



# Ramsgate Week 2010 IRC Handicap Classes

## SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Version 1.6



Supported by



# 16th - 22nd August 2010

16<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> August 2010 full week Regatta  
Or IRC International Regatta 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> August 2010  
Broadstairs Sailing Club Regatta 21 – 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2010



## **1. RULES**

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing.
- 1.2 In the event of a conflict between these Sailing Instructions and the Notice of Race, these Sailing Instructions will prevail. This changes rule 63.7.

### **1.3 Shipping**

- (a) Any boat infringing the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea or by-laws in respect of commercial shipping may be penalised or disqualified from one or more races or from the series.
- (b) An engine shall be used when appropriate to avoid risk of collision with another vessel that is under way but not racing; or in grave emergency. The facts shall be reported to the RC at the finish, with written details to the race office before the protest time limit. The protest committee may impose a penalty if it thinks fit.
- (c) This changes RRS 63.1.
- (d) Ramsgate By-laws copy at [www.ramsgateweek.com](http://www.ramsgateweek.com) or direct link [http://www.portoframsgate.co.uk/welcome\\_to\\_the\\_marina/byelaws.aspx](http://www.portoframsgate.co.uk/welcome_to_the_marina/byelaws.aspx)

## **2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS**

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located at Royal Temple Yacht Club's clubhouse. Notices relating to the re-scheduling of races will also be posted on the notice board near to the entrance to the Western Marina. The results office is located at Royal Temple Yacht Club's clubhouse.

## **3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

- 3.1 Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted before 0830 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 hours on the day before it will take effect.
- 3.2 Verbal amendments to the Sailing Instructions may be advised by the Race Committee on VHF Channel 77 and flag L over H will be displayed on the committee boat. Flag L over H means "there is a change to the Sailing Instructions, come within hail or make radio contact if not understood". This is in addition to the meaning of flag L in Race Signals.

## **4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagpole near the entrance to the western marina.
- 4.2 Flag L over a numeral pennant means that more than one notice to competitors has been posted and the numeral pennant signifies the number of the last notice posted. This is additional to Flag L in Race Signals.

**16<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> August 2010 full week Regatta**  
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**Broadstairs Sailing Club Regatta 21 – 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2010**



- 4.3 When flag AP is displayed ashore, “1 minute” is replaced with “not less than 60 minutes” in the race signal AP. This is additional to the meaning of flag AP in the Race Signals.
- 4.4 When flag Y is displayed ashore Rule 40 applies at all times while afloat. This changes the Part 4 preamble.

**5. BRIEFING AND SCHEDULE OF RACES**

5.1 There will be a competitors briefing on the quay side adjacent to the entrance to the western marina at 0830 hours on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> August for the IRC Coastal Series, and on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> August for the IRC International Regatta Series.

5.2 Races are scheduled as follows:-

<u>Date</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Warning Signal</u>	<u>Races</u>
Monday 16th August	1	1005	Coastal Series Race 1
	2	1000	
	3	0955	
Tuesday 17th August	1	1005	Coastal Series Race 2
	2	1000	
	3	0955	
Wednesday 18th August	1	1005	Coastal Series Race 3 Round the Goodwins Cruiser class Race 3
	2	1000	
	3	0955	
	5&6	0950	
Thursday 19th August	1	1005	Regatta Series Races 1, 2 and 3
	2	1000	
	3	0955	
Friday 20th August	1	1005	Regatta Series Races 4 and 5 QEII Cup overall
	2	1000	
	3	0955	
Saturday 21st August (no warning signal after 1600 hours	1	1005	Regatta Series Races 6 and 7 Ramsgate Gold Cup Overall
	2	1000	
	3	0955	

5.3 It is intended to allocate classes as below, although the Race Committee may, at its discretion, alter these according to the number of entries.

<u>Class</u>	<u>TCC</u>	<u>Class Flag</u>
IRC 1	1.010 and above	Numeral Pennant 1
IRC 2	0.960 to 1.009	Numeral Pennant 2
IRC 3	0.750 to 0.959	Numeral Pennant 3

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- 5.4 One design and ½ Ton Class with three or more entries will have results extracted from their relevant IRC class to form a one design class.
- 5.5 Boats are required to display their Class Flag (with a hoist of not less than 9 inches) on their backstay.
- 5.6 When more than one race will be held on the same day the warning signal for the first class to start the succeeding race will be made as soon as practicable. To alert boats that another race will be held soon the race committee boat will display an Orange flag with a long sound signal not less than 4 minutes before a warning signal is displayed for the first class to start.
- 5.7 The race committee may amalgamate classes or vary the order of starting for subsequent races depending on when classes complete their previous race. Full details of any changes will be provided on VHF Channel 77.

