



International Team Racing Contest  
for the  
Commodore George Nichols Trophy 2008

# SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Practice for NYYC team: Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2008  
Racing: Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2008

**COMMODORE**

HRH The Duke of York KG,

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Mrs Gillian Smith

**CHIEF UMPIRE**

Alan Baser, Esq.

All times in this programme are BST.

## **1 Rules, Umpiring and Protest committee**

- 1.1 Racing will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing as amended by Appendix D Team Racing. Races will be umpired.
- 1.2 The first sentence of rule 45 is deleted.
- 1.3 Rule D2.2 (b) (2) is deleted and replaced with 'A blue flag means "the blue team boat is penalised"; a white flag means "the white team boat is penalised". The umpire may hail or further signal to identify each boat that is penalised.' In rule D2.2 (d) 'red' is replaced with 'blue or white'.
- 1.4 A boat that finishes (as defined) may not thereafter correct any error to comply with rule 28.1. This changes rule 28.1.
- 1.5 A boat scored NSF, no start/finish, by the race committee in accordance with these sailing instructions will be scored, without a hearing, points equal to the number of boats entitled to race. This changes rules D3.1 (a) and 63.1
- 1.6 The boats supplied by the organisers shall be sailed in accordance with Appendix 3 – Handling the Boats. A boat may not protest another boat for infringement of this rule, but a warning or penalty may be issued or imposed by an umpire in accordance with rule D2.2 (d). This changes rule 60.1.
- 1.7 Rule C.7 applies (arm signal required when rule 19.1 applies).
- 1.8 An adequate buoyancy aid or lifejacket shall be worn at all times while afloat. A wet suit or dry suit is not adequate buoyancy. A boat shall not protest another boat for infringement of this Sailing Instruction, but the Protest committee may impose a penalty of one race win without hearing. This changes rule 63.1.
- 1.9 Notwithstanding that versions of the sailing instructions have been sent to competitors by various means including electronically, the sailing instructions available at the skippers' briefing are the only official version.

## **2 Temporary Membership of Royal Thames Yacht Club.**

- 2.1 Race Officers, umpires, competitors and participants in the 2008 Commodore George Nichols Trophy regatta not already members of the Club or of New York Yacht Club have been elected temporary honorary members of Royal Thames Yacht Club Limited for the duration of and while participating in the event.

## **3 Practice sessions, Damage deposit and Skippers' Briefing**

- 3.1 There will be a practice session for the New York Yacht Club team on the afternoon of Friday, 12th September in the boats and at the venue to be used for the regatta. Transport will leave the Royal Thames YC clubhouse in Knightsbridge for Royal Victoria Dock at 1130. The team shall provide the damage deposit required by the Notice of Race before departure for the practice session.  
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- 3.2 There will be a general skippers' briefing at 1830 on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September in the Model Room of 60 Knightsbridge. Attendance by at least the skippers of each team at the briefing is mandatory.  
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#### **4 Notices to Competitors**

- 4.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board in the entrance hall area of the Royal Thames Yacht Club and repeated on the official notice board located in the spectating area on the first floor the Novotel, Royal Victoria Docks, adjacent to the sailing area and pontoon.

#### **5 Changes to Sailing Instructions**

- 5.1 Changes to these SIs will be signalled by displaying flag L from the main committee boat. Such changes will be posted on the official notice board at the Novotel not less than 10 minutes before the warning signal of the first affected race. This changes Race Signals.

#### **6 Signals made Ashore**

- 6.1 Signals will not be made ashore.

