

Blackwater Sailing Club

# SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

## 1 Rules

- 1.1 Races will be governed by the *rules* as defined in the *Racing Rules of Sailing 2021-2024* [RRS] and the Rules of the Optimist class, except as amended in these Sailing Instructions [SI]. Where conflict exists, these Sailing Instructions shall take precedence.
- 1.2 The prescriptions of the R.Y.A. will apply.

## 2 Notices to Competitors

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located in the main ground floor room of the clubhouse.

## 3 Changes to Sailing Instructions

- 3.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted at least one hour before the first race start on the day the changes will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 11:00 on the day it will take effect.
- 3.2 One Audible announcement will be made over the club's tannoy system to notify that a change has been posted.

## 4 Declaration

- 4.1 After racing competitors may be asked to sign the Declaration Sheet within 60 minutes of the last finisher in the last race of the day to confirm compliance with the rules. **Competitors failing to make finishing declarations will be scored RAF (Retired After Finishing).**

## 5 Signals Made Ashore

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed either from the club mast or from the race box signal area.

**Note: The race box signal area can only be viewed from the river side of the clubhouse.**

## 6 Schedule of Races

- 6.1 Dates of racing:  
*Date – 16<sup>th</sup> September 2023*
- 6.2 Main Fleet
  - 6.2.a. Maximum Number of races will be 4. Tidal restrictions may result in less than 4 races being sailed.
- 6.3 Regatta Fleet
  - 6.3.a. Maximum number of races will be 6. Tidal restrictions may result in less than 6 races being sailed.
- 6.4 The scheduled time of the first warning for both fleets will be 1230.
- 6.5 When more than one race will be held, the warning signal for each succeeding race will be made as soon as practicable. To alert boats that another race will begin soon, the postponement signal may be displayed before a warning signal is displayed.
- 6.6 In the regatta fleet only, the race officer reserves the right to make audible announcements on the water to alert competitors prior to and whilst in the starting sequence.

## 7 Class Flags

- 7.1 The class flag for Main Fleet will be flag O.
- 7.2 The class flag for the regatta fleet will be T

## 8 Racing Area

- 8.1 Figure 1 shows the location of the racing areas.

## 9 The Courses

- 9.1 The diagrams in Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 show the courses to be sailed.
- 9.2 The Main Fleet RCSB shall fly Flag A or B to indicate the course to be sailed.
- 9.3 The Regatta Fleet will be briefed which course is to be sailed on the day.
- 9.4 No later than the warning signal, the RCSB may display the approximate compass bearing from the RCSB to Mark 1 however they are not bound to do so.

## 10 Marks

- 10.1 Marks of the course for the main fleet will be Yellow cylindrical inflatable buoys.
- 10.2 Marks of the course for the regatta fleet will be Yellow Cylindrical pin buoys.
- 10.3 The starting marks will be the RCSB and a yellow pin outer distance mark (ODM) at the port end. For the main fleet, a yellow pin inner distance mark (IDM) may be laid.
- 10.4 The finish marks will be between the main mast of the RCSB and a yellow pin ODM.

## 11 The Start

- 11.1 For the main fleet, races will be started using RRS Rule 26. For the regatta fleet, a 3-minute, 2-minute 1-minute sequence will be used. This is a change to RRS rule 26.
- 11.2 For the main fleet, the starting line will be between the mast of the RCSB and the Start ODM. The length of the line will be bounded by the Start IDM at the starboard end, on the port side of the RCSB. When completing a Round-an-End Rule penalty [RRS 30.1] either the Start ODM or the RCSB shall be rounded. Any IDM that is laid will not form part of the starting line.
- 11.3 The regatta fleet starting line will form a line between the midships of the RCSB and the ODM which will be a yellow pin buoy. No IDM shall be used in the regatta fleet.  
  
Yachts passing between the Start IDM and the RCSB will be disqualified from the race without a hearing [change to RRS 63.1].
- 11.4 A boat starting later than 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start [**change to RRS A4.1**].

## 12 The Finish

12.1 The finish will be signalled using one of:

### 12.1.a. Finishing at the Finish Line.

The RCSB will display Flag S and make two sound signals as the lead boat approaches Mark 3. Boats will round Mark 3 normally and then finish at the Finish Line between the mast of the RCSB at the starboard end and the Finish ODM at the port end. For the regatta fleet, the finish line shall be between the midships of the committee boat and the finishing buoy.

### 12.1.b. Finishing at a rounding mark.

A race committee boat will display Flag S and make two sound signals as the lead boat approaches mark 3. Boats will finish at the line formed between the nearby mark and the staff displaying Flag S.

**[change to RRS 32.2].**

12.1.c The race will be finished after approx. 25 mins for the lead boat depending on the spread of the fleet.

## 13 Time Limits

13.1 If no boat has rounded Mark 1 10 minutes after the start of a race, the race may be abandoned.

13.2 Boats failing to finish within 150% of the elapsed time for the first boat in their class to sail the course and finish will be scored DNF (Did Not Finish) **[change to RRS 35 and RRS A4].**

## 14 Protests and Requests for Redress

14.1 The Exoneration Penalty of the RYA Rules Disputes Procedures will be available. See the official notice board for details.

