

Supernova Open Meeting 2009

Blithfield Sailing Club

25th July 2009

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

1.1 The series of races will be governed by the "rules" as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), The prescriptions of the RYA, the Notice of Race, the rules of Blithfield Sailing Club and the requirements of South Staffordshire Water PLC.

1.2 "Major components" supplied by Hartley Laminates and conforming to the same specifications as those previously supplied by Giles Reinforced Plastics Ltd shall be deemed to also meet the One Design nature of the Class.

2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located near the race box.

3 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

3.1 Any changes to the Sailing Instructions will be posted at least 30 minutes before the warning signal of a race it will affect. The race committee reserves the right to amend the racing programme subject to prevailing conditions, within the requirements of paragraph 6.2 of these sailing instructions.

4 SIGNALS MADE

4.1 Signals made may be displayed on either the flagstaff adjacent to the race box or may be displayed on the committee boat of Blithfield Sailing Club.

4.2 Flashing Light. When the amber flashing light on the OD box is activated, all boats shall return to the Club House shore immediately. If a race is in progress, this light shall have the same meaning as Flags 'N' over 'H' - Race Abandoned, further signals ashore.

4.3 *House Flag* flying - means that boats may be launched. Boats launching when the *House Flag* is not flying will be scored DSQ by the race committee in the race sailed closest in time to the incident. This amends RRS 63.1 & Appendix A5

5 SAFETY, DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY & INSURANCE

5.1 A boat is entirely responsible for her own safety, whether afloat or ashore, and nothing, whether in the Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions or anywhere else, reduces this responsibility. It is for the boat's crew to decide whether she is fit to sail in the conditions in which she will find herself.

5.2 By launching or going afloat, the boat confirms that she is fit for those conditions and that her crew is competent to sail and compete in them.

5.3 The boat is required to hold adequate insurance and in particular to hold insurance against third party claims in the sum of at least £2,000,000.

5.4 Nothing done by the organizers can reduce the responsibility of the boat, nor will it make the organizers responsible for any loss, damage, death or personal injury, however it may have occurred, as a result of the boat taking part in the racing. The organizers encompass everyone helping to run the race and the event, and include the organising authority, the race committee, the race officer, patrol boats and beach masters. The provision of patrol boats does not relieve the boat of her responsibilities.

5.5 Flag Y will not be flown. Buoyancy Aids are mandatory; all competitors whilst afloat shall wear adequate personal buoyancy. Wet suits and dry suits are not adequate personal buoyancy. This amends RRS 40.

5.6 The race committee and its patrol boat crews are empowered to compel a competitor to receive significant outside assistance, or return to the shore, when they deem a situation, where safety is put at risk. The right of a competitor to seek redress under the RRS is withdrawn under these circumstances. This amends RRS 62.1 This provision does not limit the responsibility of the competitor.

5.7 Patrol Boat(s) - All power boats engaged in safety duties in the sailing area shall rank as an *obstruction* as defined in RRS Definitions. In addition the water between a power boat and the dinghy(ies) to which she is standing by shall also rank as an *obstruction*.

OUTSIDE HELP

5.8 Outside Assistance: A crew that is recovered from the water by another boat (racing or not) does not break rule 41 provided the crew's boat is in the same area as the recovery when they are reunited. Receiving help to

right a capsize or having made progress in the race when a recovered crew is reunited with their boat **does** break rule 41. Any occurrence of help must be reported to the race office. It is the Protest Committee who shall then decide the appropriate action. The sailing instructions provide that the penalty is at the discretion of the Protest Committee. The Protest Committee will not penalise actions based solely on safety.

6 SCHEDULE OF RACES

6.1 Racing is scheduled:

Date	Race	Warning Signal
Sat 25th July	1 - Supernova Fleet	Not before 11:25
	2 - Supernova Fleet	Not before 13.25
	3 - Supernova Fleet	Not before 14.25

The number of races is indicative and will depend on weather conditions.

6.2 No warning signal shall be made before 11:25 hours or after 15.55 hours

7 CLASS FLAGS

The classes to race and their class flags	Definition	Class flag
Supernova sailing dinghy	All boats racing in the Blithfield Supernova Open Meeting 2009	To be identified at competitor briefing

8 SAILING AREA & OBSTRUCTIONS

8.1 The sailing area is marked out with coloured buoys. A straight line drawn between two adjacent buoys shall rank as an *obstruction* as defined in RRS definitions. A diagram of the sailing area is displayed on the official notice board.

8.2 Any boat seen crossing these lines defining the sailing area, by race officials will be scored DSQ by the race committee in the race sailed closest in time, to the incident. This amends RRS 63.1 & Appendix A5. Other boats may protest the infringement.

8.3 A patrol boat, or fishing boats and their associated equipment straying into the sailing area, shall rank as an *obstruction* as defined in RRS definitions.

