

Sailing Instructions Vice Admirals Cup 2023

Friday 19th – Sunday 21st May 2023

The Organising Authority is the Royal Ocean Racing Club (RORC).

The notation '[DP]' in a rule in the Sailing Instructions (SIs) means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the Protest Committee, be less than disqualification.

1 RULES

1.1 The Event will be governed by the rules as defined in "The Racing Rules of Sailing" (RRS) 2021 – 2024, including RYA Prescriptions.

2 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

2.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0830 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 1930 on the day before it will take effect.

3 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the online notice board at www.sailracehq.com.

3.2 The race office is located at Royal Ocean Racing Club, The Disrespect, 82 High Street, Cowes, Isle of Wight. PO31 7AJ. Telephone +44 (0)1983 295144. Email: racing@rorc.org

3.3 On the water, the race committee intends to monitor and communicate with competitors on the following:

VHF radio channel 77 for Race Area 1, call sign "Ocean 1" – Cape 31

channel 72 for race area 2, call sign "Ocean 2" – HP30, Quarter Ton, J/111, J/109.

3.4 [DP] While racing, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

3.5 The WhatsApp group will be used to assist competitors to stay informed of RC intentions, notices, results, protest details and other information during the event.

4 CODE OF CONDUCT

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

5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

5.1 No Signals will be made ashore.

6 SCHEDULE OF RACES AND CLASS FLAGS

6.1 HP30, Cape 31 and Quarter Ton classes

Date	Time	Event	HW Portsmouth
Friday 19 th May	1200	First warning signal	1155 4.5m
Saturday 20 th May	1030	First warning signal	1241 4.5m
Sunday 21 st May	1030	First warning signal	1326 4.5m

6.2 The event will consist of up to eight races for HP30, Cape 31 and Quarter Ton classes.

6.3 J/111 & J/109 classes

Date	Time	Event	HW Portsmouth
Saturday 20 th May	1030	First warning signal	1241 4.5m
Sunday 21 st May	1030	First warning signal	1326 4.5m

6.4 The event will consist of up to six races for J/111 and J/109 classes.

6.5 On Sunday 21st May no warning signal will be displayed after 1430hrs.

6.6 The following class flags will be used:

Cape 31 – Numeral Pennant 1

Quarter Tonne – Numeral Pennant 3

J/109 – Numeral Pennant 5

HP30 – Numeral Pennant 2

J/111 – Numeral Pennant 4

6.7 Class Flags are not required to be displayed on backstays.

7 RACING AREA

- 7.1 The racing and starting area for each committee vessel and confirmation of fleet assignment will be confirmed using the WhatsApp group and subsequent VHF communications approximately 90 minutes before the first warning signal of each day.

8 COURSES

- 8.1 Courses will be advised by VHF before the orange start line flag is displayed, using either the course diagrams in the Addendum A with the course signal, approximate compass bearing and distance of the first leg or marks from the 2023 Solent Mark List in the Addendum B. (Cape31 Class will only use the diagram in Addendum A)

9 MARKS

- 9.1 The colour of any laid inflatable mark that is to be used shall be provided by the RC, using VHF, when providing the course details.
- 9.2 The starting marks will be the RC vessel and a large inflatable mark.
- 9.3 The finishing marks will be a RC vessel and the nearby mark as per the diagram in Addendum A or the nearby mark provided by the RC when using Addendum B.
- 9.4 Any change mark used for windward leeward courses, Addendum A, will be described using VHF when signalling the change to the next leg of the course (SI 11.2).

10 THE START

- 10.1 Races will be started using RRS 26.
- 10.2 To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, the orange start line flag will be displayed with one sound at least five minutes before a warning signal is displayed. The RC will confirm the order of classes for the starting sequence with course details.
- 10.3 The starting line is between a staff displaying an orange flag on the committee vessel at the starboard end and the course side of the port-end starting mark.
- 10.4 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races.
- 10.5 If any part of a boat's hull is on the course side of the starting line at her starting signal and she is identified, the race committee will attempt to hail her sail number, bow number or boat name using the designated VHF channel. Failure to hail her number, failure of her to hear such a hail, or the order in which boats are hailed will not be grounds for a redress for request. This changes RRS 62.1(a).
- 10.6 A boat that does not start within 4 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.

