

Aldeburgh Yacht Club Sailing Instructions

Effective from 23 March 2018

These are the Sailing Instructions for all AYC events except for Regattas and Open Meetings

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River Alde & Ore Buoys

1. Rules

- 1.1. Organising Authority: The Organising Authority is the Aldeburgh Yacht Club (AYC).
- 1.2. Racing will be governed by the World Sailing Racing Rules of Sailing 2017-20(RRS), the rules of the relevant Class Association (as amended, where appropriate and with permission under RRS 87, by the AYC Sailing Committee), the AYC Local Rules and these Sailing Instructions including any amendments. In the event of conflict, these Sailing Instructions shall prevail - this changes RRS 63.7.

1.3. AYC Local Rules

- 1.3.1. Any boat which, while racing, fouls a moored boat, excluding any Committee Boat, not in the race shall retire from that race immediately. She must also file a report in the AYC Incident Book. Contact with the mooring buoy, rope or chain is permissible. Failure to retire will render her liable to disqualification. If the contact is the fault of another boat, that boat shall also immediately retire or be liable to disqualification and may not exonerate herself by doing a turn in accordance with RRS 44 as modified by these Sailing Instructions, by taking a Time Penalty or by the use of the Exoneration Penalty. The boat that fouled the moored boat may, however, gain redress if the contact is deemed by the Protest Committee, following a Protest Hearing, to be the fault of another boat even if that boat has already retired.
- 1.3.2. Boats shall leave the beacons marking the oyster beds to the South of the Martello Tower to the East. In addition a boat shall not cross to the Eastward side of an imaginary line joining these beacons.
- 1.3.3. All class boats will race under their own class rules and valid certificates must be produced on demand. Class Rules may be amended by the Sailing Committee in accordance with RRS 87. Any such amendments shall be posted in the AYC clubhouse.
- 1.3.4. *Declarations*: A general form of declaration will be posted in the Clubhouse. Competitors shall sign this form within one hour of the finishing time of the last boat in their race to the effect that the rules were observed. Any boat retiring shall report that fact on the declaration and any boat failing to declare shall be deemed to have retired.

2. Notices to Competitors

- 2.1. The Official Club Notice Board shall normally be located in the Clubhouse.
- 2.2. Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted on the Official Club Notice Board before 9am on the day it takes effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted before 8pm on the day before it will take effect.

3. Eligibility and entries

- 3.1. Before any boat may start a cup race she shall be entered on the entry form displayed in the Clubhouse and the prescribed fee shall have been paid. Failure to comply with this instruction will mean that the boat shall not rank as a starter.
- 3.2. In any series there will be a race provided at least one boat ranks as a starter.

- 3.3. A minimum of two boats must start in any Club Challenge Cup or Trophy except where the conditions in the Cups and Trophies booklet specify a greater number.
- 3.4. A minimum of three boats must participate in any points series over the course of the series before the series shall be valid and, additionally, not less than one third of the races scheduled must take place.
- 3.5. Multihull boats and sailboards shall only race in their own class or classes.
- 3.6. Lapwings shall not rank as starters unless they have passed their Annual Inspection conducted and recorded by an approved scrutineer in accordance with the current regulations as approved by the Sailing Committee.

4. Handicaps

- 4.1. The handicaps in force shall be those approved by the Club's Honorary Handicapper. They will normally be displayed in the Clubhouse and on the Website.

5. Schedule of Races

- 5.1. The Schedule of Races is as set out in the Club's Calendar

6. Class flags

- 6.1. The Class Flags will be as set out in the Club's Calendar.

7. Starting Procedure:

- 7.1. RRS 29.1, Individual Recall, is varied as follows: When at a boat's starting signal any part of her hull, crew or equipment is on the course side of the starting line the race committee shall leave her class flag flying "at the dip" with one sound signal. The flag shall be displayed until either (a) all such boats are completely on the pre-start side of the starting line but no later than four minutes after the starting signal or (b) one minute before any later starting signal, whichever is earlier. This amendment to RRS 29.1 does not apply to starts from a committee boat.
- 7.2. RRS 29.2, General Recall is varied as follows : A General Recall shall be signalled by two sounds and the First Substitute signalled by a flag or, if the AYC South Line is being used, displayed on a board.

