BLAZE EASTERN CHAMPIONSHIP



Marine Parade Sheerness Kent ME12 2BE 4th & 5th May 2024

Organising Authority (OA): The Isle of Sheppey Sailing Club (IOSSC)

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Version 2: 03/05/24

1 RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined by the following:
 - 1.1.1 Racing Rules of Sailing.
 - 1.1.2 The Class Rules and Guidelines.
 - 1.1.3 This Notice of Race.
 - 1.1.4 The Sailing Instructions.
- 1.2 In the event of conflicts among the above documents, the Sailing Instructions shall prevail. This changes RRS 63.7.
- 1.3 The notation '[NP]' in a rule means it shall not be grounds for protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a).
- 1.4 The notation '[DP]' in a rule means that the penalty for a breach of that rule shall be at the discretion of the protest committee. This changes RRS 64.2.

2 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

2.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0930.

3 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located on the board adjacent to club bar in the main hall

4 CODE OF CONDUCT

4.1 [DP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.

5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagstaff above the race tower.
- 5.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes' in Race Signals AP.

6 SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 6.1 Briefing: Saturday 4th May at 1100 in the main hall.
- 6.2 The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race is 1155 on Saturday 4th May.



- 6.3 Races 2 and 3 will be sailed back to back after race 1.
- 6.4 The scheduled time of the warning signal for the race 4 is 1025 on Sunday 5th May
- 6.5 Races 5 and 6 will be sailed back to back after race 4.
- 6.5 To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, the orange starting line flag will be displayed at least five minutes and may be accompanied by a sound signal, before a warning signal is made.
- 6.6 No warning signal will be made after 1500 on the last day.
- 6.7 A maximum of 4 races will be permitted on any race day.

7 CLASS FLAGS

7.1 The Class flag will be a white flag with the word 'BLAZE' in red. Alternatively, if the class flag is unavailable, Flag Bravo will be used.

8 RACING AREA

8.1 The racing area will be confirmed at the briefing. Either directly to the North of the club and to the west of Cheyney Rock, or to the East of Cheyney Rock.

9 COURSES

- 9.1 The diagram(s) in these Sailing Instructions, APPENDIX A shows the course(s).
- 9.2 Courses may be shortened.
- 9.4 Legs of the course may be changed after the preparatory signal.
- 9.5 The Race Committee shall display the chosen course and may give an approximate compass course to the windward mark.
- 9.6 The use of a spreader mark (1a) is at the discretion of the Race Committee and will be promulgated at the briefing.

10 MARKS

10.1 The course will be defined by inflatable marks in APPENDIX A.

11 OBSTRUCTIONS

11.1 Competitors must not proceed north of Medway Secondary Channel identified by Yellow Special Marks.

12 THE START

- 12.1 Races will be started using RRS 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal.
- 12.2 The starting line is between a staff displaying orange flag on the committee boat and an orange flag on the starting mark.
- 12.3 A boat that does not start within 5 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.



13 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

13.1 Minor mark moves (up to approximately 150m) may be made without signalling the change. This changes RRS 33

14 THE FINISH

14.1 The finishing line is between a staff displaying a blue flag on the committee boat and a nearby buoy with either an orange flag or a blue flag depending on which course is sailed.

15 PENALTY SYSTEM

15.1 The Scoring Penalty, RRS 44.3, applies and the penalty will be 20% of the score for DNF.

16 TIME LIMITS

- 16.1 The Mark 1 Time Limit will be 30 minutes. If no boat has passed the first mark within the Mark 1 Time Limit, the race will be abandoned.
- 16.2 The Finishing Window is 20 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes. Boats failing to finish within the Finishing Window, and not subsequently retiring, penalized or given redress, will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF).
- 16.3 The Target time for races will be 45 minutes for the first boat. Failure to meet the target time will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a)

17 WHISKEY FLAG

17.1 After the first boat has finished, and after 15 minutes has elapsed the Race Officer may display flag W with two sound signals. Any boats still on the course who have not retired or been UFD or BFD shall be given their place, as judged by the Race Committee, on the course and return to the starting area.

