

CARDIFF BAY YACHT CLUB



T.A.R.S.

January 2025

Sailing Instructions for T.A.R.S. Racing Inside of the Barrage

1. Safety and Responsibility

- 1.1** Yacht racing can be dangerous. The attention of owners, skippers and crew is drawn to RRS Fundamental Rule 3: 'A yacht is solely responsible for deciding whether or not to start or it, continue racing'. The safety of a yacht and her crew is the sole and inescapable responsibility of the owner or owner's representative who must do their best to ensure that the yacht is fully found, thoroughly seaworthy and manned by an experienced crew who are physically fit to face bad weather. They must be satisfied as to the soundness of the hull, spars, rigging, sails and all gear. They must ensure that the safety equipment is properly maintained and stowed and that the crew know where it is kept and how it is to be used.
- 1.2** Cardiff Bay Yacht Club accept no responsibility or liability for loss of life or injury to members or others, or for the loss of, or damage to, any vessel or property.
- 1.3** The owner and crew will be held jointly responsible for the conduct of the yacht's crew before, during and after a race. Misconduct may result in both owner and crew being excluded from future races and render a yacht liable to disqualification.
- 1.4** Yachts must hold a valid and current boat insurance which covers them for third party claims of up to £3,000,000 for the entire period of the series.
- 1.5** Crew members' attention is drawn to RRS 12 life-saving equipment ... 'Each competitor is individually responsible for wearing personal flotation devices adequate for the conditions.'
- 1.6** No yacht may carry an anchor that overhangs its bow
- 1.7** Transom mounted outboard motors are considered a part of the yacht's equipment.

- 1.8 The Cardiff Harbour Authority regulations and Notices to Mariners will apply
- 1.9 The skipper is responsible for ensuring their boat is equipped and seaworthy so as to be able to complete the race course; that the skipper and crew are of sufficient number, experience and fitness to complete the race course safely; and that the safety equipment is properly maintained, stowed and in date and the crew know how to use it.

2. Rules

- 2.1 The racing will be organised by Cardiff Bay Yacht Club and governed by these sailing instructions, the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the prescriptions of the RYA, except as any of these are changed by these Sailing Instructions.
- 2.2 The series are designated Category C as described in the ISAF Advertising Code.

3. Eligibility

- 3.1 All yachts are required to display any sponsor's stickers or flag as provided.
- 3.2 Yachts shall have a starting handicap decided by the T.A.R.S. Committee.
- 3.3 Once 4 races have been completed in total the handicap will revert to the calculated Cardiff Bay rating, which is based on actual times recorded during previous races.

4. Radio Communication

- 4.1 All yachts must carry a working VHF transceiver and monitor Ch M while in the starting area and for the duration of the race.
- 4.2 Final course details and other information for competitors will be given by the race officer over VHF. Normally channel M will be used. In the event of a problem then Channel 71. If possible the race officer will also announce this over Channel M.
- 4.3 Yachts should refrain from communicating with the race officer or each other on the race channel between the warning signal and the start, except on matters of safety or unless contacted by the race officer.

5. Notices to Competitors and Changes in Sailing Instructions

Notices to Competitors and Changes in Sailing Instructions will be displayed on the club website at www.cbyc.co.uk and/or by the Race Officer on VHF Ch M.

6. Schedule of Races

The schedule of races will be displayed on the Club website and are as indicated in the NoR.

7. Courses

All skippers should make themselves familiar with the Chart of the Bay published on the CBYC website.

- 7.1 Marks will be laid within the bay prior to the race and the course will be broadcast on Ch M before the start. The race will normally be of about 60 minutes duration for the first boat and then all other boats will finish on their last lap.. Average lap times will

apply as necessary. All competitors to record their own elapsed finish time and confirm with the Race Officer when practical.

- 7.2** Buoys H protect the CYC moorings. Boats should not pass through this line as part of their course when racing.
- 7.3** Buoys C and D are for speed limit purposes. Boats may pass through these lines as part of their course when racing.
- 7.4** Boats should not sail through the CBYC moorings opposite the Clubhouse at any stage during the race.

8. Starting & Finishing Procedures

- 8.1** Races will be started in accordance with RRS 26, 29 and 30 except that flag signals will not normally be used.
- 8.2** The start and finish line will be communicated by VHF before the start of the race. A gate start may be used for starting, this will be communicated before the start.
- 8.3** Sound signals or VHF communication take precedence over flag signals.
- 8.4** All other signals will be given over the VHF without visual or sound signals.
- 8.5** The race results may be calculated using the times from a previously completed lap.
- 8.6** Lapped boats may be finished having completed fewer laps and their time calculated from the average time of previously completed laps.

9. Time Limits

No yacht may start more than 10 minutes after her starting signal unless determined by the Race Officer. The time limit for a race is 2 hours.

10. Protests

- 10.1** Race officials have no power to disqualify any boat, only the Protest Committee may take this action, RRS Rule A5.
- 10.2** The Race Committee may protest a boat for breach of rules, including failure to sail the course, within the time limit specified in 10.3.
- 10.3** The Race Officer must be informed of any protest as soon as possible by radio etc. Protests shall then be delivered in writing to the Race Officer, member or delegate of the Race Committee within 1 hour of the end of racing for the day. Any protest after that time limit is invalid
- 10.4** Official protest forms will be available behind the bar in the CBYC Clubhouse or from the Office.
- 10.5** Protests where there has been no contact:

All Protests where there has been no contact will be decided by Arbitration. Arbitration shall replace the protest hearing required under RRS 63.

A Protest Mediator or his designated substitute will decide if the protest is valid. Each party being protested shall then provide a written response to the Protest within 24 hours of being supplied with a copy of it. The Protest will be decided on the basis of the written Protest form and the reply from each party protested. The Protest Mediator shall have total discretion as to whether further evidence (including witness evidence) may be submitted. The Protest Mediator shall have total discretion as to whether to convene a hearing to hear further

evidence. The decision will be final.

If having read the evidence the Protest Mediator considers that the matter should be put to a full Protest Committee, he shall decide accordingly and have full discretion.

10.6 Protests where there has been contact:

Protests where there has been contact will be decided by a Protest Committee in accordance with RRS 63

10.7 Penalty for Protests decided by Arbitration

Any party found to have infringed a rule shall not be disqualified but shall incur a 2 place penalty.

No penalty shall result in a score which would exceed that of a Disqualification, (DSQ), see 11.3.

Application of a penalty shall not affect the place or score of other boats.

Any decision shall be final.

11. Scoring & Discards

11.1 The low point scoring system, in accordance with RRS 90.3, will be used.

11.2 Yachts scoring DNF or RET will score points for the number of boats that came to the start area in the race + 1.

11.3 Yachts scoring DNC will score points for the maximum number of boats in any one race in the series + 1. All other yachts not classified (i.e. DSQ, OCS etc) will score points for the maximum number of boats in any one race in the series + 2 points.

11.4 Yachts still racing at a race time limit will be awarded points based on their elapsed time for the previous lap. If there are no finishers then no points will be awarded.

11.5 Discards will be decided on a series basis, normally 3.

12. Penalties at the time of an incident

Penalty turns shall be taken in accordance with RRS 44

13. Results

Results will be displayed on the Cardiff Bay Yacht Club website as soon as possible after the race.

Race Committee

Idris Dibble, Roger Wallington