



# FISHERS GREEN SAILING CLUB COMET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP 2019 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS



## 1) RULES

Racing will be governed by The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the Equipment Rules of Sailing (ERS) and relevant class rules, except as any of these are changed by these Sailing Instructions or any Special Sailing Instructions (SSI) applicable to a particular event.

Competitors should note the Comet Class Association implements the RYA Racing Charter and that they will be expected to sail in compliance with it. The Charter can be found at the front of the RYA edition of the Racing Rules of Sailing 2017-2020 (the yellow pages after the definitions), or on the RYA website at [www.rya.org.uk/racingrules](http://www.rya.org.uk/racingrules).

## 2) REGISTRATION PROCEDURE

Helms shall register by completing an entry form before racing.

## 3) NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located in the clubhouse.

## 4) CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted on the official notice board at least 30 minutes before the race(s) concerned.

## 5) RACE SIGNALS

Signals will be displayed in front of the clubhouse, at a shore based starting position, or on the Committee Boat or other support boat.

## 6) SCHEDULE OF RACES

Race start times are given in the Notice of Race.

No warning signal will be made after 14:00 on Sunday 28th July 2019.

## 7) CLASS FLAGS

Class flag will be the Comet Pennant.

## 8) RACING AREA

1. Racing will take place on Holyfield Lake. A map of the lake showing mark positions is appended to these instructions (Appendix 1).
2. Boats are not permitted to enter the bird sanctuary (bounded approximately by the chain of islands and white spherical buoys situated in the SW corner of the lake), or sail within 15 metres of the north and east shores of the lake (right hand side as viewed from the clubhouse facing the lake) when fishermen are present. Both areas are shown on the map.
3. These areas are obstructions under RRS.
4. The penalty for infringement is disqualification unless exonerated under RRS 64.1.

## 9) THE COURSES

1. The course and number of rounds will be displayed on the Committee Boat, or at a shore based starting position.
2. A boat shall leave a mark displayed on a red background to port, and on a green background to starboard.
3. The letter G on a black background indicates that boats shall sail through the start/finish gate at the end of each round.
4. The number of rounds will be indicated by a white number displayed on a black background.
5. A course change before the start will be signalled by flag C and five sound signals. The timing of flag C will not provide grounds for a competitor to seek redress.
6. The moving of marks during a race will be signalled by flying flag C and making sound signals. The mark moved and direction of move will be communicated by appropriate gestures and/or verbal instructions. This changes Rule 33a and 33b.

## 10) MARKS

1. Course marks 1 through 12 including "W" and "F" are blue with white identification characters.
2. Temporary marks may be of any colour and their locations may change between or during races.
3. An inner distance mark, if used, will be a white unnumbered buoy. The outer distance mark will be an orange unnumbered buoy. A course mark may alternatively be used as an outer mark.

## 11) THE START

1. Races will be started using Rule 26.
2. The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag or shape on the Committee Boat or the shore based starting position and an outer distance mark.

3. An inner distance mark may be laid near the committee boat or shore end of the line. If an IDM is used a boat starting shall pass between the inner and outer distance marks.
4. A boat trying to start later than 5 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS). This changes Rule A4.1.
5. For timing purposes, sound signals shall govern. This changes Rule 26.

## 12) THE FINISH

1. The finishing line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag or shape and either the rounding side of the nearby mark of the course, or an unnumbered orange finishing mark.
2. Boats finishing shall pass between any inner limit mark and the outer finishing line mark.
3. When a course is shortened under Rule 32.2 all boats will finish when they next cross the line, those who have completed more laps will be placed ahead of those who have completed fewer laps.
4. Boats may be finished on the course. Flag W will be displayed and the boat's sail number called.

## 13) PENALTIES

Infringements of Rule 42 shall be addressed under Appendix P1 and P2 of the RRS. Observers may include any member(s) of the Race Committee or Sailing Committee. This modifies Appendix P1.1.

## 14) PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

1. Protest forms are available at the office in the Clubhouse. Protests shall be delivered there within the protest time limit.
2. For each class, the protest time limit is 30 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the session. The same protest time limit applies to all protests by the race committee and protest committee and to requests for redress. This changes Rules 61.3 and 62.2.
3. Notice will be posted on the official notice board within 30 minutes of the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in or near the Clubhouse.
4. Notices of protests by the race committee or protest committee will be posted to inform boats under Rule 61.1(b).

## 15) SCORING

The Low Point System of Appendix A will apply with A4.2 deleted and A9 changed to apply to all series.

- a) When fewer than four races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- b) When from four to five races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
- c) When six or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her two worst scores.

## 16) SAFETY REGULATIONS

1. Adequate personal buoyancy must be worn at all times when competitors are afloat. Wet or dry suits do not qualify as adequate personal buoyancy. This changes Rule 40.
2. All helms shall comply with instructions given by, or on behalf of, the Safety Officer (Water). Rule 4, Decision to Race still applies.

## 17) NOMINATION OF RIG

Competitors shall nominate which type of rig they will use (Standard rig, White Xtra rig, Xtra rig or Mino rig) before racing. A Competitor shall use the same type of rig for all races.

## 18) EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

1. A boat shall comply fully with her Class Rules.
2. A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the Class Rules and Sailing Instructions.

## 19) SUPPORT BOATS

Team leaders, coaches and other support personnel shall stay outside areas where boats are racing from the time of the preparatory signal for the first class to start until all boats have finished or the race committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment. Failure to comply shall lead to disqualification of the relevant competitor(s).

## 20) STATEMENT OF RISK

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 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:

- (i) 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;
- (ii) they are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;
- (iii) they accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;
- (iv) their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
- (v) the provision of a race management team, patrol boats and other officials and volunteers by the organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
- (vi) the provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances;

(vii) 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 briefing held at the venue;

Parents and guardians are warned that they have sole responsibility for their children and wards and must appreciate that Fishers Green Sailing Club CIC cannot be expected to exercise supervision or control. Fishers Green Sailing Club cannot accept responsibility for children, or any other persons not engaged in racing.

## **21) INSURANCE**

Participating boats shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £3,000,000 per event or the equivalent.