DOWNS SAILING CLUB
Sailing Instructions
Singlehanded Open
Sunday September 4th 2022

1.0 RULES.

1.1 Racing will take place under The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 2021 -2024, the prescriptions of the RYA, these sailing instructions and appropriate class rules.

1.2 **RRS40**.1 Applies

1.3 Competitors should note this event will be conducted in accordance with the RYA Racing Charter and that they will be required to undertake to sail in compliance with the Charter, which can be found at the front of the RYA rule book (Racing Rules of Sailing 2021-2024)

1.4 The race committee includes the crews of all Official boats, including the Committee boat and patrol boats, race officials in the club race box and on the beach.

2.0 CONDITIONS OF ENTRY.

2.1 **Young People** – Entries from persons under 18 years of age shall be completed by a parent or guardian. Parents / guardians will be responsible at all times for competitors under the age of 18.

2.2 **Measurement** - Boats may be measured before or after any race at the discretion of the race committee.

2.3 **Distinguishing Number** - Boats must display their class boat number on their sail. Under exceptional circumstance the race officer may accept a written application to use another sail number provided that number is not already being used by another boat in the race, this changes **RRS77**.

2.4 **Eligibility** - Competitors must comply with their class association rules relevant to the "Notice of Race".

3.0 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS.

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located near the main entrance to Downs Sailing Club.

4.0 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS.

Any changes in the sailing instructions will be posted at least 45 minutes before the advertised starting time of the race or races concerned. Displaying International Code flag "L" will indicate changes in the sailing instructions. International Code flag "L" will be lowered after the start of the first race affected by the change(s).

5.0 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE.

5.1 Signals made ashore will be hoisted on the flagpole located in front of the race box.

6.0. SCHEDULE OF RACES.

6.1 First warning signal is scheduled for 1045.

6.2 Four races of 45 minutes nominal duration will be sailed back to back. Failure to meet the target time will not be grounds for redress. This changes **RRS 62.1(a)**

7.0 CLASS FLAGS

Class flags are as follows: Singlehanded Open– Flag R, Rookie Fleet – Flag E. Other class flags will be identified on the day at the Briefing.

8.0 THE COURSES.

8.1 **Course Diagrams** – The course (s) will be displayed on the official notice board in the club hallway. The diagrams show the approximate angles between legs, the order in which marks are to be passed and the side on which each mark is to be left. Boats must pass through the lapping gate at the end of each Round, and on windward legs only.

8.2 **Marks** - The main course marks will be black spheres & the starting mark and the lapping gate/finishing marks will be pink spheres, as shown on the course diagram.

9.0 THE STARTS.

9.1 **Starting Line** - The start line will be the line between the mast displaying an orange flag on the committee boat and a pink spherical mark. A small spherical buoy may be used as a limit mark to act as a guard for the committee boat. No boat shall pass between this small spherical buoy and the committee boat at any time.

9.2 **Starting Procedure** - The starting procedure will be in accordance with RRS rule 26. A boat starting more than four minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start. This changes **RRS A4 & A5.** Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other fleets. The starting order for the fleets racing on the day will be posted on the Official Notice Board.

9.3 In the event of recalled starts, the class that has been recalled will restart, rather than dropping to be back of the queue.

9.4 Back-to-back races will start as soon as practically possible after the finish of the previous race.

10.0 CHANGE OF COURSE AFTER THE START.

To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will move the original mark (or the finishing line) to a new position.

11.0 FINISH LINE

11.1 Finish Line The finish line will be between the Committee Boat mast displaying an orange flag and a pink sphere. When a Lapping Gate is used for the race, the finish line will

be as per the lapping gate. The Race officer may also decide to shorten course at any race mark when conditions require this action.

12.0 TIME LIMIT.

12.1 The time limit will be 60 minutes for the first boat of a class to finish. If one boat finishes within that limit, then the time limit will be amended to 20 minutes after the finishing time of the first boat. If no boat has passed Mark 1 within 30 minutes, the race will be abandoned.

12.2 Boats failing to finish within the amended time shall be scored in their observed position on the course or last mark rounding position if recorded. This changes **RRS35, A4 and A5.** Boats finished in this way will be advised of the fact by a Patrol boat and should stop racing thereafter.

13.0 PROTESTS.

13.1 The Exoneration Penalty [and the Advisory Hearing and RYA Arbitration procedures] of the RYA Rules Disputes Procedures will be available. See official notice board for details.

13.2 Protests shall be in writing on an R.Y.A. protest form. Protests shall be lodged not later than 20 minutes after the finish time for the last boat. The protest committee may, at its discretion, extend the lodging time. Notice of protests received within the prescribed time will be posted on the official Notice Board within 45 minutes of the finish time for the last boat. This posting will be deemed to be official notification of the protest to all interested parties. Protests, which may affect the Prize Giving, will be given priority. Other protests may not be heard until after the Prize Giving. No fee is required when lodging a protest, but if the committee deem the protest to be frivolous they may award ten penalty points to the protesting boat, such a decision may not be appealed.

14.0 SCORING SYSTEM.

14.1 **Low Points System** - The event will be scored as provided in Appendix A of the RRS using the Low Point System.

Ties will be broken as per RRS A8. Non-finishing points will be awarded as per RRS A9.

14.2 **Discards -** Boats will discard their "worst" results as follows:

1 - 2 races sailed	no discard
3 - 4 races sailed	1 discard

15.0 SAFETY

15.1 **Safety Log -** A safety log will be displayed near the official notice board, which must

be signed by the competitor prior to going afloat and within 20 minutes of the last boat finishing the last race of the back-to-back races. The penalty for failing to comply with SI 15.1 will be a £5 donation to the RNLI

15.2 Boats shall not proceed on to the water in order to race until rescue facilities are available and shall return to shore before those facilities are withdrawn.

15.3 Competitors shall obey the instructions of patrol boat crews and abandon boats if necessary.

16.0 LOCAL VARIATIONS.

Any local variations will be announced at the competitors briefing and displayed on the official notice board.

17.0 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 by nature is an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently 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 whilst 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 and other officials and volunteers by the event 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) 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 safety briefings held for the event.

18.0 INSURANCE

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