

## Gul RS800 National Championships 2009 Sailing Instructions

### 1 RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the 'rules' as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing. There will be no restriction on the number or coverage of advertisers logos or slogans except for the front 25% of the hull, and bottom 500mm of the mainsail, which are reserved for RS Association event sponsors.
- 1.2 Either the helm or crew shall be a full, family, youth or international member of the RS Class Association. Anyone not complying with this will be disqualified without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1. The RS Class Association and its designated representative at each event is the sole arbiter of this rule.
- 1.3 Competitors shall complete the entry form and pay the necessary dues in order to be eligible to race.
- 1.4 Any competitors who are aged under 18, shall complete a Parental Disclosure Form, Photography Consent Form and a Medical Consent Form. These can be downloaded from the RS Association website and should be handed in at the event.
- 1.5 When provided at registration, competitors shall make every reasonable effort to display event sponsors promotional items on their boat and sails as directed. If sponsor promotional items come off whilst racing, competitors must obtain replacement items from the RS Association before the start of racing the following day, if the Association has sufficient stocks available.
- 1.6 Any individual caught stealing sponsor promotional items, e.g. flags, banners, prizes, shall be deemed to have committed a gross breach of good manners, and will be reported to the Protest Committee who may call a hearing under RRS 69.
- 1.7 In accordance with RRS 43.1 and ISAF Case 89, no clothing or equipment may be worn on the body of helm or crew to carry liquid of any description, even if for the purpose of re-hydration; this includes camelbacks, water bottles and cans of drink.
- 1.8 In the event of a conflict between the NOR and the Sailing Instructions the Sailing Instructions shall take precedence.
- 1.9 No RS800 can register until the helm has been weighed and their righting moment recorded.
- 1.10 Overnight leaders in both the Gold and Silver fleets will be awarded with rash vests. These must be worn for the following days racing, over all other clothing and buoyancy aids.

### 2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board, situated near the stone entrance steps.
- 2.2 **BRIEFING** A Competitors Briefing will be held on Saturday 29 August at 12.30hrs in the Clubhouse and should be attended by a representative of each boat. Subsequent briefings may be held and will be advised on the Official Notice Board.

### **3 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

- 3.1 Any changes to the Sailing Instructions (SIs) will be posted on the Official Notice Board and signalled to competitors by the flying of code flag L for at least two hours before the advertised start time of the race or races concerned; except that any change to the schedule of races shall be posted by 2000hrs on the day before it will take effect.

### **4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagpole situated on the Tenby SC Balcony.
- 4.2 Boats will not be permitted to go afloat until released. Release will be notified by flying IC flag 'R'.
- 4.3 When IC flag 'AP' is displayed ashore (with two sound signals; one sound signal when lowered), '1 minute', in 'Race Signals' is replaced with 'not less than 45 minutes'. This changes the meaning of AP in RRS Race Signals.

### **5 SCHEDULE OF RACES**

- 5.1 2 races are scheduled for Saturday 29 August and Tuesday 1 September, and three races for Sunday 30 and Monday 31 August 2009, a total of 10 races.
- 5.2 The warning signal for the first scheduled race on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> August will be at 14.25hrs. On Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> Monday 31<sup>st</sup>, the warning signal for the first scheduled race will be at 12.25hrs. On Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September the warning signal for the first scheduled race will be 11.25 hrs.
- 5.3 The warning signal for the second race each day will be as soon as possible after the completion of the first race.
- 5.4 No more than 4 races will be sailed in any one day.
- 5.5 No warning signal will be made after 1400hrs on the last day of racing.
- 5.6 In the event of a race being recalled, restarted, re-sailed or abandoned the next race sailed will be that race with subsequent races being sailed thereafter in their scheduled order.

