretion of the BUSA appointed coaches and the Organising Authority.

17. PROTESTS

17.1. Adding to rule 61.1(a), boats intending to protest shall radio their intention to the race committee immediately on completion of the race concerned, using VHF channel 72, and await an acknowledgement.

17.2. The Exoneration Penalty and the RYA Advisory Hearing and RYA Arbitration procedures of the RYA Rules Disputes Procedures will be available. Decisions from the RYA Arbitration can be referred to a protest committee but cannot be reopened or appealed. See the Official Notice Board for details. The Exoneration penalty shall be 30% place penalty.

17.3. Protest forms will be available from the events desk in Tiger Tiger on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and from the Port House Café, Port Solent on Thursday.

17.4. Protests must be delivered with mobile numbers included on the form to the events desk (Tiger Tiger/ the Port House Café, Port Solent) within one hour of the return to Gunwharf/Port Solent of the committee boat. This time will be posted on the ONB. In exceptional circumstances this time limit may be varied by the protest committee.

17.5. A notice will be posted on the ONB indicating the location and time of any protest hearing, within 30 minutes of the delivery of the protest form.

17.6. The protest committee may, at its sole discretion, award a lesser penalty than DSQ. This changes RRS 64.1

18. HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS

Boats shall not be hauled out during the competition except with and according to the prior written permission of the race committee.

19. RISK STATEMENT

19.1. RRS 4 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone. 'Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:

- 19.1.1. (a) They are aware of the inherent element of risk involved in the sport and accept responsibility for the exposure of themselves, their crew and their boat to such inherent risk whilst taking part in the event;
- 19.1.2. (b) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their property whether afloat or ashore;
- 19.1.3. (c) They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;
- 19.1.4. (d) Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
- 19.1.5. (e) The provision of a race management team, patrol boats and other officials and volunteers by the event organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
- 19.1.6. (f) The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances;
- 19.1.7. (g) It is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks specific to this venue or this event drawn to their attention in any rules and information produced for the venue or event and to attend any safety briefing held for the event.
- 19.1.8. (h) Their boat is adequately insured, with cover against third party claims.

20. PRIZES AND PRIZGIVING

- 20.1. The Overall Prize giving will be held at 16:00 hrs on Thursday 24th March 2016 at the Port House Café, Port Solent. BUCS medals will be given to the top GBR 3 teams, in addition to the following trophies:
- 20.1.1. The Sunsail Trophy will be presented to the winning team.
 - 20.1.2. The Scottish and Welsh Yachting Trophies will be presented to the top placed Scottish team and Welsh team.
 - 20.1.3. The Jim Saltonstall Teapot Trophy will be presented to the winner of the Long Inshore Race.
 - 20.1.4. The Sunsail award for the most improved team.

21. EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

- 21.1. A boat or the eligibility of the crew or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the provisions of the Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions.

22. SUPPORT BOATS

- 22.1. Except as provided in 22.2, team leaders, coaches, safety boats, support personnel, and anyone associated with a competitor shall stay outside areas where boats are racing, and shall not communicate with competitors at any time while racing unless attending a boat in distress requiring assistance, or as directed by the race committee. These support boats should register at registration and provide a name, mobile number and boat name.
- 22.2. Specified coaches, whose names will be posted on the official notice board, may enter the racing area. These coaches may give outside help to any boat during racing and any boat may receive such help. This changes RRS 41.

23. IDENTIFICATION WHILST RACING

- 23.1. During the final series, boats in the gold fleet shall display a pink coloured flag to identify which fleet they are part of. The Organising Authority shall supply the flags and instructions for their use. Flags are collected from the safety briefing on Thursday morning.
- 23.2. On Tuesday and Wednesday the top 3 teams will display a Yellow, Blue or Red flag to identify 1st, 2nd and 3rd overall in the fleet. On Thursday the top 3 teams from the Gold and Silver fleets will display a Yellow, Blue or Red flag to identify 1st, 2nd and 3rd in each fleet. The Organising Authority shall supply the flags and instructions for their use. Flags are collected from the safety briefing each morning.

