



THE COMBINED CLUBS

STANDARD INSTRUCTIONS – HANDICAP

The Combined Clubs Committee; the Host Club; the Organising Authority; the Bermuda Class Associations; the Event Organisers; the Sponsors; their Officers, Members; Employees; and Volunteers, bear no responsibility for accidents, damage or injuries to boats or their crew however so caused during or related to these regattas. Attention is drawn to ISAF RRS 4 (Decision to Race).

RULE

G1. PREAMBLE

G1.1 This "Standard Instructions" document is to be read with, and form part of, the individual Notices of Race. Regattas may vary these instructions by reference in the Notice of Race, or by Amendments in accordance with SI 3.
This "Standard Instructions" document provides the complete Sailing Instructions, unless modified by, or otherwise indicated in the individual Notice of Race.

G2. MEDIA RIGHTS

G2.1 Competitors give absolute right and permission to the Organising Authority; the Host Club; the Bermuda Class Association(s); The Bermuda Sailing Association; and the event sponsors to use, publish, broadcast or otherwise distribute for promotional, advertising or any other purpose, any images and sound recorded during the event of persons and boats free of any charge.

SI

1. RULES

- 1.1 The regattas shall be governed by "rules" as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing 2009-2012 (RRS)*.
- 1.2 The Prescriptions of the National Authority, Bermuda Sailing Association, shall apply.
- 1.3 The Sailing Instructions shall include Rules stated in the Notice of Race for the regatta or series.
- 1.4 If there is a conflict between any rule in the RRS, the NOR, and the Sailing Instructions, the Sailing Instructions and any amendments will govern. This changes RRS 63.7.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

2.1 Notices to competitors shall be posted on the Official Notice Board located at the Host Club.

3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

3.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 1700 on the day before it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted at least 48 hours before it will take effect.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore shall be displayed at the Host Club, unless the start is an "RBYC Start" as defined in SI 11.2, when signals made ashore shall be displayed on the flagstaff at RBYC.
- 4.2 When Code Flag "AP" is displayed ashore this means "Racing is postponed, do not leave the dock". The first scheduled warning signal shall be made not less than 90 minutes after Code Flag "AP" is lowered.
- 4.3 When flag Y is displayed ashore, rule 40 applies at all times while afloat. This changes the Part 4 preamble.

5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

5.1 The regatta schedule shall be as indicated in the Notice of Race unless amended in accordance with SI 2.

6. CLASS FLAGS

6.1

Class insignia and flags will be:

Class	Insignia	Flag
Handicap - All		Code Flag "O"

Class	Insignia	Flag
Handicap – Class 1		Code Flag "R"
Handicap – Class 2		Code Flag "V"

7. RACING AREAS

7.1 The racing area will be the waters of Bermuda including outside the outer reef, with start area in Hamilton Harbour.

8. THE COURSES

- 8.1 The diagrams in "Appendix 1 – Course Card" show the courses, including the course number, order in which marks are to be passed, and side on which each mark is to be left.
- 8.2 No later than the warning signal, the Race Committee Signal Boat shall display the course number, or the Race Committee shall advise the course by VHF 73.
For courses 1-8, the following letters may be used with the course number: "G" indicates the use of a gate at the leeward mark; "O" indicates the use of a windward offset mark; "W" indicates the course is modified by adding a rounding of Mark L, L-P, or L-S prior to the finish which shall be set to weather of the windward mark.

9. MARKS

- 9.1 New marks, as provided in SI 12 shall be red inflatable tetrahedral buoys (ITB).
The starting and finishing mark shall be orange ITB. Mark "WA" shall be yellow ITB with black band. Offset mark shall be a yellow inflatable cylinder buoy (ICB). Marks "W", "R", "L", "L-P", "L-S" shall be a yellow ITB.
Mark "H" is a yellow ITB located in Granaway Deep.
Marks for courses 10 and higher may include Government navigation marks, named features on Admiralty Charts and Bermuda Offshore Cruising Association (BOCA) marks.

9.2 A race committee boat signalling a change of a leg of the course is a mark as provided in SI 12.2.

10. AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS

11. THE START

11.1 Races shall be started by using RRS 26, excepting pursuit races as identified in the schedule.

Pursuit races shall be started as follows:

1. Races shall be started by boats crossing the line on or after their scheduled start time (synchronised with GPS time) as posted on the notice board or advised by the Race Committee.
2. A sound signal shall be made for boats that start early, and the Race Committee shall hail the boat using VHF, no other signals shall be made.
3. Boats not starting shall keep clear of the starting line.