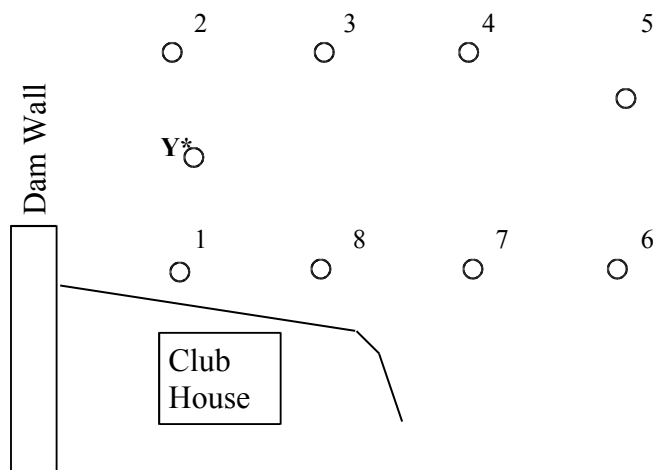
9 THE COURSE

9.1 The *course* will be displayed on the Committee Boat no later than the warning signal. The mark numbers or letters shall be displayed in sequence, their background colour 'Red' or 'Green' indicating whether marks are to be passed to port or starboard respectively.

9.2 The number of *laps* will be displayed on the Committee Boat no later than the warning signal. The number of laps shall be counted from the first windward mark unless the outer starting line mark is also used as the finishing mark.

MARKS

9.3 *Course marks* – Course marks are round blue buoys, numbered in white and laid out approximately as shown below. In addition a round blue buoy labelled "Y" may be positioned anywhere within the racing area*. A white buoy labelled "X" may be used anywhere in the racing area.



9.4 *Start Line Mark* - The mark used for the start line will be a white buoy with a pillar marked "X" in black (the "X" mark) and will display an orange flag.

9.5 *Finish Line mark* - The mark used for the finish line may be the "X" mark displaying a blue flag or a Mark of the Course.

10 THE START

10.1 *Starting System* – Races will be started by using RRS Rule 26.

10.2 The *Starting Line* – will be between a mast on the committee boat displaying an orange flag and the starting line mark.

11 CHANGE OF POSITION OF THE NEXT MARK

11.1 *Red/Green Flag* – The PRO may signal a movement to port or starboard of the next leg of the course by displaying flag “C” and a red or green flag. (This amends RRS 33). The change will be signalled before the leading boat has begun the leg although the mark may not yet be in its new position. Any mark to be rounded after rounding the moved mark may be relocated without further signalling to maintain the course configuration.

12 THE FINISH

12.1 The *Finishing Line* – will be between the mast flying a blue flag on the Committee’s Finishing Boat and the finishing mark.

12.2 *Sound Signal* – Boats crossing the finishing line may be acknowledged with a sound signal.

13 PENALTY SYSTEM

13.1 The penalties described in RRS 44.1 -will apply. Failure to take a penalty when breaking a rule is considered a serious breach of the basic principle of sportsmanship.

13.2 The “yellow flag” penalty point system (RRS 44.3) will not be used.

13.3 A boat that has taken a penalty under RRS 44.1 shall complete an acknowledgement form at the race office within the protest time limit.

13.4 Penalties for breaches of RRS 41 (Outside Help) shall be at the discretion of the Protest Committee. Any outside help shall be reported to the Race Committee on a form available from the race office before the end of protest time limit of the day concerned.

14 RACE TIME LIMIT

14.1 There is a time limit on each race of 1 hour 30 minutes, or 15 minutes after the first boat in the same class to finish whichever is the sooner. Any boat still sailing will be recorded "Did not finish" unless 14.2 applies. This amends RRS 35 & A4.

14.2 The Race Committee may, in its absolute discretion, allocate a finishing position to any boat that appears to be unlikely to finish in the time limit, or to facilitate the management of the racing. A request for redress in respect of any decision by the race committee under this sailing instruction will not be considered by the Protest Committee. This changes RRS rules 60 and 62.

15 PROTESTS, REQUESTS FOR REDRESS, & HEARINGS

15.1 Protests or Requests for Redress shall be written on forms available from the race office at Blithfield Sailing Club. This amends RRS 61 & 62.

15.2 Completed protest forms shall be lodged with the race officer or their representative at the race office at Blithfield Sailing Club within the protest time limit.

15.3 The protest time limit is 30mins after the last boat finishes the last race of that day.

16 DECLARATIONS

16.1 *Declarations* - Within 30 minutes of the end of the race, the Declaration Sheet must be signed to signify that "I have finished and complied with the rules" or "I did not finish and have retired" as appropriate. The declaration sheet will be posted in the vicinity of the race box.

16.2 *Back to back races* - If races are sailed consecutively the time limit shall be from the last race sailed before coming ashore.

17 JUDGING

17.1 An on the water Judge will not be used during the event.

18 SCORING

18.1 The event will be scored using the low points system in RRS Appendix A, except as follows.

18.2 Where there is a tie on total points between two or more boats, each boat's scores shall be listed in order of best to worst, and at the first point where there is a difference the tie shall be broken in favour of the boat with the best score(s). If a tie still remains the discarded race(s) shall be counted. Where all races count then the tie shall be broken by counting the score in the last race. Any remaining tie shall be broken by counting the score in the next to last race etc. until broken.

18.3 If two races are sailed both results will count. If three races are sailed then one discard will be allowed.

19 PRIZES

19.1 Prizes will be awarded down to at least 4th place and include the Blithfield Open 'Hartley Laminates' Trophy.

20 SUBSTITUTION OF COMPETITORS

20.1 Substitution of competitors will not be allowed without prior written approval of a member of the race committee. Applications to substitute a competitor must be accompanied by a completed entry form for the individual involved. They should be taken to the race office at Blithfield Sailing Club.

End of Sailing Instructions.

Have a good sail, we hope you enjoy racing at Blithfield Sailing Club

-The Race Committee