24. REQUIRED ATTENDANCE

- 24.1. At least two members from each boat (one of whom must be the registered skipper) shall attend the post-racing coach debriefs. The penalty for failing to comply with this rule will be a charitable contribution of £5.00 to Sail4Cancer from the boat concerned. All crew members are exempt from attending the coaches debrief if the boat is subject to a protest.
- 24.2. At least two members from each university sailing club are required to attend the BUSA AGM on Tuesday 11th April. The penalty for failing to attend will be that the university sailing club are required to make a charitable contribution of £40.00 to Sail4Cancer.

25. MEDIA RIGHTS

In participating in the BUCS championship any competitor automatically grants the Organising Authority permission to make, use and show, from time to time, any motion pictures and live, taped or film television and other reproductions of him/her during the period of the event without compensation, in perpetuity.

APPENDIX A: [2017 SCRA mark list.](#)

Solent Marks ▾

Name changes for 2017

There are a number of changes to the list of Solent Marks for 2017, including one new mark and two new navigation marks, changes to the positions of two navigation marks and name changes for a dozen of the existing marks. Please refer to the following document:

 [Solent Mark Designations - Changes for 2017](#)

Solent Mark Designations

SCRA publishes a list of over 150 Solent area marks, including the large majority of those that are commonly used. Each mark is now described by a code comprising two characters - either two digits or one digit and one letter. The list is recommended for use by all clubs and race organisers where courses are given on the radio, and may be used for course boards if desired.

Details of the 2017 list are in the following files:

 [Solent Mark Designations - List by Zone](#)

Also available to download are racing charts (not for navigation) for the Solent which show the racing marks:

 [Racing Chart - Central Solent](#)

 [Racing Chart - E/W Solent](#)

Grateful thanks to Roberts Charts for these charts.

GPS-friendly version of Marks list

The 2017 marks list is also available in GPX format. Software to read this file is available from many sources but one that is suitable is Easy GPS which may be downloaded from <http://www.easygps.com>. This software can load the list onto many different types of GPS equipment.

Right click the following link and select "Save as" or "Save link as".

Once downloaded you will need to extract the gpx file contained within the zip file.

[SolentMarks2017-GPS.zip](#)

APPENDIX B: NOTICE TO TEAMS: BEHAVIOUR AND CONDUCT

- 1 Please take a minute or so to read this important notice. Your team will be deemed to have read it if you turn up, so please make sure you have.
- 2 The BUSA Committee hopes you have a great time at the Championship and have the best possible racing over the four days. We have been working hard to make sure the event is as good as possible and we are here to have as good a time as you hopefully will.
- 3 However, there is a clear line between having a good time and misbehaviour. All competitors have already agreed to abide by the BUSA Code of Conduct and BUSA will not tolerate misconduct or misbehaviour by competitors. This applies from the moment you arrive at the event to the time you leave (including all social functions). We rely on the goodwill and co-operation of our host universities, sailing clubs, marinas and venues to host our events and simply cannot afford to damage these important relationships if we are to continue running the best possible events for you.
- 4 BUSA is primarily a competition between universities, and therefore it is your university club as well you and your team captain that will be held responsible for any misconduct. We have applied this principle before and will do so again if required.
- 5 Finally, it is inevitable that from time to time you might disagree with an official's decision and all our officials are happy to explain why they have made a particular decision after a race. However, dissent (the dispute of an official's actions or decision in a manner that implies incompetence, prejudice or insult, or behavior that is offensive to the official concerned) is unacceptable and is unsportsmanlike conduct.
- 6 We hope you have a great event and look forward to seeing you on and off the water.

Jessica Beecher, Event Director
Sean Clarkson, BUSA Technical Delegate