



THORPE BAY YACHT CLUB

Sprint 15 TT Open Meeting, 19th February 2022

Sailing Instructions

1. Rules

- 1.1. The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the prescriptions of the RYA, the rules of the class, except if any of these are changed by these sailing instructions and the supplementary sailing instructions.
- 1.2. Competitors should note that Thorpe Bay Yacht Club implements the RYA Racing Charter and 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 (Racing Rules of Sailing 2021 - 2024).

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 1 hour 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 using flags on the shore box gantry or using boards on the front of the shore box. For postponements displayed on shore, instructions for revised race start times will be written on the blackboard at the side of the Bosun's Hut.

5. Schedule of Races

- 5.1. The schedule of races will be stated in the notice of race.

6. Class Flags

- 6.1. Class flag will be International Code Flag D. **Boards will be used in place of flags.**

7. Racing Area

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

8. The Course– Shore Box Start

- 8.1. Unless otherwise stated in the supplementary sailing instructions the course configuration and order of rounding of marks will be as follows:
 - 8.1.1. The Course will be displayed on a black or whiteboard at the top of the Slipway. The course shall consist of a minimum of 4 legs, with one leg consisting of a beat.
 - 8.1.2. Race Marks will be large orange or yellow and red spherical buoys (club marks) or yellow or orange cylindrical type inflatable buoys (special marks).
 - 8.1.3. All boats must pass through the start/finish line on each lap. **When crossing the line, the Distance Mark shall include both East & West marks, if laid.**

- 8.1.4. A coloured flag will be flown from the Race Box to indicate the way in which marks will be rounded: red – round marks to port; green – round marks to starboard. A port hand course should be used whenever possible.
- 8.1.5. The number of rounds will not be displayed – boats should race until the Shortened Course board is displayed (Code Flag S). Boats will finish the race the first time they pass through the Start / Finish line once the Shortened Course board is displayed.

9. The Start – Shore Box Start

- 9.1.** The start line, unless otherwise specified, will be a line through the clubhouse transit mark and the vertical mark on the race Officers box and will be limited by the Distance Mark Pole. The East and West marks, if laid, have no effect during the start.
- 9.2.** A boat starting later than four minutes after her start signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes Rule A4.
- 9.3.** The start sequence shall be as set out below. This changes RRS 26:
- 3 minute to start – Class board displayed
 - 2 minute to start – Prep board displayed
 - 1 minute to start – Prep Flag board removed (or covered)
 - Start – Class board removed (or covered)

10. Change Of The Next Leg of The Course

- 10.1.** To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will move the original mark (or the finishing line) to a new position.
- 10.2.** Signalling the direction of change: RRS 33 (a) (2) is changed: a green or red flag will be displayed to indicate that the mark has been moved to starboard or port.

11. Abandonment

- 11.1.** At the discretion of the Race Committee an abandoned race may be cancelled, re-sailed or decided on the result when a majority of starting yachts last completed a round.

12. Penalty System

- 12.1.** A penalty shall comprise one turn including one tack and one gybe. This changes RRS 44.1.

13. Time Limit

- 13.1.** The time limit shall be 45 minutes from the starting signal for the first boat.
- 13.2.** Boats failing to finish within 20 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes RRS 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 one hour of the last boat 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** One race constitutes a series.
- 15.2** When fewer than 3 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- 15.3** When 3 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

15.4 Results will be calculated on the Portsmouth Yardstick handicap scheme using the following PY numbers:

Boat	PY
Sprint 15	926
Sprint 15 Sport	894

16. Safety Regulations

- 16.1.** Check out and check in: it is the responsibility of the helmsman of each boat 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 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 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 will result in disqualification.
- 16.2.** Personal flotation devices: 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. Wetsuits or drysuits are not adequate personal buoyancy. Failure to comply with this rule will result in disqualification without a hearing. This changes rule 63.1

17. Event Advertising

Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organizing authority. The regatta is designated Category C Advertising Category.

18. Radio Communications

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 telephones.

19. Prizes

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.

20. Risk Statement

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.'

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 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;
- (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 competitors briefing held for the event.

21. Insurance

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £2 million per incident or the equivalent.

22. DATA PROTECTION

22.1 As part of entering this event your results will be published in the public domain and may be given to the RYA for their Portsmouth Yardstick scheme and to the Class Association. While your results contain personal data, it is normal practice to expect that, when entering an event, your results will be published, and this is a condition of entry. It is therefore part of the contract to provide you with race entry and administration that we will publish the results, which may include such information such as sail number, sailing club, age and gender (if there are age and gender related results).

22.2 Competitors automatically grant to the organizing authority without payment the right in perpetuity to make, use and show any motion pictures, still pictures and live, taped or filmed television of or relating to the event.

23. Covid Compliance

By entering the series it is understood that you will have read all of Thorpe Bay Yacht Club's Covid risk assessments and guidance notes regarding all aspects of club activities. As a competitor you agree to abide by these guidance notes and policies