ROYAL HARWICH YACHT CLUB
WOOLVERSTONE

2027 SHIVER SERIES SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Rules

1.1 Each event to which these sailing instructions apply is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.

1.2 [DP] The Port of Ipswich and the Harwich Haven Authority Byelaws also apply. Competitors should note in particular "A vessel which is not confined to the Deep Water Channel by reason of her draught shall keep clear of the Deep Water Channel when necessary to avoid impeding the movement of a vessel which is proceeding in, and by reason of her draught is confined to that channel."

1.3 Competitors shall not cross the navigation channel while a commercial vessel is passing through the racecourse to ensure sufficient clearance from any commercial vessel. The exclusion zone shall be 200m from the bow or as defined by a support boat with a red flag whichever is the greater and 20m each side plus 50m from the stern of the vessel.

1.4 Failure to comply with rules 1.2 and 1.3 shall result in disqualification without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1 and A5.1. The race committee may give warning of the approach of a commercial vessel by making five sound signals

1.5 [DP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with all reasonable requests from race officials.

2. Notices to Competitors

2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board on the outside of the Race Office at the north east corner of the club lawn.

3. Changes to Sailing Instructions

3.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted on the official notice board at least half an hour before the start of the first race of the day.

4. Signals made ashore

4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the black and white flag mast near the Race Office.

4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 1 minute' in Race Signals AP.

5. Schedule of Races

5.1 The schedule of races will be as published in the Notice of Race for the relevant event or series.

6. Class Flags

6.1 Class flags are as follows:

Class	Class flag
ILCA	Laser star
Handicap	Z (Zulu)

This changes the meaning of Race Signal Z and RRS30.2 is deleted.

6.2 Races to be started from the Race Office will be signalled using either flags on the black and white flag mast behind the Race Office, or boards on the front of the Race Office, or lights in the window of the Race Office.

6.3 If boards are used then the class flag for each start in a sequence is a board displaying the number of that start ('1' to '4'). If there are more than four starts in a sequence then the class flag for the fifth start will be the board displaying number '1' again, and so on.

6.4 If lights are used then they replace flags as follows (with illumination of each light replacing display of the relevant flag):

Left-most lights when viewed from the river						**Right-most lights when viewed from the river**
Preparatory flag	Class flag for 1st start	Class flag for 2nd start	Class flag for 3rd start	Class flag for 4th start	Individual recall (X)	General recall (1st sub)
Shortened course (S)						Postpone-ment (AP)

7. Racing Area

7.1 The racing area for each race will be as specified in the course description.

8. Courses

8.1 The course to be sailed in each race, including the starting line to be used (including the description of any starting marks), the marks to be passed or rounded (including the description of any temporary marks), the order in which they are to be passed or rounded, the side on which each mark is to be left, the number of laps to be sailed, and the finishing line to be used (including the description of any finishing marks), will be displayed on the official notice board and/or on a board on the starting line committee vessel.

9. Marks

9.1 Marks will be selected from the following: navigation buoys, club racing posts, permanent racing buoys, and temporary racing buoys (danbuoys and/or inflatable buoys). A chart showing the approximate location of the navigation buoys, club racing posts and permanent racing buoys in the vicinity of the club is provided in Annex A.

9.2 For starts or finishes using Line C, the committee vessel will be 'Lion' unless otherwise specified in the course description.

10. Obstructions

10.1 [DP] Except when coming ashore to effect repairs, boats racing shall not sail anywhere within the area between the club marina and the club slip (out to the post marking the end of the slip), bounded on the channel side by the straight line between the post at the end of the club slip and the north east corner of the marina pontoons, nor anywhere within the club marina itself (inside the straight line joining the channel side of the hammer head pontoons). These areas are obstructions.

11. The Start

11.1 Races will be started using RRS 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal. An alternative start sequence may be used if advised in the Notice of Race.

11.2 The starting line will be one of the following (as specified in the course description):

Start Line A – The starting line will be between the red post with an orange triangle top mark in front of the Race Office and ODM (post).

