

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS 2023

SECTION "A" (Keelboats)

The notation '(DP)' in a rule 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 racing will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing 2021-2024 (RRS), IRC2023 rules where applicable and the Crouch Harbour Byelaws.
<https://crouchharbour.uk/byelaws/>
- 1.2 The helm or owner must be a sailing member of the Burnham on Crouch Sailing Club (BSC).
- 1.3 One-design class rules will apply when boats are racing in a one design class and valid association membership is needed where applicable. Any crew weight limit rules for IRC are exempt for Club racing in Class One. If a one design is racing out of class in the local handicap classes, class rules do not apply.

2 Notices to Competitors

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice boards located in the clubhouse and on the BSC website and social media channels when possible.

3 Changes to Sailing Instructions

- 3.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 09:00 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 20:00 on the day before it will take effect.

4 Signals Made Ashore

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed at the BSC using the appropriate flag boards displayed on the upper storey balcony.
- 4.2 If the V flag flies from the flag halyards by the Club Burgee all boats and support vessels need to maintain radio watch on CH37 and 16 to potentially assist with a search and rescue.

5 Schedule of Races

- 5.1 Dates as in the BSC Programme 2023.
- 5.2 Class One is for yachts with a current valid IRC certificate. Class Three is for yachts sailing under local handicap. Cruisers in both IRC and local handicap divisions can enter the series under a non-spinnaker handicap.
- 5.3 The scheduled warning signals for each class are as follows:-

Class	Warning Signal	Start
Elite	1755	1800
Class One	1800	1805
Squib	1805	1810
Class Three	1810	1815
RBOD	1815	1820

ALL TIMES ARE **BST**

6 Class Flags

- 6.1 Class Flags will be:-

Elite	E
Class One	NP1
Squib	NN9
Class Three	NP3
RBOD	NN4

7 **Racing Area**

- 7.1 The racing will take place on the Rivers Crouch and Roach

8 **The Courses**

- 8.1 The courses will be set from the BSC Course Card 2023. A chartlet is provided showing the approximate locations of marks.
8.2 The BSC line is a mark of the course when a boat passes through it on any leg of their course.

9 **The Start**

- 9.1 Races will be started using RRS 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal and then at 4, 1, GO.
9.2 The starting line will be between 2 triangles on the South Shore and a transit on the race box.
9.3 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races (DP).
9.4 A boat that does not start within 30 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A4 AND A5.

10 **The Finish**

- 10.1 The finish line is the same as the start line, between the two triangles on the South Shore and a transit on the Race Box.
10.2 If the race committee is absent when a boat finishes, the helm should report their finishing time, and position in relation to nearby boats, to the race committee at the first opportunity.

11 **Shortening Course**

- 11.1 Courses may be shortened in accordance with RRS 32 with the following addition. A vessel flying the Club Burgee, which is authorised by the race officer or race committee, may shorten the course as per RRS 32 or where Flag H is displayed on its own at a rounding mark, or over an individual Class Flag when this instruction will apply to that class only. The course is shortened and the race will be to the designated finishing line, having first sailed the same number of laps as the leading boat. The finishing line is to be crossed from the direction of the last mark. This changes RRS 32.

12 **Penalty System**

- 12.1 For Classes 1 and 3 RRS 44.1 is changed so that a two-turn penalty is replaced by a one-turn penalty.
12.2 A yacht in Class One or Three who goes aground may use her engine to get off, ensuring no further advantage is gained. The yacht going aground and using her engine must inform the race officer as soon as possible and accept a 2% or 1 place penalty, whichever is greater.

13 **Time Limits**

- 13.1 The time limit is 3 hours after the start time for the first boat. Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not finish without a hearing. This changes RRS 35 A4 and A5.

14 **Protests and Requests for Redress**

- 14.1 Protest forms are available from the Race Box.
14.2 For each class the protest time limit is 90 minutes after the last boat has finished.
14.3 Notices must 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 race box as soon as practicable. Where possible arbitration will be used.

15 **Scoring**

- 15.1 Scoring will be under the low points system as per RRS Appendix A where A5.3 is in effect.
15.2 Discards will be applied as follows: 4 or more races 1 discard, 7 or more races 2 discards, 9 or more races 3 discards, 14 or more races 4 discards.

16 Safety Regulations

16.1 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race box as soon as possible.

16.2 All boats racing in Class One and Three will carry the minimum of:

- Buoyancy aid or life jacket for each person aboard
- A bucket with lanyard
- A knife suitable for cutting ropes
- A floating throw line or equivalent
- A VHF capable of receiving and transmitting VHF 37 (M1).

Day Boats racing as one designs must carry adequate personal buoyancy and a VHF capable of receiving VHF 37 (M1) and any other safety requirements as laid out in their class rules.

16.3 Yachts and day boats must keep clear of dinghies launching from the pontoon. (DP)

17 Waste Disposal

17.1 All waste must be taken ashore and disposed of properly.

18 Radio Communication

18.1 Except in an emergency a boat that is racing shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data transmissions that are not available to all competitors.

