WALDRINGFIELD SAILING CLUB ("WSC") -

OPEN MEETING SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1 Rules

The regatta will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing for 2021-2024 ("RRS") as issued by World Sailing, the prescriptions of the Royal Yachting Association, the RYA Racing Charter, the rules of the classes racing, except as any of these are changed by these sailing instructions and by official notices posted in accordance with paragraph 4.

2 Entries

2.1 Eligible boats for this regatta are listed on the Notice of Race. They may be entered by completing registration with the organising authority.

2.2 All boats will be recognised afloat through their sail number, which shall be registered on the entry form. In no circumstances shall a boat be allowed to use the same sail number as another competing boat in the same class. Permission to change sail numbers during the meeting shall be obtained from the Race Officer.

2.3 RRS 46 is amended. An entrant shall be the person in charge and shall be aboard his/her boat for all qualifying races.

2.4 A crew may not be changed without the permission of the Race Officer

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3 Notices to Competitors

Notices to Competitors shall be posted on the official race notice board located at the Clubhouse.

4 Changes in Sailing Instructions

Any changes to the sailing instructions shall be posted on the official notice board at the Clubhouse not later than the time the relevant course is displayed.

5 Signals Made Ashore and Afloat

Signals can either be made ashore from the Crow's Nest or afloat from a committee boat.

6 Safety

RRS 40 is modified as follows: Adequate personal buoyancy shall be worn by **all** dinghy competitors when afloat. Wet suits and non-inflated inflation type buoyancy aids are not sufficient. As a minimum, keelboats shall carry adequate personal buoyancy for the number of crew aboard. **It is the responsibility of the parent or guardian of junior members to ensure compliance with this rule.** Failure to comply with this rule will result in immediate disqualification from the race.

7 Schedule of Races

Races are scheduled as per the Notice of Race.

8 Class Flags

Class flags shall be as stated in the Notice of Race.

9 The Course

9.1 The Course shall either be displayed on the fixed course board outside the Clubhouse or on the mobile board located on the committee boat at the start line. Should any discrepancy occur between the written and drawn courses, the written version shall prevail. When the mobile course board is being used, the course displayed there shall prevail.

9.2 Whilst afloat the race committee may alter a course from that previously displayed on the course board. Code flag R, together with a sound signal, shall mean that a new course has been set and is displayed from a course board on the committee boat.

10 Entering etc Requirements

10.1 All competing helms shall before their preparatory signal, enter their boat's sail number, own and crew's name using the online entry form or at the Reception desk, and notify the Race Officer of any changes

10.2 Any competitor under 18 years must have a parental consent form signed by parent or guardian either on-line or at the Reception Desk.

10.3 **Within 30 minutes** of the end of the race, any retirements shall be entered on the Retirement Form on the Declaration Board and the Race Officer or Safety team informed.

11 The Start

11.1 Races shall be started in accordance with the Notice of Race and the RRS, except that RRS 26 signals are altered as follows:

Warning/Preparatory Signal	Class Flag and Flag P* displayed,	1 sound	3 min before start
One minute Signal	Flag P removed	1 sound	1 min before start
Start Signal	Class flag removed	1 sound	start

*N.B. Flag P may be substituted by Flag I (RRS 30.1), Flag Z (RRS 30.2), Flag U (RRS 30.3), Flags Z and I together, or Black Flag (RRS 30.4).

Succeeding classes will be started at three-minute intervals by displaying the Warning and Preparatory Signal with the Starting Signal for the proceeding class.

Times shall be taken from the visual signals; the failure of a sound signal shall be disregarded.

11.2 RRS 29.2 is altered. In the event of any general recall(s), those races shall be started after the last scheduled start in order of their recalls. The Class Warning Signal shall be given at the Starting Signal of the last scheduled start. If the last class to start is recalled, its Warning Signal shall be displayed one minute after the General Recall Signal has been removed.
11.3 The Club start/finish line is from the mast displaying an orange flag in front of the Crow's Nest in transit with two white posts with triangular top marks on the island.
11.4 A biased line may be used instead of the club line for starting races only, by substituting for the fixed transit posts on the island an outer limit mark displaying an orange flag forming a line with the Crow's Nest mast. This line shall be specified on the course board.
11.5 The start line/finish line may be established from a mast displaying an orange flag on a committee boat to an outer limit mark also displaying an orange flag or to an independent buoy.
11.6 A Guard Buoy mark may be laid adjacent to the committee boat. It shall be regarded as a mark of the course.
11.7 No boat may pass between it and the committee boat after its Warning signal. The space between the Committee Boat and the Guard Buoy is not an obstruction for the purposes of RRS 18, 19, 20. A boat that breaks this rule shall exonerate itself by completing one full turn before starting or finishing correctly as the case may be.

12 Race Time Limit

RRS 35 shall not apply. The race duration time limit shall be 1.5 hours for each class. Boats must finish within 20 minutes of the finishing time of the leading boat in that class, otherwise they shall be scored "Did Not Finish".

13 The Finish

The finishing line shall ***either*** be at the Club start/finish line as defined in Rule11.3 ***or*** at a Committee Boat line as defined in Rule 11.5. The Committee Boat shall indicate it is on station at the finish line by flying a blue flag.

14 Scoring and Discards

14.1 RRS 44.3 Scoring Penalties shall not apply.
14.2 The series will be scored as provided in RRS Appendix A using the 'Low Points' system. If 5 races are completed, a boat's worst score shall be excluded. If 4 or fewer races are completed, all scores shall be included.

15 Contact with moored boats.

For the purpose of this rule all moored boats shall be regarded as obstructions.
15.1 A boat which is racing any part of whose equipment makes contact with any part of a moored boat shall:
i) Execute a 360 degree turn when safe to do so and in any event before the next Turning Mark of the Course, or
ii) Retire, or
iii) Protest if she was forced to make contact by a boat that should have kept clear.
15.2 If contact occurred between any part of the racing boat and the moored boat, the Entrant shall cause an entry of the fact to be made on an *Incident Report Form* in the Clubhouse within one hour of the Finish of the last boat in the last race of the day giving the following information:
i) The name, address, telephone number and sail number of the boat which was racing and made contact with a moored boat, and
ii) Some identification of the moored boat concerned, and
iii) A note of the damage, if any.
15.3 An incident where a collision, between any part of a racing boat and a moored boat is avoided by fending off by the crew, does not require completion of an *Incident Report Form* to be made.
15.4 Failure to complete an *Incident Report Form* when such a report is required by Rule 15.2 will result in disqualification from that race.

16 Protests

16.1 Protesting boats shall advise the Race Committee when finishing and receive an acknowledgement. Protests shall be written on forms available at the Entry Desk and delivered there within one hour of the last boat finishing that class race. In the event of back to back races the forms shall be delivered within one hour of the last boat finishing the last class race.
16.2 Protest notices shall be posted on the Official Notice Board within 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors where and when there is a hearing in which they are parties to a protest or named as witnesses.

17 Risk Statement

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:
17.1 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;
17.2 They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;
17.3 They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;
17.4 Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
17.5 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;
17.6 The provision of safety boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances;
17.7 Their boat is adequately insured with cover of at least £2,000,000 against third party claims.