

Tees and Hartlepool Yacht Club & NECRA

Winter Series 2018 – 2019

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Rules

The event will be governed by RRS 2017-2020, the prescriptions of the RYA, the IRPCS, NECRA, THYC rules and these Sailing Instructions.

2. Risk Statement

Rule 4 of the ISAF 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 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 whether 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, umpires and other officials and volunteers by the 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) For offshore races: They are responsible for ensuring that their boat is equipped and seaworthy so as to be able to face extremes of weather; that there is a crew in sufficient number, experience and fitness to withstand such weather; and that the safety equipment is properly maintained, stowed and in date and is familiar to the crew;
- h) Their boat is adequately insured, with cover of at least £2 million against third party claims, which must include racing.

The safety of a boat and her entire management, including insurance, shall be the sole responsibility of the owner/person in charge, who must ensure that the boat and crew are adequate to face the conditions that may arise in the course of the race.

3. Disclaimer

Neither these Sailing Instructions nor any inspection of the boat limits or reduces the absolute responsibility of the owner/person in charge for the crew, the boat and her management. Every owner/person in charge warrants the suitability of the boat for the race or races and that the boat contains at least the minimum safety equipment specified by THYC, NERR and NECRA. By participating in this event each competitor agrees to release the race organizers from any and all liability associated with their participation in this event to the fullest extent permitted by law.

4. Conditions of Entry

This is a THYC event that is open to NECRA members providing they satisfy the following:

- a) Each boat shall hold a valid NERR rating certificate.
- b) Boats must be adequately insured as detailed above.
- c) All yachts shall comply with the ISAF Offshore Special Regulations 2018 – 2019 Cat4 Monohulls subject to the prescriptions of Tees and Hartlepool Yacht Club for a VHF transceiver to be carried.
- d) All races using THYC published courses are designated category 4.
- e) Boats may be inspected before or after racing.

5. Classes

All boats will race in the one class. NECRA results will be based on inshore rating as shown on NECRA website. Boats sailing THYC only must declare, at the start of the series, to sail spinnaker or non-spinnaker rating for the whole series. Classes may be split if there are enough boats to make it feasible.

6. Notice to Competitors and changes to Sailing Instructions

Notices to competitors will be posted by email from THYC, in the Hartlepool Marina Lock Office and on the NECRA website.

Any changes to Sailing Instructions will be posted not later than 90 minutes before the first scheduled race.

7. Courses

Details of courses to be sailed and marks to be used are issued as separate documents available to download on THYC website. The originals will be used in the race station to set courses for all classes. Each mark of the course must be rounded as specified in the course notes.

The course to be sailed, for each class, will be announced by VHF radio approximately 15 minutes before the scheduled start using channel M2.

8. Schedule of Races

			Class	Warning	Start	Tide	HT
Sunday	Race 1	04 Nov	All Classes	10.25	10.30	1317	4.8
Sunday	Race 2	18 Nov	All Classes	10.25	10.30	1213	4.1
Sunday	Race 3	02 Dec	All Classes	10.25	10.30	1154	4.4
Sunday	Race 4	16 Dec	All Classes	10.25	10.30	1002	3.9
Sunday	Race 5	13 Jan	All Classes	10.25	10.30	0808	4.0
Sunday	Race 6	27 Jan	All Classes	10.25	10.30	0823	4.6
Sunday	Race 7	03 Feb	All Classes	10.55	11.00	1507	4.7
Sunday	Race 8	17 Feb	All Classes	10.25	10.30	1354	4.8

9. Intention to Race

All boats must register their intention to race with THYC and/or NECRA prior to the event.

Before the start of each race boats must declare their intention to race by notifying the THYC race station on channel M2 with the boat name, spinnaker or non-spinnaker and the number of people on board.

10. Starting Sequence

Starting will normally be done from the THYC tower but if an OOD is not available it may be done from the water. If water started boats must be record (preferable by photo) their own finish time from GPS.

Note: If started from the water the start line is different – see below.

Signal	On the water	From the tower
Warning signal (5 minutes to start)	Countdown VHF Ch.M2	One white light
Preparatory signal (4 minutes to start)	Countdown VHF Ch.M2	Two white lights
1 Minute to start	Countdown VHF Ch.M2	Three white lights
Start	Countdown VHF Ch.M2	All lights extinguished

Signals may be supplemented by a countdown on VHF Ch.M2.

11. Recalls

Signal	On the water	From the tower
Individual recall	VHF Ch.M2	One white light
General recall	VHF Ch.M2	Four white lights

12. Postponement

Will be indicated by 4 white lights from the tower or on VHF Ch.M2 from the water. The new start time will be broadcast on VHF Ch.M2

13. Starting Line

From the Tower: The start line is a transit between a white light on the THYC clubhouse and a white pole at the end of the south pier carrying the red harbour light and weather instruments. Yachts must pass between the Inner and Outer distance marks at the start of each course specified.

From the water: The start line is a transit between the inner distance mark and a white pole at the end of the south pier carrying the red harbour light and weather instruments. Yachts must pass between the Inner and Outer distance marks at the start of each course specified.

14. Finishing line

From the tower: A transit between a white light on the clubhouse and a white pole at the end of the south pier carrying red harbour light and weather instruments. As each yacht finishes four white lights will be displayed from the THYC clubhouse. Yachts must pass between the Inner and Outer distance marks at the finish of each course specified.

From the water: The finish line is a transit between the inner distance mark and a white pole at the end of the south pier carrying the red harbour light and weather instruments. Yachts must pass between the Inner and Outer distance marks at the finish of each course specified.

Note: the outer and inner distance marks (orange spheres) are tide borne and may move accordingly.

15. Shortened Courses

Shortened course for any class will be indicated by two white lights displayed from the THYC clubhouse as the leading yacht in class approaches the last mark before the finishing line. It may also be announced on VHF Ch.M2.

16. Course Amendments

Courses may be amended. An announcement will be made via VHF Ch.M2. The OOD will attempt to confirm by VHF that each competitor is aware of the amendments. However, the onus is on competitors to monitor VHF Ch.M2 for such announcements.

17. Hartlepool and Tees Channels

These are designated as Continuous Obstructions and must not be entered when racing. Yachts entering these Channels whilst racing will be disqualified.

18. Time Limit

As indicated on course sheet. If more than one THYC course is used, the time limit for the race is the sum of the time limits for each course.

19. Retirement

Any yacht retiring before or after finishing must inform the duty officer on VHF Ch.M2 as soon as possible.

20. Penalties

If a yacht contravenes a rule of part 2 of RRS while racing she may exonerate herself by taking a 720° turns penalty in accordance with RRS44.

21. Protests

Protests must be advised to OOD by VHF Ch.M2 immediately after the end of the race and protest forms handed in to THYC race office within 2 hours of the finish of the last boat.

22. Radio Communication

While racing, boats shall neither make nor receive radio communications not available to all boats, including mobile phones. THYC call sign is "Tees Tower" will call all racing yachts as "THYC fleet".

23. Scoring

Race results will be calculated using the boats NERR rating as shown in the registered details on the THYC and NECRA Websites at the time of the event and posted there after each race.

Scoring will be as RRS Appendix A using low points.