## **6. RACING AREAS**

The racing areas will be between East Margate and South Foreland.

## **7. THE COURSES**

- 7.1 The marks to be rounded and the sequence of rounding will be displayed on a board on the committee boat before the warning signal for each class.
- 7.2 No later than the first warning signal the Committee Boat will display the approximate bearing to the first mark of the course.
- 7.3 The course configuration and identifying of marks will be broadcast on VHF Channel 77 approximately 10 minutes before the first warning signal is displayed.

## **8. MARKS**

- 8.1 Marks are buoys in the Ramsgate Week list of marks the number and position of which will form as appendix to these Sailing Instructions.
- 8.2 Additional marks may be laid and designated 'X', 'Y' or 'Z'. These will be orange inflatable pillar marks and approximate position will be broadcast on VHF Channel 77.

## **9. THE START**

- 9.1 The starting line will be between the mast on the Committee Boat displaying an orange flag and an outer distance mark which will be an orange inflatable buoy or a course mark. The committee boat may be positioned at the Starboard or Port end of the line.
- 9.2 A boat starting later than 4 minutes after her starting signal will be scored "Did not start". This changes Rule A4 and A5.
- 9.3 Sail numbers of boats OCS or infringing other starting rules may be given on VHF Channel 77.

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- 9.4 Classes whose warning signal has not been displayed must keep clear of the starting area and all boats whose warning signal has been made. Boats infringing this instruction will be protested by the race committee and the penalty will be DSQ.
- 9.5 A boat may use her engine or be towed to the starting area after her preparatory signal provided that she stops her engine or drops her tow and then takes a penalty by promptly making one turn including one tack and one gybe after her starting signal and before starting. The penalty must be taken on the pre-start side of the starting line before starting.
- 10. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE**
- 10.1 A change of course after the start will be signalled before the leading boat has begun the first leg affected. The new course to be sailed will be displayed on a boat stationed at a mark following which rounding the new course is to apply. The mark numbers and sequence will be displayed as designated in SI7.1 and SI7.3 and a horn will be sounded. This changes Rule 33.
- 11. THE FINISH**
- 11.1 The finishing line will be between the mast on the Committee Boat displaying an orange flag and the designated mark of the course,
- 12. TIME LIMITS**
- 12.1 There are no time limits and the Race Committee may shorten the course at any time and for any reason. This changes Rule 32.
- 12.2 For races held on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>, Friday 20<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> August boats failing to finish within 60 minutes after the first boat in her class sails the course and finishes will be scored DNF without a hearing. This changes rules 35, A4 and A5.
- 13. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**
- 13.1 Protest forms are available in your race pack. Protests and requests for redress or re-opening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit.
- 13.2 The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day.
- 13.3 A mediation system is available for protests of rules in RRS Part 2. Provided all parties to the protest agree to mediation, the procedure to be adopted is to be found in the Appendix to these sailing instructions.
- 13.4 Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the protest room in the Hold Bar at Royal Temple Yacht Club's clubhouse.
- 13.5 Rule 61.1(b) is amended so that the listing of a boat on the Protest Schedule shall constitute informing the boat and the time limit is altered accordingly. It shall be the sole responsibility of the competitors to check the official notice board and to attend any protest hearing together with witnesses.

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- 13.6 Protests will be heard in approximately the order of receipt, as soon as possible.
- 13.7 On the last scheduled day of racing a request for re-opening a hearing shall be delivered
- (a) within the protest time limit if the requesting party was informed of the decision on the previous day.
  - (b) no later than 30 minutes after the requesting party was informed of the decision on that day. This changes Rule 66.
- 13.8 Breaches of instructions 5.5 and 15 will not be grounds for a 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. The scoring abbreviation for a discretionary penalty imposed under this instruction will be DPI.
- 13.9 On the last scheduled day of racing a request for redress based on a protest committee decision shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the decision was posted. This changes Rule 62.2.