19 Prizes

19.1 Prizes will be awarded at the annual prize giving dinner.

20 Disclaimer of Liability

20.1 Competitors participate in the racing entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3 Decision to Race The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone. For under 18s the parent or Guardian takes the responsibility.

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 sailing event.

21 Insurance

21.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with minimum cover of £3,000,000.

SECTION "B" (Dinghies)

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 racing will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing 2021-2024 (RRS), and the Crouch Harbour Byelaws. <https://crouchharbour.uk/byelaws/>

1.2 The helm or crew must be a sailing member of the Burnham on Crouch Sailing Club (BSC).

1.3 One-design class rules will apply and valid association membership is needed where applicable.

1.4 All in a dinghy will wear a personal flotation device in accordance with rule 40.1. Rule 40.1 will apply at all times.

2 Notices to Competitors

2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located in the clubhouse and on the BSC website and social media channels when possible.

3 Changes to Sailing Instructions

- 3.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 09:00 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 20:00 on the day before it will take effect.

4 **Signals Made Ashore**

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed at the BSC clubhouse using the appropriate flags or flag boards displayed on the upper storey balcony.
- 4.2 IF the V flag flies from the flag halyards by the Club Burgee all boats and support vessels need to maintain radio watch on CH37 and 16 to potentially assist with a search and rescue.

5 **Schedule of Races**

- 5.1 Dates as in the BSC Programme 2023.
- 5.2 The scheduled warning signals for each class on Tuesday are as follows:-

Class	Warning Signal	Start
Fast Handicap	17:55	18:00
Slow Handicap	18:00	18:05
Optimist	18:05	18:10

- 5.3 One extra race per day may be sailed at the RO's discretion.

The scheduled warning signal for each class on Wednesday are as follows:-

Class	Warning Signal	Start
Blaze	1745	1750

ALL TIMES ARE **BST**

6 **Class Flags**

- 6.1 Class Flags will be:

Fast Handicap	F
Slow Handicap	C
Optimist	O
Blaze	R

7 **Racing Area**

- 7.1 The racing will take place on the Rivers Crouch and Roach

8 **The Courses**

The courses will be set from the BSC Course Card 2023. A chartlet is provided showing the approximate locations of marks. This might include a special course to be displayed in the club house

- 8.1 The BSC dinghy line is a mark of the course when a boat passes through it on any leg of their course.

9 **The Start**

- 9.1 Races will be started by using RRS 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal and then at 4, 1, GO.
- 9.2 The starting and finishing line shall be between the triangles mounted on the Clubhouse and a Pin Marker.
- 9.3 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races (DP).
- 9.4 A boat that does not start within 30 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A4 AND A5.

10 **The Finish**

- 10.1 The finish line is the same as the start line, between the Pin Marker and a transit on the Race Box.
- 10.2 If the race committee is absent when a boat finishes, she should report her finishing time, and her position in relation to nearby boats, to the race committee at the first opportunity.
- 11 Shortening Course**
- 11.1 Courses may be shortened in accordance with RRS 32 with the following addition. A vessel flying the Club Burgee, which is authorised by the race officer or race committee, may shorten the course as per RRS 32 or where Flag H is displayed on its own at a rounding mark, or over an individual Class Flag when this instruction will apply to that class only. The course is shortened and the race will be to the designated finishing line, having first sailed the same number of laps as the leading boat. The finishing line is to be crossed from the direction of the last mark. This changes rule 32.
- 12 Penalty System**
- 12.1 For dinghy classes RRS 44.1 is changed so that a two-turn penalty is replaced by a one turn penalty.
- 13 Time Limits**
- 13.1 The time limit is 2 hours after the start time for the first boat. Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not finish without a hearing. This changes RRS 35 A4 and A5.
- 14 Protests and Requests for Redress**
- 14.1 Protest forms are available from the Race Box.
- 14.2 For each class the protest time is 90 minutes after the last boat has finished.
- 14.3 Notices must 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 race box as soon as practicable. Where possible arbitration will be used.
- 15 Scoring**
- 15.1 Scoring will be under the low points system as per RRS Appendix A where A5.3 is in effect.
- 15.2 Discards will be applied as follows: 4 or more races 1 discard, 7 or more races 2 discards, 9 or more races 3 discards, 14 or more races 4 discards.
- 16 Safety Regulations**
- 16.1 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the racebox as soon as possible.
- 16.2 All dinghies are required to sign on and off regardless of where they launch.
- 17 Waste Disposal**
- 17.1 All waste must be taken ashore and disposed of properly.
- 18 Radio Communication**
- 18.1 Except in an emergency a boat that is racing shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data transmissions that are not available to all competitors.
- 19 Prizes**
- 19.1 Prizes will be awarded at the annual prize giving event.
- 20 Disclaimer of Liability**
- 20.1 Competitors participate in the racing entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3 Decision to Race The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone. For under 18s the parent or Guardian takes the responsibility. 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 sailing event.

21 **Insurance**

21.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with minimum cover of £3,000,000.