**HUNTS SAILING CLUB**

Harrison Way, St Ives, Cambridgeshire, PE27 4YA

**SAILING INSTRUCTIONS FOR TOPPER OPEN MEETING**

**1 RULES**

The Open Meeting will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing. Hunts SC implements the RYA Racing Charter and competitors will be required to undertake to sail in compliance with the Charter, which can be found at the front of the RYA rule book.

**2 ENTRY**

Entries to the Open Meeting will only be accepted once the entry form has been completed and the entry fee paid.

**3 DECLARATIONS**

Helmsmen must enter their name and boat details on the race entry form provided prior to the first race unless otherwise advised by the Race Officer. There is no requirement to sign off on completion of each race unless a helmsman has retired from the race, in which case this should be noted on the race entry form.

**4 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS AND CHANGES TO THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

Notices to competitors, including changes to the Sailing Instructions, will be posted on or adjacent to the race board in the clubhouse at least 30 minutes before the scheduled start of racing. Flag L will be displayed to indicate that a notice or change has been posted.

**5 PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICES**

Personal flotation devices shall be worn at all times when on the water. Wetsuits or Drysuits must be worn. .

**6 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

Signals made ashore will be displayed on the mast of the Race Box.

**7 SCHEDULE OF RACES**

The scheduled start time of the first race will be 10:30 am.

A briefing for competitors will be held approximately 30 minutes before the scheduled time of the first race, when sequences, class flags used and timings of all subsequent races will be advised.

**8 THE COURSES**

8.1 The course area will be shown on the course board in the clubhouse.

8.2 The course configuration, number of laps and order of rounding marks will be as shown in writing on the course board for the next race, and will be displayed at least 15 minutes before the start of the race. The diagram on the course board illustrates the first lap and all subsequent laps of the race; it is not to scale and does not indicate exact course angles. If there is a discrepancy between the written details and the illustrated course, then the written details shall be taken as correct.

8.3 The course marks will be temporary marks with coloured flags. Mark colours will be specified on the course board. The Race Officer may elect to use additional white or coloured buoys in which case these will be pointed out in the briefing.

**9 AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS**

Due to the possible presence of fishermen, the area within 10 metres of them, is an obstruction.

**10 THE START**

10.1 Races will be started using rule 26.

 10.2 The starting line will be a virtual line between either the Committee Boat mast or the Race Box flagpole and an outer limit mark. An inner limit mark may be used, which will not necessarily be on the line; boats shall not pass between the inner limit mark and the Committee Boat (if used). The outer limit mark will be a small buoy with a red flag

10.3 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other classes.A boat starting later than 4 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes rules A4 & A5.

**11 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE**

To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will move the original mark (or the finishing line) to a new position (Rule 33).

**12 THE FINISH**

12.1 The finishing line will either be as defined on the course board, between the finishing mark and the mast of a vessel or the Race Box displaying an blue flag, or, for shortened courses, between the mast displaying an blue flag and the nearby rounding mark.

12.2 The W flag maybe used to finisher slower sailors without changing overall positions.

**13 PENALTY SYSTEM**

As provided in rule 67, the Race Officer or Protest Committee may, without a hearing, penalize a boat that has broken rule 42.

**14 TIME LIMITS**

14.1 The time limit (Rule 35) for any race is 90 minutes. If no boat has passed Mark 1 within 45 minutes the race will be abandoned.

14.2 Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat in their class sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes rules 35, A4 and A5.

**15 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**

15.1 The Exoneration Penalty and the Advisory Hearing of the RYA Rules Disputes Procedures will be available.

15.2 Protest forms are available on request at the Race Box. Protests and Requests for Redress shall be delivered there within 30 minutes of the last boat finishing.

15.3 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. This notice will include details of the time and location of the hearing.

15.4 Notices of protests by the Race Officer or Protest Committee will be posted to inform boats under rule 61.1(b).

15.5 A list of boats that, under instruction 13, have been penalized for breaking rule 42 will be posted before the protest time limit.

**16 SCORING**

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| 16.1 The number of races to count, and the number to comprise a series, are as follows: No of races scheduled  | Number to comprise a series  | Number of races sailed  | Number to Count  |
| 4  | 2  | 4  | 3  |
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