



## BUCS/BUSA YACHTING NATIONALS: SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

### 20th – 24th March 2016

#### 1.0 RULES

- 1.1 (a) The championship will be governed by the current Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the prescriptions of the RYA, Sunsail Match First 40 class rules 2016, the Notice of Race and these Sailing Instructions.  
(b) The event is to be raced under the principles of the RYA Racing Charter.
- 1.2 (a) Harbour byelaws and regulations.  
[http://www.southamptonvts.co.uk/Port\\_Information/Regulations/Byelaws/](http://www.southamptonvts.co.uk/Port_Information/Regulations/Byelaws/) and a copy will be posted on the Official Notice Board.  
(b) 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.  
(c) 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. <http://www.royalnavy.mod.uk/qhm/portsmouth/leisure>

#### 2.0 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board (ONB) at the Portsmouth Harbour Yacht Club (Sunday evening, Monday morning and Thursday afternoon) and at Tiger Tiger, Gunwharf Quay (Monday evening through till Thursday morning).

#### 3.0 SAFETY

- 3.1 Safety briefings will take place each morning at 8:00am at the following venues.  
Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March – Portsmouth Harbour Yacht Club.  
Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March - Tiger Tiger, Gunwharf Quay  
Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March – Tiger Tiger, Gunwharf Quay  
Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March – 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.  
(i) 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.  
(ii) 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

#### 4.0 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 4.1 Except as provided in 4.2, 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 18:00 on the day before it will take effect.
- 4.2 Race information and changes to the Sailing Instructions may be broadcast on VHF 72 orally on the water before the warning signal, in accordance with RRS 90.2(c). Boats shall keep radio watch from 30 minutes before the warning signal.

#### 5.0 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 2016 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:  
(a) If no sail plan flag signals are displayed from the committee boat then the full main, headsail and spinnaker are allowed.  
(b) If international code flag W is displayed from committee boat no spinnakers shall be used.

- (c) If international numeral pennant 1 is displayed from the committee boat 1 reef in mainsail shall be used.
- (d) If international numeral pennant 2 is displayed from the committee boat 2 reefs in mainsail shall be used.
- (e) If international numeral pennant 3 is displayed from the committee boat 3 reefs in mainsail shall be used.
- (f) Sail plan flags maybe used in any combination.
- (g) 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.

## 6.0 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

Signals made ashore on Monday morning will be displayed from the flagstaff of the Portsmouth Harbour Yacht Club. From Monday afternoon all signals made ashore will be made from the committee boat whilst moored at Gunwharf Quay.

## 7.0 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.

<b>Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Registration: 17:00 – 18:45 at Port Solent Skippers Briefing: 19:00 at Portsmouth Harbour Yacht Club
<b>Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March</b> <i>HW Portsmouth 10:03 4.2m</i>	Practice starts / race: 10:00 warning signal
	Race 1 (Windward – Leeward) 11.15 warning signal
	Race 2 (Windward – Leeward) ASAP after race 1.
<b>Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March</b> <i>HW Portsmouth 10:41 4.4m</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.
<b>Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March</b> <i>HW Portsmouth 11:20 4.4m</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.
<b>Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March</b> <i>HW Portsmouth 11:59 4.5m</i>	Race 9 (Windward – Leeward) 10:00 GOLD fleet warning signal. SILVER fleet 10:06 warning signal.
	Race 10 (Windward – Leeward) a.s.a.p. after Race 9.
	Prize Giving 16:00 at Portsmouth Harbour Yacht Club (Or earlier if possible)

## 8.0 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.

## 9.0 RACING AREAS AND OBSTRUCTIONS

8.1 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.

8.2 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.

## 10.0 COURSES

10.1 Courses will be advised by VHF channel 72 before each class warning signal, using the 2016 SCRA Solent mark list. <http://www.scra.org.uk/web/text/2015-16/SolentMarks2016-Zones.pdf>

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.

## 11.0 MARKS

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

## 12.0 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 In addition to RSS 29.1 the race committee may broadcast the sail number of recalled boats on VHF 72. The failure to make or receive such broadcast shall not be grounds for redress, this changes RRS 62.1(a).

12.3 A boat starting later than 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored DNS. This changes RRS Appendix A4.

### **13.0 THE FINISH**

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

### **14.0 TIME LIMITS**

13.1 The time limit for the Windward / Leeward races will be 120 minutes. Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat finishes will be scored TLE (Time Limit Expired).

13.2 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).

### **15.0 PENALTIES**

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).

### **16.0 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 23<sup>rd</sup> March, a final series will be sailed on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March.

16.5 If less than three races have been completed by the end of racing on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March, the qualifying series will continue on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March and no final series will be sailed.

16.6 Scores for the inshore coastal and long inshore races will not be discarded.

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

16.8 There shall be no discards for the final series.

16.9 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.

16.10 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.

16.11 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.

### **17.0 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 reception desk at PHYC on Thursday.

17.4 Protests must be delivered with mobile numbers included on the form to the events desk (Tiger Tiger)/reception desk (PHYC) 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

### **18.0 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.

### **19.0 RISK STATEMENT**

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:

- (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;
- (b) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their property whether afloat or ashore;
- (c) They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;
- (d) Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;

- (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;
- (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;
- (g) Their boat is adequately insured, with cover against third party claims.

## **20.0 PRIZES AND PRIZGIVING**

The Overall Prize giving will be held at 16:00 hrs on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2016 at the Portsmouth Harbour Yacht Club. BUCS medals will be given to the top GBR 3 teams, in addition to the following trophies:

- (a) The Sunsail Trophy will be presented to the winning team.
- (b) The Scottish and Welsh Yachting Trophies will be presented to the top placed Scottish team and Welsh team.
- (c) The Jim Saltonstall Teapot Trophy will be presented to the winner of the Long Inshore Race.
- (d) The Sunsail award for the most improved team.

## **21.0 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.

## **22.0 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.

## **23.0 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 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> in each fleet. The Organising Authority shall supply the flags and instructions for their use. Flags are collected from the safety briefing each morning.

## **24.0 REQUIRED ATTENDANCE**

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 the RNLI from the boat concerned. All crew members are exempt from attending the coaches debrief if the boat is subject to a protest.

## **25.0 MEDIA RIGHTS**

In participating in the BUCS/BUSA 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**

2016 SCRA mark list. <http://www.scra.org.uk/web/text/2015-16/SolentMarks2016-Zones.pdf>

## **APPENDIX B: Behaviour at the Regatta**

A note from the BUSA Committee

“We want you to enjoy yourselves, and have a brilliant regatta. Unfortunately student behaviour at some sporting events has been poor and sometimes unacceptable. Remember you are acting as representatives of your university and BUSA will hold your university club – as well as you – equally responsible for any misconduct.

Under civil law it is an offence to use bad language on public radio channels – everything you say on air will be heard by a large number of people, most of whom will know exactly who you are.

In addition to civil process, action under the Racing Rules of Sailing following bad behaviour may exclude a person from the rest of the BUSA regatta and ban them and their university from any other sailing event, anywhere. And you get no money back!

Thank you for your attention.”