11 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 11.1 The position of any laid inflated mark(s) may be adjusted by up to approximately plus or minus 10 degrees relative to the previous laid mark(s) position and/or up to approximately 200 metres to windward or leeward without a signal. This changes RRS 33.
- 11.2 To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will lay a new mark (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.
- 11.3 In addition to RRS 33 signals, the RC will use VHF radio to assist in communicating the change of the next leg of the course, confirming the colour of the new mark, approximate bearing and distance and applicable classes.

12 THE FINISH

- 12.1 The finishing line is between a staff displaying a blue flag on the committee vessel and the course side of the nearby finishing mark.

13 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 13.1 All boats except Cape 31 class: RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two Turns Penalty is replaced by the One Turn Penalty (one tack and one gybe).
Cape31 Class only: The first two sentences of RRS 44.1 are changed to: "A boat may take a One-Turn Penalty when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 or RRS 31 in an incident while racing. However, when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 while in the zone around a mark other than a starting mark, her penalty shall be a Two-Turns Penalty".
In RRS 44.2 insert after the first sentence: "However, on a windward/leeward course, if Mark 1a (windward spreader mark) is set, a boat shall take a penalty for an incident in the zone around Mark 1 or on the leg between Mark 1 and Mark 1a, as soon as possible after leaving the zone around Mark 1a".
- 13.2 Penalties arising from protests will be at the discretion of the protest committee and may be less than disqualification. This changes RRS 64.2.
- 13.4 Post Race Scoring Penalty: A boat that may have broken a rule of Part 2 or RRS 31 may, after finishing the race concerned and before the start of a related protest hearing, notify the PC that she accepts a 30% scoring penalty.

14 TIME LIMITS

- 14.1 The time limit for the first boat of each class to sail the course and finish will be 90 minutes (elapsed) for windward/leeward courses and 120 minutes (elapsed) for round the cans type of races.
- 14.2 Boats shall finish within 30 minutes for windward/leeward courses or 45 minutes for round the cans type of races after the first boat of her class sails the course and finishes.
- 14.3 The Finishing Window is the time for boats to finish after the first boat sails the course and finishes. Boats failing to finish within the Finishing Window, and not subsequently retiring, penalized or given redress, will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) without a hearing. A boat scored TLE shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the points scored by the last boat that finished within the Finishing Window. This changes RRS 35, A5.1, A5.2 and A10.

15 HEARING REQUESTS

- 15.1 Boats intending to request a hearing or redress for an incident in the racing area should radio their intention to the RC as soon as practical after finishing or retiring from the race concerned, naming any other boats involved, and await an acknowledgement. This adds to RRS 61.1(a).
- 15.2 The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the last boat finishes the last race of the day or the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later. The time will be posted on the official notice board.
- 15.3 Hearing request forms are available from the race office or the ONB.
- 15.4 Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the protest room, located at RORC race office, beginning at the time posted.

16 SCORING

- 16.1 The Low Point System of RRS Appendix A will apply, including the following changes.
- 16.2 One race is required to constitute a series.
- 16.3 When fewer than five races have been completed, a boats series score will be the total of her race scores. When five or more races have been completed, a boats series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

17 SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 17.1 [DP] Competitors are reminded of their responsibility to take account of Notice to Mariners and are reminded to maintain a constant watch for shipping movements, particularly in the Port of Southampton Precautionary Area (Thorn Channel). Your attention is drawn to the ABP Notice to Mariners No.06 of 2023 and any subsequent amendments which covers the movement of shipping and the accompanying sound signals that may be heard.
- 17.2 [DP] The RC or Protest Committee may protest a boat for breach of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (IRPCAS) or the above regulations on the basis of a report from any source. This changes RRS 60.2(a) and 60.3(a).
- 17.3 [DP] Yachts should check in with the RC each day before the warning signal of their first race, by passing close on the starboard side of their CV on port tack, and await acknowledgement from the RC.
- 17.4 [DP] Retirement: A boat that retires from a race shall notify the RC by VHF before leaving the race area, or by telephoning the RORC Race Office +44 (0)1983 295144.
- 17.5 [DP] A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

18 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

- 18.1 [DP] A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules, notice of race and sailing instructions.
- 18.2 [DP] When instructed by a race official on the water, a boat shall proceed to a designated area for inspection.

