BUCS Team Racing Championship 2026/27 - Scottish Qualifiers

14/15 November 2026, 30/31 January 2027, 6/7 February 2027

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

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1. Rules

1.1. Racing will be governed by the *rules* as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) including Appendix D, Team Racing Rules.

1.2. Addenda A, B and C to these sailing instructions (SIs) always apply. Other addenda apply only when so stated. The letters D and I are not used to identify addenda.

1.3. The right of appeal is denied in accordance with RRS 70.5(a).

1.4. When boats are provided by the Organising Authority

1.4.1. the boats shall be deemed to conform to their class rules;

1.4.2. when class rules change RRS 42, such changes shall not apply;

1.4.3. the race committee will allocate the boats to be used in each race; this allocation shall not be cause for redress and amends RRS 62.1.

2. Eligibility

2.1. To become eligible a team shall register as required by the notice of race or, if not specified, on arrival at the event. The team shall provide any required damage deposit before going afloat for the first time.

2.2. After registration, no team member may be changed without the prior permission of the race committee which will be given only in exceptional circumstances.

2.3. Teams entered under the conditions of NoR 5.4(e) shall not compete in the Gold or Platinum Leagues.

2.4. In addition to the requirements of NoR Appendix C, teams permitted to sail under the conditions of SI 2.3 may perform team member substitutions if permitted by the race committee. All substitutes must be approved by the race committee, unapproved substitutes will be penalised 6 points without a hearing. This amends RRS A5.

3. Event Format and Schedule of Races

3.1. The intended format of the event is described in SI Addendum B. The format may be modified during the event in a fair and practical way as solely determined by the race committee taking into account the entries, weather conditions, time constraints and any other relevant factors.

3.2. The initial schedule of races will be displayed on the official notice board. Any changes thereto and schedules for subsequent races will be displayed not less than 10 minutes before the start of those races.

3.3. Every race will be assigned a race number in the race schedule.

3.4. The number of the next race to start will be displayed on the committee boat no later than the warning signal (or promptly thereafter if co-incident with the previous start) until the starting signal. The race committee may at any time postpone a race and reschedule it at a later time.

3.5. When the race or protest committee orders a resail of a completed race, the race committee may postpone the resail indefinitely and score each team half a race win unless the result is relevant to progress, but not seeding, in the next round.

3.6. When a completed race has been abandoned and the result would not affect which teams qualify for a further stage, the race committee may cancel the race.

4. Protests, Requests for Redress, and Penalties

4.1. Protests and requests for redress that have not been decided afloat shall be notified to the race office within 10 minutes after the relevant incident or, if the incident is afloat, within 10 minutes after coming ashore.

4.2. 4.2 When the outcome of a protest or request for redress would not affect which teams qualify to a later stage, the protest committee may refuse to hear it. This amends RRS 63.1.

4.3. When RRS D2 applies and the race umpires together with one other umpire (when available) decide that a boat has broken RRS 14 and there is damage or injury, they may penalise her team by half a race win without a hearing. The boat will be informed as soon as practical and may request a hearing. Any penalty after a hearing will be in accordance with RRS D3.1(d). This amends RRS 63.1.

4.4. When the race committee decides that a boat has broken SI A5.3, Time Limit for Starting, or has failed to sail the course and broken RRS 28.2, it shall penalise her 6 points without a hearing. This amends RRS A5.2.

4.5. When the race committee decides that a competitor has broken SI A1.5, personal flotation device, or SI A1.6, wet or dry suits, it may penalise the competitor's team one race win without a hearing. This amends RRS A5.

4.6. When the protest committee decides that a breach of a rule, other than a rule of RRS Part 2, has had no significant effect on the outcome of a race, it may make any arrangement it decides is equitable, which may be to order a resail or to impose no penalty. This amends RRS 64.1 and D3.1.

5. Risk Statement, Insurance

5.1. Rule 3 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."

5.2. 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 other 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; and

(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.

5.3. When the boats are provided by the competitors, the boat is required to hold adequate insurance and in particular to hold insurance against third party claims in the sum of at least three million pounds (£3,000,000), unless a different sum is specified in the notice of race.

Index to SI Addenda

Not all addenda will apply to every event; see SIs 1.2 and A5.1.

