



*inspiring generations afloat*

# CYC CLUB CRUISER RACING

Organising Authority – CYC  
Waterside, Brightlingsea

## **SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

### **1 RULES**

1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS).

### **2 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

2.1 Any change in the sailing instructions will be posted a minimum of 1 hour before the scheduled race on that day, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 20.00 on the day before it will take effect.

### **3 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS**

3.1 Notices to Competitors will be posted on the official notice board located at the CYC Club house.

3.2 Communications will also be made on the Official CYC Racing WhatsApp group.

3.3 VHF Channel 37/M1 shall be monitored at all times. Failure to receive communications shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.4 b 1.

3.4 (DP) From the first warning signal until the end of the last race of the day, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

### **4 CODE OF CONDUCT**

4.1 Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from event officials. Failure to comply may be misconduct. (DP).

### **5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed by boards or at a halyard on the Bateman' Tower. Signals may be repeated on the flagpole on the CYC Jetty.

5.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes' in the race signal AP.

## **6 SCHEDULE**

6.1 Races will be scheduled as indicated on the CYC Race calendar as posted on the CYC website, giving start times as appropriate.

6.2 The O.A. and/or the R.C. reserve the right to modify the programme due to weather conditions or other causes.

## **7 RACING AREA**

7.1 The racing area will be in the Colne Estuary, Blackwater Estuary and Wallet.

## **8 THE COURSES**

8.1 The courses to be sailed shall be those on the CYC Course card. The Course Letter shall be displayed on the front of Bateman's Tower.

8.2 The RO, may set a special course which will be indicated by the display of a board with a blue diagonal cross and the details will be announced on the VHF Channel 37/M1.

8.3 Average Lap Racing: The Cock of the River Series will use average lap racing. An Orange and White striped board will be displayed on Bateman's Tower to indicate it will be an Average Lap Race. For Average Lap races all boats with a YTC WS Rating of >1000 1 lap, boats with YTC WS rating <1000 2 Laps.

8.4 Races to finish on the CYC line in Brightlingsea Creek shall be announced before start on VHF Channel 37/M1 and by the display of a Yellow board on Bateman's Tower.

### **8.5 PURSUIT RACES:**

1. Start times will be published by CYC. Boats shall sign on at CYC at least 2 hours before the advertised finish time, or at least 10 minutes before their start by VHF Channel 37/M1 to the Race Officer.
2. If the RO is not in Bateman's Tower, they will set a course by VHF. Boats are then expected to start themselves using an accurate device.
3. If the RO is in Bateman's they will display Code Flag C with three sound signals as a time check, 1hr and 45 mins before the published finish time.
4. The RO will endeavour to inform the first boat of their scheduled start time by VHF, with a 4 min preparatory signal and start signal. Subsequent starts will be by a sound signal.
5. The RO will inform the fleet when the race has 5 mins to run. If possible, the RO will count down to the finish time on the VHF.
6. The RO will attempt to spot finish positions if they are in Bateman's tower. Boats shall record the boat in front and the boat behind them at the finish time. If possible, they should record their GPS position, Est time to the next mark and time.
7. The boat closest to the next mark of the course shall be deemed in the lead.
8. Boats shall report their assumed finishing position to the RO by VHF or at CYC as soon as possible.
9. Downwind sail shall not be used for pursuit races unless specifically stated on the official notice board.

## **9 MARKS**

- 9.1 Some of the Marks used for racing and indicated on the course card, are laid and maintained by Brightlingsea Sailing Club, West Mersea Yacht Club and Dabchicks Sailing Club. Be aware these clubs' members may be using their marks at the same time as CYC.

## **10 LOCAL NAVIGATION REQUIREMENTS AND AREAS OF OBSTRUCTION**

- 10.1 Competitors are reminded of their personal responsibilities for complying with International and National Regulations and Local by-laws governing marine navigation.
- 10.2 Abridged extract from the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at sea, 1972:

*"A boat shall not impede the passage of a vessel which can safely navigate only within a narrow channel or fairway. A boat shall not cross a narrow channel or fairway if such crossing impedes the passage of a vessel which can safely navigate only within a narrow channel or fairway. The latter vessel may use five short and rapid blasts of her sound signal if she is in doubt as to the intention of a crossing boat."*

## **11 THE START**

- 11.1 Races will be started in accordance with RRS 26 with the Warning Signal 5 minutes before the start.
- 11.2 The start line is defined by a triangle atop a pole on Bateman's Tower and a transit triangular mark fixed to the promenade railings. Transits on the Mersea Shore at the far end of the line are indicative but not definitive.
- 11.3 The start line will be divided into two start lines, East & West. Line. The East start line is to the east of the Limit Mark. The West start line is to the west of the Limit Mark. With tidal drift, the limit mark may not be on the defined start line.
- 11.4 Two or more boats shall be in the start area before the warning signal. If not, the RO may apply 6.2.
- 11.5 A boat that does not start within 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1. & A 5.2
- 11.6 Following an individual recall, a boat may request via VHF Channel 37/M1, confirmation that she has now started correctly.
- 11.7 A boat may use her engine, be towed or paddled after her preparatory signal, to reach the starting area. If so, she shall take the following actions:
- a) Stops her engine, drops her tow or stops paddling before the starting signal AND
  - b) then completes a 360-degree turn before starting AND
  - c) Reports the incident to the Race Officer.