#### **14. SCORING**

- 14.1 The regatta will be scored using the Low Points system of RRS Appendix A.
- 14.2 Two races are required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 14.3 When fewer than six races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- 14.4 When six or more races have been completed a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores with her worst score discarded.
- 14.5 All corrected times for handicap classes will be corrected to the nearest second to determine finishing place.

#### **15. SAFETY**

- 15.1 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee on VHF Marine Channel 77 or by telephone (07779088336) as soon as possible after retirement.
- 15.2 Boats sailing in the Harbour Approach Channel must comply with Rules 9(b) and 9(d) of IRPCS. Boats impeding the progress of a large vessel in the Approach Channel will be disqualified without a hearing. This changes Rule 63.1.

#### **16. MEASUREMENT CHECKS**

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

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## **17 RADIO COMMUNICATION**

- 17.1 Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.
- 17.2 The race committee will use VHF Marine Channel 77 to communicate with competitors. Such communications may include sail numbers of boats recalled OCS, course changes and safety matters. Boats called by the race committee by name or sail number may respond and under such circumstances will not be in breach of instruction 17. Failure to broadcast by the race committee or to time it accurately or failure to receive a broadcast by the race committee will not be grounds for redress. This changes Rule 62.1(a)

## **18. PRIZES**

Prizes will be awarded as listed in the Notice of Race.

## **19 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

- 19.1 Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See Rule 4, Decision to Race. The organising 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.
- 19.2 The safety of a boat and her entire management, including insurance shall be the sole responsibility of the owner/competitor who must ensure that the boat and crew are adequate to face the conditions that may arise in the course of the race or races. Neither the Sailing Instructions nor any inspection of the boat limits or reduces the absolute responsibility of the owner/competitor for the boat and her management. The race organisers shall not be responsible for any loss, damage, death or personal injury however caused to the helm or crew as a result of taking part in the race or races.
- 19.3 By competing and taking part in the races, the boat and crew accept instructions 21.1 and 21.2 and also the Disclaimer of Liability in paragraph 15 of the Notice of Race.

## **20. INSURANCE**

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third party liability insurance sufficient to meet all of any claims, for the total period of the regatta.

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## APPENDIX

### MEDIATION

1. After a protest has been lodged in accordance with the Sailing Instructions, all parties involved in protests alleging infringements of a rule of Part 2 shall be heard by a Mediator appointed by the Race Committee.  
In exception to the above, incidents where damage or injury is involved shall not be subject to mediation, but shall be referred directly to the Protest Committee for a hearing.
2. Only one party to the protest from each boat involved, who shall have been on the boat at the time the incident occurred, shall attend the mediation hearing. No witnesses shall be allowed.
3. The mediator will have each party describe the incident, limiting each party to approximately 3 minutes. After hearing these descriptions, the mediator will offer one of the following opinions:
  - a) **No rule was broken.**  
If the protesting boat accepts this opinion she can agree to withdraw the protest and the protest is then settled.
  - b) **A rule was broken by one of the boats involved.**  
If that boat accepts this opinion she may accept a 40% penalty and the protest is then settled.
  - c) **Both boats broke a rule.**  
If both boats accept this opinion and each agrees to accept a 40% penalty then the protest is then settled.
  - d) **The mediator is unable to offer an opinion based on the brief description given by the parties.**
4. Once the protest has been settled under 3 a), b) or c) above, the mediator shall record this on the protest form and the matter shall not thereafter be referred to the protest committee and is not subject to requests for redress, reopening or appeal by any party.  
If however:
  - i) The protestor does not withdraw the protest under 3 a) above; or
  - ii) If a boat does not accept the mediator's opinion that she broke a rule under b) or c); or
  - iii) If the mediator is unable to offer an opinion under d), the protest shall be submitted to the protest committee for a hearing.
5. If the mediator's opinion is not accepted, there shall be no further discussion of the incident with the parties and the testimony given at the mediation hearing shall remain confidential and shall not be discussed with any person prior to the protest hearing.
6. If one party fails to attend, the mediation may still be heard in line with RRS 63.3 (b).
7. When protests are submitted to the Protest Committee, the mediator shall not be a member of the Jury hearing the protest. However, he/she may be present to ensure that the incidents are described in the same way as in mediation. If the facts given are different he may intervene to restate the original mediation details. The mediator shall not discuss the matter with committee members until after the Committee's decision has been posted.
8. Application of the 40% penalty shall be calculated in accordance with Rule 44.3, except that the penalty is modified to read 40%.

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