

THORPE BAY YACHT CLUB

Winter Series 2025 - Frozen Sheets & Icicle Series 2026 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

Racing will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing, the prescriptions of the RYA, the appropriate class rules, these sailing instructions, the Thorpe Bay Yacht Club Sailing Programme, and any supplementary sailing instructions issued.

2. ENTRIES

2.1 Eligibility

Races will be open to Club members and approved affiliates only. Any helmsman signing the declaration form and sailing a race will be deemed to have entered the series.

2.1 a A change of class or sail configuration within that class will be treated as a separate entry for the series

2.1 b A change of sail, spars, hull or appendages shall not be deemed as a separate entry for the series

2.1 c For double (or more) handed boats, crew may be substituted within a series, this will not be treated as a separate entry so long as 1 of the original crew entered in the series remains onboard.

2.2 Disclaimer of Liability

Competitors participate entirely at their own risk. See Rule 4, Decision to Race. The organising authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during or after racing.

2.3. Insurance

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum of £2,000,000 per event or equivalent

2.4 Personal safety

Rule 40 is changed; flag Y will not be used. Competitors shall wear a personal flotation device (PFD) whilst afloat. Wetsuits and drysuits are not adequate personal buoyancy. For winter series racing suitable clothing must be worn. A full wetsuit is a minimum requirement. Failure to wear a PFD will result in disqualification except briefly while changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment as prescribed in rule 40.

2.5 Measurement or Rating Certificates

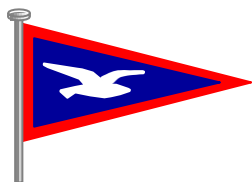
Before a yacht is eligible to race, where applicable her valid measurement or rating certificate shall be available for inspection by a member of the Sailing Committee.

2.6 Distinguishing Numbers

Under exceptional circumstances and by prior arrangement, the Race Committee may permit a yacht to use sails carrying a distinguishing number other than that required by rule 77.

2.7 Declaration Form.

It is the responsibility of the helmsman of each yacht to ensure that its departure and return are recorded on the White Declaration Form provided at the top of the slipway or in the Bosun's Hut, whether or not the yacht starts or completes the race. Helmsmen must sign-off 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, DNF or RTD as appropriate. **Failure to sign off may result in disqualification.**



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3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located in the clubhouse lobby.

4. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any changes to these sailing instructions will be posted for at least one hour prior to the amendment taking effect. Such notice will be posted on the official notice board located in the Clubhouse lobby.

5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

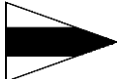
Signals made ashore will be displayed using flags on the shore box gantry or using boards on the front of the shore box. For postponements displayed on shore, instructions for revised race start times will be written on the blackboard at the side of the Bosun's Hut.

6. SCHEDULE OF RACES

The details of all races for the Winter 2025, Frozen Sheets Race and Icicle 2026 and their starting times are given in the Club's sailing programme. Please check Club Notice Board for any amendments which will also be published on the Club Website and Facebook. At the race officers discretion, a minimum number of 6 boats (of any class or mix of classes) will be required for any race to go ahead.

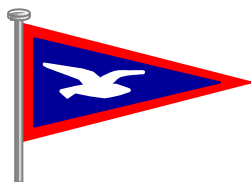
7. CLASS OR FLEETS

The Class/Fleets and warning flags will be: -

Class	Fleet/Start	Definition		Visual Signal
W/L	1	Fast Catamarans PN < 850 Asymmetric monohull PN < 930 Foiling Classes		D
Cat	2	Dartt 15 and Catamarans > PN 864		NNO
Mono	3	Asymmetric Monohull PY > 930 All Non Asymmetric Monohull		3 rd substitute
Cadets	3	All Boats Sailed by cadet members under 18yrs		
Frozen Sheets Race		All boats		R

8. RACING AREA

The racing area is located on the River Thames Estuary to the south of the Clubhouse.



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9.0 THE COURSE

9.1 The Course – Shore Box Starts – All Winter Series Racing

Note: Windward / Leeward courses are not always possible from the shorebox and a turning mark may be required.

Class	Course
Hurricane 5.9 SX & Asymmetric	A, D
Dart 15	A, B, C, D
Monohull & Cadets	A, C, D

9.2 The Course for each race will be displayed on a black or whiteboard at the top of the Slipway. The course shall consist of a minimum of 2 legs, with one leg comprising of a beat. It may be necessary to add a turning mark for the Windward / Leeward Class.