18 HEARING REQUESTS

- 18.1 The protest time limit is 45 minutes after the last boat finishes the last race of the day or the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later.
- 18.2 Hearing request forms are available from the IOSSC Main Hall.
- 18.3 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. Hearings will be held in the protest room, located at on the third floor above the main hall.
- 18.4 The right of appeal from a protest committee decision is denied as provided in rule 70.5[(a)][(b)][(c)].

19 SCORING

- 19.1 Three races are required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 19.2 When fewer than four races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- 19.3 When four or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.



20 SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 20.1 [DP] A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity.
- 20.2 A Tally system will be in place for the event.
 - 20.2.1 Tallies must be collected from the Tally Board and placed in the box 'I have started' before launching and must be placed in the appropriate box no later than 30 minutes after returned from racing. It is the sole responsibility of competitors to ensure that they have tallied correctly.
 - 20.2.2 Failing to comply, will result in a penalty of a £5 fine being applied. All fines received will be donated to the RNLI.

21 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

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

22 PRIZES

22.1 Prizes will be given to the top 3 boats as a minimum and may include additional places.

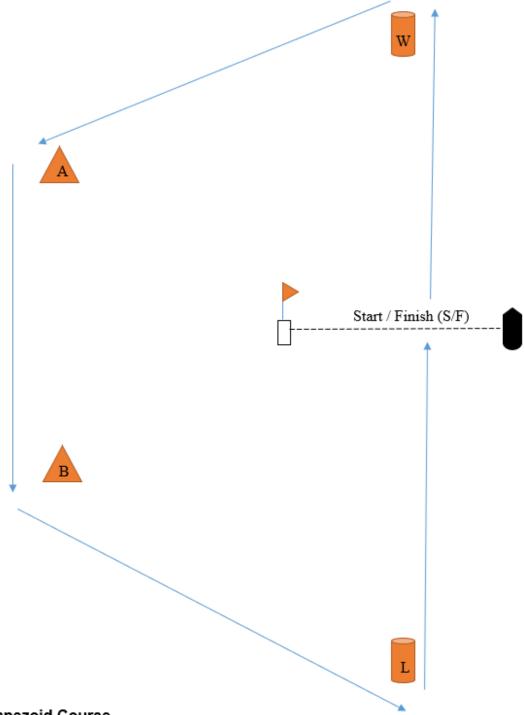
23 RISK STATEMENT

23.1 RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough water, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.

24 INSURANCE

24.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £2,000,000 per incident or the equivalent.





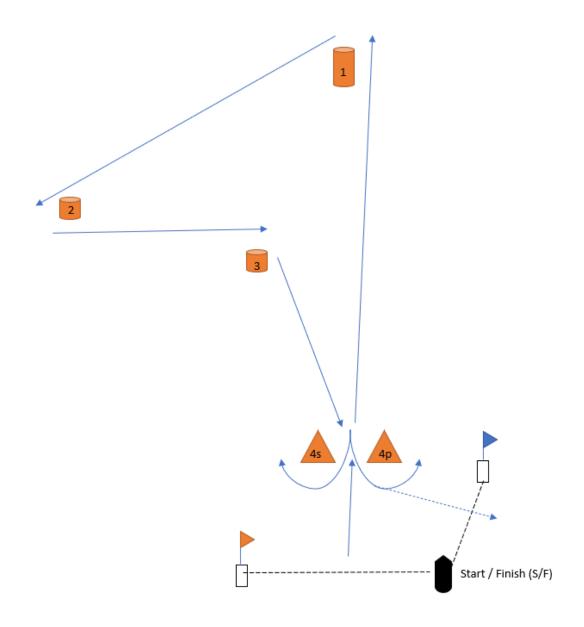
Trapezoid Course

Laps = S/F, W(port), A(port), B(port), L(port), S/F

Number of laps = As required by the PRO. Note: Pass through S/F on every windward leg



APPENDIX A - Course B



Reverse P Course

- 1 Lap Start, 1(Port), 2 (Port), 3(Stbd), 4p, Finish
- 2 Laps Start, 1(Port), 2 (Port), 3(Stbd), 4s or 4p (through the centre), 1(Port), 2 (Port), 3(Stbd), 4p, Finish
- 3 Laps Start, 1(Port), 2 (Port), 3(Stbd), 4s or 4p (through the centre), 1(Port), 2 (Port), 3(Stbd), 4s or 4p (through the centre), 1(Port), 2 (Port), 3(Stbd), 4p, Finish

