



Shorthanded Series

October 2023 – April 2024

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Version 1 – published 08/10/23

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 Competitors and support persons shall comply promptly with any reasonable request by a Race Official.
- 1.5 RRS 52, Manual Power, shall not apply.
- 1.6 Boats shall notify their intention to race on the sign on sheet posted on the day of racing.
- 1.7 RRS Appendix T, Arbitration, will apply
- 1.8 All entries shall sail with 2 crew (including skipper) only **except for Club Class which may be sailed with up to 4 crew (including skipper)**

2. Communications with Competitors

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located on the event page under the calendar on the Dubai Offshore Sailing Club website.
- 2.2 There will be a briefing for competitors at 12pm on the day of racing in the Tentola.
- 2.3 The following communications may be made by the Race Committee on VHF Channel 08: whilst the Race Committee displays a yellow flag:
 - 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.

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- 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 before 12pm or no later than 1 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:

Event	Race Format	Date	Times	
Race Day 1	Coastal	08-Oct-23	Briefing	1200
			First Warning Signal	1400
Race Day 2	Coastal	12-Nov-23	Briefing	1200
			First Warning Signal	1300
Race Day 3	Coastal	03-Dec-23	Briefing	1200
			First Warning Signal	1300
Race Day 4	Coastal	04-Feb-24	Briefing	1200
			First Warning Signal	1300
Race Day 5	Coastal	10-Mar-24	Briefing	1200
			First Warning Signal	1400
Race Day 6	Coastal	21-Apr-24	Briefing	1200
			First Warning Signal	1400

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

5.3 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 four minutes before a warning signal is displayed.

5.4 No warning signal will be made after 1600hrs.

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 Sport	TCC of 0.940 & above AND LR of 160 & below	Oscar
IRC Racer Cruiser	All other IRC boats	Delta
IRC Classic & Cruiser	TCC of 0.890 and below OR LR of 200 and above	Penant 9
Club Class	NHC	Juliet
Multihull Class	OMR	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. This may happen after the first race of the series, providing all boats have had a combined start and sailed the same course.

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 The Race Committee may combine classes for starts.

6.8 IRC Classic and Cruiser will be dual scored with club class.

6.9 Combined results of IRC Sport and IRC Racer Cruiser may be published for information when these classes have a combined start and sail the same course.

7. Racing Areas

7.1 The locations of the racing areas will be described at the briefing.

8. Courses

8.1 The courses are described in Attachment A and will be posted no later than the briefing

9. Marks

9.1 The marks are described in Attachment A and will be posted no later than the briefing.

10. Areas that are Obstructions

10.1 Areas designated as obstructions will be 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 is described in Attachment A.

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 system for changing the course will be as per RRS 33 for adjustments of more than 10m. The race committee may adjust any racing mark by up to 10m without signal.

13. The Finish and Shortening the Course

13.1 The finishing line is described in Attachment A.

13.2 If a finish boat is not on station competitors must self-declare their GPS finish time when signing off.

13.3 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 30% 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 RRS Appendix P (On water Judging of RRS 42) will apply. or: RRS Appendix P will apply with the following changes. The penalty under RRS P2.2 is changed so that it will apply to any penalty after the first one. RRS P2.3 will not apply.

14.4 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:

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- (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.

14.5 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:

Classes	Target Finish Time First Boat	Time Limit (1) For 1st boat to finish as RRS 35.	Time limit (2) Latest time to finish after first boat in class
IRC Sport IRC Racer Cruiser Multihull Class	2.5 Hours	3.5 hours	75 minutes
IRC Classic & Cruiser Club Class	2.5 Hours	3.5 hours	60 minutes

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, RRS A4 and RRS A5.

16. Protests and Requests for Redress

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

16.2 For each Class, the protest time limit is 60 minutes after the last boat 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: 4, 5, 7, 12, 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

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Committee.

16.7 RYA Rules Dispute Advisory and Mediation Hearings are available.

16.8 In RRS 66, delete: On the last scheduled day of racing a request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered:

- a) within the protest time limit if the requesting party was informed of the decision on the previous day;
- b) no later than 30 minutes after the requesting party was informed of the decision on that day.

16.9 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.

16.10 Protest hearings will be scheduled as soon as possible but unless notified otherwise, full protest hearings will be heard from 1500 on the Saturday 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.

16.11 A boat that has taken a penalty under RRS 44.1 shall declare so on the sign off sheet.

16.12 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 The number of discards:

No. Races Sailed	No. Discards
4 races sailed	1
6 races sailed	2

17.3 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.

17.4 The Sailing Sub Committee will allocate a Base Handicaps to each boat, which shall be used to determine its placing in the NHC Series.

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

17.6 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.

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 04 394 1669 to report their retirement.

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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 authorization is required for the substitution of crew.

19.2 Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed unless authorized 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. Official Boats

21.1 Official boats will be indicated at the Briefing.

22. Support Boats

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

22.2 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.

23. Prizes

23.1 Daily prizes will be awarded as below subject to the number of boats starting the race each day.

Number of Boats	Daily Prizes
2	1 st
3	1 st , 2 nd
4+	1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd

23.2 Series Prizes will be presented at the DOSC Awards Ceremony at the end of the season for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in all classes.

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