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4. This changes RRS 26, 29.2, 29.3

- 11.2 Unless specified in the Notice of Race, the start and finish lines will use a Race Committee Signal Boat (“Committee Boat Start/Finish”). For a “Committee Boat Start”, the starting line shall be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee Signal Boat at the starboard end and the course side of the port-end starting mark. For an “RBYC Start”, the starting line shall be a transit line using the black triangle on the roof of the RBYC and the RYBC flagpole, with RBYC being the starboard end of the line. For an “STGDC Start”, the starting line shall be a transit line using the flagpole at St. George’s Dinghy Club and the “Three Sisters Light, with STGDC being the port end of the line.
- 11.3 A boat starting later than 5 minutes after her starting signal shall be scored Did Not Start. This changes RRS A4.1.
- 11.4 A boat not racing and whose Warning Signal has not been made, shall keep clear of the starting area and of boats racing.
- 11.5 For races requiring a minimum number of boats to enter, when less than the minimum number of boats come to the start area, the race for that class shall be cancelled without the display of any signals.
- 11.6 The Race Committee may attempt to notify any boat that breaks RRS 29.1 by broadcasting their sail number on VHF channel 73. The following shall not be cause for redress: failure of a boat to receive the recall broadcast; a boat’s position in the sequence of broadcast numbers; or failure of the Race Committee to hail a boat’s number. This changes RRS 62.1(a). For an “RBYC Start”, individual recalls shall be signalled with one sound signal only. This changes RRS 29.2.
- 11.7 Before the warning signal of her first race of the day, each registered boat shall sail on starboard tack past the stern of the Race Committee Signal Boat, or contact the Race Committee by VHF 73, and hail her sail number until acknowledged by the Race Committee. Boats shall advise the Race Committee of a change in class and/or sail selection prior to the warning signal, should the regatta provide this option in the Notice of Race.
- 11.8 The Race Committee may deploy astern a ‘Keep Off’ buoy that shall be considered an integral part of the Race Committee Signal Boat.

12. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 12.1 Except at a gate, boats shall pass between the race committee boat signalling the change of the next leg and the nearby mark, leaving the mark to port and the race committee boat to starboard. This changes RRS 28.1.

13. THE FINISH

- 13.1 For a “Committee Boat Finish”, the finishing line shall be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee Signal Boat and the course side of the finishing mark. For an “RBYC Finish”, the finishing line shall be a transit line using the black triangle on the roof of the RBYC and the RYBC flagpole, with RBYC being the port end of the line. For an “STGDC Finish”, the finishing line shall be a transit line using the flagpole at St. George’s Dinghy Club and the “Three Sisters Light, with STGDC being the starboard end of the line.
- 13.2 When the course is shortened at a gate, a Race Committee boat near the gate shall display Code Flag “S” and boats shall finish by sailing through the gate from the direction of the previous mark. The finish line shall be between the gate marks. This changes Race Signal S.

14. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 14.1 RRS 44.1 is changed so that a Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by a One-Turn Penalty.
- 14.2 RRS 44.1 is modified to allow a boat to take an Arbitration Penalty for a breach of a rule of Part 2 after the incident but prior to the protest hearing by acknowledging the breach before arbitration or by accepting the opinion of the arbitrator. This Arbitration Penalty shall be 20% of the number of boats entered (rounding 0.5 upward), but shall not be less than two places, added to her finish position. However she shall not be scored worse than “Did not finish”.

15. TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES

- 15.1 The time limit, Mark 1 time limit, Protest Time Limit, and target time for each class shall be as indicated in the Notice of Race unless amended in accordance with SI 2. If no boat has passed the first mark (Mark 1) within the Mark 1 time limit the race will be abandoned. Failure to meet the target time will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).
- 15.2 Boats failing to finish within the time limit shall be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE). This changes RRS 35 and A4.1.
- 15.3 All times shall be taken from GPS.
- 15.4 RRS 32 is modified to permit the Race Committee to Shorten the course to adjust the course length

16. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 16.1 A boat intending to protest or request redress for an incident that occurred whilst racing shall notify the Race Committee as soon as possible after retiring or finishing. This amends RRS 61.
- 16.2 Protest forms are available at the Host Club. Protests shall be delivered to a representative of the Protest Committee at the Host Club, within the protest time limit.
- 16.3 The Protest Time Limit is as defined in SI 15.1. The same protest time limit applies to all protests by the Race Committee and to requests for redress. The Protest Committee may extend the protest time at their discretion. Failure of the Race Committee to post Preliminary Results as required in SI 17.3, shall extend the Protest Time limit to 48 hours following their posting. This changes RRS 61.3 and 62.2.
- 16.4 Hearing notices will be posted on the official notice board at the Host Club, within 5 minutes after the protest time limit to inform parties to a hearing, of the time and place of the hearing. Hearings may commence at any time if parties are present and prepared; otherwise hearings may be scheduled as early as 10 minutes after the protest time limit. The posting of hearing notices shall be considered notice as required by RRS 61 and 63.2.
- 16.5 For protests involving an alleged breach of a rule of Part 2, a short arbitration hearing of not more than 10 minutes will be held prior to a protest hearing. This changes Part 5, Section B of the RRS.
1. After a written protest is delivered to the Protest Desk, one representative from each boat will meet with the arbitrator unless the protestor requests that the protest be withdrawn. No witnesses will be allowed. Protests not resolved by arbitration will be forwarded to the Jury.
 2. A boat that accepts the arbitrator’s opinion that she broke a rule of Part 2 shall receive a penalty score of 20% as detailed in SI 14.2.
 3. The acceptance of an Arbitration Penalty cannot be grounds for redress or be appealed.
 4. The arbitrator will not be a member of the Jury that hears the protest but will be permitted to observe the testimony given to the



