

# AGMC Commodore's Cup Series Keelboat and Multihull

## October 2023 – May 2024

### SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

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The Organizing Authority is the Dubai Offshore Sailing Club.



## 1. Rules

- 1.1 The event will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing, (RRS)*.
- 1.2 Add to RRS 28.1: 'If the Race Committee observes a boat failing to sail the correct course, then she may be disqualified without a hearing.' This also changes RRS A5.
- 1.3 Add to RRS 32.1: '(f) for any reason considered appropriate by the Race Committee.'
- 1.4 IRC 2023 Rules Parts A, B and C shall apply for all IRC Classes.
- 1.5 Competitors and support persons shall comply promptly with any reasonable request by a Race Official.
- 1.6 RRS 52, Manual Power, shall not apply.
- 1.7 Boats shall notify their intention to race on the sign on sheet posted on the day of racing.
- 1.8 RRS Appendix T, Arbitration, will apply.

## 2. Communications with Competitors

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board which is the event page on the DOSC website calendar.
- 2.2 There will be a briefing for competitors at 1130hrs on all race days in the Tentola or elsewhere at DOSC as directed.
- 2.3 The following communications may be made by the Race Committee on VHF Channel 08:
  - The race area and race schedule each day, any schedule changes
  - Any change of starting order for multiple Class starts
  - The approximate location of the Race Committee Boat
  - The use of alternate preparatory signals
  - The courses to be sailed and any changes or shortening

- The approximate bearings and distances to moveable/first marks
- The warning, preparatory and starting signals for all classes.
- Between the warning and preparatory signal, any starting penalty flag to be displayed.
- Sailing Instruction changes (confirmation of changes posted)
- Postponements and abandonments
- Individual and general recalls
- The intended time of the first start of a starting sequence
- The times of the first, second and last finishers

### 3. Changes to Sailing Instructions

3.1 Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted no later than 2 hours before the first scheduled race on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

### 4. Signals made Ashore

4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from a flagstaff on the upper balcony of the Club.

4.2 When AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 60 minutes' in the race signal AP. This changes RRS Race Signals.

### 5. Schedule of Races

5.1 Races are scheduled each racing day as follows:

Race Format	Time of 1st Warning Signal	Number of Races Scheduled each Day**
Inshore	1300hrs	3
Coastal	1300hrs	1

\*\* See (SI 5.5)

5.2 The starting order will normally be as described in the briefing. In any case, boats should watch for their class flag to indicate their start and keep clear of the starting area when other classes are in start sequence if not starting themselves.

5.3 Classes may be combined for any start, but no Class will start earlier than as published.

5.4 When more than one race is scheduled in a day, second and subsequent races will be started as soon as practical.

5.5 One extra race per day may be sailed, provided that no Class becomes more than one race ahead of schedule and the change is made according with Sailing Instruction 3.

5.6 After a long postponement, or to alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, an orange flag will be displayed with one sound, at least five minutes before a warning signal is displayed.

5.7 No warning signal will be made after 1700hrs.

## 6. Classes, Class and Event Flags. Rating or Handicap Limits

6.1 Class or event flags will be:

Class	Handicap / Rating Limits	Class Flag
IRC 1	IRC TCC 1.031 & above	Oscar
IRC 2	IRC TCC 1.030 to 0.945	Tango
IRC 3	IRC 3A: IRC TCC 0.944 & below <u>and</u> LWP 6.20 & below IRC 3B: IRC TCC 0.944 & below <u>and</u> LWP 6.21 & above	Delta
IRC Cruiser	IRC class open to invited boats	Pennant 9
Club	NHC	Juliet
Multihull	DOSC Multi Adjusted Handicap (DAH)	Foxtrot

6.2 When a visual signal is displayed under an event flag, the signal applies to all boats in that event. This changes RRS Race Signals.

6.3 The Classes, handicap or rating limits may change the Notice of Race and may also be displayed on the official notice board as a change to this Sailing Instruction.

6.4 The Race Committee may adjust the definition, the numbers, and/or the handicap limits of Classes. Such decisions will be posted as a notice to competitors.

6.5 Each boat is requested to display the appropriate Class flag on its backstay or in some other conspicuous place.

6.6 The Race Committee may at its sole discretion move boats between Classes.

6.7 Boats racing under the DOSC Multi Adjusted Handicap (DAH) system will be allocated a Base Number by the Race Committee. A boat's handicap may be adjusted after every race. An adjustment in handicap number is not grounds for redress, this changes RRS62.

