



The RUTLAND CHALLENGE For the JOHN MERRICKS TIGER TRUST

Sailing Instructions

1st & 2nd Feb 2014



1. RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the prescriptions of the RYA, under rule 87 the rules of the participating Classes (except as any of these are changed by these sailing instructions) the Notice of Race and by these sailing instructions.
- 1.2 **The event is open to all centreboard classes with PY number 1300 and below.** Classes above this will be permitted to enter but will have to sail to PY 1300. Handicaps to be used will be as published on the Official Notice Board. New classes will be given a 'trial' handicap and may be subject to revision during the event.
- 1.3 Attention is drawn to the requirement for all boats to sail according to their respective class rules, particularly regarding WEIGHT EQUALISING rules. However, class rules which permit pumping, rocking and ooching in certain wind conditions and/or change penalty turns (rules 44.1 and 44.2) are suspended for the purposes of this regatta.
- 1.4 If issued at Registration, boats in the 'Fast Handicap fleet' will be required to fly a streamer attached to the main halyard at the top of the mast.
- 1.5 Entries by persons under 18 years old must be counter-signed by their parents or guardians
- 1.6 If there is conflict between the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions, the Sailing Instructions will apply. This changes Rule 63.7
- 1.7 Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make nor receive text messages or cellular phone calls via personal equipment while racing, with the exception for this event of the GPS tracker provided by the race organisers for the purpose of spectator interest and post-race analysis.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board situated in the wet bar at the eastern end of the Club House.
- 2.2 Race Control for purposes of results queries, signing on Sunday, protest forms etc will be situated "club reception" at the entrance of the clubhouse

3. CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1 Any changes to the sailing instructions will be posted on the official notice board, one hour before the advertised start of the race or races concerned, except that any change in the schedule of races on Sunday will be posted by 7pm on Saturday

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be hoisted on the flagpole located on the Club balcony at the western end.
- 4.2 When Flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes' in the race signal AP

SATURDAY - General Handicap

5. SCHEDULE OF RACES.

BRIEFING 11:00
Race 1 warning 12:00
Race 2 warning as soon as possible after Race 1.

Race 3 warning as soon as possible after Race 2.

6. CLASS FLAGS

- 6.1 Fast Handicap fleet – plain Yellow Flag
- 6.2 Slow Handicap fleet – plain Red Flag
- 6.2 Class allocations to fleets will be posted on the official notice board by 11:00hrs on Saturday.

7. RACE AREA

- 7.1 The area of the lake to be used for the series will be notified on the official notice board and at the briefing

8. THE COURSES

- 8.1 Trapezoid course (see Attachment A). All boats will sail on the same course.
- 8.2 There will be no specified number of laps.

SATURDAY - General Handicap

- 8.3 Boats MUST sail through the Gate/Finish at the end

SUNDAY - Pursuit

SCHEDULE OF RACES.

BRIEFING 10:00
Race 4 warning 10:50am
The start schedule for classes will be posted on the Official Notice board no later than 10:00 Sunday

CLASS FLAGS

Numeral pennant 2 will be used to signal the first warning and last start

RACE AREA

The race area may encompass any part of Rutland Water, within the limits of sailing.

THE COURSE

The Course will be displayed on the Official Notice board no later than 10:15hrs on Sunday.
There will be no limit to the number of laps to be sailed. The duration of the race will be a fixed time as specified on the official notice board

SUNDAY - Pursuit

of each lap.

9. MARKS

9.1 The course marks will be black buoys.

9.2 Starting and finishing marks will be race committee boats and any attachments;

10. AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS

10.1 Fishing boats, water towers, Rutland Belle and launching pontoons are designated as obstructions

11. THE START

11.1 Races will be started using rule 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal as follows

min	Signal	Flag		Sound
- 5	Fast Warning	Yellow	Up	One
- 4	Fast Prep	P,I or Black	Up	One
- 1	Fast 1 minute	P,I or Black	Down	One
0	Fast Start	Yellow	Down	One
	Slow Warning	Red	Up	One
+ 1	Slow Prep.	P,I or Black	Up	One
+ 4	Slow 1 minute	P,I or Black	Down	One
+ 5	Slow Start	Red	Down	One

11.2 The start line will be between masts displaying ORANGE flags on Race Committee boats at each end of the line. Signals will be made from the committee boat at the starboard end of the line.

11.3 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other fleets

11.4 A boat starting later than 4 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes rule A4

11.6 In the event of a general recall for the Fast Handicap fleet, the Slow Handicap start sequence will be delayed until the correct start of the Fast handicap fleet.
If a general recall has been signalled for either start, a RIB, positioned ahead of the start line may wave a staff displaying 1st Substitute. Failure to display this signal will not be grounds for redress.

12. CHANGE OF NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

12.1 Legs will not be changed after the first boat has passed the starting mark for that leg.

MARKS

The course marks will be RSC club racing marks and/or yellow or black buoys.

