



Etchells Southern Area Championship

3rd & 4th October 2020

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Royal Thames Yacht Club - Cowes Etchells Fleet
Cowes, Isle of Wight



Cowes High Water (BST)

DATE	TIME	HW
Saturday 3 October	12:53	4.10m
Sunday 4 October	01:06	4.10m
	13:20	4.10m

1. RULES

- 1.1. The regatta will be governed by the *rules* as defined in [The Racing Rules of Sailing](#) (RRS).
- 1.2. In the event of a conflict between the notice of race and the sailing instructions, the sailing instructions shall prevail. This changes RRS 63.7.
- 1.3. All crews shall follow the current Covid-19 guidance from NHS England, and the UK Government, as well as the [RYA guidance on sailing & racing with participants from different households during COVID-19 in England](#).

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located online at www.yachtscoring.com and will be subsequently sent out via the competitors WhatsApp group.

3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted by 0900 on the day it will take effect, except any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 1900 on the day before it will take effect.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flagpole located near the boat hoist at Cowes Yacht Haven.
- 4.2. When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 45 minutes'. This changes rule Race Signal AP.

5. SCHEDULE

- 5.1. The first warning signal is scheduled for 1025 on each race day. Subsequent races will start as soon as possible after the last boat finishes.
- 5.2. Six (6) races are scheduled. A maximum of four (4) races per day may be sailed.
- 5.3. On the last day of the racing, no warning signal will be made after 1430; except that a warning signal may be made if there is a postponement during the starting sequence or there is a general recall.

6. CLASS FLAG

The class flag for the Etchells class will be code flag 'E'.

7. MARKS

- 7.1. *Marks* 1, 1a, 2s and 2p will be orange inflatable buoys.
- 7.2. The start and finish *marks* will be a RTYC dan buoy.
- 7.3. A new *mark*, as provided by SI 13.1, will be a black inflatable buoy.

8. RACE AREA

- 8.1. Racing will take place in the central Solent. The starting area and the approximate location of the race committee signal boat will be posted to the Official Notice Board and communicated via the competitors WhatsApp group.
- 8.2. Navigational Safety
 - a. Racing occurs near active shipping channels. The race committee would like to call special attention to the preamble to RRS Part 2 and the current [ABP Southampton Byelaws](#). Boats are reminded to keep a good look out for all commercial traffic and recognize that large vessels have very limited manoeuvrability, particular in the shipping channel east of Norris Bay.
 - b. Boats shall not anchor or kedge in the Cowes harbour fairway or in the area between Stone Point and Gurnard Bay as indicated on Admiralty Chart 2040. Gas and water pipes, telephone and electrical cables carrying 133,000 volts lie on the seabed.

9. COURSES

- 9.1. The courses are described in Attachment A – Course Descriptions.
- 9.2. No later than the warning signal, the race committee signal boat will display the course to be sailed and the approximate compass bearing to the first *mark*.
- 9.3. The race committee may set courses that do not permit boats to sail the rhumb line between *marks*, particularly over the central Solent Bramble Bank. This shall not constitute an improper action or omission of the race committee under RRS 62.1(a).

10. AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS

The area defined as 'The Moving Prohibited Zone' by the [ABP Southampton Notice to Mariners No 14 of 2019](#) is designated as an *obstruction*.

11. THE START

- 11.1. Before the first warning signal for the first race each day, each boat shall: 1) sail past the race committee signal boat on starboard tack; 2) announce her sail number; and 3) obtain the recognition of her sail number by the race committee.
- 11.2. The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the RC signal boat, and the course side of the starting *mark*.
- 11.3. To alert boats that a race will begin soon, the orange starting line flag will be displayed with one sound at least five minutes before a warning signal.
- 11.4. Races will be started using RRS 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal.
- 11.5. A boat failing to *start* within four (4) minutes after her starting signal shall be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This changes RRS A4.2 and A5.
- 11.6. As a courtesy, the race committee will attempt to hail On Course Side (OCS) boats via VHF. Failure to execute this hail, the order of hails, or the failure to receive it shall not relieve a boat of her sole obligation to start properly, nor shall it constitute an improper action or omission of the race committee under RRS 62.1(a).