8. Starts and Courses

8.1. Starts:

8.1.1. For shore-based starts the *starting line* will be either:

- 8.1.1.1. *The AYC Club line*, between the Signal Mast on the Club Bridge and the innermost of the two black and white poles on the west bank or
- 8.1.1.2. *The AYC South Line*, situated about 300 metres south of the AYC clubhouse, between a signal mast on the east side and the innermost of two black and white poles on the west side.

- 8.1.1.3. All races shall start on the AYC Club Line unless code flag “Q” is flown on the Club Signal Mast when the South Line shall be used, or code flag G is similarly flown indicating a Committee Vessel start.
- 8.1.2. For Committee Vessel starts the type of course and the approximate location of the Committee vessel on the river will be posted on the Official Club Notice Board at least 1 hour before the first start.
 - 8.1.2.1. The starting line will be between the mainmast of the Principal Committee Vessel and an orange spherical or cylindrical buoy.

8.2. Courses:

8.2.1. Courses using Club Marks;

- 8.2.1.1. These courses use the buoys shown on the chart attached as an Appendix to these Sailing Instructions and may also use specially laid buoys.
- 8.2.1.2. The Course will be described by letters set out after a board showing the flag for the class or handicap class to whom the course applies. These letters will be displayed on the Course Board at the appropriate AYC line if it is under paragraphs 8.1.1.1 or 8.1.1.2 above, or on the Principal Committee Vessel if the start is under 8.1.2.
- 8.2.1.3. The colour of each letter’s background, red (port) or green (starboard) indicates on which side that mark is to be left. The letters should be read from left to right starting with the letter immediately to the right of the board showing the class flag and then, reading the first row of the course board before moving onto the second row underneath if applicable. If the course has two or more rounds (each comprising the same marks rounded in the same order) a board with a number on it will be displayed on the Course Board.
- 8.2.1.4. Having rounded all the marks shown on the course board and completed the number of required rounds indicated, boats will sail to the finish at the AYC line after the last indicated mark has been rounded the requisite number of times.
- 8.2.1.5. Courses may be shortened at the AYC line whenever a course passes through it in accordance with RRS 32.2(b).
- 8.2.1.6. Note that at both the Club and South Lines the courses for two classes may be on display at the same time on the two separate course board mounting frames.
- 8.2.1.7. Also where two or more classes are to follow the same course this may be indicated by positioning two or more class boards in the frames with the course the letters then starting to the right of the final class board.
- 8.2.1.8. The position of any specially laid buoy(s) pursuant to 8.2.1.1 above will be indicated on the Official Club Noticeboard at least 1 hour before the start as will the letter(s) assigned to it/(them).
- 8.2.1.9. Elbow mark and Cob Island Beacon shall be marks of the course for courses set under 8.1.1.1 or 8.1.1.2 above. They will not be shown on the Course Board but shall be left to the southwest whenever they are passed. In a course using Dove Point mark, Havergate Island shall be passed on the same side as Dove Point mark.
- 8.2.1.10. Marks, except for Elbow mark, Quay mark, Dove Point mark and Cob Island beacon are pillar buoys with a red top mark carrying their identification letter. Elbow mark is a yellow buoy with a black and white top mark. Quay mark is a white spherical buoy. Dove Point buoy is a South Cardinal. Cob Island Beacon is a metal post with top mark located on the site of the old Cob Island south of the disused Brick Dock.

8.2.2. Windward-Leeward courses

- 8.2.2.1. If Windward-Leeward courses are to be sailed, the course will be posted on the Official Club Notice Board at least 1 hour before the start of the first race.
- 8.2.2.2. The provisions of 8.2.1.8 do not apply to courses under 8.2.2.
- 8.2.3. The course may be changed in accordance with RRS 33.

8.3. The *finishing line* will be

- 8.3.1. For courses set under 8.1.1 the finish will be at the AYC Club Line.
- 8.3.2. For courses set in accordance with 8.1.2, the finish line will be accordance with the course instructions.