Addenda That Always Apply

- A Event Related Rules
- B Event Format
- C Courses

Race Formats and Schedules

- H Description of HLS usage
- J Special Event Format (provided by race committee)

Other Addenda

- K When Boats are Supplied by the Organising Authority
- L Boat Handling Rules

Addendum A
Event Related Rules

BUCS Team Racing Championships - Scottish Qualifiers

Event Program
The following times are applied to each weekend of the series, provided for guidance only and are liable to change.

Day	Time	Event
Saturday	0830-0855	Registration
	0900	Competitors Briefing
	0927	First Warning Signal
	1600	Approximate Last Start
Sunday	0927	Approximate First Warning
	1530	No new stage will start after (Applicable to the final Weekend ONLY)
	1600	Approximate last start

Section 1: Additional Rules

A1.1	Races will be umpired. RRS D2 applies.	Yes
A1.2	RRS D1.1(d), Arm Signals when RRS 20 applies, is deleted.	Yes
A1.3	A boat capsized after her starting signal, so that her masthead is in the water, shall retire promptly.	Yes
A1.4	Provided the flag remains on the buoy there shall be no penalty when a boat touches any part of a flag which does not surround the staff of a mark. This amends RRS 44.1.	Yes
A1.5	Each competitor shall wear a personal flotation device (PFD) that complies with ISO 12402-5 -level 50 or equivalent, unless a higher specification is stated in the Notice of Race.	Yes
A1.6	Wet or dry suits shall be worn at all times when afloat.	Yes

Section 2: Other Rules for Boats
A2.1 CONTINUITY

Before starting and after finishing or retiring, boats shall sail to minimise any delay to the race schedule and without interfering with any race in progress.

A2.2 ELECTRONIC DEVICES AND COMMUNICATIONS

While racing,

a) the use of electronic instruments is prohibited other than compass, watches and small video devices such as Go-Pros;
b) boats shall not transmit on any electronic communication device (including mobile phones) except in an emergency, or in response to a request from the race committee. See also RRS D1.1(g).

A2.3 WHEN LEAVING OR RETURNING TO THE BERTH OR MOORING

Boats shall comply with local regulations, including speed restrictions and navigation marks, while leaving or returning to the berth or mooring.

A2.4 REQUIRED ACTIONS AT END OF EACH DAY

At the end of each sailing day, the crew shall complete the following tasks:

a) sails shall be rolled, bagged, and placed as directed;
b) the boat shall be left in the same state of cleanliness as when first boarded that day;
c) the crew shall comply with any directions posted on the boats or otherwise given to the crew by the race committee;
d) the boat shall be returned to the dock or other notified location and secured safely in accordance with any local instructions.

A2.5 At the end of the final day for a particular boat, the boat shall be cleaned (cabin and decks), all trash and recycling removed, and all tape and marks removed.

Section 3: Communications with Competitors

A3.1 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board or at an alternative location specified at the competitors briefing.

A3.2 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Changes to these SIs will be signalled by displaying Flag L on the official notice board or at an alternative location specified at the competitors briefing. Such changes will be posted on the official notice board not less than 10 minutes before the warning signal of the first affected race.

A3.3 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

Signals made ashore will be displayed on the official notice board or at an alternative location specified at the competitors briefing.

Section 4: Courses, Marks, Starting & Finishing Lines, Obstructions and Time Limits

A4.1 RACING AREA

The racing area will be the main sailing area of each venue, close to the clubhouse, or otherwise specified at competitors briefing.

A4.2 COURSE

The course will be an Inverted ‘S’ course C1 as described in SI Addendum C.

A4.3 MARKS

The marks of the course will be described during the competitors briefing on Saturday morning before racing.

A4.4 MOVING MARKS

The race committee may move marks of the course at any time. RRS 27.2 and RRs 33 will not apply.

A4.5 OBSTRUCTIONS

The following areas are defined as obstructions: shallow areas, pontoons and any other valid obstruction as described at the competitors briefing on Saturday morning before racing.

A4.6 STARTING LINE

The starting line will be between the mast of a committee boat and a starting mark. If this is different due to differing location and provision of committee boat, the 'mast' or starboard end of the line will be defined in the competitors briefing.

