

FRENHAM POND SAILING CLUB

Sailing Instructions for Open Meeting Events
Revised August 2017

1 Rules

The meeting will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the prescriptions of the RYA, the rules of the class(es) whose Open Meeting it is, except as any of these are changed by these Sailing Instructions.

2 Conditions of Entry

2.1 Eligible boats may be entered by completing registration with the organising authority. Eligible boats are those of the class(es) whose Open Meeting it is. If requested, a valid Measurement Certificate for the boat must be presented to the organisers.

2.2 The following Risk Statement details the responsibilities of participants:

Rule 4 of the RRS 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 inherently involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:

- (i) 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;
- (ii) they are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;
- (iii) they accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;
- (iv) their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
- (v) the provision of a race management team, patrol boats and other officials and volunteers by the organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
- (vi) the provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances;
- (vii) it is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks specific to this venue or this event referred to in these Sailing Instructions and to attend any safety briefing held at the venue;
- (viii) their boat is adequately insured, with cover of at least £2,000,000 against third party claims.

3 Helms

A boat may be helmed by more than one person, but the points obtained by different helms will not be cumulative. A competitor may helm only one boat. Helm and crew may not exchange places during a race except temporarily in an emergency. The Race Officer must be informed of any changes of helm.

4 Club Membership

All competitors are granted Honorary Membership of the Club during the meeting.

5 Notices to Competitors

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board – which will be defined at the briefing.

6 Changes in Sailing Instructions

Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted at least 30 minutes before the first race to which the change applies.

7 Signals made ashore

Signals made ashore will be displayed on the Club flagstaff by the Clubhouse.

8 Schedule of Briefing and Races

Briefing: 1015 unless altered by a Notice of Race

Race 1: Warning signal 1055 unless altered by a Notice of Race

The schedule for the remaining races will be given at the briefing.

9 Class Flags

Class Flags will be defined at the briefing.

10 Sails and Sail Numbers

Except with the prior permission of the Race Officer no boat shall use any sails other than her own. Permission will be refused if the sail number is the same as one of the other entries.

11 Personal Buoyancy

Personal buoyancy must be worn by all helms and crews as stipulated under Class rules or if directed by the Race Officer. The Race Officer will indicate this requirement by flying flag "Y" ashore.

12 Course

12.1 The course will be described in terms of all or some of the nine yellow marks which are numbered consecutively and clockwise round the pond.

12.2 The course will be displayed on the side of the committee boat (less the final leg). It may also be displayed on the course board in the Clubhouse.

13 Local Rules and Hazards

13.1 The helm of a capsized boat may request a safety boat to assist with raising his mast to the water surface. This will be held not to infringe rule 41.

13.2 Boats may not sail into the swimming areas, marked in the summer months by lines of buoys and situated in the north-east sector of the pond perimeter.

14 The Start

14.1 Races will be started using rule 26.

14.2 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on a committee boat at the starboard end and a dan buoy at the port end.

14.3 A boat does not have to be afloat at her preparatory signal. This changes rule 45.

14.4 A boat shall not start after the closure of the start line. This closure will be not less than 5 minutes after her starting signal.

15 Lead Boat

A boat flying flag "L" may motor around the course ahead of the fleet. This will be held not to infringe rule 41.

16 Change of Course After the Start

A change of bearing of any mark after the start will be signalled before the leading boat has begun the leg, although the repositioned mark may not then be in its new position. Any mark to be rounded after rounding the repositioned mark may also be relocated to maintain as far as possible the original course configuration.

17 The Finish

The finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on a committee boat and the nearby mark.

18 Time Limit

The Race Officer may impose a time limit, in which case boats failing to finish within twenty minutes after the first boat finishes will be scored "Did not finish". This changes rule 35.

19 Declarations and Protests

19.1 Declarations are required only from those who finish and subsequently retire from a race, and are to be completed within 20 minutes of the last boat finishing – or similarly after the following race(s) if held back-to-back. A board will be provided in the Clubhouse for this purpose.

19.2 Protests must be lodged with the Race Officer within 20 minutes of the last boat finishing (or similarly after the following race(s) if held back-to-back), and on the form provided. A protest committee will meet as soon as practicable after the race. In the event of a dispute, other than protests under ISAF/RYA rules, the decision of the Race Committee is to be final.

20 Scoring

20.1 Appendix A will be used – Low Point System.

20.2 One race completed shall constitute a series.

20.3 If less than three races are completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores. Otherwise her series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.