Start Line B – The starting line will be between ODM (post) and Middle (post).

Start Line C – The starting line will be between the mast or pole on which an orange flag is flying on the committee vessel and the course side of the starting mark at the other end of the line.

Start Line D – The starting line will be between the course sides of the two marks identified in the course description.

11.3 [DP] Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area during the starting sequence for other classes.

12. Changing the next leg of the course.

12.1 Changes to the position of marks will not be signalled. This changes RRS 33.

13. **The Finish**

13.1 The finishing line will be one of the following (as specified in the course description):

Finish Line A – The finishing line will be between the red post with an orange triangle top mark in front of the Race Office and ODM (post).

Finish Line B – The finishing line will be between ODM (post) and Middle (post).

Finish Line C – The finishing line will be between the mast or pole on which an orange or blue flag is flying on the committee vessel and the course side of the finishing mark at the other end of the line.

Finish Line D – The finishing line will be between the course sides of the two marks identified in the course description.

13.2 [DP] After finishing and clearing the finishing line, boats shall keep clear of the finishing area and of all boats not yet finished.

14. Penalties

14.1

15. Time Limits

15.1 The Race Time Limit is 75 minutes unless the Notice of Race says otherwise.

15.2 Boats that start, but fail to finish within 15 minutes of the first boat to start, sail the course and finish (the Finishing Window) will be scored DNF without a hearing, unless the Notice of Race says otherwise. This changes RRS 35, A5.1 and A5.2.

16. Protests

16.1 Protest forms are available from the Race Office. Protests shall be delivered there within the protest time limit.

16.2 Boats intending to protest are asked to inform the race committee either while afloat or at the first reasonable opportunity upon returning to shore.

16.3 The protest time limit is 30 minutes after the last boat has comes ashore after the last race of the day or the race committee has signalled ‘no more racing today’, whichever is the later.

16.4 The Post-Race Penalty, Advisory Hearing and RYA Arbitration procedures of the RYA Rules Disputes Procedures are available.

17. Scoring

17.1 Each event and series to which these sailing instructions apply will be scored in accordance with the rules set out in the relevant Notice of Race.

18. Safety Regulations

18.1 [DP] On each day of racing, competitors intending to race shall complete the sign-on form in the Race Office before racing.

18.2 [DP] Retiring boats shall inform the race committee or a safety boat at the first reasonable opportunity.

18.3 [DP] Rule 40.1 Personal Floatation Devices applies to all competitors at all times while afloat.

19. **Support Vessels**

19.1 [DP] Only support vessels registered with the race officer as support boats may enter the course area. All other support personnel shall stay outside the racing area from the time of the preparatory signal until all boats have finished or retired, or the race committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment.

19.2 Crews of authorised support boats may provide coaching assistance to competitors. This changes RRS 41.

20. Risk Statement

20.1 Rule 3 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states “The responsibility for a boat’s decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone.” Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk. By taking part in any event governed by these sailing instructions, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:

a) They are aware of the inherent element of risk involved in the sport and accept responsibility for the exposure of themselves, their crew and their boat to such inherent risk whilst taking part in the event;

b) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;

c) They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;

d) Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;

e) The provision of a race management team, support boats and other officials and volunteers by the event organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;

f) The provision of support boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances; and

g) It is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks specific to this venue

or this event drawn to their attention in any rules and information produced for the venue or event, and to attend any competitor briefing held for this event.

20.2 The fact that race officials may conduct inspections of boats does not in any way reduce the responsibilities of each competitor under the rules.

21. Insurance

21.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £5m per incident or the equivalent.

22. **Local Rules**

Moored Vessels. Any boat, even if capsized, whose hull or equipment touches a moored vessel (excluding her mooring buoy) shall retire immediately unless she claims that she was wrongfully compelled to touch it by another boat, in which case she shall protest. Fending off by crew or helm is permitted.

Annex A. Approximate position of buoys and posts in the vicinity of the club

