

ROA ISLAND BOATING CLUB
CRUISER CLASS RACE INSTRUCTIONS

Applicable to RIBC Races only

EFFECTIVE as of July 23rd 2020

STARTING SEQUENCE

WARNING SIGNAL	10 MINUTES BEFORE START
PREPARATORY SIGNAL	5 MINUTES BEFORE START
START SIGNAL	0 MINUTES BEFORE START

STARTING ON THE WATER

A nominated START BOAT will sound audible signals as per the starting procedure

Early starters are to return on their own initiative

PENALTIES FOR EARLY STARTERS

Early starters NOT returning and re-starting correctly:
One minute added to elapsed time for every second early

FINISHING PROCEDURES

1. Boats time themselves in. (Please be as accurate as possible, e.g. use GPS Clock)
2. Boats timed in with a sound signal and or 2 balls from yard arm on starting mast.
3. Finish times recorded by each competitor should be reported by email or text message to the OD immediately after the race. Results not logged within 24 hrs will be considered as a DNF.

PROTESTS

4. All protests should be logged on the race sheet in the clubhouse and a full description of the protest, either verbal or written, made available to the race committee if required.
5. All boats involved in and any witnesses to the protest will attend a protest meeting if required.
6. A boat intending to protest shall always inform the other boat at the first reasonable opportunity. The flying of a protest flag is optional.
7. The findings of the race committee will be final.

YACHTS ON MOORINGS AFTER PREPARATORY SIGNAL

Two percent (2%) added to elapsed time and NO beneficial adjustment to handicap

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR CRUISER RACING

1. RIBC Yacht Racing is undertaken in accordance with ISAF rules, RIBC rules, ORC guidelines and the PY handicap system, and as adjusted by the RIBC race committee during each season. The decision to race or not is entirely the responsibility of each yacht and crew. To be eligible to race in the CRUISER CLASS, all boats must conform to the basic cruiser requirements as laid down by the RIBC Ltd.
2. The START and FINISH LINE, (Unless otherwise stated) is an extension of the transit of the TWO marker poles on the end of the BELFAST PIER. ROUND WALNEY RACES and NON CHANNEL RACES finish at the transit of PIEL BUOY and the LAMP on PIEL ISLAND.
3. All yachts intending to race are to be on START LINE no later than 15 minutes after the start signal. (Late starters to have NO adjustment to their handicap.)
4. A minimum of TWO boats on the START LINE to start a race.
5. All yachts must release any moorings at the PREPARATORY SIGNAL, unless aground.
6. Engines may be used up to the PREPARATORY SIGNAL. (5-minute signal)
7. The use of an ENGINE whilst racing may incur a penalty or disqualification.
(See concession for single-handed racing and Round Walney races.)
8. The flying of a flag or other item to indicate a yacht is racing is optional.
9. All NAMED course marks are to be rounded.
10. Unless named as a turning mark, all channel marks NORTH of OUTER BAR- SEA 7 are to be passed on their correct side, except for the following BUOYS, ROA BUOY, No 1 BUOY and No 2 BUOY, which are discarded for all races.
Unless named as a turning mark All channel marks SOUTH of OUTER BAR-SEA 7 are to be discarded for all races, except the Round Walney's where you may enter the channel at HAWS POINT, discarding Outer Bar, Bar & Walney.
11. The Bill Booth Channel Series Races will either be ONE or TWO laps depending on the weather conditions on the day, the decision will be made prior to the start of the race. The decided number of laps must be completed for the race to be valid.

In the event of adverse weather cancelling a scheduled race (Channel race excluded)

Then an optional Channel race can be arranged, which will start NO LATER than 2 hours after the original start time.

AN OPTIONAL CHANNEL RACE DOES NOT SUBSTITUTE FOR A CUP RACE

Course A. RIBC--No10(s)--West Scar(s)--RIBC

Course B. RIBC--Piel(s)--No10(s)--RIBC

Course C. TBA on the day

Single Handed Racing

1. The use of an Autopilot is permitted for short periods whilst attending to the boat or to personal needs.
2. Engines may be kept running-BUT OUT OF GEAR-until the START SIGNAL to assist the boat in case of difficulties. (Includes ALL boats in Round Walney races.)
3. Engines MUST be stopped at the START SIGNAL.

IMPORTANT NOTE

The race programme (dates, start times or courses) may have to be changed due to the weather conditions or other reasons.

Details will be posted on the club notice board or web site

Please check before you race

RIBC Ltd. Effective as of April 2018

RIBC Racing Rules-Supplementary

1. A race that is Started and then Abandoned [i.e. there are no finishers] or a race that is Not Started on its published date and time, [For whatever reason] can be re-scheduled to another date and start time and will still count towards the club championship
2. Where possible Abandoned Cup races will be re-scheduled to the next appropriate "Championship Race" date, i.e., Non Cup race date, and the "Championship Race" scheduled for that time, will be postponed until further notice
3. Where a scheduled Cup race is cancelled due to adverse weather conditions or other reasons, and a substitute channel race is run in its place, the points awarded in this substitute race will count towards the club championship. The Cup will not be awarded for this substitute race
All boats must complete at least 6 races to qualify for the club championship
4. Due to the weather and or other influencing factors, RIBC races may differ from that shown in the race programme, any and all changes will be notified by the OOD and or posted on the club notice board or web site
5. SCORING RACES. 1st = 1 point, 2nd = 2 points, 3rd = 3 points, etc.
Lowest number of points to decide the winner
DNF [Did Not Finish], number of boats that come to the start area for that race +1
DNC [Did Not Compete] is awarded the number of boats entered in the championship season +1