6.8 For boats racing under the DAH system, any changes to the boat, rigging, sails or equipment that could materially affect the performance of the boat during the series shall be notified in writing to the Race Committee before the start of the next race entered.

6.9 Boats racing in IRC 3 will receive a combined score for IRC 3 as well as scores for the relevant sub division IRC 3A or IRC 3B.

## 7. Racing Areas

7.1 The locations of the racing areas will be described at the briefing and/or posted as a notice to competitors.

## 8. Courses

8.1 The courses shall be provided as a notice to competitors separately no later than the time of the briefing.

## 9. Marks

9.1 The marks will be as described in the course information provided as per SI 8.1 above.

## 10. Areas that are Obstructions

10.1 Areas designated as obstructions will be included in the course information as per SI 8.1 and

described at the briefing.

## 11. The Start

11.1 Races will be started by using RRS 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal and the preparatory signal one minute later.

11.2 In exceptional circumstances Visual Signals for the warning, preparatory and starting signals may not be displayed. This changes RRS 26. Times shall be taken from the sound signals which may be available on VHF.

11.3 The starting line and its location will be provided with the course information and advised at the briefing.

11.4 A boat starting later than 4 minutes after her starting signal may be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A4 and A5.

11.5 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall, if possible, avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other boats. Boats breaking this Sailing Instruction may be penalised by the Race Committee with a 20% scoring penalty without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.

## 12. Change of Course

12.1 The race committee may adjust any racing mark by up to 25m without signal. For adjustments of more than 25m. Changing the course will be as per RRS 33.

## 13. The Finish and Shortening the Course

13.1 The finishing line will be as described in the provided course information.

13.2 Shortening the course will be per RRS 32.

## 14. Penalty System

14.1 Exoneration Penalty.

A boat that may have broken a rule of RRS Part 2, or RRS 31 or RRS 42, may, after finishing the race concerned and before the start of a related protest hearing, notify the Race Committee that she accepts an Post Race Penalty - a 25% scoring penalty (SCP) calculated as stated in RRS 44.3(c), except that the minimum penalty is three and she shall not be scored worse than the number of boats that came to the starting area. However, if the boat caused injury or serious damage or, despite taking a penalty, gained a significant advantage in the race or series by her breach her penalty is to retire.

14.2 When a Post Race Penalty is accepted:

(a) Neither the boat nor a Protest Committee may then revoke or remove the penalty.

(b) The boat shall not be penalized further in a protest hearing when the Protest Committee decides that it was appropriate to the facts found and the applicable rules.

14.3 Penalties when injury or damage is caused, the penalty for a boat found to have broken a rule of RRS Part 2 in an incident that causes injury or damage shall be:

(a) For the first incident in a series, disqualification, but this may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be not excludable for damage that is more than minor.

(b) For the second incident in a series, disqualification that is not excludable.

(c) For the third and subsequent incidents in a series, the protest committee shall act under RRS 69,

Misconduct taking the facts of the incidents to be 'information from any source' as in RRS 69.2(c).  
(d) When the race is part of more than one series, the penalty shall apply to all those series.

For the purpose of this rule, minor damage is damage that does not significantly affect the value, general appearance or normal operation of the boat.

## 15. Time Limits and Target Times

15.1 The time limits and target times are as follows:

Race Format	Target Finish Time	Time Limit (1) For 1 <sup>st</sup> boat to finish as RRS 35.	Time limit (2) Latest time to finish
Inshore	60 minutes	80 minutes	100 minutes
Coastal	3 hours	4 hours	5 hours

15.2 Boats that do not finish within time limit (2) will be scored DNF without a hearing.

15.3 This Sailing Instruction 15 changes RRS 35 and RRS Appendix A.

## 16. Protests and Requests for Redress

16.1 Protest forms are available at DOSC Reception. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit.

16.2 The protest time limit for all classes is 60 minutes after the last boat, regardless of class, has finished the last race of the day. However, for protests alleging a breach of the IRPCAS based on a report from a source external to the Club, the protest time limit is 7 days after the alleged breach.

16.3 Notices will be posted as soon as possible after the final protest time limit of the day to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses.