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Jury and offer testimony. This changes RRS 63.3(a).

- 16.6 Breaches of SI 18 shall not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a). Penalties for these breaches may be less than disqualification if the protest committee so decides.
- 17. SCORING**
- 17.1 Scoring shall be as defined in the Notice of Race.
- 17.2 Boats identified "Time Limit Expired" shall be scored points equal to the number of boats finishing within the time limit plus two points. This changes RRS A4.1, A4.2 and A5.
- 17.3 Preliminary Results shall be posted on the official notice board at the Host Club within the Protest Time Limit.
- 17.4 PHRF handicaps shall be assigned to boats by the Organising Authority based on PHRF NE website, or other PHRF sources if not listed on PHRF NE, and will apply PHRF NE adjustments as necessary. Handicap appeals may be made in writing to the Organising Authority, but not later than the publication of Division / Class Splits, or 7 days prior to the regatta if no splits are published. Handicaps shall remain constant for the series.
PHRF coefficients of A=600; B=550 shall be used.
- 18. SAFETY REGULATIONS**
- 18.1 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible. Use of VHF 73 is permitted for this. For races outside the reef, it is permitted to contact Bermuda Maritime Radio (ZBM) to relay a message to the Race Committee.
- 18.2 Boats shall comply with the International COLREGS when in proximity to commercial or privileged marine traffic, which shall include ferry traffic within Hamilton Harbour. Boats that obstruct the safe passage of commercial traffic are subject to protest under [The Racing Rules of Sailing](#). A violation under this instruction shall be considered a violation of [The Racing Rule of Sailing, Rule 2](#). The Race Committee or Protest Committee, upon the report of information or observation of an incident shall protest a yacht. This changes, and is in addition to the requirements of RRS 60.2 (a) and the preamble to RRS Part 2.
- 19. REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT**
- 19.1 Substitution of competitors will not be allowed without prior written approval of the Race Committee.
- 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 committee at the first reasonable opportunity.
- 19.3 Unless approved by the Race Committee (RC) no boat shall race with any sail numbered differently from that under which the boat is entered. Requests for substitution shall be made to the RC at the first reasonable opportunity but prior to the first warning signal. Failure to notify the RC shall result in being scored DNC.
- 20. EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS**
- 20.1 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions. On the water, a boat can be instructed by a race committee equipment inspector or measurer to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.
- 21. ADVERTISING**
- 21.1 Advertising shall be as per individual class rules.
- 22. OFFICIAL BOATS**
- 22.1 Official boats shall display a Race Committee flag
- 23. SUPPORT BOATS**
- 23.1 Coaches and other support personnel, including spectators, shall not be in the racing area from the time of the competitors warning signal until the race has finished or the Race Committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment, unless specifically authorised by the Race Committee as a matter of safety. The penalty for failing to comply with this requirement shall be disqualification of all competitors associated with the infringing coach or support personnel.
- 23.3 All coach and support boats shall respond immediately to the instructions of the race officials and safety boats
- 24. TRASH DISPOSAL**
- 24.1 Boats shall not put trash in the water.
- 25. HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS**
- 25.1 Keelboats shall not be hauled out during the regatta except with and according to the terms of prior written permission of the race committee.
- 26. DIVING EQUIPMENT AND PLASTIC POOLS**
- 26.1 Underwater breathing apparatus and plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used around keelboats between the preparatory signal of the first race and the end of the regatta.
- 27. RADIO/TELEPHONE COMMUNICATIONS**
- 27.1 Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.
- 27.2 The Race Committee shall use VHF channel 73 which shall be made available to all boats to monitor. The Race Committee shall endeavour to use this channel to advise of racing being postponed or abandoned.
- 28. PRIZES**
- 28.1 Prizes shall be awarded as described in the Notice Of Race.
- 29. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**
- 29.1 Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, [Decision to Race](#). The organizing authority shall not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with, or prior to, during, or after the regatta.
- 30. INSURANCE**
- 30.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$500,000, per event or the equivalent, valid for all skippers.



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