

Sailing Instructions

1. Rules

1.1 All racing shall be governed by the RACING RULES OF SAILING (RRS), the prescriptions of the R.Y.A, the rules of the appropriate Class (except as changed herein), the Notice of Race as displayed on the Colne Yacht Club notice board and by these sailing instructions. Club racing is designated Category 'C' as per RRS 79 and ISAF Advertising Code.

1.2 Competitors' notice is drawn to the International Regulations for preventing collisions at sea.

1.3 A boat or competitor shall give all possible help to any person or vessel in danger.

1.4 A boat shall carry adequate life-saving equipment for all persons on board, including one item ready for immediate use. Each competitor is individually responsible for wearing personal buoyancy adequate for the conditions. A boat racing WILL carry a VHF radio in good working condition.

1.5 A boat and her owner shall compete in compliance with recognized principles of sportsmanship and fair play. A boat may be penalized under this rule only if it is clearly established that these principles have been violated.

1.6 By participating in a race conducted under these racing rules, each competitor and boat owner agrees

(a) to be governed by the rules

(b) to accept the penalties imposed and other action taken under the rules, subject to the appeal and review procedures provided in them, as the final determination of any matter arising under the rules; and

(c) with respect to such determination, not to resort to any court or other tribunal not provided by the rules.

2. Conditions of entry

2.1 The safety of a boat and her entire management, including insurance, shall be the sole responsibility of the owner/person in charge who must ensure that the boat and crew are adequate to face the conditions that may arise in the course of the race. Neither these instructions nor any inspection of the boat limits or reduces the absolute responsibility of the owner/person in charge of the crew, the boat and her management. The race organisers shall not be responsible for any loss, damage, death or personal injury howsoever caused to the owner/person in charge of crew, as a result of their taking part in the race/races. Moreover, every owner/person in charge warrants the suitability of the boat for the race/races. The owner/person in charge of a boat is solely responsible for deciding whether or not to start or to continue racing.

3. Measurement and certification

3.1 All boats shall hold a valid measurement certificate where required by their Class Rules.

3.2 The Race Committee or their instructed representative may weigh, measure or inspect a boat and/or her equipment before, during or after any race.

4. Changes in sailing instructions and communication with competitors

4.1 The designated flagpole shall be a halyard on the Colne Yacht Club flagpole on the club jetty.

4.2 Any change in the Sailing Instructions shall be posted not later than 60 minutes before the advertised start time of the race. Changes shall be indicated as per the signals prescribed in the RRS, ie Code Flag 'L' flown at the designated flagpole. In addition Code Flag 'N' will be flown in the event of

racing being abandoned and the '**Answering Pennant**' if the race is postponed with the appropriate numeral pennant to denote the anticipated number of hours delay.

4.3 Official communications shall be posted on the designated Race Notice Board. This shall be the exterior notice board to the left of the Club front door.

4.4 The VHF Channel 37 shall be monitored at all times for communications from the Race Officer. Failure to monitor or receive communication shall not be grounds for redress.

5. Safety and registration to race

5.1 Competitors starting from the Colne Yacht Club shall either 'SIGN ON' not less than 45 minutes before going afloat to indicating their intention to race, or register directly with "Bateman's Tower" on VHF Channel 37. The signing on sheet shall be in the foyer of, or outside the CYC. Competitors not starting from CYC shall register with Bateman's Tower by VHF. Any competitor who does not comply with this safety procedure may be disqualified without a hearing. RRS 63.1.

5.2 Colne Yacht Club members and regular visiting competitors shall display the official number issued to them at the beginning of the year, on life lines either side of the cockpit. Non-club members shall register with Bateman's Tower by VHF, giving a description of their boat and sail number. Race numbers will be issued to visitors before the race starts, and these should be displayed on either side of the cockpit.

5.3 Retirement from racing shall be registered with Bateman's Tower on VHF Channel 37.

6. The course

6.1 The course shall be one of the following

Course 1

Bateman's Tower-Colne Point (port)-Colne Bar (port)-Eagle (port)-Knoll (port)-Wallet no.3 (starboard) –North Eagle (starboard)- Colne Bar (starboard)- Bateman's Tower. Approx 19 nm.

Course 2

Bateman's Tower-Colne Point (port)-Colne Bar (port)-Bench Head (port)- NW Knoll (port)- Knoll (port)- North Eagle (port)- Colne Bar (starboard)- Bateman's Tower. Approx 13.5 nm.

