



Bill Nelson Offshore Race & Rally

Friday 29th November 2024

Sailing Instructions

Version 1 – published 29/11/24

The Organizing Authority is the Dubai Offshore Sailing Club.

Version Control		
Version	Date Published	Remarks
1	29/11/24	First Issue

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1. Rules

- 1.1 The event will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
- 1.2 Competitors entering the race must carry a Life raft – failure to do so shall result in a score of DNE without hearing.
- 1.3 Adequate Personal flotation devices with lights shall be carried for each person on board. Tethers and spray hoods are strongly recommended for each personal floatation device.
- 1.4 The Race Committee may stop a boat leaving shore, or require it to return ashore, if they consider that the boat, its equipment and/or helm are not adequate for the likely conditions.
- 1.5 DMA and Other Local Authority regulations apply.
- 1.6 RRS 52, Manual Power, shall not apply.
- 1.7 Any additional rules that apply.
- 1.8 Boats shall notify their intention to race at least 90minutes prior to the scheduled starting signal by sign available in the club house. This is in addition to the entry form.
- 1.9 RRS Appendix T, Arbitration, will apply.

2. Communications with Competitors

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board on the event page of the club website.
- 2.2 Check the standing 'Notice to Competitors Briefing Time / Date / Location' for such details.
- 2.3 The following communications may be made by the Race Committee on VHF Channel 08:
 - Time check(s)

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- 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

2.4 Competitors shall be notified prior to a race if signals to competitors will be solely by VHF and visual Signals may not be used.

3. Changes to Sailing Instructions

3.1 Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted no later than 2 hours before the start time of the race, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 1700 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 Start times will be not before:

Class/Event	Course	Handicap	Start Time
Class 1	Race	IRC	Friday 29th November 2024 17:00hrs
Class 2	Race	DMH	
Class 3	Rally	NHC	

5.2 Class 1 and 2 Will be combined at the start.

5.3 After a long postponement, multiple sound signals may be used to alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon.

5.4 Orange flag will be displayed with one sound, at least five minutes before a warning signal is displayed.

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

6.1 Class or event flags will be:

Class/Event	Course	Handicap	Class Flag
Class 1	Full Course	IRC	OSCAR
Class 2		DMH	Oscar

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 Should there be fewer than 2 entries for one of the above Classes, the Race Committee may exclude that Class and allocate entries to suitable alternative Classes.

6.5 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.

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

7. Racing Areas

7.1 The locations of the racing areas will be detailed at the competitor briefing on Wednesday 27th November 2024 unless advised otherwise.

8. Courses

8.1 The course for each race will be published 24 hours prior to the scheduled start time unless the Race Committee have valid reason to delay in which case a notice to competitors will be posted on the event page of the club website.

8.2 The course will start within 1 NM of DOSC and end in Abu Dhabi. Full details will be provided with the course information.

9. Marks

9.1 The marks will be detailed in a Notice to Competitors and/or with the Course information.

10. Areas that are Obstructions

10.1 Areas designated as obstructions will be detailed in a Notice to Competitors and/or with the Course information.

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.

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11.2 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 detailed in a Notice To Competitors with the course details for each race.

11.4 A boat starting later than 10 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 penalized by the Race Committee with a 20% scoring penalty without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.

11.6 In the event that no start boat is available, boats may be required to self-start based on GPS time. In this instance full details will be posted as a notice to competitors.

12. Change of Course

12.1 There will be no change of course after the warning signal for each Class, except as described in Sailing Instruction A10 – Shortening Course or as detailed in a Notice To Competitors and/or the course information.

13. The Finish and Shortening the Course

13.1 The finishing line will be detailed in a Notice to Competitors and/or with the course information.

13.2 Alternatives for shortening the course will be detailed in a Notice to Competitors and/or with the course information.

14. Penalty System

14.1 The Race Committee may allocate a 2-hour time penalty if a boat is partially but not completely OCS at her starting signal and does not comply with RRS29.1.

14.2 Exoneration Penalty.

(a) 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 a Post Race Penalty - a 20% 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.

14.3 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.

14.4 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:

(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:

Class	Time Limit (1) For 1st boat to finish as RRS35.	Time Limit (2) Latest time to finish providing 1st boat has finished within Time Limit (1)	Target Finish Time
Class 1	24 hours	28 hours	18 hours
Class 2			

15.2 If the first boat sailing each course (whether that be IRC or NHC) does not finish within Time Limit (1), then the race shall be considered abandoned as per RRS35.

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

15.4 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 24 hours 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 a Notice to Competitors as soon as possible after the final protest time limit of that race 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 1.1, 1.2, 1.10, 19.2 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 and other rules are at the discretion of the Protest Committee.

16.7 RYA Rules Dispute Advisory and Mediation Hearings are available.

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 Unless notified otherwise, full protest hearings will be heard from 1930 on the Tuesday 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.

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16.11 Competitors are requested to advise the race committee by email (sailingadmin@doscuae.com) if intending to lodge a protest or request redress.

17. Scoring

17.1 The number of races required to complete a series and the number of discards are specified in the Notice of Race.

17.2 RRS A9 Long Series Scoring shall apply.

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 by email (sailingadmin@doscuae.com) or telephone 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 Boats shall only be entered in the series results after they have started a 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 043941669 to report their retirement. If the call is unanswered, please email (sailingadmin@doscuae.com).

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.

19. Replacement of Crew or Equipment

19.1 No authorization is required for the substitution of equipment, except as required by Class/handicap or rating rules.

19.2 To ensure the race committee have the correct crew list substitution of competitors will not be allowed without prior approval of the Race Committee.

20. Advertising

20.1 Boats are not required to display advertising supplied by the Organizing Authority.

21. Prizes

21.1 The following prizes will be presented:

A) Top 3 boats in the Bill Nelson overall

21.2 Other prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the Race Committee.

NO FURTHER INFORMATION