

# Winsford Flash Sailing Club

Open meeting Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions. Effective from 1st May 2011

## 1. Entry

All entrants must submit a properly completed entry form either prior to the event or on the day of the event with the correct fees.

## 2. Starting time

The start time for the first race will be as advertised or displayed on a notice in the clubhouse. The second and subsequent race(s) on each day will be started at times as determined by the Officer of the Day (OOD).

## 3. Rules

Races will be sailed under The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), International Sailing Federation Rules (ISAF) and the prescriptions of the Royal Yachting Association (RYA), except as modified by these instructions.

Winsford Flash Sailing Club implements the RYA Racing Charter. Competitors should note that they will be required to undertake to sail in compliance with the charter, which can be found at the front of the RYA rule book (The Racing Rules of Sailing for 2009-2012) or on the RYA website.

## 4. Notices and Changes to the Sailing Instructions

Notices and Changes to the Sailing Instructions and Rules will be published on the main notice board in the clubhouse 20 minutes before the start of racing.

## 5. Scoring

The RRS Low Point System will be used as set out in RRS Appendix A. (Class rules and other rules governing the event may modify this. Any changes will be posted on the notice board).

## 6. Number of races to count

One discard will be allowed provided there are a minimum of three races in each series. Where there is a tie it shall be resolved for all positions using the system(s) shown in RRS Appendix A.

## 7. Courses

The configuration of the marks, the order in which marks are to be passed, the side on which each mark is to be left, and the number of laps will be indicated on a course board. This will be located near the ground floor entrance to the clubhouse or on the Committee Boat.

A course displayed on the Committee Boat will be as a series of numbers or letters,

- a) The first number or letter will indicate that the start line is between the mast on the committee boat and that mark.
- b) The next series of numbers or letters will be coloured red or green and will indicate the order in which marks are to be rounded and on which side they should be left i.e. red to port, green to starboard. Where one number or letters are above another on the course board, this will indicate a gate in the course.
- c) The final number will indicate the number of laps to be sailed.

Letters or numbers in a) and c) will be black on a white background or white on a black background.

The course may be shortened, at the discretion of the Officer of the Day during each race either at the finishing line or at any rounding mark.

## 8. Start Line

One of the following will be used:

- a) A line defined by the flag pole on the front of the OOD box and an outer distance mark defined on the course board. An inner distance or limit mark will be laid *approximately* on the starting line.

Or,

- b) A line defined by the mast of the Committee Boat and a buoy, which will also be the outer distance mark. An inner distance mark or limit mark will be laid *approximately* on the starting line: no boat may pass between this mark and the Committee Boat after the Preparatory Signal.

## 9. Starting Signals

Races will be started as described in RRS Part 3 Rule 26.

## 10. Starting Procedure

The first start of each race will be according to normal RRS procedure (see 9. above)

Boats over the line at the start will be recalled by displaying code Flag 'X' and sounding one extra sound signal, no recall numbers will be displayed.

If a General recall is necessary two extra sound signals will be made and the First Substitute Flag will be flown. A sound signal will be made when the First Substitute Flag is lowered. The Preparatory Signal will be made one minute later.

At the discretion of the Officer of the Day the following flags may be flown:

Flag 'I' will be flown to indicate RRS Rule 30.1 is in effect.

Flag 'Z' will be flown to indicate RRS Rule 30.2 is in effect.

The Black Flag will be flown to indicate RRS Rule 30.3 is in effect.

These flags may replace flag 'P' as the Preparatory Signal.

The use of these and other signals will be declared prior to the start of racing.

## 11. Finishing Line

One of the following will be used:

- a) A line defined by the flagpole on the front of the OOD box and an outer distance mark defined on the course board.

or,

- b) A line defined by the mast of the Committee Boat and a nearby mark of the course. The mark of the course and the Committee Boat will be the outer and inner distance marks respectively. The line shall be crossed from the direction of the preceding mark.

## 12. Time Limits

Any race unfinished after 2 hours (2½ hours in long distance races) will be declared null and void. Any boat that does not finish within 30 minutes (34 minutes in long distance races) of the leading boat will be scored 'Did not finish' (DNF). This changes RRS Rule 35.

## 13. Declaration

All helmsmen must sign the Declaration Form within 20 minute of finishing the race.

## 14. Safety Precautions

Life Jackets or Buoyancy Aids must be worn. Failure to do so will result in disqualification.

In the event of a boat accepting assistance from a patrol boat decisions in the priority of assisting the crew and boat will rest with the patrol boat crew.

## 15. Protests

A boat making a protest against another boat or party must do so at the earliest opportunity as detailed in RRS Rule 61.1.

Protests must be made in writing on a form obtainable from the OOD in accordance with RRS Rule 61.2 and must be submitted within 30 minutes of the finish of the race.

## 16. Change of Helmsman or Crew

In a single handed series no change of helmsman will be required.

In a crewed series prior permission of the OOD must be obtained before a change of helmsman or crew can be made. This permission will only be granted in exceptional circumstances.

## 17. Alternative Penalties

The two turn penalty, as provided in RRS Rules 44.1 and 44.2, shall apply as an alternative to disqualification for infringement of a rule of RRS Part 2.

The one turn penalty, as provided in RRS Rules 44.1 and 44.2, shall apply as an alternative to disqualification for infringement of RRS Rule 31. (Touching a mark).

## 18. Zone Area

The RRS Definition of Zone is changed to:

The area around a *mark* within a distance of **two** hull lengths of the boat near to it. A boat is in the *zone* when any part of her hull is in the zone.

## 19. Prizes

Prizes will be awarded depending upon the number of entrants and/or finishers at the discretion of the organisers or class association.

## 20. Disclaimer of Liability

- i) A boat is entirely responsible for its own safety, whether afloat or ashore, and nothing, whether in the Notice of Race or the Sailing Instructions or anywhere else reduces this responsibility.
- ii) It is for the boat to decide whether it is fit to sail in the conditions in which it finds itself. By launching, the boat confirms that it is fit for those conditions and that it is competent to sail and compete in them. See RRS Rule 4. (Decision to Race).
- iii) The boat is required to hold adequate insurance and in particular to hold insurance against third party claims in the sum of £2,000,000.
- iv) Nothing done by the organisers can reduce the responsibility of the boat nor will it make the organisers responsible for any loss, damage, death or personal injury, however it may have occurred, as a result of the boat taking part in the racing. The organisers encompass everyone helping to run the race and the event and include the organising authority, the race committee and patrol boats.
- v) The provision of patrol boats does not relieve the competing boat of its responsibilities.
- vi) The Club will not accept any liability for any damage to or loss of property belonging to any member, visitor or their guests. During their sojourn at the club visiting sailors and their supporters shall abide by the rules of the club.

The map below gives a general layout of the lake and marks. It is for use as a guide only; the position of the marks may differ although the numerical order will remain the same. The shaded area indicates shallows.

