

DBSC 2016 Keelboat Sailing Instructions

1. Rules

- 1.1. Club races will be governed by the 'rules' as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
- 1.2. All boats must comply with the Queen's Harbour Master's Regulations and Forth Port Authority bylaws. Failure to do so will result in disqualification without a hearing. This alters rule 63.1.
- 1.3. Handicaps will be based on the RYA Portsmouth Yardstick and the FYCA list. (In some cases the Handicap Officer or the Sailing Committee will set the handicap).
- 1.4. Entrants may apply for a "white sail" handicap which will attract a 4% uplift to their base handicap. Such application should be made in advance of each race when this allowance is sought, using the form in the Race Officer's hut. Eligibility will normally be based on the whether boats are short-handed, crews are novice and prevailing weather conditions. The allowance will be applied at the discretion of the Race Officer and/or Keelboat Sailing Representative.

2. Safety

- 2.1. The safety of a boat and her entire management, including insurance, shall be the sole responsibility of the owner/competitor racing the boat who must ensure that the boat and crew are adequate to face the conditions that may arise in the course of the race. Neither the establishment of these sailing instructions nor the inspection of the boat under these conditions in any way limits or reduces the absolute responsibility of the owner/competitor for the crew, the boat and the management thereof. The Organising Authority shall not be responsible for any loss, damage, death or personal injury howsoever caused to the owner/competitor, skipper or crew, as a result of their taking part in the race or races. Moreover, every owner/competitor warrants the suitability of the boat for the race or races.
- 2.2. *Safety equipment should be carried for category 1 use in accordance with the RYA's publication C8/98 or in accordance with Class rules.*
- 2.3. A boat must sign-on and sign-off for each race that she takes part in, by completing the registration sheet at the Race Officer's hut. Any application for "white sail" handicap (see 1.4 above) must also be registered in advance by completing the application sheet in the Race Officer's hut.

3. Entries

- 3.1. Eligible boats are those entered by members of the club who are 'sailing members'. Members may sail with guests subject to the club rules governing the admission of member's guests.
- 3.2. Visiting boats may enter races with the permission of the Race Officer, or a Senior Club Officer, but will not be eligible for series points.
- 3.3. Only club members will be eligible for any prizes awarded for any race or series.

- 3.4. Each boat sailing must have Third-Party insurance for a minimum of £2,000,000.

4. Notices to Competitors

- 4.1. Notices to competitors will be posted at the Race Officer's hut.

5. Changes in Sailing Instructions

- 5.1. Any change to these sailing instructions will be posted at the Race Officer's hut as early as practicable, but no later than 30 minutes for keelboat or combined races, before the first warning signal, on the day that it is first implemented, and will be posted within the Race Officer's hut thereafter.
- 5.2. Any change to the published sailing programme will be posted at the Race Officer's hut before the start of the scheduled race the preceding week.

6. Signals made ashore

- 6.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed at the Race Officers hut.

7. Schedule of Races

- 7.1. The schedule of races is published in the club Sailing Programme.
- 7.2. There will be a single start for a handicap class.

8. Class Signals

- 8.1. For shore starts, coloured lights will be used in place of class flags. The first start in any sequence will use a Red light, the second start will use an Orange light, and the third start will use a Yellow light. The Preparatory signal will be shown by a White light. This changes "Race Signals".
- 8.2. For committee boat starts, the warning signal for the first start in any sequence will use flag Numeral 1, the second start will use flag Numeral 2, and the third start will use flag Numeral

9. Racing Area

- 9.1. The racing area may extend to Kincardine in the west, and to the May Isle in the east.

10. The Course

- 10.1. The Race Officer will set the course for each race on the day. The course will be displayed at the Race Officers hut 45 minutes before the warning signal
- 10.2. For races designated as 'Average Lap Time': There will be no set number of laps, but the Race Officer will indicate the expected length of race for the leading boat (e.g. 45 minutes).

11. Marks

- 11.1. The club racing marks and any of the Forth navigation marks within the racing area may be used.

12. The Start

Shore based starts

- 12.1. Races will normally be started as follows. This changes rule 26. Visual signals will be made by illuminating lights above the Race Officer's hut. Times will be taken from the visual signal; the failure of a sound signal shall be disregarded.
- 12.2. The starting line will be a transit between the flag pole in front of the Race Officer's hut and the pole on the grassed area in front of the Race Officer's hut.
- 12.3. Boats must pass between the outer distance mark, as specified by the race officer, leaving it on the required side, and the shore (or inner distance mark) to start.
- 12.4. Individual Recalls. Individual Recalls will be notified by showing a Green light from the Race box, instead of flying flag 'X' and an additional sound signal. This alters Rule 29.1 and "Race Signals".
- 12.5. General Recalls. A General Recall will be notified by a flashing white strobe light for a period of 1 minute, together with 2 sound signals. The warning signal for a new start for the recalled class shall be made with the starting signal for the last class in the sequence, or if there are no other classes to start, then it will be made after the 1 minute period has expired. This alters Rule 29.2 and "race signals"