### **6 CLASS FLAGS**

- 6.1 The class flag will be a White Flag with black RS800

### **7 RACING AREA**

- 7.1 The racing area will be Carmarthen bay off Tenby.
- 7.2 THE COURSES

- 7.3 The course is shown in Appendix A to these SIs, along with the order in which marks are to be passed and the side on which each mark is to be left. Courses will also be defined on the official notice board.
- 7.4 The number of laps to be sailed will be indicated on the Committee Boat for each course either written on a notice board or by flying the appropriate pennant from numeral pennant 2 to 8 at least five minutes before the warning signal. This changes RRS 27.1
- 7.5 The approximate bearing of the windward mark may be displayed on the committee boat prior to the warning signal.

## **8 MARKS**

- 8.1 The course marks are described in Appendix A of these SIs.

## **9 THE START**

- 9.1 Races will be started by using RRS 26.
- 9.2 The starting line will be between a mast bearing an orange flag on the Committee Boat at the starboard end and the mast flying an orange flag on the port-end starting mark.
- 9.3 The port end starting mark will be a vessel with a mast carrying an orange flag.
- 9.4 Limit marks may be laid adjacent to the Committee Boat. These will rank as starting marks and boats must leave these marks to starboard when starting.
- 9.5 Individual recalls will be in accordance with RRS 29.1.
- 9.6 A boat starting later than 5 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start. This changes RRS A4.1.

## **10 BLACK FLAG RULE**

- 10.1 At the discretion of the Race Officer the Black Flag Rule as per RRS 30.3 may be used.
- 10.2 If a start using a black flag is subject to a general recall, the sail numbers of the boats identified as infringing this instruction will be displayed on the Committee Boat no later than 3 minutes before the preparatory signal of the next start. A long sound signal will be made when the numbers are displayed. This changes RRS 30.3
- 10.3 Boats so identified shall not take part in the subsequent restart of that race, and remain well clear of all boats racing. A boat that fails to observe this instruction will be disqualified from all races in the series without a hearing at the discretion of the Race Committee (this alters RRS 30.3 & 63).

- 10.4 It is the sole responsibility of each competitor to find out if their sail number is displayed and then to act in accordance with this instruction.

## **11 MINIMUM WIND STRENGTH**

- 11.1 Races will not be started unless the Race Committee is satisfied that the wind strength in the starting area, and to the best of its belief on the rest of the course, is in excess of an average of four knots for a reasonable period before the start.

## **12 SUBSTANTIAL WIND SHIFT DURING THE FIRST LEG**

- 12.1 When, after a race has started, there is a substantial wind shift during the first leg, the Race Committee, in accordance with RRS 32 may abandon the race and restart it.

## **13 CHANGE OF COURSE AFTER THE START**

- 13.1 When, after a race has started, there is a substantial wind shift, the Race Committee may move one or more marks.
- 13.2 When the course to be made good is significantly changed by such an alteration, a boat will be stationed near the mark at the start of the leg affected, and will fly IC flag 'C' over a green or red flag indicating that the direction of that leg lies either to starboard or port respectively of its previous bearing. She will draw attention to this signal by making intermittent sound signals. When the leg affected is to windward, the approximate magnetic bearing of the new direction to the next mark will, when possible, be displayed near the start of that leg. (This changes RRS 33).
- 13.3 Notwithstanding Sailing Instruction 14.2 a mark will not be moved if it affects the point of sailing of any competitor during the time it is being moved.

## **14 THE FINISH**

- 14.1 The finish line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on the committee boat and the finishing mark. The finish mark will be a Dan type Buoy.
- 14.2 Lowering the blue flag when the last boat has finished the race or the time limit has expired will close the finishing line. (This adds to the meaning of the Blue Flag and IC flag 'S' in Race Signals)
- 14.3 A boat that has finished shall then pass completely through the finishing line, and no part of her shall thereafter again cross the finishing line from either direction while the finishing vessel is on station. This changes RRS 28.1. A boat that infringes this Sailing Instruction will be scored DSQ in the race she has just finished; this changes RRS 63.1 & RRS A11.
- 14.4 For courses that are shortened at the leeward mark when the committee boat is in its normal position and flying flag S alongside the class flag, the leading boat shall round the leeward mark and proceed to the normal finish line. At any other mark of the course the race may be shortened in accordance with RRS 32.2. All competitors shall complete the number of rounds equal to the leading boat before proceeding to the finish. This changes RRS 32.2.

