



Hurst Castle Sailing Club Open Dinghy Regatta 12th July 2025



SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

1.1 Regatta Racing will be governed by the rules as defined in the 2025-28 Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), appropriate Class Rules and/or the RYA Portsmouth Yardstick Scheme (except as any of these are changed by the Sailing Instructions).

1.2 RRS 40 (Personal Flotation Devices) Rule 40.1 shall apply (a wet- or dry-suit does not constitute adequate personal buoyancy)

1.3 Insurance. No yacht may take part in HCSC racing unless it is covered by Third Party Insurance with a minimum cover of £3,000,000 per incident

2. CLASSES TO BE RACED and CLASS RULES

2.1 Races 1 & 2 are open to all sailing dinghies.

2.2 All craft taking part shall comply with their Class Rules, except as varied by these Sailing Instructions.

2.3. Results for Race 2 will be calculated using Portsmouth Yardstick handicaps as modified and supplemented by Local Handicaps posted in HCSC in advance of the Regatta. Where no Number is published, competitors will be allocated Trial Numbers by the Race Committee. These same handicaps will be used to calculate the start times for Race 1

3. SAFETY

3.1 A boat is entirely responsible for her own safety, whether afloat or ashore, and nothing, whether in the Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions or anywhere else reduces this responsibility. It is for the boat to decide whether she is fit to sail in the conditions in which she will find herself. By launching or going to sea, the boat confirms that she is fit for those conditions and that her crew is competent to sail and compete in them.

3.2 Nothing done by the organisers can reduce the responsibility of the boat nor will it make the organisers responsible for any loss, damage, death or personal injury, however it may have occurred, as a result of the boat taking part in the racing. The organisers encompass everyone helping to run the race and the event, and include the organising authority, the Race Committee, the Race Officer, patrol boats and slipway marshals. The provision of patrol boats does not relieve the boat of her responsibilities. The fact that the Race Committee may conduct inspections of a boat does not reduce the responsibilities of the boat set out in these Sailing Instructions.

3.3 The helmsman or crew of each boat must sign on prior to racing, and must sign off within 15 minutes of coming ashore or 60 minutes after the end of the last race of the day, whichever is the earlier. Failure to sign on may be scored DNS and failure to sign off within the designated time may be scored DNF.

3.4 It is a pre-requisite for Junior members to take part in racing that a Parental Disclaimer Form is completed by a responsible adult. Such forms are valid only for the year in which they are completed.

3.5 Any boat racing in the Keyhaven River shall not cause Hurst ferries to take avoiding action

3.6 All boats shall comply with instructions given by any HCSC official Committee Boat or Patrol boat. Failure to do so may lead to disqualification from a race or the series.

3.7 All boats shall comply with their class rules and prescriptions as appropriate with regard to safety.

4. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS AND CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

4.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the Sailing Events notice board located in the Clubhouse.

4.2 Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted on the blackboard adjacent to the front door of the Club at least one hour before the scheduled start time.

5. RACING AREA and COURSE

5.1 The racing area will be the Keyhaven creeks and Western Solent immediately outside Keyhaven River.

5.2 The courses for each race will be defined at the briefing for the respective races.

5.3 All marks shall be rounding marks unless the alteration of course is clearly less than 45° when they shall be passing marks.

6. SCHEDULE OF RACES, CLASS FLAGS AND SERIES SCORING

6.1 Races will be scheduled as shown in the Notice of Race (poster):

Race No.	Class	Class Flag	Warning Signal	Preparatory Signal	Start
1	Pursuit Race	Letter "A"	12:55	12:56	13:00
2	Fleet Race	Flag "Y"	14:10	14:11	14:15

6.2 Series results for sailing dinghies will be calculated using both races 1 & 2.

7. STARTING AND FINISHING

7.1 Races will be started by using RRS 26 for Race 3 and RRS 26 as modified below for Race 1. Times shall be taken from the flag signals. The absence of a sound signal shall be disregarded

The warning signal (Class flag as shown in Instruction 6.1 above) will be 5 minutes before the starting signal

The preparatory signal (Flag “P” with Class Flag for Race 2, Letter “B” for Race 1) will be 4 minutes before its starting signal.

At one minute before the start, Flag “P” will be removed (Race 2) or Letter “B” will be replaced by Letter “C” (Race 1)

7.2 A start may be postponed at any time before the start signal. Postponement will be indicated by the display of flag “AP” accompanied by two sound signals. When “AP” is taken down, accompanied by one further sound signal, the next Warning signal will be made one minute later. In the event of a Postponement, all races and starts subsequent to the postponement will be postponed by the same amount of time.

7.3 The Start Line for Race 1 and Finish Line for Race 2 will be between the post with triangle topmark adjacent to the KYC Pontoon access ramp and the red / white chequerboard marking on the eastern seawall opposite the pontoon. The Finish Line for Race 1 and Start Line for Race 2 will be advised at the briefing.

7.4 Recalls: RRS 29 will apply (Flag X for Individual Recall, First Substitute for General Recall).

7.5 For Race 1, the list of Class start times, with associated signal letters and numbers, will be communicated to competitors at the briefing prior to the start. A Class start will be when its defined signal letter / number is displayed.

9. PENALTY SYSTEM AND PROTESTS

9.1 Rules RRS 44.1 (Taking a Penalty) is changed so that only **one** turn including one tack and one gybe, is required for infringements of Part 2 or Rule 31 (Touching a Mark)

9.2 Protests shall be written on forms available from the Club and delivered there within thirty minutes of the protesting boat coming ashore. RYA Rules Dispute Advisory and Mediation Hearings are available.

10. TIDES

10.1 In the Western Solent, the tidal stream will turn to run westward at approximately 12:43 BST on 12th July

10.2 The stand of High Water in Keyhaven River will be from approximately 10:00 till 14:45 on Saturday.