#### **7 Event Format, Schedule of Races and Crew Transfer arrangements**

- 7.1 The event is a two-boat team racing tournament as described in paragraph 3 of the Notice of Race.
- 7.2 The proposed schedule of races is attached as Appendix 1 to these Sailing Instructions and as a guide, only, to the proposed format of the regatta. The actual schedule to be sailed will be described in detail at the skippers' briefing on Friday evening, and may be changed to accord with the dictates of weather and wind in a fair and practical way as solely determined by the race committee taking into account the weather conditions, time constraints and any other relevant factors. Any changes thereto and schedules for subsequent rounds will be displayed not less than 10 minutes before the start of that phase of the competition.
- 7.3 Every race will be assigned a race number in the race schedule.
- 7.4 The race number will be displayed on the main committee boat between the preparatory signal and start signal for that race. When the race number is displayed in this way, it overrides all prior communications, schedules or instructions. The race committee may at any time remove a particular race from the published sequence of races and run it at a later time, or not at all.
- 7.5 Teams will be ferried to and from their boats by RIBs operating from the pontoon dock in front of the Novotel building. Teams should allow sufficient time to assemble on the pontoon to be ferried to their boats before the finish of the preceding race or races. It is the responsibility solely of team members to ensure they are on hand to board their scheduled ferry. Races will not be delayed to wait for teams not ready to go afloat and the lack of such delay shall not be grounds for redress.
- 7.6 There will be an opportunity for an umpires' de-brief at the end of racing each day. Competitors shall not while still in the boats engage in talks with umpires immediately after finishing but shall sail immediately to facilitate the next crew transfer.

## 8 The Course and Time Limit

- 8.1 Start and Finish line.  
 the starting line will be between a staff with an orange or yellow flag on the main committee boat and a starting mark;  
 the finishing line will be the same as the starting line.
- 8.2 The marks will be described at the skippers' briefing.
- 8.3 The course configuration will be described at the skippers' briefing. Subsequent significant changes to the course configuration, if required, will be conveyed to competitors by the umpires.
- 8.4 The race committee may move marks of the course. Rule 33 shall not apply.
- 8.5 The time limit for each race will be 35 minutes. Boats failing to finish within five minutes after the first boat finishes will be scored NSF. If no boat has reached the first mark of the course after 10 minutes and/or the last mark of the course after 20 minutes the race shall be abandoned. Once both boats of one team have finished the race committee may terminate the race and award scores to the other boats in accordance with their places on the water. This changes rule 35.
- 8.6 The sail combination to be used will be indicated by a letter displayed on the main committee boat as follows:  
**A** Jib and full main.  
**B** Jib and 1 reef.  
**C** Jib and 2 reefs.  
 Spinnakers will not to be used.
- 8.7 Other restrictions or instructions may be given to the boats orally by an umpire. This changes rule 89.2(c).

## 9 The Start

- 9.1 The signals for starting a race will be as SI9.2. Rule 26 and related race signals shall not apply.
- 9.2 The warning and preparatory signals will be at 1 minute intervals. There will be three minutes between the preparatory signal and the start.

MINUTES	VISUAL SIGNAL	SOUND SIGNAL	
-4	Flag R displayed	One	Warning signal
-3	Flag P displayed	One	Preparatory signal
- 1	Flag P removed	Long Sound	
0	Flag R removed.	One	Start

- 9.3 When a boat is subject to rule 29.1 flag X need not be displayed for more than 1 minute after the starting signal; this changes rule 29.1. The race committee may hail the boat numbers of boats in breach of rule 29.1. The failure or absence of such a hail shall not be grounds for redress and nothing in this sailing instruction shall in any way limit the absolute responsibility of a boat to comply with rule 29.1.
- 9.4 A boat that fails to start, other than a boat that is OCS and has not returned to the pre-start side of the starting line, within two minutes of her starting signal will be scored NSF.

- 9.5 Attention may be drawn to an imminent warning signal by a series of short sound signals. If flag AP has been displayed, these signals may be used to draw attention to the imminent removal of AP. Starts will not be delayed for competitors who are not ready to go afloat when called or who do not proceed to the start area as quickly as possible. Redress will not be granted in such circumstances.