16.4 Notices of protests by the Race Committee or Protest Committee will be posted to inform boats under RRS 61.1(b).

16.5 Breaches of Sailing Instructions: 2, 3, 4, 5, 12, 19, 20, 21, 23 will not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a).

16.6 Penalties for breaches of rules, except RRS Part 1 and 2 are at the discretion of the Protest Committee.

16.7 RYA Rules Dispute Advisory and Mediation Hearings are available at any time prior to commencement of a protest hearing.

16.8 On the last scheduled day of racing a request for redress based on a Protest Committee decision shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the decision was posted. This changes RRS 62.2.

16.9 Protest hearings will be scheduled as soon as possible but unless notified otherwise, full protest hearings will be heard from 1930hrs on the Wednesday following the day on which the race concerned took place, except for the last race of the series, when any protests will be heard on the same day.

16.10 A boat that has taken a penalty under RRS 44.1 shall complete an acknowledgement form at the Race Office within the Protest Time Limit.

16.11 Competitors are requested to advise the finishing boat if intending to lodge a protest or request redress.

## 17. Scoring

17.1 The number of races required to complete a series shall be 3 races.

17.2 Inshore Races shall be scored as individually discardable results in the series.

17.3 Coastal Races shall be scored as 2 individually discardable results.

17.4 The Coastal Series shall be scored in addition to the Commodore's Cup by scoring all Coastal Races in a separate series with 1 score per race.

17.5 The number of discards for the Commodore's Cup shall be as follows:

No. of Races Sailed	No. of Discards
Up to 3 races	0
4-7	1
8-12	2
13-17	3
18+	4

17.6 Boats shall only be entered in the series results after they have started a race.

17.7 RRS A5.3 will apply. This changes RRS A5.2.

17.8 A boat that is racing when her time limit expires or a boat that retires before her time limit expires and informs the Race Committee promptly and provided her retirement is not caused by her breach of a rule, shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the last boat to finish. This changes RRS A4.2 and RRS A9.

17.9 A boat that is unable to race because a member of its crew is requested to join the Race Committee for that race may be scored average points for up to 2 such races in the series. The average points will be calculated as the average points score for all races sailed by the boat in that series. A boat sails in a race if she is ever subject to the rules of RRS Part 2 for that race.

17.10 All competitors must sign on 90 minutes ahead of the scheduled start time and sign off within the protest time limit or boats will be scored DPI for the first race of the day / last race of the day respectively. Sign off by email to [sailingadmin@doscuae.com](mailto:sailingadmin@doscuae.com) is permitted.

## 18. Safety Regulations and Risk Statement

18.1 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the Race Committee as soon as possible. Boats may call 043941669 to report their retirement.

18.2 The Race Committee may stop a boat launching, or require it to return ashore, if they consider the boat, its equipment, helm, or crew are not adequate for the likely conditions.

18.3 All boats, whilst afloat, preparing to go afloat and on return to shore shall comply with instructions given by any DOSC official Committee Boat or patrol boat.

## 19. Replacement of Crew or Equipment

19.1 No authorisation is required for the substitution of crew.

19.2 Substitution of damaged or lost equipment including sails will not be allowed unless authorised by the Race Committee. Requests for substitution shall be made to the Race Committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

## 20. Advertising

20.1 Boats shall display advertising supplied by the Organizing Authority if requested.

## 21. Support Boats

21.1 Support boats shall stay outside areas where boats are racing.

21.2 Support personnel shall stay outside areas where boats are racing from the time of the preparatory signal for the first Class to start until all boats have finished or retired or the Race Committee signals a postponement, general recall, or abandonment.

## 22. Prizes

22.1 Daily Prizes will be awarded following racing for IRC Division 1, IRC Division 2, IRC Division 3A, IRC Division 3B, IRC Cruiser Division, Club Class and Multihull.

22.2 Daily prizes will be awarded as below subject to the number of boats starting at least one race that day.

Number of Boats	Daily Prizes
2	1 <sup>st</sup>
3	1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup>
4+	1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup>

22.3 Series Prizes will be presented at the DOSC Awards Ceremony at the end of the season for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in IRC Division 1, IRC Division 2, IRC Division 3A, IRC Division 3B, IRC Cruiser, Club Class and Multihull. An additional prize will be awarded for the combined 1st place winner of IRC 3.