14.2 Protest forms are available at the race office. Protests shall be delivered there within the protest time limit.

14.3 The protest time limit is 30 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race.

14.4 Notices will be posted within 30 minutes of the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the race office at times posted with the protest notices.

14.5 On the last day of racing a request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered

(a) within the protest time limit if the party requesting reopening was informed of the decision on the previous day;

(b) no later than 30 minutes after the party requesting reopening was informed of the decision on that day.

(c) **[change to RRS 66].**

## 15 Scoring

15.1 The low point scoring system of [RRS Appendix A] will apply.

15.2 Two races are required to be completed to constitute a series.

15.3 (a) When fewer than four races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.

(b) When four races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

## 16 Safety Regulations

16.1 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible.

16.2 Buoyancy Aids will be worn at all times whilst crews are afloat.

## 17 Replacement of Crew or Equipment

17.1 Substitution of competitors will not be allowed.

17.2 Substitution of damaged equipment will not be allowed without prior written consent of the race committee.

## 18 Disclaimer of Liability

18.1 A boat is entirely responsible for her own safety, whether afloat or ashore, and nothing, in the Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions or anywhere else, reduces this responsibility.

18.2 It is for the boat to decide whether she is fit to sail in the conditions in which she will find herself. By launching or going to sea the boat confirms she is fit for those conditions and her crew is competent to sail and compete in them.

18.3 Nothing done by the organisers can reduce the responsibility of the boat, nor will it make the organisers responsible for any loss, damage, death, or personal injury, however it may have occurred, as a result of the boat taking part in racing. The Organisers encompasses everyone helping to run the race and the event, and includes the organising authority, the race committee, the race officer, patrol boats, and beachmasters.

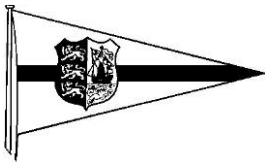
18.4 The provision of patrol boats does not relieve the boat of her responsibilities.

## 19 Insurance

19.1 All entrants are required to hold third party indemnity insurance with a minimum indemnity of five million pounds sterling or equivalent for the total period of the event and affirm such cover to the Organising Authority. Entrants not from the UK need to have the accepted Normal Minimum level of liability insurance for their country (this level needs to be displayed to all other competitors).

## 20 Radio Communication

20.1 A boat shall neither make radio transmissions nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile phones.



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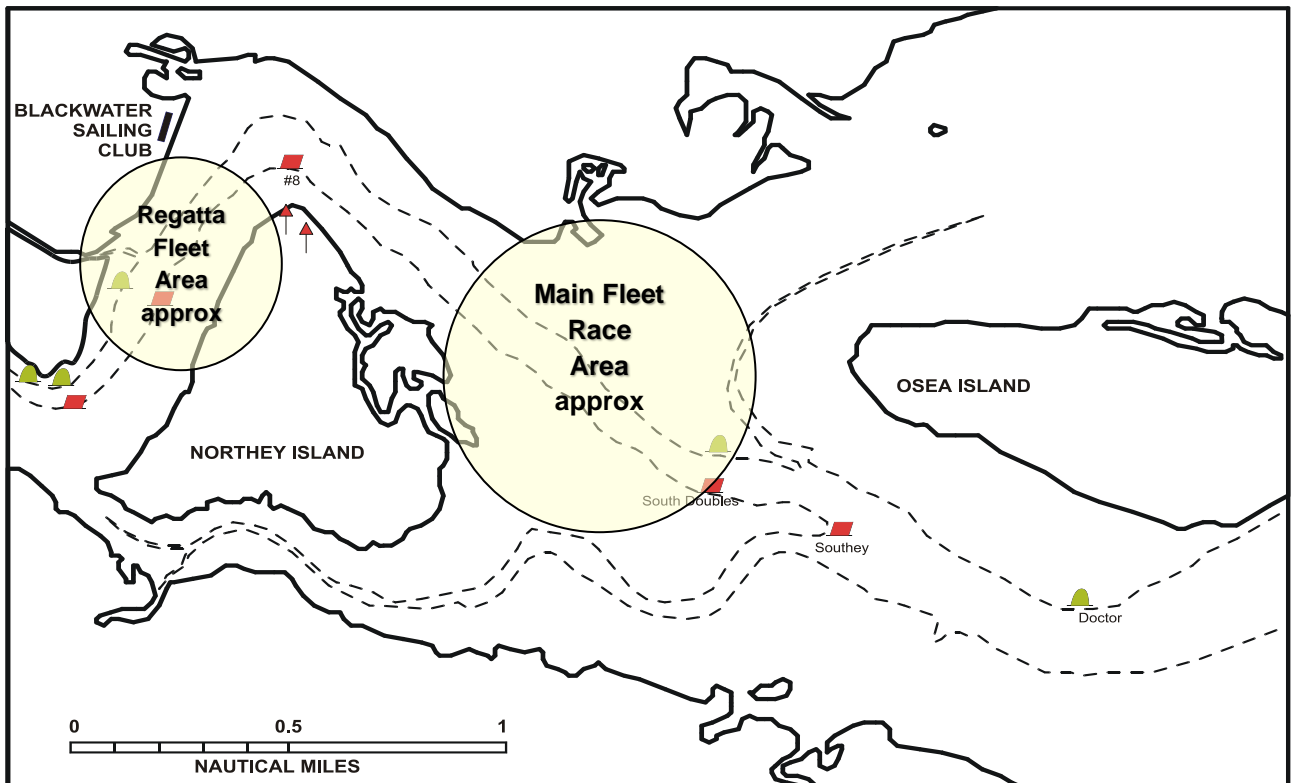
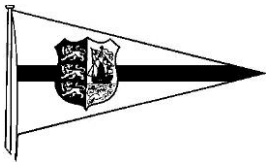