9. Time limit (changes RRS 35):

- 9.1. For races on any course passing Dove Point: 7 hours after starting signal.
- 9.2. For other individual cup or trophy races: 4 hours after starting signal.
- 9.3. For other races: 3 hours after starting signal.
- 9.4. Boats finishing outside the stated time limits shall not rank as finishers. This changes RRS 35

10. Penalties for infringing a Rule of Part 2 of the RRS

- 10.1. The “two-turn” penalty specified in RRS 44.1 for a breach of any provision of Part 2 of the RRS is reduced to a single 360 degree turn. A single 360 degree turn also exonerates any infringement of RRS 31. This shall apply to all classes except Cruisers and Dragons when participating in any race where Sailing Instruction 10.2 will apply.
- 10.2. Time Penalty: For Cruisers and Dragons a time penalty of 2% of the boat’s elapsed time shall be added to her elapsed time in the case of an acknowledged infringement of either a rule in Part 2 of the RRS or any infringement of RRS 31. This varies RRS 44.3.
- 10.3. Boats taking a penalty under 10.2 shall display a yellow flag as prescribed in RRS 44.3
- 10.4. When 10.1 or 10.2 applies, RRS 44.1(b) shall also apply.
- 10.5. The Exoneration Penalty and the Advisory Hearing and RYA Arbitration of the RYA Rules Dispute Procedures will be available - see the Club Notice Board for details.

11. Scoring System

- 11.1. Unless para 11.2 applies, the scoring system set out in Appendix A of the RRS shall apply.
- 11.2. In the Spring, Summer, Autumn, Winter, Wednesday Evening, and August Afternoon series, 60% of the races sailed rounded up will count for the series result. The scoring system will be as set out in Appendix A of the RRS, except that A4.2 shall be amended so that boats that Retired, Did not Finish, Did not Declare, On Course Side of the line, and Disqualified, shall all score one more point than the number of boats starting the race. Not ranking as a starter shall score points equal to the number of boats ranking as a starter in the series.

- 11.3. Bridge Duties and Patrol Boat Duties: If a boat is precluded from racing because her normal helm or crew is serving as Officer of the Day or assisting in patrol boat duties, such a boat shall score points equivalent to its average placing in all other races of the same series which counted to its score after taking into account any discards. Such points shall count in the overall result of the series as though the boat had sailed in that race, provided that the number of races for which average points are claimed does not exceed 20% of the total races sailed in the series. The result code 'RDGa' will be shown against the relevant boat and race in the series scoring programme and the points so scored may vary on the series scoring sheets until the series is completed.

12. Protests

- 12.1. In alteration to RRS 61.3 Protests shall be given to a member of the Sailing Committee or the AYC Secretary and the Race Officer shall be informed by the Protester within 60 minutes of the last boat finishing the last race on that day.
- 12.2. Protest Hearings: Notices will be posted on the Official Notice Board within 30 minutes of the end of Protest Time to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses and of the location and time of the hearings.
- 12.3. Protests by the Race Committee: Notice of Protest by the Race Committee will be posted on the Official Club Notice Board to inform boats under RRS 61.1(b). By the display of such notice competitors shall be considered adequately informed of such a protest.

13. Other Rules

- 13.1. Series points trophies and individual trophies may be only awarded to members of the Aldeburgh Yacht Club unless otherwise specified in the Cups & Trophies conditions.
- 13.2. The Sailing Committee reserves the right to divide or amalgamate any race or races.
- 13.3. By participating in a race conducted under the Racing Rules of Sailing, each competitor and boat owner agrees:
- 13.3.1. to be governed by the rules
 - 13.3.2. to accept the penalties imposed and other action taken in accordance with the rules subject to the appeal and review procedures provided in them as to the final determination of any matter arising under the rules;
 - 13.3.3. with respect to such determination, not to resort to any Court or Tribunal not provided by the rules.

14. Juniors

- 14.1. For the purpose of racing only, a Junior is one who will not have reached his or her 18th birthday by 31 December of the year in which he or she is racing.
- 14.2. Adults may sail with Juniors. However, conditions as printed in the Club's Challenge Cups & Trophies Booklet will apply and in no case may a Junior helm win any junior cup or trophy if an adult has been carried during the series or race.
- 14.3. Mirror Dinghy spinnakers may be used in Junior Lapwing races.

