

# Aldenham Sailing Club – Open Meeting Sailing Instructions

(effective from May 2019)

## RULES

- 2.1 **Rules:** Racing at the Club’s Open Meetings will be governed by:
- the “rules” as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (“RRS”);
  - the prescriptions of the RYA;
  - the Class Association rules of the boats concerned;
  - the Club’s Rules and Bylaws; and
  - these Sailing Instructions.


## SAFETY & CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

2.1 **General:** The safety of a boat and her entire management including insurance shall be the sole responsibility of the owner/competitor racing the boat who must ensure that the boat and crew are adequate to face the conditions that may arise in the course of the race or races. Neither the establishment of these Sailing Instructions nor the inspection of the boat under these conditions in any way limits or reduces the absolute responsibility of the owner/competitor for his/her crew, his/her boat and the management thereof. The race organisers shall not be responsible for any loss, damage or personal injury howsoever caused to the owner/competitor, his/her skipper or crew as a result of their taking part in the race or races. Moreover, every owner/competitor warrants the suitability of his/her boat for the race or races. In particular it is the owner/competitor’s responsibility to ensure that his/her boat complies with his/her Class Association’s rules with respect to buoyancy. Competitors are advised to read and understand the Club’s “Members’ Guide to Safety at Aldenham Sailing Club” document.

2.2 **Decision to Race:** Competitors participate in the Club’s Open Meetings entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4 (“Decision to Race”). The Club will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after any racing. When deciding whether to race, competitors should take note of the resources available to the Race Officer of the Day (“OOD”) as indicated on the notice board.

2.3 **OOD’s Rights:** The overall responsibility for the management of the Club’s Open Meeting including safety lies with the OOD. Prior to commencing racing on any day the OOD shall assess the sailing conditions and the resources available to him/her and may, at his/her absolute discretion, postpone or abandon sailing. If the OOD so judges he/she may advise any competitor that they might have difficulty and therefore should not compete. Any competitor so advised will be responsible for his/her own decision if he/she decides to participate in such a race contrary to such advice. If the OOD considers it appropriate to do so he/she may refuse to allow the relevant competitor to participate and the OOD’s decision must be accepted.

2.4 **Personal Flotation Devices:** Personal flotation devices shall be worn as follows:

- all competitors under 18 years old shall wear adequate personal flotation devices at all times whilst afloat in a manner that is visible to the OOD.
- when flag Y  is displayed ashore, RRS 40 (“Personal Flotation Devices”) applies to all competitors at all times while afloat.
- wet suits and dry suits are not adequate personal flotation devices.

2.5 **Insurance:** Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £5 million per event or the equivalent.

2.6 **Measurement Certificates:** Each participating boat shall have a valid measurement certificate and may be asked to present it to the OOD. A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with its Class Association rules and these Sailing Instructions.

2.7 **Distinguishing Numbers:** Under exceptional circumstances and if asked, the OOD may permit a boat to use sails carrying a distinguishing number other than that required by RRS 77 (“Identification on Sails”).



2.8 **Advertising:** A boat and her crew shall comply with World Sailing Regulation 20, Advertising Code.

## COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

3.1 **Notices:** Notices to competitors will be posted on the notice board located in the Clubhouse.

3.2 **Changes to SIs:** Any change to these Sailing Instructions will be posted at least **thirty** minutes before the advertised starting time of the race or races concerned.

3.3 **Class Flags:** Class flags will be:

Class	Letter	Flag
Enterprise	E	
Laser	L	

## COURSE INSTRUCTIONS

4.1 **Course:** The course will be designated by a start line, a sequence of marks to be rounded, their direction of rounding and intended race duration for the leading boat. The course shall continue to be sailed until shortened in accordance with SI 6.1 and RSS 32.2.


4.2 **Marks:** Marks of the course will be numbered spherical buoys laid out in a clockwise direction around the course area with even numbered buoys yellow in colour and odd numbered buoys red.

