

# ROA ISLAND BOATING CLUB.

## CRUISER CLASS RACE INSTRUCTIONS.

Applicable to RIBC Races only.  
EFFECTIVE AS OF JANUARY 2010.

### STARTING PROCEDURE.

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, eg use GPS Clock**)
2. Boats timed in with a sound signal and or 2 balls from yard arm on starting mast.
3. All times to be recorded on the race sheet in the club house by 19:00 hrs on the day following the race.

### PROTESTS

1. All protests should be logged on the race sheet in the club house and a full description of the protest, either verbal or written, made available to the race committee if required.
2. All boats involved in and any witnesses to the protest will attend a protest meeting if required.
3. A boat intending to protest shall always inform the other boat at the first reasonable opportunity. The flying of a protest flag is optional.
4. 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 RYA Portsmouth Yardstick Handicap Scheme-YR2. 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** 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.
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.
12. **FIESTA SERIES**, to avoid boats racing in the dark, any boat that has not finished racing by 21:30 hrs, will be deemed to have retired.

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--No14-(s)--Castle (s)--RIBC.  
Course B. RIBC---Piel (s)---No14 (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 [www.rIBC.info](http://www.rIBC.info) or via VHF channel 72 or the OOD on the day of the race.

**Please check before you race.**

**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, ie, 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 [www.ribc.info](http://www.ribc.info) at the earliest opportunity.
5. SCORING RACES. 1st = 0.75 points, 2nd = 2 points, 3rd = 3 points, etc.  
Lowest number of points to decide the winner.  
DNF [Did Not Finish], If Fiesta Series, then overall Number of boats that have raced in series +1.  
If individual races, then overall Number of boats that have raced in season + 1.  
DNC [Did Not Compete] same method as DNF but +2.
6. **The Bill Booth series** will consist of 4 races, with a 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 program 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 Portsmouth Yardstick [PY] Handicap Scheme [YR2] as the preferred handicapping system for all its races.  
A boat's handicap will normally be assessed after the boat has completed 4 races, including individual Channel Series races, [Fiesta and Bill Booth] although this may be sooner if thought necessary.  
The handicap adjustment will be shown on the race result sheet and will be effective as of the boats next race.  
A boat's PY Number will be adjusted 1% to 4% at any one time, with a maximum overall PY number movement of 8%. [That is 8% of the PY Handicap number at the start of the season] This movement can be up or down.  
A boat without a documented PY Number will be required to complete 3 trial races in order to be allocated a provisional PY Number, the boat will not be able to have a race position during the trial races.  
For the purposes of handicapping, All boats will be assumed to have the BASE RIG for their class and or design, e.g. an overlapping headsail or a spinnaker etc, it is the owners responsibility to inform the race committee of any changes to the boat or its rig that may effect the PY handicap No.  
Cruising Chutes are NOT classed as Spinnakers.  
Handicap adjustments will be made by the race committee.
8. There are two categories of race at RIBC;
  1. The CLUB RACE which is for RIBC BOATS ONLY and:
  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.  
RIBC silverware is awarded to RIBC BOATS only.
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 1<sup>st</sup> place and next best to 2<sup>nd</sup> place and so on.
10. Only club organised races as shown in the RIBC race programme 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 (eg. GPS, CHARTS, LIGHTS etc).
7. BILGE PUMP or BAILING EQUIPMENT.
8. SAFETY EQUIPMENT IN CASE OF DISTRESS (eg. 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 is worn.**

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