19 OFFICIAL VESSELS

- 19.1 Official vessels will be identified with RORC flags being displayed.

20 TRASH DISPOSAL

- 20.1 Trash may be placed aboard official vessels.

21 HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS

- 21.1 [DP] Boats shall not be hauled out during the event except with and according to the terms of prior written permission of the race committee.

22 DIVING EQUIPMENT AND PLASTIC POOLS

- 22.1 Underwater breathing apparatus and plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used around keelboats whilst they are in the water.

23 PRIZES

- 23.1 The event prize giving will be held at the RORC Cowes clubhouse as soon as possible after racing on Sunday 21st May.

24 RISK STATEMENT

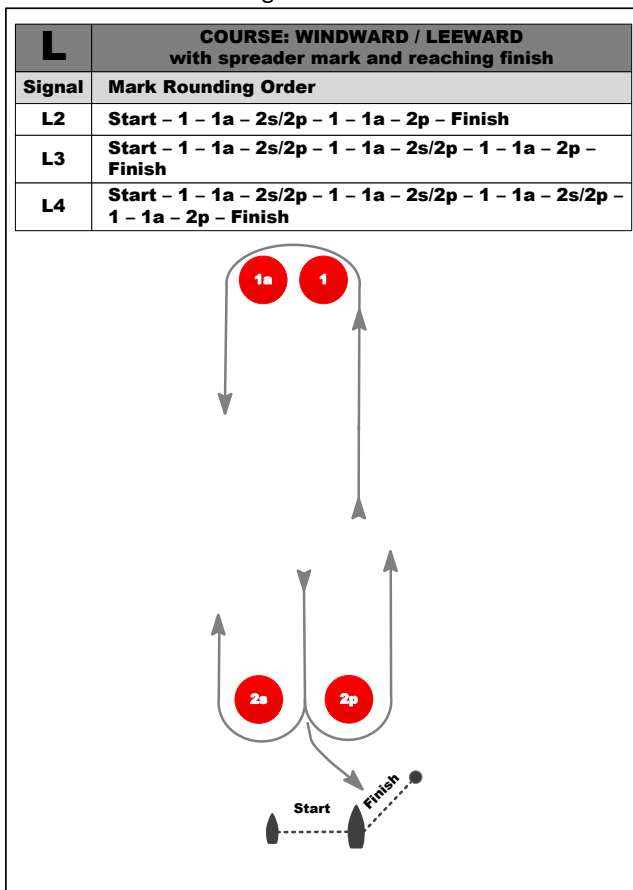
- 24.1 RRS 3 Rule 3 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states: “The responsibility for a boat’s decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone.” Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:
- 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;
 - They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat, and their other property whether afloat or ashore;
 - They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;
 - Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
 - The provision of a race management team, patrol boats if any and other officials and volunteers by the event organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
 - The provision of patrol boat cover if any is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can practically be provided in the circumstances;
 - It is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks specific to this venue or this event drawn to their attention in any rules or information produced for the venue or event and to attend any safety briefing held for the event.

25 INSURANCE

- 25.1 Each participating boat shall ensure that their boat is adequately insured, against all third-party claims.

Addendum A

Windward Leeward Course Diagrams.



LA	COURSE: WINDWARD / LEEWARD with spreader mark
Signal	Mark Rounding Order
LA2	Start - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p - 1 - 1a - Finish
LA3	Start - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p - 1 - 1a - Finish
LA4	Start - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p - 1 - 1a - Finish

Addendum B

<https://www.scra.org.uk/assets/documents/pr-marks-2023-06feb.pdf>