

# THORPE BAY YACHT CLUB

## Sandhopper National Championships

19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> August 2016

### Sailing Instructions

#### 1. Rules

- 1.1. The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing, the prescriptions of the RYA, the rules of the class, except if any of these are changed by these sailing instructions.

#### 2. Notices to Competitors

- 2.1. Notices will be posted on the official notice board located in the clubhouse lobby.

#### 3. Changes to Sailing Instructions

- 3.1. Any changes to the sailing instructions will be posted at least 2 hours before the start of a race they affect, except that any change in the schedule of races will be posted by 20.00 hours on the day before it will take effect.

#### 4. Signals Made Ashore

- 4.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagstaff in front of the clubhouse.  
4.2. When Flag AP is displayed ashore, 'one minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes' in race signal AP. This changes the Race Signals in the Rules.

#### 5. Schedule of Races

- 5.1. The schedule of races is:

Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> August		High Water – 14:04
Registration from 09.30	Briefing – 10:00 in the clubhouse	
	Warning Signal	Time
Race 1	Sandhopper Class: NN0	11.25
Race 2 will take place as soon as possible after completion of Race 1		

Saturday 20 <sup>th</sup> August		High Water – 14:44
	Warning Signal	Time
Race 3	Sandhopper Class: NN0	12:10
Race 4 will take place as soon as possible after completion of Race 3		

Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> August		High Water – 15:24
	Warning Signal	Time
Race 5	Sandhopper Class: NN0	12:55
Race 6 will take place as soon as possible after completion of Race 5.		

- 5.2. To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, the postponement signal may be displayed before the warning signal is displayed.

## 6. Class Flags

6.1. The class warning signal will be NNO

## 7. Racing Area

7.1. The racing area is located in the Thames Estuary to the south of the clubhouse.

## 8. The Course

8.1. The course configuration and order of rounding marks will be as follows:

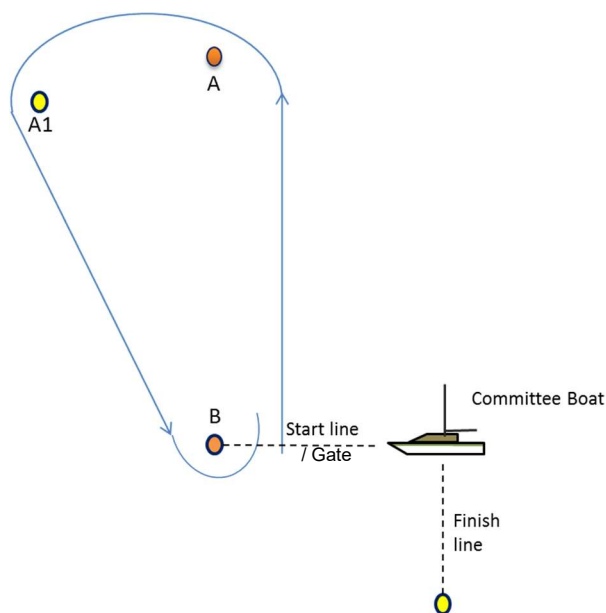
A (port), A1 (port), B (port) (This is one round)

All boats must pass between Mark B and the Committee Boat on each lap prior to the finish

After completing the required number of rounds, proceed to the finish line

Course diagram not to scale and for information only

Mark A is the intended windward mark



8.2. The number of rounds to be sailed will be displayed at the stern of Committee Boat before the Warning signal.

8.3. The approximate magnetic bearing of Mark A from the midpoint of the start line may be displayed on a board on the Committee Boat before the warning signal.

## 9. Marks

9.1. Marks will normally be large orange or yellow inflatable buoys.

## 10. The Start

10.1. The start line is defined as the line between the mast on a Committee Boat displaying an orange flag and an outer starting line mark, normally of the orange or yellow inflatable type.

10.2. At the discretion of the Race Officer, a boat starting later than five minutes after her start signal will be scored 'DNS' without a hearing. This changes Rule A4.

## 11. Change Of The Next Leg Of The Course

11.1. To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will move the original mark (or the finishing line) to a new position.

## 12. The Finish

12.1. The finishing line will be between the mast on a Committee Boat displaying an orange flag and the finish line mark.

## 13. Time Limit

13.1. The time limit for a boat will be 20 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes, except that if the first boat fails to finish within 120 minutes of a valid start, the race will be abandoned.

13.2. Boats failing to finish within the 20 minutes time limit may, at the Race Committee's discretion, be given a place based on their relative position at the 20 minute time limit or if this isn't practical, from their previous lap following on from the results of those boats that did finish within the time limit. If neither of these options is practicable the boat will be scored DNF without a hearing. This changes rules 35, A4 and A5.

#### **14. Protests**

- 14.1.** Protests shall be written on forms available on request to the Race Committee and delivered to a member of the Race Committee within 90 minutes of the last boat of her class finishing the last race of the day.
- 14.2.** A schedule of protest hearings will be displayed on the official notice board within 2 hours of the finish of the last race of the day. Further protest hearings may be added to the schedule. This is the notice under RRS 63.2.

#### **15. Scoring**

- 15.1.** When fewer than 6 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores. When 6 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

#### **16. Safety**

- 16.1.** It is the responsibility of the helmsman of each yacht to ensure that its departure for racing and its subsequent return are recorded on the Declaration Form provided at the top of the slipway or in the nearby Bosun's Hut, whether or not the yacht starts or completes a race. Helmsmen must sign-off on the Declaration Form within one hour of coming ashore, within one hour of finishing the race, or within one hour of finishing the last race of the day if races are sailed back-to-back. If more than one race is scheduled helmsmen must sign-off separately for each race they completed, or indicate DNS or DNF as appropriate. Failure to sign off on the Declaration Form will result in disqualification.
- 16.2.** RRS40 is changed, flag Y will not be used. Competitors shall wear personal flotation devices at all times whilst afloat, except briefly while changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment as prescribed in rule 40. Wetsuits or dry suits are not adequate personal buoyancy.

#### **17. Replacement of crew or equipment**

- 17.1.** Substitution of competitors will not be allowed without prior approval of the race committee.
- 17.2.** The same number of persons shall be on board for all races. Any change of helm from the official entry form will constitute a separate entry in the terms of the overall result for the championship.

#### **18. Equipment and measurement checks**

- 18.1.** A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions. On the water, a boat can be instructed by a race committee equipment inspector or measurer to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.

#### **19. Support boats**

- 19.1.** Team leaders, coaches and other support personnel shall stay outside areas where boats are racing from the time of the preparatory signal for the first start until all boats have finished or retired or the Race Committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment.

#### **20. Radio Communications**

- 20.1.** Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile phones.

#### **21. Prizes**

- 21.1.** Prizes will be awarded for each member of the crews for places as determined by the Race Committee based on the entry to the event.

#### **22. Rights To Use Name and Likeness**

- 22.1.** By participating in this event, competitors automatically grant to the organising authority and the event sponsors the right in perpetuity to make, use and show any photography, audio and video recordings, and other reproductions of them made at the venue, without compensation.

## **23. Risk statement**

**23.1.** Rule 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 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, umpires and other officials and volunteers by the 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.

## **24. Insurance**

**24.1.** Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third party liability insurance with a minimum of £2,000,000 per incident or the equivalent.