## **15 PENALTY SYSTEM**

- 15.1 The alternative penalty as described in RRS 44.1 & RRS 44.2 shall apply except that boats need to complete one turn. RRS 44.3 shall not apply.
- 15.2 Touching a mark of the course (other than a starting or finishing line mark) with any part of the boat or crew shall not constitute an infringement of the Rules. Manhandling a mark which results in an advantage is not allowed and a boat so doing shall promptly retire. This changes RRS 31. If a boat touches a start mark, it shall return to the pre-course side of the line and complete a one-turn penalty before starting. If a boat touches a finish mark it shall return to the course side of the line, complete a one-turn penalty and re-finish without penalty from SI 15.3 for that manoeuvre only.

## **16 TIME LIMITS**

- 16.1 The time limit shall be 100 minutes from the starting signal for the first boat. Boats that fail to finish within 25 minutes of the first boat will be scored with their observed position on the course at that time. This changes RRS 35. At the discretion of the Race Officer positions when the boats last rounded the mark nearest the Committee Boat may be awarded. At the discretion of the Race Officer, boats that he expects to finish outside of the time limit may be given their observed position on the course and instructed by rescue boats to return to the starting area for start of the next race. If competitors are finished in this way, they must return immediately to the starting area. There will be no redress if they delay and miss their start.

## **17 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**

- 17.1 Protest forms will be available from the Race Office. They shall be delivered there within the protest time limit.
- 17.2 For each class, the protest time limit is 90 minutes after the last boat finishes, or where two or more races are to be sailed without coming ashore between them, within 90 minutes of finishing the last race. This time limit may be extended at the discretion of the Protest Committee.
- 17.3 Notices will be posted within 30 minutes of the expiry of the protest time to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties to, or named as witnesses. It shall be the responsibility of competitors to check the notice board for such notices, obtain their copy of the protest form and make sure that they and their witnesses attend the hearing.
- 17.4 On the last day of racing a competitor's request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered:
- (a) Within the protest time limit if the party requesting reopening was informed of the protest committee's decision on the previous day;
  - (b) No later than half an hour after the party requesting reopening was informed of the protest committee's decision on that day.

This changes RRS 66.

## **18 SCORING SYSTEM**

18.1 The Low Points scoring system of RRS Appendix A will apply.

18.2 Discards – Competitors will exclude their “worst” results as follows:

1 - 3 races sailed	no excluded score
4 - 7 races sailed	1 excluded score
8 - 10 races sailed	2 excluded scores

Three races are required to be completed to constitute the series.

18.3 Series/event tie      If, after discard, two or more competitors have the same points total the tie will be broken in accordance with RRS Appendix A8.1. If there is still a tie this will be broken in favour of the competitor with the best excluded result. This changes RRS A 8. If a tie still exists then the tie will be broken in accordance with RRS Appendix A8.2. For the purpose of this rule the last race will be taken to mean the last race actually completed on the water.

## **19 SAFETY REGULATIONS**

19.1 Adequate personal buoyancy for crew members shall be worn at all times whilst afloat. Neither a wetsuit nor a drysuit constitute adequate personal buoyancy. (This changes RRS 40)

19.2 A tally system will be in operation for the duration of the Championship. A tally number will be allocated on receipt of entry. The tally board will be located near the Beachmasters office. Each helm and crew intending to race shall obtain the tally bearing their number from the Beachmaster and wear it on a wrist. Tallies will be released at the direction of the Race Officer or Beachmaster, normally 90 minutes before the advertised start of racing, and no boat should go afloat without first obtaining their tallies. Within 1 hour of the completion of the race, or races if sailed back to back, competitors shall return their tallies to the Beachmaster.