A4.7 FINISHING LINE

The finishing line will be between the mast of a committee boat and a finishing mark. If this is different due to differing location and provision of committee boat, the 'mast' or starboard end of the line will be defined in the competitors briefing.

A4.8 TIME LIMIT

The time limit for each race shall be 30 minutes. Boats that fail to finish within 10 minutes after the first boat finishes will be scored DNF. This amends RRS 35.

Section 5: Starting Procedure

A5.1 STARTING SIGNALS

Races will be started by using the signals and timing selected in the following table. Times shall be taken from the start of each sound signal; the failure of a visual signal shall be disregarded. This amends RRS 26.

EVENT SYSTEM			
Signal	*Minutes before starting signal*	*Sound*	*Alternative visual signals Battens or Coloured Flags*
Warning	3	One	3 displayed
Preparatory	2	One	2 displayed
One-minute	1	One	1 displayed
Starting	0	One	None or 3 displayed

Attention may be drawn to an imminent warning signal by a series of short sound signals.

A5.2 RECALL SIGNALS

When a boat is subject to RRS 29.1, flag X need not be displayed for more than 1 minute after the starting signal; this amends RRS 29.1. The race committee may hail the sail numbers or the total number of premature starters.

A5.3 TIME LIMIT FOR STARTING

A boat shall not start more than 2 minutes after her starting signal.

A5.4 GENERAL RECALL

After a general recall, succeeding races may be delayed for the recalled race. Attention is drawn to SI 3.4.

Section 6: Addenda and Local Rules

A6.1 RULES IN SI ADDENDA

The rules in the following SI addenda apply throughout the event:

Addendum K	When Boats are Supplied by the Organising	Yes
Addendum L	Authority Boat Handling Rules	Yes

A6.2 LOCAL RULES

The following local rules also apply: any local rules will be highlighted at the competitors briefing.

Addendum B

Event Format

B1.1 The format for each stage of the event shall be selected from the following standard formats, or from an Addendum J provided by the race committee and included with these sailing instructions. The specified addendum for each format contains the necessary race schedules, or procedures to create the schedules, together with rules which shall apply for scoring and breaking ties.

B1.2 Each stage of an event may use a different format. The race committee may change the format as provided in SI 3.1.

Code	Description Format Rules
Groups	Round-robin(s) in group(s) RRS D4.3, D4.4, and Addendum E
Random	Random pairs (2-boat teams only) Addendum F
Swiss	Swiss league Addendum G
HLS	HLS league Addendum H
RC	Other format provided by race committee Addendum J
KO	Knock-out RRS D4.4

B1.2 For each stage, any assignment of teams to groups or matches and the method of qualification for the next stage shall be stated.

B1.3 For a round-robin, the number of round-robins in the stage, any carry-forward and weighting applied of scores from an earlier stage and any change to the percentage inn RRS D4.3(b) shall be stated.

B1.4 When the format includes a Knock-Out stage, the method of qualification for the Knock-Out stage shall be stated.

B1.5 For a Knock-Out stage, the number of race wins required to win a match shall be stated, as RRS D4.6. However, if not stated the winner shall be the first team to score two race wins.

B1.6 The intended format is:

Stage	Format Code	Additional Rules
1	HLS	
2	RC	Play-offs for leagues based on stage 1 results
3	RC	4 leagues based on stage 1 & 2 results; Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze. League stage
4	RC	Play-offs for following league stage, based on results of preceding league stage only.
5	RC	4 leagues based on preceding league stage and playoff only.
6	RC	Repeat Stages 4 and 5

