

# Burghfield Sailing Club

## Sailing Instructions for Open Meetings

*Revised March 2015*

### 1 Rules

Racing shall be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the prescriptions of the RYA, the Class Rules, except as any are altered by these Sailing Instructions (SI), and by supplements to these Sailing Instructions.

### 2 Entries and eligibility

- 2.1 Competitors shall enter and pay the entry fee before the first race in which they sail.
- 2.2 All competitors and their guests shall be temporary members of Burghfield Sailing Club (BSC) for the duration of the meeting, and shall comply with BSC Rules and By-laws.
- 2.3 The safety of a boat and her entire management, including insurance, shall be the sole and inescapable 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 inspections 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 or races.
- 2.4 All boats shall carry third party insurance for at least £2,000,000.
- 2.5 Adequate personal flotation devices shall be worn by all competitors whilst afloat. Flag Y will not be flown. Flotation devices without permanent buoyancy shall be suitably inflated. Wet or dry suits are not adequate personal flotation devices. This changes Rule 40.
- 2.6 From 1st December to 31 March inclusive, all competitors shall wear a wet or dry suit or equivalent.

### 3 Communications with Competitors

- 3.1 Notices to competitors shall be posted on or near the course board near the Race Office.
- 3.2 Notices stating start times and sequences, class flags, and any information or instructions written or posted on the course board shall count as part of these Sailing Instructions. Such information, other than the nominated marks and their order and direction of rounding, and the positions of the start and finish lines, shall survive any change of course made in accordance with SI 5.3, 5.4 or 5.5.
- 3.3 Signals made ashore shall be made from the BSC signal mast near the Clubhouse, or from the Committee Boat if moored at the North or South jetty.
- 3.4 Flag L flying from the BSC signal mast shall indicate an amendment to these SI's, which shall be posted as a Notice, at least 30 minutes before the first race to which it applies.
- 3.5 Flag L flying on the Committee Boat shall have the meaning shown in SI 5.4 and 5.5.
- 3.6 When an indefinite postponement is made from the BSC signal mast near the Clubhouse, the postponed race will start not less than 15 minutes after Flag AP is lowered. When made on the Committee boat moored at the North or South jetty, the postponed race will start not less than 15 minutes after the Committee Boat leaves its mooring.

- 3.7 There will be a briefing for competitors, approximately 40 minutes before the first race.

#### **4 Schedule of Races**

The schedule of races shall be as shown in the Notice of Race, except that any start times shown are “not before” times. The sequence of starts and class flags shall be displayed on or near the Course Board at least 30 minutes before the start of the first race in the series, and the times of subsequent races not less than 30 minutes before each race.

#### **5 Courses**

- 5.1 A plan of the sailing water, showing the course to be sailed, including the approximate positions of starting and finishing lines and number of rounds shall be shown on the Course Board at least 30 minutes before the start.
- 5.2 The course marks and the order that they are to be rounded will be repeated on the Committee Boat by means of numbered or lettered boards indicating the sequence of marks, reading from left to right. A number or letter on a green ground indicates that the mark is to be left to starboard, on a red ground that it is to be left to port.
- 5.3 Flag C, flown on the Committee Boat, means that on the 1st, 3rd etc rounds the course shall be sailed as shown. On 2nd, 4th etc rounds, only the first and last marks shown shall be used, and will be rounded in the direction shown. This changes the meaning of Flag C in the RRS Race Signals.
- 5.4 Flag L displayed, prior to the warning signal, on the Committee Boat, indicates that the final course differs from that shown on the course board and is shown on the Committee Boat. This changes the meaning of Flag L in the RRS Race Signals.
- 5.5 In the event of a second or subsequent change, Flag L will be lowered, together with one sound signal, and then re-displayed after one minute with a further sound signal. Responsibility for determining the final course rests with each competitor.
- 5.6 No boat shall go within a two-length zone of a person fishing and this zone shall count as an obstruction.
- 5.7 Boats on any leg of the course shall not sail between the island, situated immediately north of the line between marks 12 and 13, and the shore. This island and the area of shallow water to the north of it extending to the shore shall rank as an obstruction.
- 5.8 Boats are not permitted to sail between a cardinal mark and an island or obstruction to which the cardinal mark relates.

#### **6 Marks**

- 6.1 Rounding marks will be inflatable marks, with numbers or letters. Marks are numbered sequentially, anti-clockwise round the lake from No 1 to No 13, the mark near the clubhouse being No 1. Lettered marks may be anywhere on the lake. The approximate positions of all marks used will be shown on the course board.
- 6.2 Outer and inner distance marks, if used, will be inflatable orange dan buoys, with a white or alloy staff.

#### **7 The start**

- 7.1 The starting line shall be between the signal mast of the Committee Boat and an outer distance mark. An orange flag will not be displayed on the signal mast.

- 7.2 If an inner distance mark is used, this shall be shown on the Course Board, and shall count as a starting mark. All boats shall pass between the inner and outer distance marks when starting. The inner distance mark is not necessarily on the starting line.
- 7.3 At the committee's discretion a second Committee Boat may be on station at the outer (port) end of the line, outside the outer distance mark, and not necessarily on the line. This second committee boat shall not count as a starting mark.