15. Risk Statement

- 15.1. RRS 4 states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone."
- 15.2. 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:
- 15.3. 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;
- 15.3.1. They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;
- 15.3.2. They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;
- 15.3.3. Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
- 15.3.4. 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;
- 15.3.5. The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances;
- 15.3.6. Their boat is adequately insured, with cover of at least £3m against third party claims
- 17.4. The provision of safety equipment and patrol boats by Aldeburgh Yacht Club is neither a guarantee that assistance can be rendered to any competitor in need, nor an acceptance of any responsibility for rescue of competitors. Further in the event that assistance is rendered to any competitor, no liability for any loss, damage or injury to the competitor and/or boat and its equipment is accepted by either the Club or crew of such patrol craft.

18. Safety Precautions

- 18.1. RRS Rules: Attention is drawn to the following Fundamental Rules included in Part 1 of the Racing Rules.
- 18.1.1. Helping those in danger: A boat or competitor shall give all possible help to any person or vessel in danger.
- 18.1.2. Life saving equipment and personal flotation devices: A boat shall carry adequate life saving equipment for all persons on board, including one item ready for immediate use, unless her class rules make some other provision.
- 18.2. Personal flotation devices must be worn by juniors in all races. All other competitors must wear personal flotation devices when:
- 18.2.1. competing in dinghies, and / or
- 18.2.2. competing in either the Spring or Winter Series.
- 18.2.3. the Race Officer is aware of a forecast of winds of Force 6 or above or has other reason to anticipate them Flag Y will be flown at the Start Line and personal flotation devices must be worn by all competitors in compliance with RRS 40.
- 18.3. A wetsuit or dry suit is not an adequate personal flotation device.

- 18.4. Decision to race: A boat is solely responsible for deciding whether or not to start or continue racing.
- 18.5. Class requirements: All boats must conform with the safety requirements laid down by their Class Rules.
- 18.6. Club Motor Boats: When a motor boat is accompanying a race as a patrol boat it may not interrupt its duties to ferry crews to or from their craft on moorings. Persons using the Club motor boats to be ferried out to their boats shall obey any instructions given by the Boatman, or other person in charge of that boat, in respect of all matters including the numbers of persons on board and the authorised capacity of that boat. Failure to do so may result in the disqualification of the boat or any boat helmed or crewed by offenders from the race or series of races.
- 18.7. Junior Sailing
- 18.7.1. Parents and Guardians are reminded that SAILING IS POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS. They cannot expect Aldeburgh Yacht Club to know the capability of every child or ward to cope with fair or marginal sailing conditions, and the responsibility for allowing Juniors to sail lies solely with Parents or Guardians.
- 18.7.2. The Club will aim to provide a patrol boat for official Junior races.
- 18.7.3. A patrol boat may well not be provided for other races.
- 18.7.4. All Juniors must always wear personal flotation devices when competing in any race, and it shall be the sole responsibility of the child's parent or guardian to ensure this rule is observed. A wet suit or dry suit is not adequate personal flotation device. Responsibility for the efficiency, fit and maintenance of the personal flotation devices lies with the parents or guardians who are urged to check this item regularly.

19. Traditional Courses

- 19.1. Certain Cups and Trophies are by tradition sailed over a particular course and Officers of the Day are requested to adopt the traditional course unless conditions on the day make this undesirable. Additionally for those Cup and Trophy races marked with an asterisk below then the Officer of the Day shall set the traditional course listed:

| | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE ALDE * | } |
| CLARKE CUP * | } All sailed over |
| SIR ERNEST RONEY CUP * | } Course "D" |
| THE JUBILEE BOWL * | } |
| VAUGHAN BROWN CUP * | } |
| ADAIR HILL WOOD CUP * | } |
| SHELDRIK CUP * | } |
| THE MILNE CUP * | } |
| THE MARGARET RONEY CUP | } |
| DAVID GALSWORTHY TROPHY HC | twice round |
| ACHESON TROPHY HC | three times round |
| FENWICK CUP HZ | twice round |
| MRS GROGONO'S CUP * MW | four times round |
| THE LITTLE GARRETT CUP K | ignoring Cob Island beacon |

Appendix – Buoys

River Alde & Ore buoys