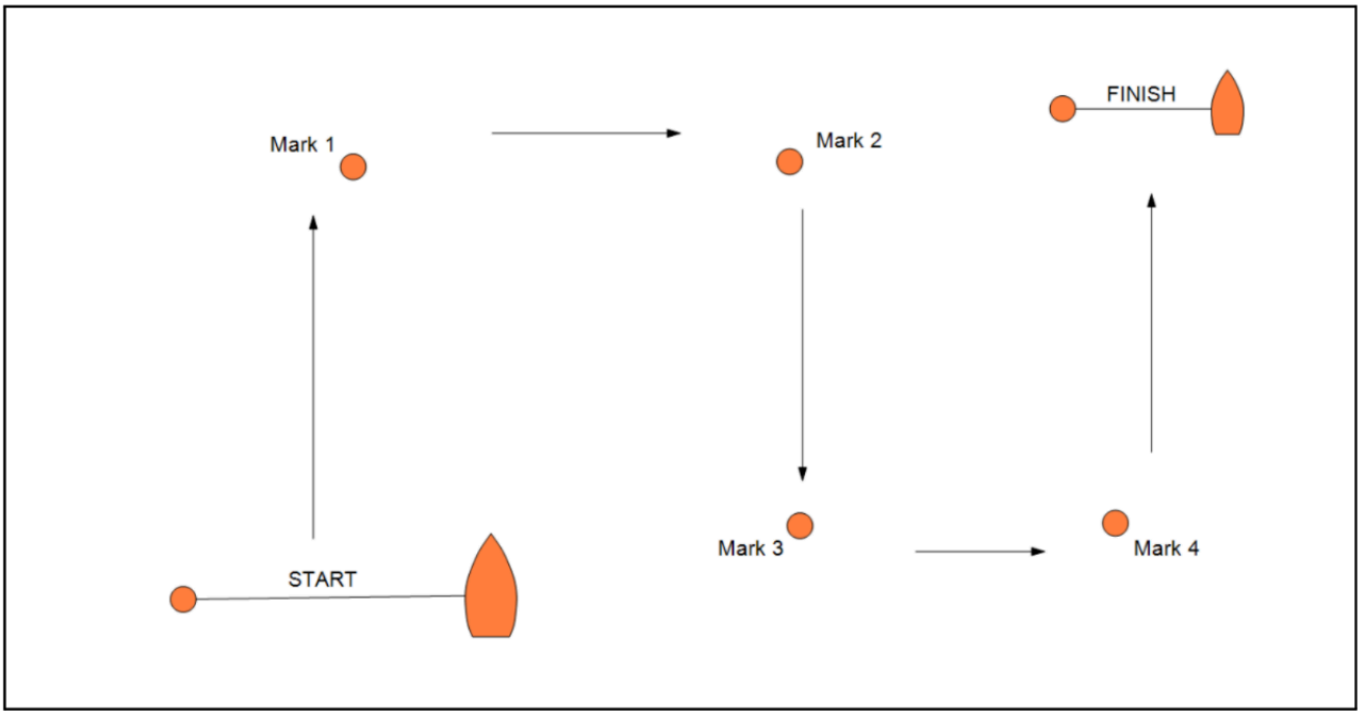
Addendum C

Courses

C1 INVERTED 'S' COURSE

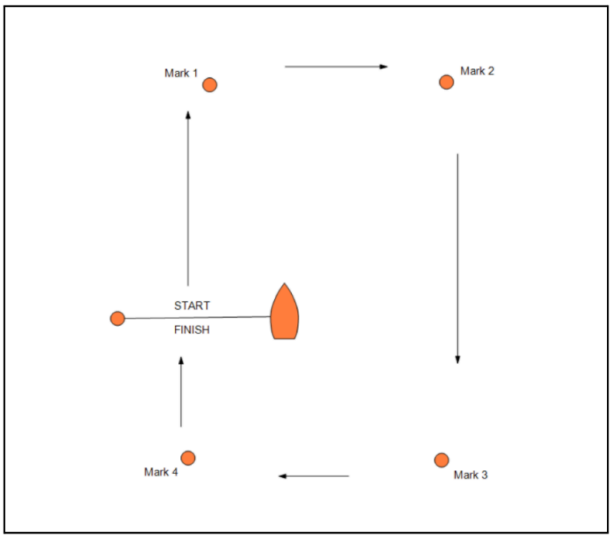
This is the standard team racing course for multi-team dinghy events. In most conditions it enables rolling starts at 3-minute intervals.

Start, round marks 1 then 2 to starboard, round marks 3 then 4 to port, Finish



C2 RECTANGULAR COURSE

This course is suitable for simultaneous races provided the last start of a sequence is before any boat in the first start completes a round.



Start, round marks 1, 2, 3 and 4 in order, then cross the start/finish line.

