



ROYAL THAMES YACHT CLUB

GERTRUDE CUP 2018



SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

**THE INTERNATIONAL ETCHELLS
INVITATIONAL REGATTA**

SATURDAY 14 JULY - TUESDAY 17th JULY

Organising Authority (OA)

Royal Thames Yacht Club Limited in conjunction with the Cowes Etchells Fleet.

Tidal information Portsmouth
(all times BST)

Saturday 14 July	Sunday 15 July	Monday 16 July	Tuesday 17 July
LW 0605	LW 0653	LW 0740	LW 0827
HW 1303	HW 1355	HW 1452	HW 1557
LW 1828	LW 1916	LW 2003	LW 2052

1 RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in “*The Racing Rules of Sailing*” (RRS) 2017 – 2020 including the National Authority (RYA) prescriptions.
- 1.2 In the event of conflict between the Notice of Race and these Sailing Instructions, the provisions of these Sailing Instructions shall prevail, changing RRS 63.7.

2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located at Cowes Yacht Haven.
- 2.2 A WhatsApp group will also be used to contact registered mobile numbers for each boat providing notifications and Race Committee intentions. Failure to receive WhatsApp messages shall not be grounds for redress; this changes RRS 62.1(a).

3 SAFETY

- 3.1 Boats shall comply with Associated British Ports Notice to Mariners No 3 of 2016: The Moving Prohibited Zone in the Precautionary Area which shall rank as an obstruction for the purposes of RRS 19 and 20. Boats shall avoid close quarters with any commercial vessel.
- 3.2 Boats shall not anchor or kedge in the Cowes Harbour fairway.

4 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 4.1 Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted before 0845 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 1800 on the day before it will take effect.

5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagstaff at Cowes Yacht Haven.
- 5.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, ‘1 minute’ is replaced with ‘not less than 60 minutes’ in the race signal AP.

6 ROTATION OF BOATS, ISSUE OF SAILS, DAMAGED SAILS

- 6.1** In accordance with the provisions of the Notice of Race, teams will sail a different boat each day of the regatta, unless the team is excluded from the rotation by the Race Committee. The allocation of boats and sails to teams shall be by draws carried out by the Race Committee prior to the start of the event.
- 6.2** Sails will be allocated to teams at registration and will be retained by the team throughout the regatta.
- 6.3** Should a sail be damaged during the regatta, it should be reported as soon as possible to the Race Committee, which will authorise the issue of a replacement sail where appropriate. The boat shall take all appropriate action to avoid further damage to the sail that has been damaged. Replacement of sails shall be in the absolute discretion of the Race Committee and shall not be the subject of a request for redress by a boat, changing RRS 60.2 (b).

7 SCHEDULE OF EVENT

- 7.1** Registration at Cowes Yacht Haven is on Friday 13 July from 1800-2000 and Saturday 14 July 0800-0930. If competitors wish to make alternative arrangements, they should do so by contacting the RTYC Sailing Office at sailingadmin@royalthames.com +44 (0) 207 201 6266
- 7.2** A Competitors' Briefing will be held at Cowes Yacht Haven at 0930 on Saturday 14th July. **Attendance by all competitors is mandatory.**
- 7.3** On each subsequent day, information regarding that day's racing will be published on yachtscoring.com and transmitted via WhatsApp.
- 7.4** Warning signal for the first race:
Saturday 14th July 1155
Sunday 15th July – Tuesday 17th July 1055
Subsequent races will follow as soon as possible after the finish of the first race.
- 7.5** On the last day of the regatta no warning signal will be made after 1430.
- 7.6** To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, the orange starting line flag will be displayed with one sound at least five minutes before a warning signal is made.
- 7.7** It is intended that 12 races will be sailed over the four days. It is also intended that no more than four races will be sailed each day, but the Race Committee may sail additional races on any day as it thinks fit.

8 CLASS FLAGS

- 8.1** The class flag will be IC Flag E.

9 RACING AREA

- 9.1** The racing area will be in the central Solent. The Race Committee will indicate each morning a more precise location in that area where it is anticipated the course will be laid.

10 THE COURSES

- 10.1** The diagrams in Appendix A show the courses, including the order in which marks are to be passed and the side on which each mark is to be left.

- 10.2** No later than the warning signal, the Race Committee vessel will display on a board, the course to be sailed, and the approximate compass bearing of Mark 1.
- 11 MARKS**
- 11.1** Mark 1, the Offset Mark and the Mark 2 Gate will be orange inflatable marks.
- 12 THE START**
- 12.1** The starting line will be between the staffs displaying orange flags on the committee vessels, or if a dan buoy is laid, between and the course side of that starting mark and the staff displaying an orange flag on the race committee vessel.
- 12.2** A boat starting later than five minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes rule A4.
- 13 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE**
- 13.1** To change the next leg of the course, the Race Committee will lay a new mark of similar appearance and remove the original mark as soon as practicable.
- 13.2** Course change signalling will only be made when the course change is more than 10 degrees or more than 200m distance. This changes RRS 33.
- 14 THE FINISH**
- 14.1** The finishing line will be between the staffs displaying orange flags on the race committee vessels, or, if a dan buoy finishing mark is laid, between the course side of that finishing mark and the staff displaying an orange flag on the race committee vessel.
- 15 PENALTY SYSTEM**
- 15.1** RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty except where the breach of the rule occurs within the Zone.
- 15.2** In the event of contact between two boats, there will be an automatic addition of 3 points to the score of the boat at fault, regardless of whether there is any damage to either boat. If there is significant damage, a higher penalty may be imposed at the discretion of the protest committee.
- 16 TIME LIMITS**
- 16.1** The Time Limit is 75 minutes.
- 16.2** Boats failing to finish within 15 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.
- 17 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**
- 17.1** Protest forms are available at the race office, located at the Cowes Yacht Haven
- 17.2** . Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit.

