

FLUSHING SAILING CLUB SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

1.1 Club racing will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing 2017 - 2020*.

1.2 Racing Rules & Race Signals have changed as follows:

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| (a) | RRS A4 | see rule 9.7 |
| (b) | RRS A5 | see rule 9.7 |
| (c) | RRS A9 | see rule 19.5 |
| (d) | RRS 26 | see rule 9.5 |
| (e) | RRS 29.2 and RRS Race Signals | see rule 9.8 |
| (f) | RRS 32.2 | see rule 14.1 |
| (g) | RRS 35 | see rule 17.3 |
| (h) | RRS 40 | see rule 24.2 |
| (i) | RRS 44.1 | see rule 16 |

1.3 2019 IRC Rules Part A, B, C & D.

1.4 AMENDMENT TO IRC RULE - IRC Rule 22.4.2 to change to IRC Certificate crew number + 1.

2. LOCAL RULES

- (a) Racing is prohibited inside mooring areas as defined in the chart Appendix B. After her preparatory signal until finishing or retiring, no boat shall sail inside, or touch, the straight line joining the course side of the moorings. A boat that touches or crosses the line joining the course side of the moorings may NOT be exonerated by accepting a penalty. For the avoidance of doubt, touching a mooring buoy shall be regarded as touching the line joining course side of the moorings.
- (b) St Mawes South Cardinal Mark: racing boats shall at all times keep to seaward of this mark whilst racing.
- (c) Commercial Shipping: all boats shall not interfere with a commercial vessel. Competitors who interfere with commercial vessels shall be protested by the Race Committee under RRS Part 2 Pre-amble and may be disqualified.
- (d) Diving: no boat shall interfere with any diving activity as defined in SI 15.3.
- (e) VHF Radio Channel 72: no boat shall, from 18.05hrs on Tuesdays, 13.45hrs on Saturdays broadcast on Channel 72 except when contacting the Race Officer or when requiring emergency assistance.

3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the FSC website and on the Club notice board at least 24 hours before they are to take effect.

3.2 In the event of a commercial shipping movement during race times a white flag will be flown on the Club flagstaff and on the Committee Boat.

3.3 The Race Officer's Team will broadcast course information on Channel 72.

4. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

4.1 Any changes to the sailing instructions will be posted on the FSC website and on the Club notice board least 24 hours before they are to take effect.

5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1 When there is a Committee Boat start an orange flag will be flown from the Club flagstaff.

6. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 6.1 Racing will take place on Tuesdays and Saturdays for series racing. Special races may be sailed on other days which will be shown in the FSC handbook Sailing Calendar. Special races will be subject to separate Sailing Instructions.
- 6.2 Warning signals will be as follows: Tuesdays 18.05hrs, Saturdays 13.45hrs.

7. SCHEDULED START TIMES

Class		Tuesday	Saturday
Flag	Warning Signal	18.05	13.45
	Preparatory Signal	18.10	13.50
M	Multi Hulls	18.15	-
Q	IRC/Byron Yachts >.851 IRC	18.20	13.55
U	IRC/Byron Yachts ≤.851 IRC	18.25	14.00
V	Sunbeams	18.30	14.05
W	Byron Yachts (White Sail)	18.35	14.05
G	Handicap Gaffers (Tuesdays)	18.40	-
C	Working Boats (small)	18.45	14.10
	C Class have their own start on Saturdays only when 3 or more boats		
G	Handicap Gaffers (Saturdays)	-	14.15
B	Working Boats (large)	18.45	14.35

8. STARTING SIGNALS

Warning signals will be made 10 minutes before each start. Preparatory signals will be made 5 minutes before the first start. After the first preparatory signal, the start for each class will be the preparatory signal for the next class. Signals may be made by flags or by VHF Channel 72 or both at the discretion of the Race Officer. When flags are being used, the P flag will go up for the first start and remain until the last start (see Scheduled Start Times). This changes RRS 26.