Round all marks to: Port / Starboard

Number of laps: 1 / 2 / 3 / 4
OR
As shown on the committee boat.

C3 OTHER COURSE

As displayed on the official notice board.

Addendum H

HLS League

H1 Teams for each race will be selected randomly. Teams will not sail any other team more than once in stage 1.

Rules for this stage

H2 If the full round robin has been completed, teams will be ranked on the basis of RRS D4.3 and ties broken using RRS D4.4. RRS D4.2 (b) does not apply to stage 1.

H3 If the full stage has not been completed, teams will be ranked in order of their percentages of races won. Any ties shall be broken in accordance with the following rules and RRS D4 is changed accordingly. Ties shall be broken in the following order in favour of:

(a) if all tied teams have met, the number of races won when the tied teams met.
(b) if all tied teams have met, the points scored when the tied teams met.
(c) the sum of points scored in all races divided by the number of races sailed.
(d) for each tied team, the sum of the percentages of races won by the teams they beat, calculated as H3 above, divided by the number of races they won.
(e) for each tied team, the sum of the average points per race for the teams they beat, divided by the number of races they won.
(f) a sail-off if possible, otherwise a game of chance.

H4 In H3(b), H3(c) and H3(e) the team with the lowest number shall be ranked first; in all other cases the team with the highest number shall be ranked first.

H5 If a tie is partially resolved by one of the above, then the remaining ties shall be broken by starting again at H3(a).

H6 For the purposes of H3(c), if a team is penalised a race win, or part thereof, the penalty is changed to include 6 points added to the team's overall score (or 6 points pro-rated e.g. half a race win is 3 points).

H7 SI 3.5 is changed to:

When the race or protest committee orders a resail of a completed race, the race committee may postpone the resail indefinitely unless the result is relevant to progress, but not seeding, in the next round. Any race where a resail is granted but the race is not resailed, will be treated as unsailed in the results.

Addendum J

Special Event Format

J1 Stage 1 (see addendum H for staging details);

J2 Stage 2 - Playoffs

a) A playoff will be completed between the team seeded at the bottom of a league and the team seeded at the top of the league below, seedings as per SI J3c.

b) The winner of the playoff shall race in the higher league and the loser shall race in the lower league for the next league stage.

J3 Assigning Teams into Stage 3 - Leagues

a) Following completion of stage 1, teams shall be assigned into four leagues, platinum, gold, silver, and bronze. Where Platinum is the highest league, then gold, silver, and bronze.

b) For t number of teams and 4 leagues:

i) When the number of teams can divide equally into the number of leagues the number of teams in each league will be equal to t/4

ii) When the number of teams does not divide equally into the number of leagues the number of teams in each league will initially be equal to t/4. The remaining teams, r, shall be allocated one at a time to the Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze leagues, in that order, until no teams remain unallocated. Each league shall receive no more than one additional team.

c) Teams will initially be seeded into each league based on their Stage 1 ranking as determined by Addendum H.

i) The number of spaces available in the platinum, gold, silver, and bronze leagues, as determined by SI J3b, will be equal to p, g, s, and b respectively.

1) the top p teams will be seeded into platinum
2) the next g teams will be seeded into gold
3) the next s teams will be seeded into silver
4) the final b teams will be seeded into bronze

ii) With the exception of teams entered in accordance with NoR 5.4(e) (not eligible to proceed to Playoffs or Finals). Where ineligible teams should be placed in the Platinum or Gold leagues and associated playoffs they will be assigned to the Silver league and eligible teams move up a place.

d) Stage 2 playoffs will be completed to finalise the Stage 3 league seedings, see SI J2.

J4 Stage 3 and stage 5 are considered league stages, this definition is relevant for series ranking.

J5 Teams shall be ranked within each league in accordance with RRS D4.3 and RRS D4.4.

J6 During league stages each team shall be scheduled to race every other team in their league. Upon completion of a league stage the lowest ranked team per J5 in each league shall playoff against the highest ranked team in the league below. The winner of the playoff shall race in the higher league and the loser shall race in the lower league for the next league stage. Where the top ranked silver team has had their entry accepted in accordance with NoR 5.4(e) (not eligible to proceed to Playoffs or Finals) then the next ranked eligible team shall compete in the gold/silver playoff unless the next eligible team is ranked bottom of the silver league or in the bronze league in which case there shall be no gold/silver playoff.

