

LNSC Sailing Instructions (V:4) Updated: Sept 2016

1. RULES

1.1 Racing shall take place under the current ISAF Racing Rules of Sailing (2013-2016), prescriptions of the RYA, these sailing instructions and the appropriate class rules. Separate sailing instructions for events with additional requirements will be published in the 'Notice of Race' prior to these events.

2. CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

2.1 The safety of a boat and her entire management including insurance to the minimum level recommended by the RYA shall be the sole responsibility of the owner/person in charge, who must ensure that the boat and crew are adequate to face the conditions that may arise in the course of the race. Neither these sailing instructions nor the inspection of the boat limits or reduces the absolute responsibility of the owner/person in charge for the crew, the boat and her management. The race organisers shall not be responsible for any loss, damage, death or personal injury howsoever caused to the owner/person in charge or crew, as a result of their taking part in the race or races. Moreover, every person/owner in charge warrants the suitability of the boat for racing/participation.

2.2 All participants must be fully paid members of Lough Neagh Sailing Club with visiting boats /guests obtaining Temporary Membership by registration. Lapsed LNSC members are not eligible for Temporary Membership. A lapsed member is defined as a nonrenewed member the following year. Temporary Membership permits guests to participate in LNSC organised events on 6 occasions after which full membership must be obtained. Those wishing to race more than 6 times in LNSC organised events may obtain Extended Temporary Membership upon application to the Sailing Committee. Additional components of Rule 2.2 still apply. Temporary/Extended Temporary members may be required to pay an entry fee as outlined in the NOR/Entry Form. Boats participating in LNSC organised events whose crew do not fulfil the membership requirements will not be permitted to participate and shall not be scored for that race.

3. SAFETY

3.1 It shall be the sole responsibility of those sailing each boat to decide whether or not to start or to continue to race/participate.

3.2 Sufficient personal buoyancy equipment for all crewmembers must be worn on all boats taking part in events, organised by Lough Neagh Sailing Club (regardless of weather conditions). This rule changes RRS 40.1. Wet/dry suits are not considered adequate buoyancy.

3.3 During LNSC organised events, all cruiser and Flying Fifteen boats must carry a VHF radio. If a boat does not carry a VHF radio, the OOD may disqualify the boat from the race.

The following list is recommended safety equipment for cruiser boats:

- * first aid kit
- * fire extinguisher
- * a minimum of one throwable lifesaving device
- * equipment capable of disconnecting and severing the standing rigging
- * an outboard/inboard engine with sufficient fuel.

The following list is recommended safety equipment for Flying Fifteen boats:

- * Bucket
- * Anchor (Minimum 2kg) with 12m rope
- * Paddle

3.4 Participation of Dinghies during normal club racing will be dependent on the provision of adequate rescue boat cover. LNSC Sailing Instructions

4. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

4.1 Notices to competitors shall be posted on the internal club notice board. It is the responsibility of members to check notice board for details / revisions.

5. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

5.1 Any changes to the sailing instructions will be posted on the internal club notice board, a period of not less than 1 hour before the advertised race time.

5.2 Changes in sailing instructions will be indicated by displaying flag L on the clubhouse flagpole.

6. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

6.1 Signals made ashore will be hoisted on the main clubhouse flagpole.

7. SCHEDULE OF RACES

7.1 The publication of the sailing schedule at the start of the sailing season shall constitute sufficient advertisement of the LNSC programme of events. Any revision of the programme will be published on the internal club notice board.

8. RACING CLASSES

8.1 LNSC will run two classes throughout the sailing season, the Whitesail Class and Spinnaker Class*. Skippers must declare their intention to compete in their chosen class prior to the start of the first race of the competition/series. Classes will be allocated to boats prior to the first race with skippers requiring correction of details prior to race start if required. Boats that transfer from their chosen classes mid competition will not be included in the new class results. Handicaps will be allocated to boats with an appropriate adjustment reflecting their chosen class. * Spinnaker Class is defined as all boats declaring

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their participation in this class.

8.2 During regatta events, cup races and normal series racing, LNSC's sailing committee will be responsible for allocating handicaps to visiting boats.

9. CLASS FLAGS

9.1 Class flags must be displayed during all competitions.

* Joint Class Start – Orange Flag

* Spinnaker Class – Green Flag

* Whitesail Class – White Flag

10. COURSES

10.1 The course to be sailed and the descriptions of the marks to be used will be displayed on the course board (posted at the starting battery) before the preparatory signal (first gun is sounded).

10.2 The Race Officer should read out the course over VHF radio on Channel 10 once displayed on the course board.

10.3 A map showing LNSC's racing area and approximate location of various racing marks can be found on the internal notice board in the clubhouse.

10.4 When the Race Officer uses a committee boat, they will display the course at the racing notice board, situated outside the clubhouse.

10.5 All cardinal marks must be adhered to during racing. Cardinal mark No. 27 (The Iron Man) must be adhered to during the 5 min starting sequence.

10.6 All LNSC course marks are designated rounding marks and should be adhered to relating to section 28.1 Racing Rules of Sailing; A boat shall start, leave each mark on the required side in the correct order, and finish, so that a string representing her track after starting and until finishing would when drawn taut (a) pass each mark on the required side, (b) touch each rounding mark, and (c) pass between the marks of a gate from the direction of the previous mark. She may correct any errors *Note – When a mark can be left to port or starboard, e.g. a course set from No. 7 to No. 1, No. 4 mark should be omitted from the course for safety reasons.

11. THE START

11.1 Starting Times will be published on the racing programme, but may be postponed at the discretion of the sailing committee / race officer (e.g. adverse weather conditions).