4.3 **Course Notification:** The course sequence, rounding direction and start line will be indicated on the course notice board in the Clubhouse. The course sequence may be repeated on the display outside the Clubhouse. The

# Aldenham Sailing Club – Open Meeting Sailing Instructions

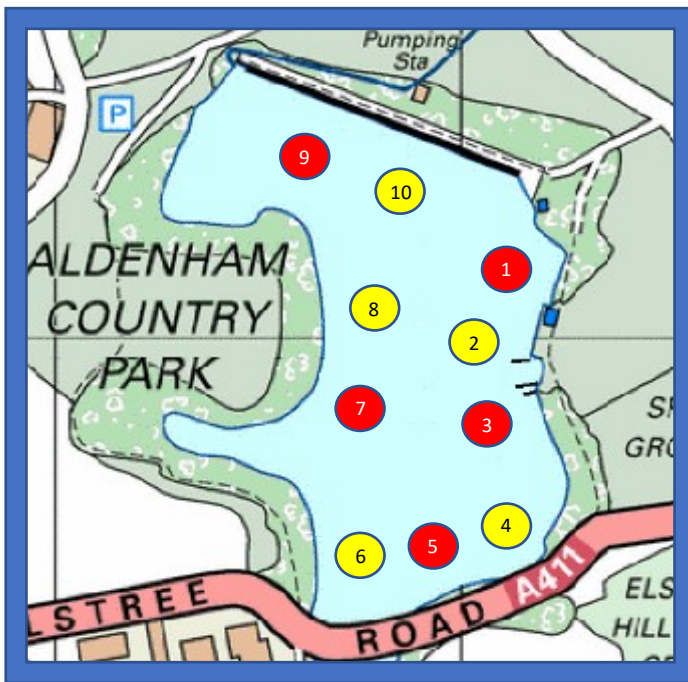
(effective from May 2019)

written course on the course notice board shall have precedence over any diagram or course displayed outside.

**4.4 Course Change:** Amendments to the course before a race has started but after the majority of boats have gone afloat shall be indicated by flag C  flown from the Clubhouse or committee boat flag staff and the new course indicated on the course notice board in the Clubhouse and displayed outside the Clubhouse. This amends RRS 33.

**4.5 Course Area:**

- (i) **White Buoys:** The course area shall be bounded by small white spherical buoys which mark prohibited areas around the edge of the reservoir. Any boat observed crossing an imaginary line between two adjacent white buoys may be disqualified. The imaginary line between two adjacent white buoys shall be a permanent obstruction.
- (ii) **Other Buoys:** The approximate positions of the marks are shown in the diagram below.



**STARTS**

**5.1 Starting Times:** Starting times shall be as near as practical to but no earlier than the times set out in the Notice of Race unless postponed or abandoned. Postponement or Abandonment shall be signalled in accordance with RRS 27.3 and RRS 32.1.

**5.2 Starting Line:** The starting line shall be indicated on the course notice board in the Clubhouse and will either be:



- (i) the extension of the line between the two red triangles on the shore or pontoons (which may or may not be in the vicinity of the race office) and an outer limit mark which may not necessarily be exactly on the starting line; or



- (ii) between a committee boat mast and an outer limit mark.


**5.3 Outer Limit Mark:** The outer limit mark shall either be one of the permanent course marks or a small red spherical buoy.

**5.4 Inner Limit Mark:** An inner limit mark may be laid and if so will either be one of the permanent course marks or a small red spherical buoy. It may not necessarily be exactly on the starting line.


**5.5 Starting Procedure:** Races will be started in accordance with RRS 26 and the starting sequence will be:

Stage	Minutes before start	Sound signal	Flag
Warning	Five minutes	One hoot	Class flag raised
Preparatory	Four minutes	One hoot	Preparatory flag P raised 
One Minute	One minute	One hoot	Preparatory flag P dropped 
Start	Off	One hoot	Class flag dropped

**5.6 Starting Penalties:** Individual and general recalls will be signalled in accordance with RRS 29 (“Recalls”). An individual recall shall be signalled by one additional sound signal and flag X . The OOD shall endeavour to notify any competitor over the line by hailing. A general recall shall be signalled by two additional sound signals and flag First Substitute . Any start which is subject to a general recall:

- (i) will have its Warning **and** Preparatory flags flown one minute after the General Recall flag First Substitute  is taken down. This amends RRS 29.2.
- (ii) may have RRS 30.4 (“the Black Flag Rule”) applied. If so, a Black flag will be displayed from the Clubhouse or committee boat as the Preparatory flag at the Preparatory Signal. For Black Flag starts, if any part of a boat’s hull, crew or equipment is in the triangle formed by the ends of the starting line (which shall be the water’s edge for shore based lines) and the first mark during the last minute before her start, that competitor shall be disqualified from that race and any subsequent restart. The OOD shall endeavour to notify any competitor so disqualified by hailing. This amends the notification provisions in RRS 30.4.