## **8 Penalties**

- 8.1 Rule 44.3 shall not apply.
- 8.2 A member of the Protest Committee or its designated observer may take action against a boat observed to have infringed Rule 42, by issuing a verbal warning, or by acting under Rule N1, N2 and N3.
- 8.3 A boat carrying the Protest Committee's designated observer on the water shall fly Flag U.

## **9 The finish**

- 9.1 The finishing line shall be between the Committee Boat signal mast and an outer distance mark, or any mark of the course leaving it on its correct hand. An orange flag will not be displayed on the signal mast, nor will a blue flag be displayed on the Committee Boat.
- 9.2 A boats position and/or time will be recorded for scoring when it crosses the finishing line, having taken all penalties including finishing penalties, either
- a) after completing the number of laps shown on the course board or
  - b) when the shorten course flag applicable to that class is displayed.
- 9.3 Flag K flying on the Committee Boat at the finish indicates that the next race will be sailed "back-to-back".
- 9.4 At the Committee's discretion an alternative Committee Boat may be used for finishing. A description and any identifying signals it may fly will be posted on the Course Board in accordance with SI 3.1 and 3.2.

## **10 Time Limit**

The time limit shall be 90 minutes. Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat or within the time limit, whichever is later, will be scored Did Not Finish. This changes Rule 35.

## **11 Declarations**

Within 30 minutes of the last boat finishing in each race, or if races are sailed "back-to-back" the last race before coming ashore, all competitors shall make a declaration, on the sheet in the Clubroom, that throughout the race all Rules and SI's were obeyed. Competitors who do not start, fail to finish or retire after finishing shall mark the sheet accordingly (DNS, DNF, RAF or RTD are acceptable). Competitors who fail to sign off will be disqualified.

## **12 Protests**

- 12.1 Boats intending to Protest are requested to inform the Race Officer, in the Committee Boat, immediately after finishing.
- 12.2 Protests shall be written on forms available in the Race Office, and shall be delivered to the Officer of the Day within 45 minutes of the time of the last boat's finish. Where competitors from different fleets are involved in the protest, the time shall be measured from the finish of the last boat in any of the fleets involved.

### 13 Scoring

- 13.1 Scoring shall be in accordance with the 'Low Points System' in Rule A4.1.
- 13.2 When fewer than 3 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores. When from 3 to 8 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
- 13.3 When boats in a race are tied at the finishing line, or when the tie results from a handicap system, they will be awarded points for the place for which they tied. Boats in subsequent places will be scored as if the tied boats had not tied. This changes Rule A7.

### 14 Procedure in the event of a large fleet

If the entry is considered too large to sail as one fleet, then at the Committee's discretion the fleet may be divided. Either System 1 or System 2 will be used as described below.

#### 14.1 System 1

- 14.1.1 Boats with odd sail numbers shall form the "Odd" fleet. Boats with even sail numbers shall form the "Even" fleet. If this does not result in reasonably balanced fleets, then the Committee may re-allocate boats to a different fleet.
- 14.1.2 Each fleet will sail a number of qualifying rounds equal to the number of races originally planned minus 1. Qualifying boats, as described in SI 14.1.6 will sail in the final. If 3 races were planned, the start sequence will be as follows;

	Qualifying Round 1	Qualifying Round 2	Final Round
First start	Odd fleet	Even fleet	Final
Second start	Even fleet	Odd fleet	Consolation race

If more than 3 races were planned the qualifying round sequence will be repeated as necessary.

- 14.1.3 Warning flags shall be Flag O for the "Odd" fleet, Flag E for the "Even" fleet. The normal class warning flag shall be used for the Final.
- 14.1.4 The interval between starts shall be announced on the Course Board.
- 14.1.5 Scoring shall be in accordance with SI 13.1. If 3 or more qualifying races are sailed, SI 13.2 will apply.
- 14.1.6 The top 50% of each fleet (rounded upwards) shall qualify for the Final. If there is a tie for the last qualifying place, all tied boats shall qualify.
- 14.1.7 The results in the Final shall be the results for the meeting.
- 14.1.8 If practical, a consolation race will be sailed for the non-qualifiers.

#### 14.2 System 2

- 14.2.1 The fleet will be divided into 4 flights, "A", "B", "C" and "D", of approximately equal size.
- 14.2.2 If 3 races were originally planned, the start sequence shall be as follows;

	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3
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<b>First start</b>	Flights A and B	Flights A and C	Flights A and D
<b>Second start</b>	Flights C and D	Flights B and D	Flights B and C

If more than 3 races were planned the sequence will be repeated as necessary.

- 14.2.3 Warning Flags shall be Flag O for the 1st start in each round, Flag E for the 2nd start. It is the responsibility of each competitor to start with the correct Flight.
- 14.2.4 The interval between starts shall be announced on the Course Board.
- 14.2.5 Scoring shall be in accordance with SI 13.