11.2 The Starting Line. The starting line will be the line formed between flagpole at the starting battery and the white transit mark on the rig shore. Boats are not permitted to start between the Starting Battery and Iron Man (see 10.5 reference adherence to cardinal marks). When committee boat starts are used, the starting line is between the committee boat mast and the outer distance mark.

11.3 Starting Procedure. Races will be started using RRS rule 26. (5,4,1,0)

11.4 A boat starting later than 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not

Start.

11.5 Order of starting: Where a two-class start is implemented (see 11.6). In this situation the order of starting is as follows: 1. Spinnaker Class 2. Whitesail class (A & B)

11.6 Course Display Order: Where two class starts are required both courses are displayed simultaneously the Spinnaker class shall be displayed on the top row with the White sail course displayed on the bottom row preceded by a white board.

11.7 When defined in specific sailing instructions and pursuit races an exclusion zone will be introduced to prevent boats getting in the way of starting boats. A time penalty will be imposed by the Race Officer on any boats interfering with starting boats.

12. SHORTENING COURSE AND CHANGING COURSE

12.1 After the start, the Race Officer may shorten the course, (display flag 'S', with two sounds, or abandon the race, display flag 'N' with three sounds RRS Rule 32).

12.2 To change the position of the next mark / send the boats on a new course, the change will be signalled (displaying the flag C with two repetitive sounds) before the leading boat has begun the leg. The Race Officer will change the course, displaying only the required marks/course to be sailed.

13. FINISHING

13.1 The finishing line will be formed between flagpole at the starting battery and the white transit mark on the rig shore. When committee boat starts are used, the finishing line is between the committee boat mast and the outer distance mark.

13.2 Races will normally be finished over the club line unless otherwise indicated on the course board.

13.3 As the lead boat approaches the finishing line, the class flag will be lowered and each boat will be finished with a horn.

13.4 Retiring boats must immediately notify the Race Officer via VHF radio Channel 10.

14. TIME LIMITS

14.1 Wednesday evening races will have a time limit of 1 hour 45 minutes and Saturday races will have a time limit of 2 hours 30 minutes for the first boat.

14.2 Boats that fail to finish within 45 minutes after the first boat in the same class are scored Did Not Finish.

15. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

15.1 Protests will be governed as set out by the ISFA, The Racing Rules of Sailing for 2013-2016 Rule 60 and these sailing instructions.

15.2 The protest limit is 1 hour after the last boat has finished the last race of the day. Competitors must inform the Race Officer of their decision to protest within this time. The same protest time limit applies to all protests by the race committee and to requests for redress.

15.3 Notices will be posted within 30 minutes of the protest time limit to inform

competitors of the time and place of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses.

15.4 Notices of protests by the race committee will be posted to inform boats under RRS rule 61.1(b).

15.5 A protest committee shall be organised by any member of the sailing committee, once asked to do so by the Race Officer.

16. SCORING

16.1 The Low Point scoring system of RRS Appendix A will apply. Boats that did not start, did not finish, retired after finishing or was disqualified shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats entered in a series.

16.2 Discards – A discard may only be applied to exclude a boats worst score and may be applied as follows;

1-4 races = 0 discard

5-6 races = 1 discard

7-8 races = 2 discards

9 races or more = 3 discards

16.3 Race Abandonment - If a race is cancelled, that race shall be deemed as abandoned. A race shall be scored if it is not abandoned and if one boat sails the course in compliance with rule 28.1 of the racing rules of sailing and finishes within the time limit, even if she retires after finishing or is disqualified. A race in each Class will only be valid if there are 2 or more boats starting in that class

16.4 Members of Lough Neagh Sailing Club who undertake a club starting duty will be awarded average points from that series of all races they started, for the race(s) they missed because of club duty. Average points may only be awarded when the boat in question is in the water available to be sailed.

16.5 The corrected time for a finishing boat during cup and series races will be calculated in the form of LNSC Handicap Scheme (revised monthly).

16.6 Boats sailing in the Whitesail Class will have their handicap raised by .020 if they enter races in the Spinnaker class and fly a spinnaker.

16.7 LNSC Cup Races will be run as two classes, Spinnaker Class and Whitesail Class. Spinnaker Class results will be calculated off LNSC HS Club Standards. Whitesail Class results will be calculated off current Club Handicaps. A LNSC published list of Club Standards will be used in LNSC organised events. LNSC open events will continue to use the 2006 ISA ECHO list with handicaps for missing boats agreed with the handicappers of the relevant club.

17 GENERAL

17.1 It is the designated Race Officers' duty to find a replacement in the event that they are unable to act on their allocated day. In the event that the Race Officer does not turn up, a replacement has not been allocated and no one else is willing to act as Race Officer, the race LNSC Sailing Instructions (V:4) Updated: Sept 2016

shall be deemed as abandoned. The race officer, who did not turn up, will be expected to take the future turn of the boat that provided emergency cover. It will be within the Race Committees right to designate the affected race 'abandoned' should Starting Duty not be resolved.

17.2 All members are requested to give due consideration to all other users of the water and within the vicinity of the club.

17.3 All members are expected to keep to Craigavon Borough Council's rules and regulations in the Oxford Island facility.

17.4 LNSC shall use channel 10 on the VHF radios. Boats are permitted to contact the Race Officer seeking clarification on the course to be sailed. The Race Officer shall respond as soon as possible. Seeking clarification on the course shall not be deemed as having received an unfair advantage.

17.5 The use of the LNSC 'Boat Park' is administered by the Club Committee and authorization must be received prior to use.

17.6 Sailing issues requiring redress (excluding protests which are dealt with protest committee) shall be directed to the Sailing Committee. A recommendation shall be made which shall be approved by main committee. No sailing issues are required to be discussed in the main committee.