12. CHANGE THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 12.1. To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will lay a new *mark* (or move the finish line) and remove the original *mark* as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change a new *mark* is replaced, it will be replaced by an original *mark*.
- 12.2. The race committee may change a leg of the course by up to ten (10) degrees in bearing and/or 200m in length without a signal. This changes RRS 33.

13. THE FINISH

The finishing line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the RC signal boat and the course side of the finishing *mark*.

14. RETIREMENT

A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee via VHF before leaving the course, or, when that is impossible, immediately after arrival ashore.

15. PENALTIES

A boat may take a One-Turn Penalty, including one tack and one jibe, when she may have broken a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 while *racing*. However, when a boat may have broken a rule of Part 2 while in the *zone* around a *mark* other than a starting *mark*, her penalty shall be a Two-Turns Penalty, each turn including one tack and one jibe. This changes RRS 44.1.

16. TIME LIMITS

16.1. The time limit for each for race will be 90 minutes.

16.2. A boat that fails to finish within 20 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes, will be scored Time Limit Expired (“TLE”) without a hearing. In such case, the RC may terminate the race and score the boat points equal to the number of boats finishing plus two (2). This changes RRS 35, 63.1, A4, A5, and A11.

17. PROTEST AND REQUEST FOR REDRESS

17.1. Protest forms are available at the Etchells Container in Cowes Yacht Haven. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit.

17.2. The protest time limit is 90 minutes after the last boat finishes the last race of a given day.

17.3. The protest committee will hear protests and requests for redress as soon as possible and in the order it determines. The hearing schedule will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the close of protest time. This constitutes the notification required by RRS 63.2.

17.4. Notices of any other protests by the race committee, technical committee or protest committee will also be posted. This constitutes the notification required by RRS 61.1(b).

17.5. It is the sole responsibility of each boat involved to be ready and have witnesses available when the hearing is called.

17.6. On the last scheduled day of racing, a request for redress on a protest committee decision, or a request to reopen a hearing, shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the decision was announced, either written or orally. This changes RRS 62.2 and RRS 66.

17.7. If the protest committee concludes that a boat has broken a rule other than one of RRS Part 1 or 2, it may impose a penalty other than disqualification. In these cases, the discretionary penalty, if less than disqualification, will be represented by the scoring abbreviation “DPI”. The penalty imposed by the protest committee in such case constitutes the “other penalty” in the first sentence of RRS 64.1.

18. SCORING

18.1. One (1) race is required to constitute a series.

18.2. The Low Point scoring system will apply except when fewer than five (5) races have been completed, a boat’s series score will be the total of her race scores.

19. RADIO/CELLULAR COMMUNICATION

19.1. All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of receiving course announcements and other information while afloat.

19.2. Except in an emergency, a boat 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.

20. SUPPORT PERSON(S)

Support person(s) shall stay outside areas where boats are racing from the time of the preparatory signal for each race until all boats have finished or retired or the race committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment.

21. RISK STATEMENT

RRS 4 states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone." Sailing is by its nature 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 familiarise 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.

Attachment A – Course Descriptions

END



Etchells Southern Area Championship

3rd & 4th October 2020



SAILING INSTRUCTIONS ATTACHMENT A – COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

LA	COURSE: WINDWARD / LEEWARD with spreader mark and leeward finish
Signal	Mark Rounding Order
LA2	Start – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – 1 – 1a – Finish
LA3	Start – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – 1 – 1a – Finish
LA4	Start – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – 1 – 1a – Finish

WA**COURSE: WINDWARD / LEEWARD
with spreader mark and windward finish****Signal****Mark Rounding Order****WA3****Start - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p - Finish****WA4****Start - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p
- Finish**