Figure 1



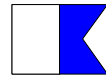
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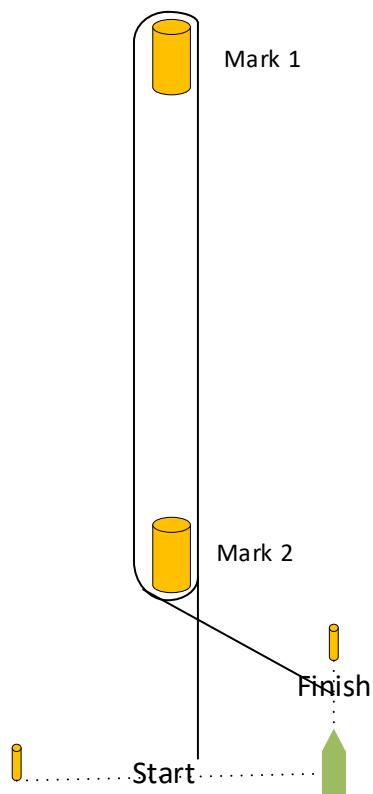
## Appendix 1

### Courses (Not to Scale)

#### COURSE A



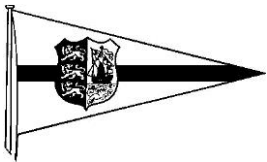
code flag A



Course Mark 1 – Mark 2 repeated until finished using Blue Flag or Code S (**see SI 12**)

The aim is to give the lead boat a race time of 25-30 minutes, wind and tide conditions allowing.

All Marks shall be left to port.



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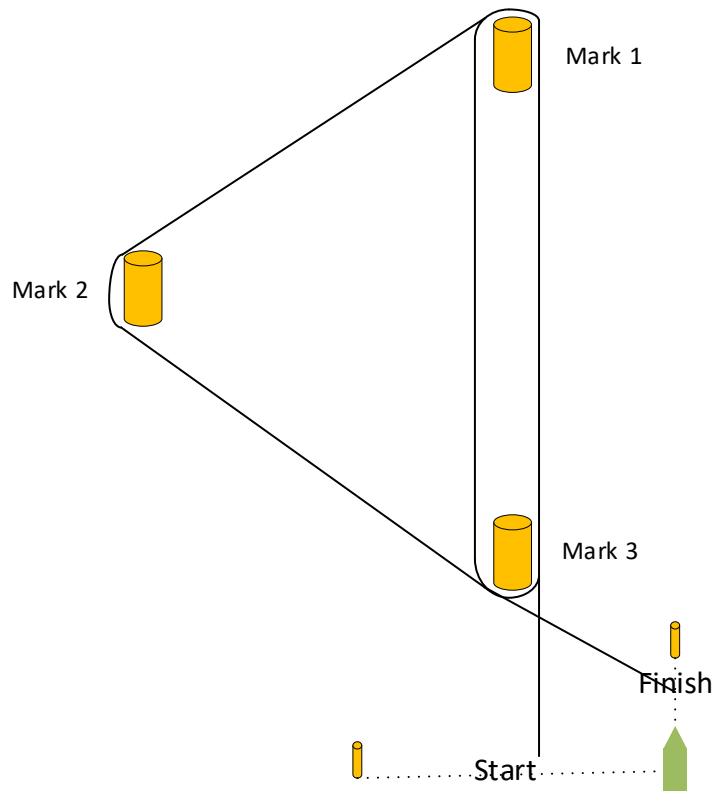
# SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

## Appendix 1

Courses (Not to Scale)

### COURSE B

Flag B



Course Mark 1 – Mark 2 - Mark 3 – Mark 1 – Mark 3 repeated until finished using Blue Flag or Code S (**see SI 12**)

The aim is to give the lead boat a race time of 25-30 minutes, wind and tide conditions allowing.

All Marks shall be left to port.

### Tidal Information

*Date*      *Published Time of High Water*

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2023      14:31

## Appendix 2

### Regatta Fleet Courses