- 17.3** The protest time limit is 90 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day or the Race Committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later.
- 17.4** 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. Hearings will be held in the protest room, located at The Royal London Yacht Club, or other designated location, beginning at the time posted.
- 17.5** Notices of protests by the Race Committee or Protest Committee will be posted to inform boats under RRS 61.1(b).
- 17.6** Breaches of SIs 19, 21 and 24 will not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a). Penalties for these breaches may be less than disqualification if the Protest Committee so decides.
- 17.7** On the last scheduled day of racing a request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered:
- a. within the protest time limit if the requesting party was informed of the decision on the previous day;
 - b. no later than 30 minutes after the requesting party was informed of the decision on that day. This changes RRS 66.
- 17.8** On the last scheduled day of racing a request for redress based on a Protest Committee decision shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the decision was posted. This changes RRS 62.2.
- 18** **SCORING**
- 18.1** Three races are required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 18.2** When fewer than five races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- 18.3** When from five to eight races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
- 18.4** When nine or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her two worst scores.
- 19** **SAFETY REGULATIONS**
- 19.1** A boat that retires from a race shall notify the Race Committee as soon as possible.
- 19.2** Competitors shall wear a personal flotation device at all times whilst afloat, except briefly when adjusting clothing or personal equipment. Wet suits and dry suits are not personal flotation devices. The personal flotation devices supplied by the Organising Authority shall be those worn by all competitors.
- 20** **REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT**
- 20.1** Substitution of competitors will not be allowed without prior written approval of the Race Committee.
- 20.2** Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed unless authorised by the Race Committee. Requests for substitution shall be made to the committee at the first reasonable opportunity.
- 21** **EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS**

- 21.1** A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions. On the water, a boat can be instructed by a race committee equipment inspector or measurer to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.
- 21.2** Boats shall race with the mooring lines and fenders supplied and shall have them rigged and ready before entering Cowes Yacht Haven on returning from the race area.
- 21.3** Boats shall hoist the spinnaker so that the number on that sail is properly legible when read from ahead.
- 22** **BREAKDOWN AND TIME FOR REPAIRS**
- 22.1** Before the warning signal of a race, a boat may display the white flag provided in the boat to signal breakdown or damage to the boat, her sails or injury to her crew and request a delay to the next start. She shall proceed as soon as possible to close to leeward of the race committee vessel and remain there, unless otherwise directed. The white flag should be continuously flown until the support rib comes alongside.
- 22.2** The time allowed for repairs will be at the discretion of the Race Committee.
- 22.3** After the warning signal of a race, a race will not be postponed or abandoned due to breakdown of a boat.
- 22.4** Except when RRS 62.1(b) applies, failure to effect repairs in the time allowed, or breakdowns after the warning signal shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.
- 23** **OFFICIAL BOATS**
- 23.1** Official boats will display the burgee of the Royal Thames Yacht Club.
- 24** **SUPPORT BOATS**
- 24.1** Team leaders, coaches and other support personnel shall stay outside areas where boats are racing from the time of the preparatory signal for the first class to start until all boats have finished or retired or the Race Committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment.
- 25** **HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS**
- 25.1** Boats shall not be hauled out during the regatta except with and according to the terms of prior written permission of the Race Committee.
- 26** **DIVING EQUIPMENT AND PLASTIC POOLS**
- 26.1** Underwater breathing apparatus and plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used around boats and no person may enter the water for the purpose of cleaning the boats.
- 27** **RADIO COMMUNICATION**
- 27.1** 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.
- 27.2** The Race Committee may communicate information to all boats prior to and during a race, failure to make these broadcasts will not be grounds for redress.

Failure or delay to make these broadcasts, or failure by boats to receive them or understand them, will not be grounds for redress. The channel to be used by the Race Committee will be announced at the briefing.

LA	COURSE: WINDWARD / LEEWARD with spreader mark and leeward finish
Signal	Mark Rounding Order
LA2	Start – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – 1 – 1a – Finish
LA3	Start – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – 1 – 1a – Finish
LA4	Start – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – 1 – 1a – Finish

WA	COURSE: WINDWARD / LEEWARD with spreader mark and windward finish
Signal	Mark Rounding Order
WA3	Start – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – Finish
WA4	Start – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – Finish