## **12 CHANGING THE COURSE & SHORTENING COURSE**

- 12.1 A change of the course will be announced on VHF Channel 37/M1. For a shortened course Code Flag/Board S will also be displayed from Bateman's Tower.

### **13 THE FINISH**

- 13.1 The finish Line is the Bateman's Tower line, leaving the Limit Mark (East or West) as per the start.

### **14 PENALTY SYSTEM**

- 14.1 The Scoring Penalty, RRS 44.3, will apply.

### **15. TIME LIMITS**

- 15.1 The time limit for all races other than long distance shall be 4 hours. Boats failing to finish within 2 hours of the first boat to finish, shall record their own finishing time and inform the Race Officer at the CYC as soon as possible and within 1 hour of their finish time, Failure to do so will result in the boat being scored DNF. This changes RRS 35.
- 15.2 There is no time limit for designated long-distance races. Boats shall record their own finishing time and inform the Race Officer at the CYC as soon as possible and within 1 hour of their finish time, Failure to do so will result in the boat being scored DNF. This changes RRS 35.

### **16 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**

- 16.1 The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day. ALSO, Intent to protest shall be communicated to the Race Officer within 15 minutes of the boat finishing. This may be by VHF Channel 37/M1 or by mobile phone.
- 16.2 Protests shall be in writing using the World Sailing or RYA forms. Hearing request forms are available at the CYC or can be downloaded from <http://www.rya.org.uk/racing/templates> . Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered to the Race Officer or their representative at the CYC, within the protest time limit.
- 16.3 Parties involved in a protest will be contacted no later than 60 minutes after the protest time limit to inform them of a hearing in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be organised as soon as possible, but this may not be on the same day.
- 16.4 Notices of protests by the race committee or protest committee will be informed as in 16.3.
- 16.5 Breaches of sailing instructions 10, 15, 18, 20 and 24, will not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1. Penalties for breaches of these and the class rules may be less than disqualification if the protest committee so decides. The scoring abbreviation for a discretionary penalty imposed under this instruction will be DP.

### **17. SCORING**

- 17.1 The RYA YTC Ratings will be used to calculate finishing positions
- 17.2 One race is required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 17.3 Discards shall be calculated on the number of races sailed as follows:  
(A boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst scores from races completed, as follows:

<i>Races completed:</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
<i>Scores excluded:</i>	0	0	0	1	1	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	4	4
<i>Scores to count</i>	1	2	3	3	4	4	5	6	7	7	8	9	10	10	11

17.4 **NON-SPINNAKER:**

Competitors may declare that they will continue to race in a series without a downwind spinnaker or gennaker. Once declared, a boat shall not use a downwind sail for the remainder of the series. Failure will result in the boat being scored DSQ without a hearing. The RYA YTC Rating will be adjusted to reflect the sail wardrobe used.

17.5 **COCK of the RIVER SERIES:**

The Cock of the River Series will us average lap racing. Each boat will be categorised as “above the line” or “below the line” on the CYC list of YTC Ratings. Boats listed below the line will sail 2 laps of the given course and boats listed above the line will sail 1 lap of the given course. The Sailing Committee may designate other races as average lap races.

**18 SAFETY REGULATIONS**

- 18.1 Boats shall ‘sign on’ not less than 60 minutes before the scheduled start time. The signing on sheet shall be in the frame outside the CYC door or in the foyer. For starts from Bateman’s Tower, boats may also sign on by VHF Channel 37/M1. If a boat fails to sign on but races, they will be scored DSQ without a hearing.
- 18.2 When signing on the boat shall declare the total number of crew on board. If the number changes between signing on ashore and arriving in the start area, this change shall be reported to the Race Officer by VHF Channel 37/M1.
- 18.3 Boats that retire from racing shall inform the Race Officer by VHF Channel 37/M1 as soon as they stop racing.
- 18.4 Anchors shall be securely stowed such that they do not project over the gunwale or stem head.

**19 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS**

- 19.1 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and rating certificate.

**20 TRASH DISPOSAL**

- 20.1 Trash shall be kept on board and brought ashore after the race to be disposed of.

**21 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

- 21.1 Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3, Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

Rule 3 of the RRS states “the responsibility for a boat’s decision to participate in a race or to continue to race 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 while taking part in the event.
- (b) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and other property whether afloat or ashore.
- (c) They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss 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.

N.B When applicable, parents or guardians of competitors under 16 years old will be required to take full responsibility for their dependents throughout the event and to sign the parental permission form provided at registration.

## **22 PRIZES**

22.1 Trophies – perpetual or individual - will be given to the winner and other boats at the discretion of the organisers.

## **24 INSURANCE**

24.1 It is the responsibility of the owner or person in charge of each participating boat to ensure that the boat carries adequate valid third-party liability insurance to cover racing in all circumstances and for every event or the equivalent. The CYC may choose to set a minimum figure on their registration documents.