## **10 Protests and Penalties**

- 10.1 Races will be umpired. Rule D2.4 (b) applies. The time limit for any protest or request for redress shall be 5 minutes after the end of the relevant race.
- 10.2 The protest committee may refuse to hear a protest or request for redress unless its outcome is relevant to progress, but not seeding, in the next round of the competition. This changes rule 63.1.
- 10.3 When the race umpires together with one other umpire (when available) decide that a boat has broken rule 14 and there is damage or injury, they may penalise her team by half a race win without a hearing. The boat will be informed as soon as practical and may request a hearing. Any penalty after a hearing will be in accordance with rule D3.1(c). This changes rule 63.1.
- 10.4 A team that has already been penalised half a race win under 10.3 shall be penalised one race win for a second such infringement in the competition. The penalty for a third such infringement shall be disqualification from the competition.
- 10.5 The race committee may report to the Protest committee any incident of material damage occurring to a boat while in the charge of a competitor. This changes rule D2.4.
- 10.6 If, after a hearing, the Protest committee finds that the damage was caused by deliberate action or gross negligence on the part of a competitor, it may disqualify his or her entire team from the event or apply any penalty to any of their races.
- 10.7 The Protest committee may apportion responsibility for the damage between the teams involved in the incident and the Organising Authority may recover any financial loss from the teams as apportioned.

## **11 Boats are Supplied by the Organising Authority**

- 11.1 For each race the race committee will allocate boats to the participating teams.
- 11.2 **BREAKDOWNS**
- 11.2a Competitors are responsible for inspecting their boats before racing.
- 11.2b When a boat is unable to continue racing, she shall act in accordance with D5.1 and report to the race committee, which shall act under section 11.2.c.
- 11.2c The race committee shall decide redress in accordance with rule D5, but may seek advice from the race umpires or from the Protest committee.
- 11.2d The race committee may postpone a resail indefinitely and score each team half a race win unless the result is relevant to progress, but not seeding, in the next round.

### **11.3 CONTINUITY**

11.3a Before starting and after finishing or retiring, boats shall sail to minimise any delay to the race schedule and without interfering with any race in progress.

11.3b A boat shall remain the responsibility of the team until handed over to the race committee or the next team to use that boat. Boats shall be handed over in racing trim. Any defects shall be reported to the race committee.

## **12.0 Prizes**

12.1 The principal prize will be the award of the Commodore George Nichols Trophy to the winning team.

12.2 Other prizes may be awarded.

## **13.0 Code of Conduct**

13.1 Skipper and crew shall comply with any reasonable request from any official, including attendance at official functions and shall not behave so as to bring the event into disrepute. Competitors shall handle the boats and equipment with proper care and seamanship and in accordance with SI APPENDIX 3 (Handling the Boats).

13.2 The penalty for an infringement of this SI is at the discretion of the Protest committee and may include exclusion from further participation in the event or the withholding of deposits.

**APPENDIX 1 – SCHEDULE OF RACES**

**Commodore George Nichols Trophy Match - Saturday 13th - Sunday 14th September**

Proposed schedule of Rounds.

R1, R 2 = RTYC Pair 1, RTYC Pair 2; N1, N2 ditto. 2 pairs constitute one team. Pairs stay together for tournament

**RACING**

Race No		Boat No 3 & 7	Boat No 2 & 6	Points per win
1	Round 1	R1	N1	1
		R1 out R2 in	N1 out N2 in	
2		R2	N2	1
		R2 out N1 in	N2 out R2 in	
3	Round 2	N1	R2	1
		N1 out N2 in	R2 out N1 in	
4		N2	R1	1
		N2 out R1 in	R1 out N1 in	
5	Round 3	R1	N2	1
		R1 out R2 in	N2 out N1 in	
6		R2	N1	1
		R2 out N2 in	N1 out N2 in	
7	Round 4	N2	R2	1
		N2 out N1 in	R2 out R1 in	
8		N1	R1	1
		N1 out R2 in	R1 out N1 in	
9	Round 5	R2	N1	1.5
		R2 out R1 in	N1 out N2 in	
10		R1	N2	1.5
		R1 out N1 in	N2 out R1 in	
11	Round 6	N1	R1	1.5
		N1 out N2 in	R1 out R2 in	
12		N2	R2	1.5
		N2 out R1 in	R2 out N1 in	

