**BOXING DAY REGATTA 2019**

**SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

The Organising Authority for this event is Ballyholme Yacht Club.

The notation [DP] in a rule in the SI means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.

**1          RULES**

1.1      The series will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.

1.2The prescriptions of the RYA will apply.

1.3 Racing rules 25, 26, 29.2, 40, 61.3, 62.2, A4 will be changed.  The changes appear, in full, in these sailing instructions.

1.4Rules of the individual classes will apply.

**2          NOTICES TO COMPETITORS**

2.1       Notices to competitors will be posted on the front door of Ballyholme Yacht Club.

**3          CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

3.1 Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted before 1000 on 26TH December 2019.

**4          SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed at a flagpole at Ballyholme Yacht Club convenient to the South slip.

4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, ‘1 minute’ is replaced with ‘not less than 15 minutes’ in the race signal AP.

**5          SCHEDULE OF RACES ETC.**

5.1There will be two races,

5.3The scheduled time of the first warning signal is 1254.

**6          FLEETS**

6.1       Boats will race in four fleets:

1. Small Dinghy Fleet - One Design Classes: Topper 5.3, Topper 4.2, Laser 4.7; and PY Handicap > 1170
2. Larger Dinghy Fleet – PY Handicap ≤ 1170
3. Laser Fleet – Laser Standard and Laser Radial
4. Multi-hull Fleet – SCRS Handicap

**7          CLASS FLAGS**

7.1       Small Dinghy Fleet and Topper 5.3   T

Topper 4.2   O

Laser 4.7   J

Larger Dinghy Fleet   V

Laser Standard & Radial   R

Multihull Fleet   F

**8          THE COURSES**

8.1 The Course will be set using the fixed BYC Dinghy Marks in Ballyholme Bay. There will normally be a committee boat start.  Courses are described on the course cards available in the foyer of BYC and will be indicated for the first boat in each fleet by a numbered board displayed on the front of the battery.  For the Small Dinghy Fleet (except Laser 4.7s) marks 7 and 11 are replaced by small red marks placed to the south of the black marks 7 and 11.

**9          MARKS**

9.1 Marks 7, 8 and 11 are black inflatables. the Turning Mark TM is green, the finish mark is black.  For Small Dinghy Fleet (except Laser 4.7) Marks 7 and 11 will be small red inflatables.

**10       THE START**

10.1 RRS 26 shall not apply and signals will be made at three-minute intervals. After the first start, the display of the Class Flag shall be the Preparatory Signal for that Fleet and the warning Signal for the next Fleet to start.

10.2 **T**he starting line will be between a mast on a committee boat (RIB) displaying an orange flag and one of the marks 7, 8, 11 or TM mark or Finish mark.

10.3 When flag B is displayed at the Club flagstaff **t**he starting line will be between a striped board on the front of the battery and the green TM mark.

10.4 In amendment of RRS 29.2 any fleet whose start is subject to a general recall shall take as its Preparatory signal the starting signal of the last fleet scheduled to race.  In the case of a general recall of the last class to start the warning and preparatory signals for their start may be displayed at the same time.

10.5 A boat starting later than 6 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start.  This changes rule A4.

10.6Boats whose preparatory signal has not been displayed shall avoid the starting area.

**11        THE FINISH**

11.1 The finishing line will be between a striped board on the front of the battery and the black finishing mark F located to the north of the Turning Mark TM.

11.2The Finishing Mark shall not rank as a mark of the course on the first leg of a course started from the battery line.

11.3 The Finishing Signal shall be flag S displayed on its own if all fleets are to finish or together with the class flags detailed in SI 7 if only fleets designated by those flags are to finish.

11.4In amendment of RRS 25 and Race Signals no sound signal will be made when displaying a finishing signal.

11.5After starting correctly the Finishing Line shall rank as an obstruction on all legs of the course, except the first in the case of a battery start, and when completing a round.  In amendment of RRS 63.1 a boat contravening SI 11.5 shall be scored DSQ without a hearing.

11.6After finishing, boats **must keep clear of the Finishing Line** and the sight lines from the battery to those boats approaching the finish line.

**12        PENALTY SYSTEM**

12.1 The Exoneration Penalty and the RYA Arbitration Procedures of the RYA Rules Disputes Procedures will be available.  See the official notice board for details.

**13        PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**

13.1 Protest forms are available at the battery at BYC.  Protests shall be delivered there within the protest time limit, which is 60 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day.  The same time limit applies to protests by the race committee and protest committee about incidents they observe in the racing area and to requests for redress. This changes rules 61.3 and 62.2.

**14        SCORING**

14.1    One race is required to be completed.

14.2 When 2 races have been completed, a boat’s series score will be the total of her race scores, this changes RRS A2.

**15        SAFETY REGULATIONS**

15.1    Competitors shall wear adequate buoyancy at all times when afloat except when changing or adjusting clothing or equipment.  Wetsuits and drysuits are not considered to be adequate buoyancy.

15.2    Each boat shall have an adequate towing warp of at least three metres in length, which does not form any part of the sheets, lines or rigging. The warp must be secured to a strong point at all times when afloat.

15.3Competitors (the helm) shall enter each individual race by recording their names, class, and sail number clearly and legibly on the sheet provided for that purpose in the foyer of the Club **before going afloat**.  In amendment of RRS 63.1 a boat contravening SI 15.3 shall be scored DSQ without a hearing.

**16        SAIL NUMBERS**

16.1Boats shall display a clearly visible sail number on their mainsails.  In any one race of the series, no two or more boats of the same fleet shall display numerically identical sail numbers.  A breach of this SI shall result in one or all of the boats involved being scored DSQ without a hearing.  This SI shall rank as “Warning” for the purposes of RRS 77 and Appendix G4.  The Race Officer shall not have the power to waive this SI under any circumstances.

16.2    A boat may temporarily use a mainsail carrying a different number from her allotted number provided notice of this intention is given to the Race Committee for each individual race of the series before going afloat.  Recording a sail number as for example **“16081 using number 702”** on the signing out sheet referred to in SI 15.3 above is acceptable written notice for the purpose of this SI.

**17        RADIO COMMUNICATION**

17.1    Except in an emergency, a boat shall that is racing shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats. [DP]

**18        PRIZES**

18.1    Each Fleet will have its own separate prize. Additional prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the Race Committee.

**19        RISK STATEMENT**

19.1    Rule 4 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states: “The responsibility for a boat’s decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone”

Sailing by its nature is an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:

(a) 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;

(b) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;

(c) They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;

(d) Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;

(e) 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.

(f) The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions as can be practically provided in the circumstances.

(g) it is their responsibility to familiarize themselves with any risks specific to this venue or this event drawn to their attention in any rules and information produced for the venue or event and to attend any safety briefing held for the event.

20        INSURANCE

20.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £2 million per event or the equivalent.