Discards

The discard profile is as follows (50% +1)Number of races to be discarded: - 0,0,0,1,1,2,2,3,3,4,4,5,5,6,6,7,7,8

6. The Bill Booth series will consist of 4 races, with boats best 3 races to count towards the Bill Booth Cup.
Each individual race in the Bill Booth series will be scored as per rule 5 and the points awarded for each race will count towards the club championship
The Fiesta Series will consist of a set number races per season, (see race programme for the number of races) with a boats best 5 races to count towards the Fiesta Cup
For the purposes of the club championship the Fiesta Series will count as ONE RACE. [There are no prizes for individual races within a Fiesta or Bill Booth Series.]
In the event that the required numbers of races are not completed, then the boat[s] with the most number of races and best positions will decide the winner[s]
A minimum of 2 races to be completed to qualify for either, the Bill Booth, or Fiesta series
7. The RIBC uses the RYA PY system as the preferred handicapping system for all its races
Initially A boat's PY number will be assigned using the base number established by the race committee at the start of each season and adjusted as required.
A boat's PY Number is adjusted during the racing season using calculations from the race calculation software HAL and as reviewed and agreed by the race committee.
8. There are two categories of race at RIBC;
 1. The CLUB RACE which is for RIBC BOATS ONLY.
 2. The OPEN RACE which is open to all entrants irrespective of club or organisation, provided they comply with their relevant class rules, i.e. cruiser class, dinghy class etc., and belong to a recognised sailing club. The final results of these races will stand as is; the winner will be decided by handicap alone, irrespective of club or organisation
However if a NON RIBC BOAT wins a RIBC OPEN RACE then a representative trophy will be awarded. The best finishing RIBC boat will be awarded the RIBC Cup or Trophy for that race
9. For the purposes of the club championship all NON RIBC Boats are removed from the OPEN RACE results and the Championship points awarded as if the race was an RIBC club race. i.e. Best finishing RIBC boat goes to 1st place and next best to 2nd place and so on
10. Only club organised races as shown in the RIBC race program will count towards the club championship.
Impromptu races by club members are conducted at their own discretion and responsibility

THE MBSA REGATTA.

In accordance with the MBSA ruling (November 2004), all boats taking part in the MBSA Regatta, (irrespective of organising club) will apply the following rule.

“All boats will be assumed NOT to have either a SPINNAKER or a CRUISING CHUTE, subsequently all boats will be given the appropriate Handicap allowance, +4% for No Spinnaker or +2% for No Cruising Chute. (Max allowance +4%). Boats who’s handicaps are already adjusted to take account of NO Spinnaker or NO Cruising Chute, will remain on that Handicap, (NO Adjustment will be given). Should a boat use either a Spinnaker or a Cruising Chute during the MBSA REGATTA then the handicap allowance will be removed and the boat will revert to its BOOK or CLUB Handicap”

All boats will declare whether they HAVE or HAVE NOT flown a spinnaker or a cruising chute.

IMPORTANT NOTE

THE ABOVE MBSA RULING WILL NOT APPLY DURING RIBC RACES

All boats racing in either a RIBC OPEN or CLUB Race will be assumed to conform to the BASE RIG as specified in the RYA PORTSMOUTH YARDSTICK BOOK, YR2

It will be the owner’s responsibility to inform the Race Committee of any changes to their boat or sail plan

RIBC CRUISER CLASS RACING

TO QUALIFY IN THE RIBC CRUISER CLASS, ALL BOATS SHALL MEET THE FOLLOWING MINIMUM BASIC REQUIREMENTS

1. THE HULL – DECK – COACHROOF – COCKPIT – COMPANIONWAY - HATCHES AND WINDOWS SHALL FORM AN ESSENTIALLY WATERTIGHT STRUCTURE
2. UNLESS THE BOAT IS A MULTIHULL, IT SHALL BE SELF-RIGHTING IN THE EVENT OF A KNOCK DOWN
3. THE COCKPIT SHALL BE SELF-DRAINING. (UNLESS NOT FITTED ON BOAT, CLASS OR DESIGN)
4. LIFELINES SHALL BE FITTED. (UNLESS NOT FITTED ON BOAT, CLASS OR DESIGN)
5. ENGINE – FUEL – DRINKING WATER SUPPLY
6. NAVIGATION EQUIPMENT (e.g. GPS, CHARTS, LIGHTS etc.)
7. BILGE PUMP or BAILING EQUIPMENT
8. SAFETY EQUIPMENT IN CASE OF DISTRESS (e.g. VHF, FLARES, TORCH)
9. PERSONAL BUOYANCY FOR ALL PERSONS ONBOARD

The decision to race is entirely the responsibility of each boat and crew

It is for the boat to decide if it is fit to sail in the conditions in which it will find itself

By taking part in any RIBC Ltd organised event the boat confirms that it is fit for the conditions in which it will find itself and that its crew is competent to sail and compete in them

It is recommended that some form of personal buoyancy be worn

All boats must have a minimum of Third Party Insurance if they are taking part in any RIBC Ltd Race or Event
