



# HUNTS SAILING CLUB

Harrison Way, St Ives, Cambridgeshire, PE27 4YA

## SAILING INSTRUCTIONS FOR OPEN MEETINGS

### 1 RULES

The Open Meeting will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing. Hunts SC implements the RYA Racing Charter and competitors will be required to undertake to sail in compliance with the Charter, which can be found at the front of the RYA rule book.

### 2 ENTRY

Entries to the Open Meeting will only be accepted once the entry form has been completed and the entry fee paid.

### 3 DECLARATIONS

Helmsmen must enter their name and boat details on the race entry form provided prior to each race unless otherwise advised by the Race Officer. There is no requirement to sign off on completion of each race unless a helmsman has retired from the race, in which case this should be noted on the race entry form.

### 4 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS AND CHANGES TO THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Notices to competitors, including changes to the Sailing Instructions, will be posted on or adjacent to the race board in the clubhouse at least 30 minutes before the scheduled start of racing. Flag L will be displayed to indicate that a notice or change has been posted.

### 5 PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICES

Personal flotation devices shall be worn at all times when on the water. Wetsuits and Drysuits are not personal flotation devices. Flag Y will not be displayed; this is an amendment to Rule 40.

### 6 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

Signals made ashore will be displayed on the mast of the Race Box.

### 7 SCHEDULE OF RACES

For Open Meetings held on a Saturday, the scheduled start time of the first race will be 11.00 am. For open meetings held alongside HSC Club Racing on Sundays, the first start will be part of the sequence starting at 11.30.

A briefing for competitors will be held approximately 30 minutes before the scheduled time of the first race, when sequences, class flags used and timings of all subsequent races will be advised.

## **8 THE COURSES**

- 8.1 The course area will be shown on the course board in the clubhouse.
- 8.2 The course configuration, number of laps and order of rounding marks will be as shown in writing on the course board for the next race, and will be displayed at least 15 minutes before the start of the race. The diagram on the course board illustrates the first lap and all subsequent laps of the race; it is not to scale and does not indicate exact course angles. If there is a discrepancy between the written details and the illustrated course, then the written details shall be taken as correct.
- 8.3 The course marks will be temporary marks with coloured flags. Mark colours will be specified on the course board. The Race Officer may elect to use additional white or coloured buoys in which case these will be pointed out in the briefing.

## **9 AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS**

Due to the possible presence of fishermen, the area within 20 metres of all shores of the lake, with the exception of the Northwest shore in front of the clubhouse, is an obstruction.

## **10 THE START**

- 10.1 Races will be started using rule 26 unless racing is alongside normal club racing, when the starting sequence in the Sailing Instructions for club racing will apply.
- 10.2 The starting line will be a virtual line between either the Committee Boat mast or the Race Box flagpole and an outer limit mark. An inner limit mark may be used, which will not necessarily be on the line; boats shall not pass between the inner limit mark and the Committee Boat (if used). The limit marks will be white spherical buoys unless otherwise stated.
- 10.3 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other classes. A boat starting later than 4 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes rules A4 & A5.

## **11 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE**

To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will move the original mark (or the finishing line) to a new position (Rule 33).

## **12 THE FINISH**

The finishing line will either be as defined on the course board, between the finishing mark and the mast of a vessel or the Race Box displaying an orange flag, or, for shortened courses, between the mast displaying an orange flag and the nearby rounding mark.

## **13 PENALTY SYSTEM**

As provided in rule 67, the Race Officer or Protest Committee may, without a hearing, penalize a boat that has broken rule 42.

**14 TIME LIMITS**

- 14.1 The time limit (Rule 35) for any race is 90 minutes. If no boat has passed Mark 1 within 45 minutes the race will be abandoned.
- 14.2 With the exception of handicap racing, boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat in their class sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes rules 35, A4 and A5.

**15 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**

- 15.1 The Exoneration Penalty and the Advisory Hearing of the RYA Rules Disputes Procedures will be available.
- 15.2 Protest forms are available on request at the Race Box. Protests and Requests for Redress shall be delivered there within 30 minutes of the last boat finishing.
- 15.3 Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. This notice will include details of the time and location of the hearing.
- 15.4 Notices of protests by the Race Officer or Protest Committee will be posted to inform boats under rule 61.1(b).
- 15.5 A list of boats that, under instruction 13, have been penalized for breaking rule 42 will be posted before the protest time limit.

**16 SCORING**

- 16.1 The number of races to count, and the number to comprise a series, are as follows:

No of races scheduled	Number to comprise a series	Number of races sailed	Number to Count
5	2	5	3
		4	3
		3	2
		2	2
3	1	3	2
		2	2
		1	1

- 16.2 The Low Point scoring system of Appendix A will apply.

**17 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT**

- 17.1 The helmsman will be the person specified on the entry form, and no substitutions will be allowed. Changes of crew are allowed with the prior permission of the Race Officer; such permission will not be given when, in the view of the Race Officer, the intention of the change is to gain racing advantage.
- 17.2 Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed unless approved by the Race Officer. Requests for substitution shall be made to the Race Officer at the first reasonable opportunity.

**18 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS**

A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions.

**19 JUNIOR COMPETITORS**

Parents/guardians will be responsible for competitors under the age of 16 at all times.

**20 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. Hunts Sailing Club 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

**21 RISK STATEMENT**

Rule 4 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or continue racing is hers alone.' Sailing is by nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:

- 21.1 They are aware of the inherent element of risk involved in the sport and accept responsibility for the exposure to themselves, their crew and their boat to such inherent risk whilst taking part
- 21.2 They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their property whether afloat or ashore
- 21.3 They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions
- 21.4 Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate
- 21.5 The provision of a race management team, safety boats and other officials and volunteers by the event organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities
- 21.6 The provision of safety boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances
- 21.7 Their boat is adequately insured, with cover of at least £2,000,000 against third party claims.