Course 3

Bateman's Tower-Colne Point (port)-Colne Bar (port)-Eagle (port)-Knoll (starboard)-NW Knoll (starboard) – Inner Bench Head (port) - Bateman's Tower. Approx 15nm.

Course 4

Bateman's Tower-Colne Point (port)-Colne Bar (port)- Bench Head (starboard) – Nass (port)- Bench Head (port)- NW Knoll (port)-Bateman's Tower. Approx 19nm.

Course 5

Bateman's Tower-Colne Point (port)-Colne Bar (port)-Eagle (port)-Wallet Spitway (port) – Eagle (port)- Colne Bar (starboard)- Bateman's Tower. Approx 15nm.

Course 6

Bateman's Tower-Colne Point (port)-Colne Bar (port)-N.Eagle (starboard)-Wallet no. 4 Wallet no 3 (starboard)- Knoll (starboard) – Eagle (starboard)- Colne Bar (starboard) Bateman's Tower. Approx 27nm.

6.2 The selected course number shall be displayed on the river face of Bateman's Tower.

7. Change of course after the start

7.1 A change of course shall be notified on VHF Channel 37

8. Shortened course

8.1 A shortened course shall be notified on VHF Channel 37 and Flag S displayed at the start line.

9. The start

9.1 Starting times for the first start shall be advertised in the race programme.

9.2 The starting line is defined by a triangle atop a pole; in line with the transit mark on the river face of Bateman's Tower. The line transit shall act as an inner distance mark. Transits on the opposite side of the line are indicative, but not definite, except as outer distance marks.

9.3 Races will be started as per RRS26. Times shall be taken from the visual signals - the failure of a sound signal shall be disregarded.

TIME	TITLE	VISUAL SIGNALS	SOUND SIGNALS	
5 minutes		Warning	Class Flag Board displayed	1
	Sound			
4 minutes		Preparatory	Code Flag 'P' Board displayed	1
	Sound			
1 minute			Code Flag 'P' Board covered	1
	Sound			
0 minute		Start	Class Flag Board covered	1
	Sound			

The Class Flag shall be Code Flag 'C'.

9.4 Boats starting later than 10 minutes after the starting signal shall be scored Did Not Start. This changes Rule RRSA4.1.

9.5 A boat may use her engine, or be towed or paddled after her preparatory signal, to reach the starting area, provided that she takes the following actions; (a) Stops the engine, drops her tow or stops paddling AND (b) then completes a 360 degree turn before starting AND (c) reports the incident to the Race Officer.

10. Individual recalls

10.1 When at her starting signal, if any part of the boats hull, crew or equipment is on the course side of the line, the Race Officer shall display the 'X Flag', accompanied by one sound signal, until all such boats are wholly on the pre-start side of the line. This amends RRS 29.2. The boat so identified may be informed on VHF Channel 37. Failure to hear the transmission or failure to complete the restart clearly shall not be grounds for redress.

11. General recalls

11.1 General recalls shall be signalled by displaying the First Substitute with two sound signals.

11.2 As soon as possible after the original start new warning and preparatory signals shall be made.

12. The finish

12.1 The finish line shall be at Bateman's Tower as defined in SI.9.2

13. Time limit

- 13.1 The maximum time limit for the first boat in shall be six hours and any boat finishing within six hours shall validate the race. Boats failing to finish within six hours of their start time will be deemed to have retired. This changes RRS35.
- 13.2 When no boat finishes within the time limit the race shall be abandoned. Notification of any re-sail date and time shall be posted on the designated Race Notice Boards as soon as possible.

14. Protests

- 14.1 Protest forms are available from the CYC and must be submitted to the Club within 40 minutes of coming ashore. Protests shall be heard as soon as practicable. This may not be same day.

15. Scoring

- 15.1 For the Wallet Shield, each participating club's score for the race shall be the total of the best three scores (combined fleet) achieved in the race by boats racing for that club. (i.e. 1st counts 1 point, 2nd counts 2 points 3rd counts 3 points.) In the event of a tie the 4th boat to finish will be scored.
- 15.2 For the individual prizes, the three boats with the lowest scores will score (1st, 2nd, 3rd)

16. RYA Portsmouth Yardstick Scheme

- 16.1 The Portsmouth Yardstick Scheme shall be used in conjunction with Byron software.
- 16.2 The Portsmouth Yardstick shall be those published by the Colne Yacht Club Sailing Committee prior to the start of the race.
- 16.3 Boats without a Portsmouth Yardstick Number will be allocated a number by the Trial Number method described in YR2.