

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS FOR COPPET WEEK 2008

1. RULES. Racing will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the prescriptions of the RYA, and the appropriate class rules except as varied by these Instructions, the Notice of Race and these Sailing Instructions. Coppet Week is designated as a Category C event for advertising. The Sailing Committee of Saundersfoot Sailing Club consisting of Commodore & Dinghy Captain shall be the Race Committee.

2. CONDITIONS OF ENTRY.

- a. The appropriate entry fee must be paid and competitors must sign on no later than one hour before the start of their first intended race, late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the Race Officer.
- b. A boat is entirely responsible for its own safety, whether afloat or ashore, and nothing whether in the Notice of Race, these Sailing Instructions or anywhere else, reduces this responsibility.
- c. It is for the boat to decide whether it is fit to sail in the conditions in which it finds itself. By launching or going to sea the boat confirms that it is fit for those conditions and that its crew is competent to sail and compete in them.
- d. The boat is required to hold adequate insurance and in particular to hold insurance against third party claims in the sum of at least £1m.
- e. Nothing done by the organisers can reduce the responsibility of the boat nor will it make the organisers responsible for any loss, damage, death or personal injury, however it may have occurred, as a result of the boat taking part in the racing. The organisers encompass everyone helping to run the race and the event, and include the organising authority, the race committee, the race officer, patrol boats and beach masters.
- f. The provision of patrol boats does not relieve the boat of its responsibilities.

3. SAFETY.

- a. All competitors shall wear an approved buoyancy aid at all times whilst racing and proceeding to and from the course area, failure to do so will result in disqualification.
- b. The instructions of the Race Officer or Patrol Boat Crew shall be obeyed at all times, and priority will always be given to the safety of competitors not to the salvage of boats or equipment, which if necessary will be anchored and recovered at the end of the race if possible.
- c. Any boat that retires from a race shall inform the Race Officer or a Patrol Boat of their intentions before going ashore or leaving the race area.
- d. A Tally system will be in operation for the duration of the Regatta and a Tally Number will be allocated to each boat at registration. Each helm intending to race shall remove the tally bearing his/her number from the board and wear it on the wrist or forearm at all times whilst racing and proceeding to and from the course area. Tallies will be released at the direction of the Race Officer or Beach Master, normally at least one hour before the advertised start of racing, and no boat should go afloat without first collecting its tally. Within 1 hour of the completion of the race, or races if sailed back to back, competitors shall return their tally to the board. It is the responsibility of every helmsman/woman to ensure that this procedure is strictly adhered to. Competitors failing to comply with the requirements of this instruction will be disqualified without appeal from the race or races involved. Competitors disqualified for a first offence under this instruction may be reinstated subject to the payment of a £5 fine the proceeds of which will go to the Royal National Lifeboat Institution. Rule 63.1 is amended accordingly.

4. NOTICES. All notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board in the Clubhouse and repeated on any tally board with the Beach Master.

5. CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS. Any changes to these sailing instructions will be posted on the official notice board at least two hours before the advertised start time of the race concerned. Changes to the schedule of races will be posted prior to 2200 on the previous day.

6. RACE SIGNALS. All race signals will be in accordance with the RRS and the Starters Box on the harbour wall will be considered as a committee boat for that purpose for races started from the harbour.

7. CLASS FLAG. The Warning signal will be Flag R.

8. SCHEDULE OF RACES.

		HW	Start	
Saturday	Briefing		2130	
Sunday	Race 1	0951	1000	RNLI Pennant
Monday	Race 2	1033	1000	
Tuesday	Race 3	1124	1030	
Wednesday	Race 4	1225	1200	
Thursday	Race 5	1333	1300	
Friday	Race 6	1444	1400	
Friday	Prizegiving		2030	

9. CLEARING THE HARBOUR. Paddles or other means of propulsion including accepting a tow may be used to clear the harbour entrance even after the preparatory signal, once the entrance is cleared only sail power shall be used. All boats shall keep clear of the Harbour mouth at all times other than whilst actually racing.

10. HANDICAPS. All boats will be handicapped according to their current Portsmouth Number unless a local Club Handicap is set by the Race Committee, these Club handicaps are generally based on results at previous Coppet Weeks, any boat not having a handicap must apply to the Race Committee prior to racing for a trial handicap number. A full list of all handicaps is displayed in the Clubhouse. The results will be worked out by calculation.

11. COMMITTEE BOAT COURSE. If a committee boat course is used boats will sail around a Triangular Course with the Start/Finish line forming a gate approximately a third of the way up the windward leg, this gate must be passed through on every upwind leg and at no other time whatsoever. All marks will be rounded to port, and the numbers of laps to be sailed will be displayed on a board on the committee boat. Once the race has been shortened then all boats, regardless of how many laps they have sailed, will finish the next time they cross the Finish line from the direction of the last mark. The course can be shortened at any time and at any point in the fleet and corrected times will be adjusted accordingly for the number of laps each boat sails. Notwithstanding the number of laps displayed boats with a handicap greater than 1645 (Optimists) will sail one lap only. See Course Diagram on notice board for further details.