Starting marks will be a race committee boat and any attachments, and a dan buoy or committee boat flying an orange flag. See 'The Finish' for finishing marks

AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS

Fishing boats, Rutland Belle, water towers and launching pontoons are designated as obstructions

THE START

Rule 26 is amended as below (based on a 120 min race) and times shall be taken from the SOUND signals; the absence or timing of a visual signal shall be disregarded

Min	Signal	Board	Flag	Sound
- 10	Warning		Num 2 Up	One
- 5	Prep.	0	P Up	One
0	1 st Start	1	P Down	One
+ 1	Next Start	2		One
+ 2	Next Start	3		One
+ 3	Next Start	4		One
Etc	Next Start			
	Last Start		Num 2 Down	

Board numbers (representing a count up from 0 being the first start) will be displayed on the Race Committee boat and race box on the shore.

Subsequent signals will be given at one minute intervals and classes will start at the times posted on the Official Notice Board.

The start line will be located near the RSC Clubhouse and will be between a mast displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee boat at the starboard end and the port end starting mark or committee boat displaying an Orange flag.

Boats may not enter the starting area until after the starting signal of the previous start

There will be no time limit for boats starting after their scheduled start

Rule 29.1 *Individual Recall* is amended such that Flag "X" will be displayed for a maximum of 30 seconds.

In the event of a general recall for a start, 1st substitute will be lowered after 1 minute without a sound signal and the recalled class(s) will start 3 minutes after their previous start time. Boats must return to the correct side of the course ROUND THE ENDS of the start line. Failure to return correctly will result in DISQUALIFICATION without a hearing

This amends Rule 29.2

CHANGE OF NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

Marks will not be changed after the leading boat has passed them for the first time.

SATURDAY – General Handicap		SUNDAY – Pursuit	
13.	THE FINISH		THE FINISH
13.1	The finish line will be between a staff displaying an ORANGE flag on the Race Committee boat at the PORT end and a staff displaying a blue flag on a Race Committee boat at the STARBOARD end.	a)	The finish line will either be: Between two RIB's, flying blue flags, motoring contrary to the direction of the race leaders. In order to be awarded a finish place, boats must pass between these two Ribs OR
13.2	The race will be finished by hoisting IC flag S with two sound signals. Once IC flag S is hoisted ALL boats will be finished the next time they cross the gate/finish line	b)	between a nearby mark of the course and a staff displaying a Blue flag on a finishing boat.
		13.3	The race will finish in the time as specified on the official notice board and is calculated from the point the preparatory flag is lowered. Courses may not be shortened. Rule 32.2 is deleted
		13.4	At the prescribed finish time, Two Long sound signals will be made by the Race Control Box, one of the finishing RIB's and the finish boats positioned near rounding marks to indicate the finishing time. So far as possible, a sound signal will be made by each finishing line boat to indicate the recording of subsequent finishers. NOTE: each finisher should make a record of the boat immediately in front and behind at the prescribed finish time for verification and signing off declaration (See below).
		13.5	After the finish time, boats must not overtake others but must remain in their relative positions and continue to sail the course to the next rounding mark until finished without passing another boat. At and after the finish signal, yachts must remain as near as possible to the straight line between the marks or obstructions delineating the leg of the course which they are sailing.
			Within 20 minutes of coming ashore, each helm shall sign off at Race Control, to confirm their position at finish (record class and number of boat in front & behind them) and whether the rules were complied with or the boat retired.
15.	TIME LIMITS		
15.1	If no boat has passed Mark 1 within 30 minutes of the Fast Handicap start, the race will be abandoned. Failure to meet the target time will not be grounds for redress. This changes rule 62.1(a).		
16.	PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS		
16.1	Protests and requests for redress shall be written on forms available at Race Control and delivered back there within the time limit		
16.2	The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the time of the last boat to finish. For races sailed back to back, the time limit will be 60 minutes from the last boat to finish the last race before returning to shore. This time limit will be extended by 30 minutes for protests by the race committee about incidents which they observe in the race area. This changes rules 61.3 and 62.2.		
16.3	A schedule of protest hearings will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors where and when there is a hearing in which they are party to a protest or named as witnesses.		
16.4	Breaches of instructions 1.4, 11.3, 14.2 and 18 will not be grounds for protest by a boat. This changes rule 60.1(a). Penalties for these breaches may be less than disqualification if the protest committee so decides		
17	RYA ARBITRATION		
17.1	The RYA Arbitration system will be available		
17.2	For the purpose of RYA Arbitration, the Exoneration penalty will be 30%		

18. SCORING

- 18.1 General handicap races will be scored on the basis of corrected average lap times. The pursuit race will place boats in the order in which they finished except that boats finished at a finish line boat will be awarded a position behind all boats finished further ahead on the course.
- 18.2 One race is required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 18.3 A boat's series score will be the total of her race scores. When three general handicap races have been completed, her worst general handicap score will be excluded. The Pursuit race is non-discardable.

19. SAFETY & RETIREMENT

- 19.1 All boats retiring, including retiring after finishing, shall sign the declaration sheet at Race Control

20. PRIZES

- 20.1 Prize giving will take place as soon as possible after the finish of the last race in the wet bar. DENNIS MERRICKS on behalf of the JOHN MERRICKS SAILING TRUST WILL PRESENT PRIZES.

21. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 21.1 Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RYA Racing Rule 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta

22. LOCAL VARIATIONS

- 22.1 Competitors shall give reasonable clearance to fishermen. NOTE that they may be drifting. 50m clearance is recommended
- 22.2 Boats shall not sail through moored boats in the East and West creek
- 22.3 "Rutland Belle" has right of way at all times.

Attachment A - Trapezoid Course