**FINISHING**

**6.1 Race Duration:** The OOD shall shorten the course at an appropriate mark of the course in accordance with RRS 32.2 by sounding two sound signals and displaying flag S  so that the leading boat will race for approximately the

# Aldenham Sailing Club – Open Meeting Sailing Instructions

(effective from May 2019)

intended race duration. The OOD may display from the Clubhouse a board containing the number of the last buoy to be rounded.

6.2 **Finishing Line:** The finishing line will either be:

- (i) the extension of the line between the two red triangles on the shore or pontoons (which may or may not line up with the race office) with **no** outer limit mark; or
- (ii) between a committee boat mast and a mark of course.

6.3 **Orientation of the Finishing Line:** The finish line shall be oriented at right angles to an imaginary line drawn from the mark at which the race is shortened to what would have been the next mark of the course. To finish a boat must cross the finish line from the direction of the mark at which the race is shortened.

6.4 **Lapped Boats:** All boats shall be finished on the lap they are on when the first boat finishes. The number of laps completed shall have effect when the results are calculated.

6.5 **Time Limits:** The following time limits shall apply:

- (i) if no boat has completed the first lap of the course within **forty five** minutes the race will be abandoned in accordance with RRS 32.1.
- (ii) boats failing to finish within **fifteen** minutes after the first boat finishes will be scored Did Not Finish. This amends RRS 35.

6.6 **Retirements:** A boat that retires from a race shall notify the OOD as soon as practical.

6.7 **Finished Boats:** Boats that have finished shall keep clear of the finishing area. The OOD may, without a hearing, disqualify a boat that has broken this SI and materially disrupted another competitor finishing.

## PENALTIES

7.1 **Part 2 Infringements:** In the event of an infringement of a “when boats meet” rule within Part 2 of RRS, the Two-Turns Penalty within RRS 44.1 (“Taking a Penalty”) shall apply.

7.2 **Touching a Mark:** If a boat touches a mark of the course, the One-Turn Penalty within RRS 44.1 (“Taking a Penalty”) shall apply.

7.3 **Outside Help:** A capsized boat whose mast has become stuck in the mud may receive assistance from a Club launch to bring her mast up to the surface of the water without having to retire. Similarly a boat that has capsized and drifted to the shore side of the imaginary line between two adjacent white buoys (see SI 4.5 (i) above) shall receive assistance from a Club launch to tow her back into the Course Area without having to retire. This alters RRS 41 (“Outside Help”).

7.4 **Illegal Propulsion:** The OOD may, without a hearing, disqualify a boat that has broken RRS 42 (“Propulsion”). This amends the provisions in Part 5 of RRS. Any such disqualification, if not overturned in any subsequent protest proceedings, may not be discarded.

## PROTESTS

8.1 **Forms:** Protest forms are available at the race office. Protests or requests for redress shall be delivered there within **thirty** minutes of the last competitor finishing the race in which the incident arose.

8.2 **Late Applications:** In the event that a protest or request for redress is lodged after the time limit set out in SI 8.1 the OOD may under exceptional circumstances grant an extension of time. This amends RRS 61.3 (“Protest Time Limit”).

8.3 **Protest Committee:** In the event of a valid protest being lodged in accordance with SI 8.1 or, if relevant, SI 8.2 then, in the first instance, the parties involved may meet with the OOD and attempt to resolve the matter resulting in one or more party **retiring** from the race. Failing that, or alternatively, the OOD shall assemble a protest committee comprising of three neutral, experienced members, one of whom is a member of the Club’s Sailing Committee. The protest committee shall endeavour to meet immediately after all racing has been completed and follow the procedures set out in RRS 63 (“Hearings”).

## SCORING SYSTEM

9.1 The Low Point scoring system of RRS Appendix A will apply with the following amendments:

Code	Meaning	Points
DNF	Started but did not finish	Number of starters in that <u>race</u> plus 1
DNC	Did not compete	Number of competitors in that <u>series</u> plus 1
DSQ	Disqualified	Number of starters in that race plus 2
OCS	On course side (premature starter)	As for DSQ

9.2 **Discards:** If two or less races are held, there shall be no discard. If a third or more races are held, one discard shall apply.