

Hartlepool to Blyth Race

Saturday 22nd August 2015

GENERAL SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Rules

The event will be governed by the rules as defined in the RRS 2013-2015, the prescriptions of the RYA, The International Rules for the Prevention of Collisions at Sea, NECRA rules and the following SI's.

2. Conditions of Entry

- Boats must be registered with NECRA prior to the start of this event.
- It is requested that boats post their intention to race on the NECRA website.
- Yachts may be inspected before or after races at the discretion of the committee.
- Each boat should hold a valid NERR rating certificate

3. Notices to Competitors

Notices will be posted on the THYC Notice Board and at the Marina Lock Office. Any changes to the sailing instructions will be posted not later than 90 minutes before the start.

4. Signals made Ashore

Any signals made ashore will be displayed at THYC Racing Station.

5. Protests

Protests, accompanied with a fee of £5, must be submitted within two hours of finishing to Royal Northumberland Yacht Club

6. Radio Communication

A boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile phones.

7. RISK STATEMENT

Rule 4 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 involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, 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, patrol boats, umpires and other officials and volunteers by the organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
- f) The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances;
- g) They are responsible for ensuring that their boat is equipped and seaworthy so as to be able to face extremes of weather; that there is a crew sufficient in number,

experience and fitness to withstand such weather; and that the safety equipment is properly maintained, stowed and in date and is familiar to the crew.

8. Insurance

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third party insurance with a minimum cover of £2,000,000.

9. Safety

ISAF Cat 4. Liferafts are recommended but are carried at owners/Skippers discretion.

10. Navigational Hazards

Shallow waters in Whitley Bay south of St. Marys island.

11. Retirements

Any boat retiring from the race will indicate this by any means possible to RO at RNYC

12. Schedule of Races

Start time, all classes 1000BST

13. VHF Channels

THYC Race Station (Tees Tower) will operate on VHF Ch M2

14. Start Line

The start line is a transit line between a white light on the clubhouse situated below the race station windows and the white pole situated towards the end of the South pier carrying the red harbour light and weather instruments. An outer distance mark will be laid. An inner distance mark may also be laid. They are tide and wind borne and may not be on transit.

15. Start Procedure

It is anticipated that the race will be started from THYC tower, however competitors should maintain a listening watch on VHF M2 as the THYC Race Officer may wish to start the race from the water.

If the race is started from the Race Station the following starting sequence will apply:-

Starting Signals

Warning signal	(5 minutes to start) One white light
Preparatory signal	(4 minutes to start) two white lights
1 Minute to start	three white lights
Start	All lights extinguished

Recall

One white light switched back on after the start indicates that one or more yachts were over the line. The light will remain on until the offended yacht(s) have returned over the line, or for 5 minutes, whichever is sooner. When possible the offending yacht(s) will be notified by VHF. An “all clear” VHF message may also be broadcast.

General recall

A general recall will be indicated by four white lights. All yachts in the recalled start must restart. The restart will be 10 minutes after the aborted start.

Postponement

Postponement will be indicated by four white lights. The restart will be 10 minutes after the scheduled start or at a time to be specified by the OOD. The new start time will be broadcast by the OOD on M2

16. Courses

Course Number	Course
1	THYC Start Line, (THYC 'M'), (THYC 'Bell')
Buoys in brackets are to be passed to port, buoys without brackets are to be left to starboard	

17. Finish Line

Transit line between Starboard green pole marker and mounted finish flag to port in Blyth harbour Fairway.

18. Finish Time

Yachts should be prepared to take their own finish time and send them to the RNYC sailing committee. sailing-committee@rnyc.org.uk 07951935094

Finish times must be returned within 24 hrs of the time limit, or DNF will be considered entered.

19. Time Limit

22.00 hrs Saturday 22nd August 2015

20. Tees and Hartlepool Channels

The Tees and Hartlepool Channels are designated as continuous obstructions and must not be entered when racing. Commercial shipping in many cases is constrained by draft and cannot take action to avoid collision. Traffic leaving or entering these areas might require to alter course unexpectedly. If in doubt about ship movements please call Tees VTS on channel 14.