**Sailing Instructions**

#  Round the Forts Race

**Stokes Bay Sailing Club**

**Sunday 25 August 2024**

**ALL ENTRANTS ARE REMINDED THAT THIS IS A LONG DISTANCE RACE AND**

**AS SUCH ENTRY WILL BE BOTH MORE RESTRICTIVE AND SUBJECT TO**

**ADDITIONAL SAFETY REQUIREMENTS**

1. **RULES**

1.1 The Regatta will be governed by the ‘rules’ as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing, the Notice of the Race, the Class Rules, the Standard Club Sailing Instructions and any subsequent amendments and these Sailing Instructions. If there is conflict between these, then these Sailing Instructions will prevail.

**2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS**

2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the Club Course Board.

## 3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

3.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted on the Club Course Board before, or at the Briefing.

1. **SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the club flagpole/Bridge.

## 5 SCHEDULE OF RACES

5.1 Racing is scheduled to start at 1100hrs on 25 August 2024.

5.2 There will be 3 fleets – Catamaran Handicap, Dinghy Handicap and Asymmetric/Fast Dinghy Handicap.

## 6 FLEET FLAGS

6.1 Fleet flag for Catamaran Handicap is Blue, the Fleet Flag for Dinghy Handicap is Yellow and the fleet flag for Asymmetric/Fast Dinghy Handicap is Orange with a blue stripe.

## 7 THE COURSE

7.1 The course will be described at the Briefing.

**8. THE START**

Races will be started by using the following starting sequence and there will be three starts, with a 5 minute interval between starts.The Starting Sequence as follows:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SCHEDULED TIME**  | **MEANING**  | **FLAG & SOUND**  | **COUNTDOWN**   |
|   |   |   |   |
| 10.54  | WARNING  | W FLAG UP  | 16  |
| 10.55  |   | W FLAG DOWN  | 15  |
| 10.56  | DINGHY PREP  | YELLOW UP  | 14  |
| 11.00  | **DINGHY START**  | **YELLOW DOWN**  | **10**  |
| 11.01  | CAT PREP  | BLUE UP  | 9  |
| 11.05  | **CAT START**  | **BLUE DOWN**  | 5  |
| 11.06  | ASYM/FAST PREP  | ORANGE UP  | 4  |
| 11.10  | **ASYM/FAST START**  | **ORANGE DOWN**  | **0**  |

8.1 The starting line will be the normal club starting line as described in the Club sailing instructions.

**9. CHANGE OF THE POSITION OF THE NEXT MARK**

There will be no change of mark position after the start.

## 10. THE FINISH

The Finishing Line will be the normal club finish line as described in the Club sailing instructions.

1. **TIME LIMITS**

The time limit for the first boat in each race shall be 3 hours.

1. **PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**

Protests procedure is described in the standard Club Sailing Instructions.

## 13. SCORING

The Low Points scoring system of RRS Appendix A will apply.

## 14. SAFETY REGULATIONS

14.1 Each boat will be allocated a tally number. Before going afloat, the tally shall be removed from the tally board and taken afloat. After returning ashore, the tally will be replaced on the tally board as soon as practical.

14.2 Failure to comply with safety/tally system. Any boat(s) that fails to comply with the safety/tally system will be disqualified.

14.3 If a club RIB flies flag ‘N’, afloat it signals that the race has been abandoned and all boats shall immediately return directly to shore at Stokes Bay Sailing Club and return their tally.

14.4 All non-competing vessels (small or large) are to be accorded their rights under the International Regulations for the Prevention of Collisions at Sea (IRPCAS). In particular, IRPCAS 9(b) states:

**“A vessel of less than 20 metres in length or a sailing vessel\* shall not impede the passage of a vessel which can safely navigate only within a narrow channel or fairway.”**

\* That means you!

**The racing area may cross or go near a channel, and all commercial shipping is to be treated as being in a narrow channel or fairway.**

14.5 Large commercial vessels have right of way in the main shipping channel and competitors shall not get closer than 500m to large vessels in the main shipping channels.

Large vessels are restricted in their ability to change speed or direction and are often unable to see small vessels in their immediate vicinity.

14.6 All competitors must follow instructions given by club RIBs, whether given by flag signals or by hailing. A club RIB may instruct the fleet, or some of the fleet to pass behind a large vessel. Such an action will not constitute grounds for redress.

## 15. PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded depending on the number of entries in the following categories:

* First overall
* Catamaran Handicap
* Asymmetric and Fast Dinghy
* Dinghy Fleet