Race No		Boat No 3 & 7		Boat No 2 & 6		Points per win
13	Round 7	R1		N1		1.5
		R1 out R2 in		N1 out N2 in		
14		R2		N2		1.5
		R2 out N2 in		N2 out R1in		
15	Round 8	N2		R1		1.5
		N2 out N1 in		R1 out R2 in		
16		N1		R2		1.5
		N1 out R1 in		R2 out N1 in		
17	Round 9	R1		N1		2
		R1 out R2 in		N1 out N2 in		
18		R2		N2		2
		R2 out R1 in		No change		
19	Round 10	R1		N2		2
		R1 out R2 in		N2 out N1 in		
20		R2		N1		2
		R2 out N2 in		N1 out N2 in		
21	Round 11	N2		R1		2
		N2 out N1 in		R1 out R2 in		
22		N1		R2		2
		N1 out N2 in		No change		
23	Round 12	N2		R2		2
		N2 out R1 in		R2 out N1 in		
24		R1		N1		2

## **APPENDIX 2 – COURSE CONFIGURATION**

Details available at the first briefing.

## **APPENDIX 3 - HANDLING THE BOATS**

### **1.0 General**

While all reasonable steps are taken to equalise the boats variations will not be grounds for redress. The boats are well-maintained but well used craft and some wear is to be expected in some items of gear. A defective item of gear on a boat will of itself be grounds neither for redress nor for the holding up of the programme. (Changes rule 62).

### **2.0 Prohibited Items and Actions**

Except in an emergency or in order to prevent damage or injury, or when directed by an umpire otherwise, the following are prohibited:

- 2.1 Any additions, omissions or alterations to the equipment supplied.
- 2.2 The use of any equipment for a purpose other than that intended.
- 2.3 The replacement of any equipment without the sanction of the Organising Authority.
- 2.4 Sailing the boat in a manner from which it is reasonable to predict that significant further damage would result.
- 2.5 Moving equipment from its normal stowage position except when being used.
- 2.6 Boarding a boat without prior permission.
- 2.7 Taking a boat from its berth or mooring without having paid the required damage deposit or having permission from the Organising Authority.
- 2.8 Hauling out a boat or cleaning surfaces below the waterline.
- 2.9 Using a flattener as a reef.
- 2.10 Attaching lines to the fabric of spinnakers.
- 2.11 Perforating sails, even to attach tell tales.
- 2.12 Radio transmission, including the use of mobile phones, except to report damage or in response to a request from the race committee.
- 2.13 Adjusting or altering the tension of standing rigging, excluding the backstay.
- 2.14 Using a winch to adjust the mainsheet vang or backstay.
- 2.15 Using a reef line as an outhaul.
- 2.16 Cross winching foresail sheets.
- 2.17 Omitting any headsail car or turning block before sheeting onto a winch.
- 2.18 Marking directly on the hull or deck with permanent ink.
- 2.19 Attaching the spinnaker pole to the shrouds or shroud turnbuckles at any time.
- 2.20 Use of the shrouds to assist tacking or gybing the boat, either by applying crew weight or by any other means.

### **3.0 Permitted Items and Actions**

- 3.1 Taking a bag on board containing:
  - a) basic hand tools
  - b) adhesive tape

- c) line (elastic or otherwise of 4mm diameter or less)
- d) marking pens
- e) tell tale material
- f) hand held compass
- g) shackles and clevice pins
- h) Velcro tape

3.2 The use of the contents of the bag to:

- a) prevent fouling of lines, sails and sheets
- b) attach tell tales
- c) prevent sails being damaged or falling overboard
- d) mark control settings
- e) make minor repairs

3.3 Fixing a spinnaker sheet catcher at the bow, providing that it does not extend the length of the boat more than 100 mm and does not require any repair to the boat after removal.

#### **4.0 Mandatory Items and Actions**

The following shall be mandatory:

- 4.1 At the end of each sailing day, for the last crews to use the boats:
  - a) folding, bagging and placement of the sails as directed.
  - b) leaving the boat in the same state of cleanliness as when first boarded that day.
- 4.2 Any request to alter, in any way, the equipment on a boat shall be in writing and worded to permit a yes/no answer.
- 4.3 Compliance with any regulations, including speed restrictions and navigation marks, while leaving or returning to the berth or mooring.