

Open Meeting - Sunday 14th April 2024

For the Carsington BLAZE open combined with Club racing

Sailing Instructions

1.0 General

- 1.1 The Current Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), RYA Prescriptions, these Sailing Instructions, the Rules of Carsington Sailing Club Ltd, Class Rules and Severn Trent Water plc's requirements will apply to all involved in racing. Open Meetings will be covered by separate instructions.
- 1.2 The buoyancy, safety of the boat, crew and her management are the sole responsibility of person in charge of her. It is the sole responsibility of the helm/crew to decide if it is safe for them to go afloat, taking into account the state of the craft, their own sailing experience and ability and the weather conditions during the time they are afloat. See Risk Statement below.

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.
 - g. It is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with risks specific to this venue or this 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. Their boat is adequately insured, with cover of not less than £3 million against third party claims.
- 1.3 All persons shall wear appropriate buoyancy aids whilst afloat. Wet and / or dry suits alone are not adequate personal buoyancy. Auto-inflation lifejackets must be worn on the outside of all clothing. Protective clothing shall be worn in accordance with Club Rule 7.4.

- 1.4 A registration form shall be completed prior to racing and the appropriate fee paid by the person in charge of the boat.
- 1.6 The Course area is the Sailing area of the reservoir **except** for the 'out of bounds' areas, where it is prohibited to sail at all times (marked by either orange or white buoys).
- 1.7 Extra care should be taken in multi-user areas shared with the Carsington Water Sports Centre. Craft from the Centre may be crewed by persons with no knowledge of collision and avoidance rules. Boats shall keep clear of these craft at all times. These craft shall be designated "an obstruction".
- 1.8 When I C Flag "A" is displayed on the orange buoys marking the diving area, this indicates that divers are active, and boats shall keep clear.
- 1.9 No spinnaker shall be flown in the "Bay Area" (the area in front of the Clubhouse where boat moorings are in place) unless I C Flag "E" is displayed on the Clubhouse flagpole.
- 1.10 A declaration sheet is in the Clubhouse to be signed by the person in charge of a boat who has retired, is protesting (forms available from the office), or is requesting redress. The time limit for declaration 30 minutes after the finish of the last boat. If the races are back to back the time limit is from the time the last boat finishes the last race.
- 1.11 A minimum number of starters for a valid race in a Fleet is two.
- 1.12 4 knots minimum wind strength is required over the whole water to start a race. The Race Officer will decide whether there is enough wind to race.
- 1.13 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the Clubhouse flagpole on the front patio. When flag AP is flown ashore, "1 minute" is replaced by "not less than 20 minutes" (Change to race signals).
- 1.14 The Schedule and Starting Times of Races will be as published in the Notice of Race and confirmed below, but may be subject to change on the day.
- 1.15 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official Race Notice Board located in the Clubhouse.
- 1.16 The Warning Flags and Starting order will be as indicated below

2.0 The Course

- 2.1 The course to be sailed are planned to be as close to a trapezoidal as possible using fixed club marks. A moveable windward mark, "W" may be used which will be decided by the Race Officer and displayed using the numbers board on the committee boat. Racing will be jointly with club racing, but with separate starts. There are also two other moveable marks "X" and "Y" which may be used to supplement the fixed marks, has decided by the Race Officer.

Blaze Class Association In the morning your first warning signal will be the start of the mixed handicap fleet at 10.30 am There will be two races, the second one back-to-back. Club racing is on a 4min warning flag, 2min Blue Peter, go.

Your start sequence will be 5:4:1 go. For the second race, again your warning signal is the start of club racing.

Club Racing may be on a different course. This will be explained at the briefing.

There will be a break for lunch after the second race

PM Race Three **Blaze Start first**. Target time 1.30 pm with Mixed handicap to follow, your start being the warning signal for them, followed by an additional novices race, starting 2mins after handicap start. They will most likely be on a smaller course. Again main club handicap race may also be on a different course.

Race Four back to back

There are three supplementary Marks available to use at the Race Officers discretion "W" "X" and "Y" This will be explained at the briefing.

2.2 In the event of a **general recall** your amended warning signal will be one minute after your start in any of the morning races.

In the Afternoon your warning signal will be the start of the Novice race.

For Club Racing, a general recall in the morning will move your warning signal to the Blaze start.

In the Afternoon your warning signal will be the Novice start.

3.0 The Marks

3.1 For this Open Meeting Club marks will be used which are numbered – course number will depend on the course laid.

4.0 The Start

4.1 An Orange Flag shows the Race Officer is in position at the Start Line.

4.2 Racing signals will be made 5,4,1 Go unless the start is with normal Club Racing. As explained above

4.3 If the Open Meeting involves more than one class each with their own start the Warning Signal for the next Start i.e. Fleet Flag will be displayed at the start signal of the preceding Class, except for the novice race.

4.4 The Start line will be closed 5 minutes after the last Start.

5.0 The Finish

5.1 The "About to Finish Signal" will be a Blue Flag displayed on the Committee Boat plus 2 sound signals as well as the individual finishing Class flag(s). If all Classes are finishing only the Blue Flag shall be displayed. The "About to Finish Signal" (and class flag(s) if required) shall be displayed before the first boat of the Class to be finished rounds the leeward mark for their last time.

5.2 Shorten Course

If needed, a shorten course can be from a mark on the course to a rib showing Flag "S" Indicated by two sound signals together with any fleet flags as appropriate

5.3 The Finish Line will be:

- For a Committee Boat Finish – between a mast displaying a Blue Flag on the Committee Boat and the Outer Finish Mark.
- See also possible shorten course provision in 5.2. In this event the finishing line will be from the selected mark to the "S" flag on the rib set to allow the correct side of the mark to be passed based upon the course rounding.

5.4 The Race duration from the first (non-recalled) start will be approximately 40 mins

6.0 Time Limit & Target Times

- 6.1 The Time Limit of the race for each class will be the race finish time of the first boat in each class plus 30 minutes.
- 6.2 Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish. This changes rules 35, A4 and A5.

7.0 Scoring

- 7.1 The Low Point Scoring System will apply.
- 7.2 If there is a series score tie between two or more boats Appendix A8 shall be used to decide their series finishing position.

8.0 Changes to Sailing Instructions

- 8.1 Any proposed changes to these Sailing Instructions will be posted on the official Race Notice Board 45 minutes before the designated starting time of the race or races concerned. IC Flag "L" will be displayed on the Club flagpole.