J7 Playoffs shall be first to one race win.

J8 The race committee intends to run as many league stages as possible to constitute the series but may terminate the series at any point as per RRS D4.2.

J9 A new league stage shall not start after 15:00 on the final day of the final league weekend.

J10 Following completion of the league stage(s) teams shall be ranked in the following order for the series:

a) The highest number of Platinum race wins
b) The highest number of Platinum appearances
c) The highest number of Gold race wins
d) The highest number of Gold appearances
e) The highest number of Silver race wins
f) The highest number of Silver appearances
g) The highest number Bronze race wins

Only wins and appearances from completed leagues can be used for ranking purposes.

J11 Any remaining ties after ranking per J10 shall be broken in accordance with RRS D4.4 and RRS D4.5 considering all stages sailed to completion, this includes league stages, playoffs and stage one. This amends RRS D4.3.

J12 If stage 3 is not completed i.e. no **league stage** has been completed, then series ranking will be the rankings from the end of stage 1 only. See Addendum H.

J13 There shall be no playoffs following completion of the final league stage, sail-offs are permitted if required.

Addendum K

When Boats are supplied by the Organising Authority

K1 For each race, the race committee will allocate boats to the participating teams.

K2 Spinnakers, trapezes and the gear specifically provided for the utilisation of these shall not be used, unless permitted in the sailing instructions.

K3 Standing rigging shall not be altered nor any gear removed without the permission of the race committee.

K4 BREAKDOWNS

(a) When a supplied boat suffers a breakdown, RRS D5 applies.

(b) Competitors are responsible for inspecting their boats before racing.

(c) Competitors shall report any defects, damage or breakdown to the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

(d) Should a team find any damage when checking their boat before racing, the cost of such damage will be put upon the previous team, unless challenged by the organising authority or race committee.

(e) When to continue racing after damage a breakdown risks further damage to the boat, she shall retire immediately.

K5 CONTINUITY

(a) Before starting and after finishing or retiring, boats shall sail to minimise any delay to the race schedule and without interfering with any race in progress.

(b) A boat shall remain the responsibility of the team until handed over to the race committee or the next team to use that boat. Boats shall be handed over as empty of water as practical and in racing trim.

Addendum L

Boat Handling Rules

L1 Application

The rules in this Addendum apply only to boats supplied by the Organising Authority

L2 Actions Prohibited At All Times

The following actions are prohibited at all times, unless permitted by SI L3:

(a) Adjusting or altering the tension of standing rigging;
(b) Using the shrouds above the turnbuckle or other device to adjust the stay, to facilitate tacking, gybing, or steering;
(c) Using a winch to adjust the mainsheet, backstay, or vang;
(d) Using a reef line as an outhaul;
(e) Adding to, omitting, or altering the equipment supplied. In particular, cutting or shortening of any sheets, control lines or other running rigging;
(f) The removal or replacement of any equipment without the consent of the race committee;
(g) Sailing the boat in a manner that it is reasonable to predict would cause damage;
(h) Moving equipment from its usual stowage position except when being used;
(i) Taking a boat from its berth or mooring without the consent of the race committee, or while flag AP is displayed ashore;
(j) Marking on the hull or deck with permanent ink;
(k) Perforating sails, even to attach tell tales;
(l) The use of any equipment for a purpose other than that intended.

L3 Permitted Actions

Notwithstanding SI L2, the tools and equipment in SI L3.1 may be taken on board and the actions in SI L3.2 are permitted.

L3.1 The following tools or equipment may be taken on board;

(a) Safety Knives, each with retractable blade or sheath;
(b) Basic hand tools;
(c) Electrical tape;
(d) Rope (elastic or otherwise) of 4 mm diameter or less;
(e) Marking pens;
(f) Tell tale material;
(g) Watches and timers;
(h) Shackles and clevis pins;
(i) Velcro tape;

L3.2 The following are permitted tasks:

(a) Any action considered necessary for the safety of the crew
(b) Prevent fouling of lines, sails, and sheets
(c) Attach tell tales

(d) Prevent sails being damaged or falling overboard
(e) Make minor repairs and permitted adjustments