9.3 Race Marks will be large orange or yellow and red spherical buoys (club marks) or yellow or orange cylindrical type inflatable buoys (special marks).

9.4 The course or courses will be designated for each separate class (even if the courses are the same) on the blackboard at the West end of the Bosun's Hut.

9.5 All boats must pass through the start/finish line on each lap.

9.6 A port hand course will be used even if that requires a downwind start.

9.7 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. approximately **35-45 minutes** when 2 races are sailed back-to-back or approximately **60-70 minutes** for a single race,

10. THE START

10.1 Starting Procedure

The starting procedure will be in accordance with rule 26, modified so that signals are made at 1-minute intervals in the following order (3,2,1 Start):

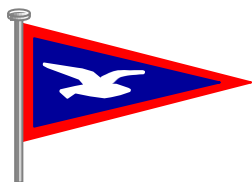
Hurricane 5.9 SX & Asymmetric	Published start time
Dart 15	Published start time + 3 minutes
Monohulls & Cadets	Published start time + 6 minutes

For Shore Box starts, the start sequence 'flags' will be displayed on **boards** on the front of the shore box. Flags on the gantry will **not** be used for the start sequence.

10.2 Starting Line – Shore Box Start

The starting line will be defined as the Centre vertical pole flying an Orange flag on the Race Officers' box and pin end will be stated on the blackboard, the Distance Mark Pole or Orange Inflate Buoy.

10.3 Boats shall keep clear of the starting area except during their own starting procedure.



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10.4 At the discretion of the Race Officer, a boat starting later than 2 minutes after her starting signal may be scored Did Not Start. This changes rule A4.

11. SHORTEN COURSE AND 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.

12.0 Time Limit – Other Races

A boat which fails to finish the course within 60 minutes of the start may, at the discretion of the Race Officer, be finished on the course or be deemed to have retired and will be shown as DNF. This changes rule 35.

13 PROTESTS

13.1 Protest forms are available at the Race Officer's box. Protests shall be delivered to a member of the Race Committee within the protest time limit. For each class, the protest time limit is 60 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day. Protestors shall inform the protested of their intent to protest and the parties concerned should ascertain the time and place of the hearing before leaving. Protests should but not necessarily, be held the same day.

14 SCORING

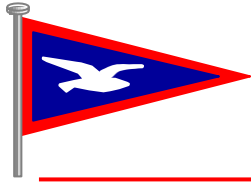
14.1 Results for handicap races will be calculated on the Portsmouth Yardstick handicap scheme, using PY numbers published by the RYA or approved by the Sailing Committee. Club points series results for multihull fleets may use an alternative handicap system which will be declared in advance of the series and a notice to identify which system is to be used will be displayed on the official notice board located in the clubhouse lobby.

14.2 Where necessary results will be calculated based on average lap times. 'Same PN adjustment' will not be applied in series races but may be applied at the discretion of the Race Committee in Trophy Races. This changes Appendix A.

14.3 The number of races scheduled in a series is defined by the TBYC Sailing Programme. Three races shall be completed to constitute a valid series. Each boat's series score will be the total of her race scores, discarding a number of her worst scores equal to one-quarter of the number of races sailed, rounded down to a whole number.

14.4 Participation in the Winter and Icicle Series is conditional upon each crew completing one assigned duty during the Winter or Icicle series.

14.5 Crews who have entered the series races can claim average points for a race if they are undertaking any of the club race duties (except Duty Officer) on that day. Average points (RDG1) can be claimed by "signing on" indicating "Duty" on the Declaration Form on the day. Boats that can alter the size or configuration of their rig shall declare their intended rig configuration that they will use on their entry form and may not change their configuration or rig during either series (excluding the Frozen Sheets)



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17 PRIZES

17.1 Prizes will be awarded for Club races at the discretion of the Sailing Committee. In the event of a tie any perpetual trophy awarded will be shared.

17.2 The dates and times of prize giving will be published on the website / Facebook or displayed on the notice in the Club entrance hall.

18 PHOTOGRAPHY/ VIDEO RECORDINGS

18.1 In entering any event under these sailing instructions an entrant must accept that the club has the right, in perpetuity, to use and show any photography, audio and video recordings, and other reproductions of them made at the venue, without compensation.