Committee Boat starts

- 12.6. Races will be started under Rule 26.
- 12.7. The starting line will be between a mast displaying an orange flag on the committee boat at the starboard end and a spherical buoy at the port end.
- 12.8. General recalls will be signalled in accordance with rule 29.2 except that the warning signal for a new start for the 1st recalled class shall be made with or after the starting signal for the last scheduled class. The new warning signal for a new start for a 2nd recalled class will be made with or after the starting signal for the 1st recalled class and so on. If the last class in a starting sequence is recalled, then rule 29.2 will apply as normal.

Starts General

- 12.9. Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area.
- 12.10. A boat starting later than 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored 'Did Not Start'. This changes rule A4.
- 12.11. Starting procedure;

Signal	Light	Minutes before start time
Warning	1 light (Red)	5
Preparatory	2 nd light (White)	4
One-minute	Preparatory light off	1
Start	All lights off	0

- 12.12. The warning signal for each succeeding class shall be made with the starting

signal of the preceding class.

- 12.13. In the event that there is no Race Officer present then the race will be started remotely from the water via the VHF activated system and using the same sound and visual signals as noted above.

13. Postponement

- 13.1. OOD should exercise a degree of flexibility regarding the start time if a boat on the water is not ready to start, but the crew is in the process of preparing their boat.
- 13.2. Skippers who anticipate arriving late are permitted to request a single 15 minute postponement to the scheduled race start time. The Skipper must phone the club house directly, no less than 30 minutes before the scheduled start time, asking for a request for a 15 minute postponement message to be passed to the OOD.
- 13.3. A postponement of any start from the advertised starting time will be signalled by hoisting the AP flag, accompanied by the sounding of two short blasts.
- 13.4. After required postponement period has passed, the AP flag will be dropped accompanied by the sounding of a single blast as a warning signal that the start sequence will start in one minute.

14. Sailing the Course

- 14.1. A boat that is observed by the Race Officer to break Rule 28.1 (Sailing the course) may be disqualified without a protest hearing. This alters Rule 63.1.

15. The Finish

- 15.1. For keelboats and combined races the finishing line will be between the flag pole in front of the Race Officers hut and mark 9.
- 15.2. For any races involving a committee boat finish, the finishing line will be between a mast displaying an orange flag on the committee boat at the starboard end and a spherical buoy at the port end.
- 15.3. Shortening course – at the normal finishing line. A shortened course will be signified by flying flag 'S' with 2 sound signals.
- 15.4. Shortening course – at a rounding mark. A shortened course will be signified by flying flag 'S' with 2 sound signals.
- 15.5. For races designated as 'Average Lap Time': When the Race Officer determines that the race is to finish, flag 'S' will be displayed with 2 sound signals. Boats will finish the race when they next pass through the finish line at the end of their current lap.
- 15.6. In the event that there is no Race Officer present, competitors should take their own elapsed times and record these on the race sheet in the Race Officer's hut.

16. Time Limit

- 16.1. Keelboat Friday night series in April, August and September Absolute time limit of 21:30 hours

- 16.2. Keelboat Friday night series in May, June and July Absolute time limit of 22:00 hours

17. Protests

- 17.1. Protests shall be written on forms available at the Race Officer's hut and delivered there within 1 hour after the time of the last boat's finish.
- 17.2. Protest notices will be posted on the club notice board within one week of the race to inform competitors when and where there is a hearing in which they are parties, or have been named as witnesses.

18. Scoring

- 18.1. The High Points scoring system of RRS Appendix A will apply.
- 18.2. 50% of the scheduled races must be completed in order to constitute a series.
- 18.3. The number of races (N) to count towards a boat's series score is specified in the Sailing Programme. If more than N races are completed, then a boat's series score shall be the total of her best N races, excluding the remainder. If N or fewer races are completed, a boat's series score shall be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score. This modifies rule A.2.
- 18.4. OOD duty points will be awarded as an average of the best 4 results for races sailed in the series.

19. Local Variations

- 19.1. All boats must keep clear of the Rosyth, Abercorn and Crombie protected areas as shown on Admiralty chart 114C.
- 19.2. All boats must keep a minimum distance of 100 metres from Hound Point and Braefoot tanker terminals.
- 19.3. Boats must not enter the Braefoot channel in the event of any tanker movements at the terminal.

20. Scoring for Other Keelboat Series

- 20.1. Prizes for series which are based on FYCA series (i.e. FIG, FOG and Forth Yacht Championships) will be based on the positions as determined by the scoring rules for those series.
- 20.2. Prizes for series which are based on the PEYC Autumn and Winter series will be determined using RRS Appendix A, as defined in section 17.2 of the DBSC Club Sailing Instructions.