12. CLUB RACE COURSE. Races will be raced around the Club Course with a Harbour start and finish.

a. The course to be sailed will be displayed on a board at the starters box that will indicate the marks of the course and the direction in which they are to be rounded, together with the number of laps to be sailed. Races will always consist of a number of identical laps. See Course Diagram for further details.

b. There are two possible start lines;

i. The Normal club line parallel to the beach indicated by start board H,

ii. The Alternative line at right angles to the beach indicated by start board S,

In both cases the line will be between the mast at the starters box flying the club burgee and the Outer Distance mark, the Inner Limit mark may not be on the line and is intended to keep boats away from the harbour mouth when starting and finishing.

c. When the Alternative start line is used it will normally remain open for a maximum of four minutes after the start after which it will be closed, in order to allow its relocation as the rounding mark/finish line.

d. In all cases the finish line will be the same as the Normal start line parallel to the beach. The Outer Distance mark of the finish will be the Harbour mark of the course, which will be returned to this position if the alternative start line has been used. All boats finishing must leave the Outer Distance mark to Starboard, that is from the direction of the last mark, this will also apply if the course has been shortened by a full lap or laps.

13. START SEQUENCE.

In accordance with RRS 26 (5 : 4 : 1 : Start)

14. FINISHING / SHORTEN COURSE. All races will consist of a number of identical laps, but all boats may not sail the same number of laps. Once the race has been shortened then every boat will finish the next time it crosses the finish line, all boats in the same class may not necessarily sail the same number of laps. The course can be shortened at any time and at any point in the fleet. Corrected times will be adjusted according to the number of laps sailed by each boat. Notwithstanding the number of laps displayed boats with a handicap greater than 1645 (Optimists) will sail one lap only.

15. CLEARING THE FINISH AREA.

Having finished all boats must keep clear of the finish area, and must not impede other competitors who are still racing, or the vision of the Race Officer. Boats that fail to do so may after protest be disqualified.

16. TIME LIMIT. If no boat finishes within two hours then the race will be declared void. In a race where the first boat finishes within two hours then all boats not finishing within three hours will be considered to have retired and be scored DNF.

17. PROTESTS. Any protest shall be written on the forms provided in the Clubhouse and lodged with the race officer within one hour of the finish of the race.

18. SCORING.

a. Will be in accordance with the Low Point System in Appendix A. Any helm who misses a race by undertaking a duty on the weeks rota will be awarded average points after a discard in compensation.

b. One discard will be allowed if four or more races are sailed, if only three races are sailed then all will count. This varies Appendix A.

c. Points for the series will be awarded to a combination of helm crew and boat. Points may be awarded at the discretion of the Race Committee, where an alternative boat is sailed as a result of serious damage to equipment rendering the original boat unsailable, points may also be awarded at the discretion of the Race Committee for an alternative crew due to illness or unavailability of the regular crew, points will not be awarded where the change is considered to be made for tactical reasons or due to weather conditions. In each case the approval of the Race Committee must be sought prior to the start of the race concerned

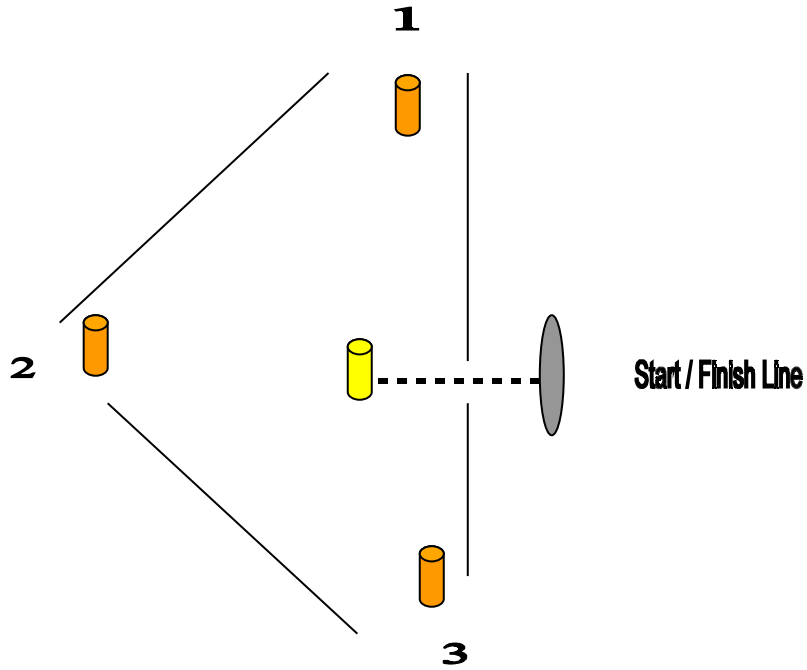
19. DINGHY PARKING.

Please observe the advice regarding boat parking and movement in the "Welcome To Saundersfoot Sailing Club" note. There is regrettably no room in the Club Dinghy Park and all boats must be kept on the Front or Coppet Hall Beach in the designated areas for the duration of the event and not taken onto the harbour car park at any time.

COURSE DIAGRAMS

Committee Boat Course

Rounding marks will be large orange cylinders, and the Start/Finish mark and any Inner Limit mark will be smaller yellow cylinders.



Club Race Course

The Amroth **A**, Pendine **P**, Monkstone **M**, Harbour/Outer Distance **H**, marks will be large orange cylinders, and the Inner Limit mark will be a smaller yellow cylinder.

