

**LEIGH AND LOWTON SAILING CLUB
SAILING INSTRUCTIONS FOR
WINTER JUNIOR AND YOUTH REGATTA AND
IOCA NORTH WEST OPTIMIST WINTER CHAMPIONSHIP
6TH JANUARY 2024**

1 RULES

- 1.1 The event will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing 2021-2024 (RRS), the prescriptions of the RYA and these sailing instructions.
- 1.2 Rule 26 is changed to allow an alternative start sequence. See SI 9.1.
- 1.3 Rule 30.4 is changed. See SI 9.6.
- 1.4 Rule 32 changed to allow the race to be shortened at the Committee Boat on station at the finish. See SI 11.1.
- 1.5 Rule 35 changed to score boats finishing outside the time limit as DNF. See SI 13.
- 1.6 Rule 40 is changed so that personal buoyancy must be worn at all times when afloat. Flag Y will not be displayed.
- 1.7 Appendix A 4.2 changed so that a boat that does not finish is scored the points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats starting the race.
- 1.8 Rule 41 is amended to allow outside assistance to less experienced sailors by the coach boat. See SI 21

2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the event notice board located in the LLSC clubhouse.

3 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any changes to sailing instructions will be posted not less than 15 minutes before the start of the race affected

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagstaff on the clubhouse.
When flag AP is displayed ashore, 1 minute is replaced with "not less than 20 minutes" in the meaning of race signal AP

5 SAIL NUMBERS

A boat shall not race with an incorrect sail number unless her class rules permit this, and then only if she first applies in writing to the Race Committee to do so and receives permission.

6 SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 6.1 Date of racing: 6th January 2024
- 6.2 Number of races: There are 3 races scheduled for the day. It is expected to sail the first race before lunch, and the latter two races after the break with a short break between the two.
- 6.3 The competitors' briefing will take place on the day at approximately 10:20hrs.
- 6.4 The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race of the day is 10:57hrs.
- 6.5 The scheduled time of the warning signal for the day's second race is expected to be approximately 13:15..

7 CLASS FLAGS & FLEETS

- 7.1 The class flag for the RS Feva fleet shall be the No. 1 Pennant, the class flag for the Laser and Youth fleet shall be the No. 2 Pennant; the class flag for the Junior Handicap fleet shall be the No. 3 Pennant; the class flag for the Optimist fleet shall be the No. 4 Pennant. This shall also be the sequence of the fleet starts.

- 7.2 In the event that there are less than five boats in a fleet, that fleet's start will be combined with another, and the larger fleet's pennant will be applicable. The competitors' briefing will identify if this is to happen.

8 COURSE

- 8.1 The course to be sailed will be set around the club marks on Pennington Flash as shown in Attachment A.
- 8.2 Mark A, Mark H, Mark W and Mark Y are large orange pillar buoys and may be set on any part of the course.
- 8.3 All boats must sail through the start/finish line between the mast of the committee boat displaying an orange flag and the Dan Buoy showing an orange flag on completion of each lap. Boats that do not sail through the gate will not be scored for that lap.
- 8.4 The course and number of laps to be sailed will be displayed on the committee boat.
- 8.5 A different, shorter course may be set for the Optimist fleet. This course will be the lower line of the two courses shown on the committee boat. In this circumstance the course for the remaining fleets shall be displayed as the upper line on the committee boat. The competitors' briefing will identify if this is to happen.

9 THE START

- 9.1 Races will not be started according to RRS 26. They will instead be started on the sequence 3,2,1,0 min. The start for one fleet will be the 3 minutes warning for the following fleet.
- 9.2 In the event of a general recall the recalled fleet will start after all other fleets.
- 9.3 The starting line will be between the mast of the committee boat displaying an orange flag and the outer limit mark (A Dan Buoy Showing an Orange Flag).
- 9.4 When a buoy is laid close to the committee boat, not necessarily on the line, no boat while racing shall pass between to the committee boat and this buoy. The water between the buoy and the committee boat is not an obstruction when approaching the line to start.
- 9.5 The Preparatory signal may be the P, U or Black Flag visual signal
- 9.6 For a General Recalled Black Flag start, boats that were deemed to be BFD will not be displayed and may restart as normal but will be awarded a BFD in their results. It is requested that boats do not restart if it was clear that they were a premature starter. This changes RRS 30.4.

10 THE FINISH

The Finish Line will be between the mast of the committee boat displaying an orange flag and the outer limit mark (a Dan Buoy showing an Orange Flag).

11 SHORTENED COURSE

- 11.1 The course may be shortened by the committee boat displaying IC Flag "S" together with two sound signals at any point in the race. Any boat crossing the finish line after these sound signals will be given a finishing time Boats shall finish between the mast of the committee boat displaying an orange flag and the outer limit marker (Dan Buoy showing an Orange Flag)
- 11.2 Alternatively the course may be shortened by stationing a boat on the required side of a rounding mark and displaying IC Flag "S" together with two sound signals.
- 11.3 Once the signal is sounded all boats shall complete the lap they are currently sailing.

12 OBSTRUCTIONS

The following areas are designated as an obstruction:

- 12.1 The nature reserve beyond club racing marks 3, 4, 5, and 6, which is marked with green buoys
- 12.2 In the proximity of fishermen's equipment (approx. 20 metres from shore)

- 12.3 A yellow buoy near Mark 7 indicating the approximate position of an underwater obstruction which should be passed on the deep-water side.
- 13 **TIME LIMIT**
Rule 35 will not apply. A boat that has not finished within 20 minutes after the first boat in her fleet will be scored DNF. The Race Officer may at their discretion award a boat a finishing position.
- 14 **DECLARATIONS**
A boat that does not finish or retires after finishing shall declare its sail number on the retirement sheet posted on the registration desk no later than 30 minutes after the last boat finishes the race (or the last race if races are sailed back-to-back).
- 15 **PROTESTS**
Protest and requests for redress must be verbally notified to the Race Officer within 30 minutes of the last boat finishing the race (or the last race sailed if races are sailed back-to-back) and the completed protest form handed in within 15 minutes of the verbal notification. This may be extended at the Race Officer's discretion.
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 race control box or another suitable venue.
The Race Committee may provide an arbitrator who on request will be prepared to meet the protestor and the protestee on the incident and the rule in question in the hope that the protestor and protestee can come to an agreement before it goes forward as a formal protest. This procedure in no way precludes or replaces the normal established protest procedure.
- 16 **SCORING**
The Low Point scoring system Appendix A will apply. A series will consist of at least one race. When fewer than 3 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
When 3 or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
- 17 **PRIZES**
As a minimum, prizes will be awarded to the first three boats in each fleet unless there are fewer than 4 boats within the fleet.
- 18 **INSURANCE**
Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £3,000,000 per event or the equivalent.
- 19 **RISK STATEMENT**
Rule 4 of the Racing Rules of Sailing 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 involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:
a) 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.
b) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore.
c) They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions.

- d) Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate.
e) The provision of a race management team, patrol boats, umpires and other officials and volunteers by the organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities.
f) The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances.

20 **PROPULSION – PROHIBITED ACTIONS**

In accordance with rule 69, any boat breaking rule 42 may be penalised without a hearing.

Appendix P will not apply.

21 **Rule 41 OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE**

Coach and Safety boat crews will aim to provide coaching and assistance to less experienced sailors.