9. THE START

- 9.1 Starts will be in the Carrick Roads on Tuesdays and off the Club line on Saturdays. Classes M, Q, W & U may be set courses extending to Falmouth Bay.
- 9.2 On Tuesdays and for some special races, the start line will be between a mast on the Committee Boat displaying an orange flag and a buoy displaying an FSC burgee.
- 9.3 All classes on Saturdays except Class B will start from an imaginary line through the transit marks situated above the clubhouse.
- 9.4 On Saturdays and for some special races B Class will start between a mark displaying an FSC burgee and an orange flag on a Committee Boat moored in the inner harbour.
- 9.5 Races will be started using the start sequence outlined in rule 8. This changes RRS 26.
- 9.6 After rounding the first mark, boats shall not pass through the start line in either direction. The penalty shall be disqualification.
- 9.7 A boat that does not start within 4 minutes after her starting signal shall be recorded Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A4 and RRS A5.

- 9.8 General Recalls: IC flag First Substitute will be displayed until all boats have returned or until 4 minutes after the starting signal whichever is earlier. The starting signal of the last class in the starting sequence will be the warning signal of the recalled class. In the event of more than one general recall, their starting sequence shall be in the same order as the scheduled starts.

This changes RRS 29.2 and RRS Race Signals.

10. CLASS FLAGS

Class flags shall be displayed from the backstay or mainsail leech by all boats except Classes M & V.

11. COURSES

- 11.1 Courses appropriate to the wind direction will be selected from groups of courses shown in Appendix A. The course to be sailed will be announced on VHF Channel 72.
- 11.2 The group selected will be indicated by a numeral pennant displayed from the Committee Boat mast on Tuesdays or from the Club flagstaff for Inner Harbour starts.
- 11.3 Appendix A shows courses for Inner Harbour starts and courses for Carrick Roads starts.

12. MARKS

- 12.1 Marks are as shown on the chart in Appendix C.
- 12.2 In the case of special races, marks other than those shown in Appendix C may be used.
- 12.3 For all classes except B class, if two rounds are to be sailed the turning mark at the end of round 1 will be a buoy carrying a green flag, positioned on the approach to the Club finishing line. This mark is to be left to starboard at all times except when finishing when it is not a mark of the course and may be passed on either side.
- 12.4 In the event that B Class is to sail 2 rounds, their turning mark shall be the PIN end of B class start line. This mark must be taken to starboard except when finishing when it is not a mark of the course and may be passed on either side.

13. THE FINISH

- 13.1 Club finish: the Club finish line is an imaginary line through the transit marks on the clubhouse roof.

14. SHORTENING COURSES

- 14.1 Harbour finish: when IC flag S is displayed on a Committee Boat positioned in the area of the Eastern most end of the Northern arm of the docks, the finishing line will be between the mast on the finishing boat displaying IC flag S and the Eastern most end of the Northern arm of the docks. Those classes whose courses are shortened will finish from the direction of the last mark.

This changes RRS 32.2.

- 14.2 On Saturdays when the race is shortened to just one round the turning mark will not be a mark of the course. Boats should proceed directly to the finish line.

15. AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS

- 15.1 Mooring areas: straight lines between the course side of the mooring buoys (whether a vessel is attached or not) on the outer line on both sides of the fairway are designated as continuing obstructions. See Appendix B.
- 15.2 Commercial shipping: moving exclusion zones around commercial vessels constricted by their draft or size are designated obstructions. Such exclusion zones extend to 100m on all sides of the

vessel and include tugs, pilot boats and safety boats escorting the vessel. No competitor is to enter the exclusion zone, and, if becalmed, is to use their engine or other means of propulsion to move out of the way. This should only be sufficient to move out of the exclusion zone, and the distance travelled should be the shortest necessary to keep clear.

- 15.3 Diving activity: a 30m exclusion zone around a dive boat displaying IC flag A, an orange pillar mark indicating a diver beneath the surface, and a diver on the surface are designated obstructions. No competitor at any time is to enter the exclusion zone.

16. PENALTY SYSTEM

For all classes, RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

17. TIME LIMIT

- 17.1 Race time limit will be 20.45hrs for evening races. If at least one boat in a class finishes within the time limit an extension of 30 minutes is allowed for that class only.
- 17.2 For afternoon races the time limit is 17.30hrs. There will be no extension.
- 17.3 In classes where more than one round is scheduled and no boat in the class completes the course within the time limit, the Race Officer may at his/her discretion declare a result based on times at the end of the first round. RRS 35 will not apply.

18. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 18.1 Protest forms are available at FSC and on the website.
- 18.2 The intention to protest must be declared either to the FSC Commodore, Vice Commodore, Hon. Sailing Secretary or the Race Officer within 60 mins of the time limit of the race. Written protests must be received by 18.00hrs on the day following.
- 18.3 Protests will be heard in the clubhouse at 19.30hrs on a date to be notified to the protested and protestor.
- 18.4 Misleading or incorrect information given out by radio will not be accepted as a valid reason to protest.

19. SCORING

- 19.1 When a skipper/owner carries out Race Officer duties during a series, the boat will be awarded points equal to the first boat in the class. If a skipper/owner carries out the duty on more than one occasion, only the first occasion will qualify for first place points.
- 19.2 If the skipper/owner carries out Race Officer duties and the boat sails, the boat will be awarded points equal to its final position.
- 19.3 Race discards will operate as follows:

11 or more races.....	8 to count	9-10 races	7 to count
8 races	6 to count	7 races	5 to count
5 or 6 races	4 to count	4 races	3 to count
3 races	2 to count		
- 19.4 Pursuit races will be subject to special instructions.
- 19.5 RRS A9 is amended so that a boat that did not come to the starting area shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats entered in the series and that have taken part in at least one race.

20. WHITE SAIL (W) CLASS & PURSUIT RACES

Boats competing in W class shall use only upwind sails, and no more than two upwind sails, on all points of sailing. Use of a downwind sail is not permitted. Boats competing in pursuit races shall stay in the same class for all of that series.

21. HANDICAPS

IRC entrants shall produce their 2019 certificates prior to racing. Entrants in Byron classes will be handicapped using the Byron system of handicapping. The Byron system may be modified for FSC Club racing at the Sailing Committee's discretion.

22. ABANDONMENT OF RACES

When races are abandoned any signals will be made as early as possible and will continue to be displayed until the last affected class start time. Points races will not be re-scheduled. Special races may be re-scheduled at the discretion of the Race Committee. Notification of re-scheduled races may be posted on FSC website and Club notice board.

23. RACE COMMITTEE

The Race Committee shall consist of the Vice Commodore, Sailing Secretary and the Race Officer.

24. SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 24.1 A boat retiring from a race must inform the Race Officer by radio or phone the Sailing Office within 60 mins. Tel: 01326 374043. Competitors failing to do so may be protested by the Race Committee and scored DNE (non-discardable disqualification). This changes RRS A4.
- 24.2 MOCRA competitors shall wear personal flotation devices at all times when afloat. Wet suits and dry suits are not flotation devices. This changes RRS 40.
- 24.3 Safety equipment shall be carried in accordance with class rules and those specified in the Notice of Race.
- 24.4 Anchors shall not be carried forward of the stem or with any part outboard, except when anchoring.

25. OFFSHORE RACES

- 25.1 A contact number where the crew list is available must be advised to the Club before racing. The RYA SafeTrx mobile App has now replaced the CG66, formerly submitted to HM Coastguard. Competitors may download this app free (Apple Store or Google Play) and ensure that they are registered. Alternatively, register on the RYA website at www.safetrx.rya.org.uk.
- 25.2 The skipper must ensure that the Race Officer has a record of the yacht finishing or retiring as each yacht must be accounted for at the end of the race. Failure to do so may incur a penalty.
- 25.3 Race instructions will be available on the FSC website and FSC Clubhouse.

26. PRIZES

Prizes will be presented at Flushing Sailing Club's annual Prize-Giving unless alternative arrangements have been made. For Q and U classes, prizes will be awarded on the basis of the IRC handicap only.

27. EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and Sailing Instructions.

28. INSURANCE

Each participating boat is required to hold adequate insurance for racing and in particular to hold insurance against third party claims in the sum of at least £3,000,000.

29. **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 nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently 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 and 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 and other officials and volunteers by the event organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
- (f) For offshore races they are responsible for ensuring that their boat is equipped and seaworthy so as to be able to face extremes of weather; that there is a crew sufficient in number, experience and fitness to withstand such weather and that the safety equipment is properly maintained, stowed and in date and is familiar to the crew;
- (g) It is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks specific to the venue or event drawn to their attention in any rules and information produced for the venue or event and to attend any safety briefing held for the event;
- (h) Flushing Sailing Club cannot provide patrol boat / safety boat cover for the duration of the racing.