19.3 It is the sole responsibility of competitors to ensure that they have tallied correctly. Failure to tally out, or tally in within the time limit will result in the following penalties: -

- First offence - £10 donation to the local RNLI
- Second and subsequent offence – further £25 donation to the local RNLI, and may, at the discretion of the Race Officer, result in DSQ from all races sailed without a tally.
- Non-payment of the fine before Championship prize giving will result in disqualification without a hearing from races sailed while untallied.

Where more than one race is sailed on a day the competitor should inform the Committee Boat at the end of the first race that the ‘Tally Out Procedure’ had not been followed, and in this event the Race Officer may grant permission to sail in a second or subsequent races on that day without the requirement to return ashore for the tally.

## **20 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT**

- 20.1 For the series of races comprising an event only the helm named on the entry form will be eligible. If a different helm completes a race in the same boat then they will be considered a separate entry and their results cannot be combined with another helm's results.
- 20.2 Crews may only be changed during the event from the person named on entry form with written permission in advance from the Race Committee or Class Representative. If it is known at start of the event that you will have to change crew during the event then both crews should be registered on entry form along with which day(s) they will be sailing. Permission will only be given to change crew as long as there is no performance gain from change of crew.
- 20.3 **Distinguishing Numbers.** Under exceptional circumstances, the Race Committee may permit a boat to use sails carrying a distinguishing number other than that required by RRS77 and RRS Appendix G. Such permission is only valid if sought in writing and granted at least 2 hours before the advertised start of that day's racing.
- 20.4 Where a hull, spars or sails is damaged to such an extent that they cannot be used in the next race after all reasonable steps are taken to carry out repairs then competitors may change equipment with the prior agreement of the RS Rules Committee.

## **21 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS**

- 21.1 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions. On the water, a RS800 can be instructed by a race committee measurer to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection, and the helm is not allowed to adjust the boat once it has been identified as receiving a random check.
- 21.2 Class Conformity. Every boat shall comply with the current relevant class rules. Failure to do so may result in disqualification without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1.
- 21.3 All boats must sail with weight and rack settings as per their class rules and no alternative settings are allowed. Penalties for transgression will be determined by the Race Committee but may include disqualification without a hearing from races sailed with incorrect settings.
- 21.4 Velocitec units specifically supplied by the RS Association may be used during racing. The display must be covered and may only be used for training purposes.

## **22 RADIO COMMUNICATIONS**

- 22.1 A boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.

22.2 Support Boats. Team leaders, coaches and other support personnel shall stay outside areas where boats are racing from the time of the preparatory signal until all boats have finished or the race committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment.

## **23 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

23.1 The race organisers shall not be responsible for any loss, damage, death or personal injury howsoever caused to the owner/competitor, his skipper or crew as a result of their taking part in the race or races. Moreover, every owner/competitor warrants the suitability of his boat for the race or races.

23.2 The safety of a boat and her entire management including insurance shall be the sole responsibility of the owner/competitor racing the boat, who shall ensure that the boat is fully found, thoroughly seaworthy and manned by a crew sufficient in number and experience who are physically fit to face bad weather. The owner/competitor shall be satisfied as to the soundness of the hull, spars, rigging, sails and all gear. He shall ensure that all safety equipment is properly maintained, stowed and in date and that all crew know where it is kept and how it is to be used.

23.3 Neither the establishment of these Sailing Instructions nor any inspection of the boat under these conditions in any way limits or reduces the absolute responsibility of the owner/competitor for his crew, the boat and the management thereof. The crews are nonetheless advised to satisfy themselves as to the experience of the skipper and the adequacy of all safety equipment and insurance arrangements.

23.4 The Club, its Officers, Helpers and Employees shall not be held responsible for any cancellation or change to the Racing Programme caused by inclement weather. The Sole Arbitrator of such conditions shall be the Race Committee.

## **24 PRIZES**

The prizes are allocated as follows:

Top 8 Gold places overall.

Lady Helm.

Master Helm (first helm over 44 at start of the Championship).

1<sup>st</sup> Youth Boat (combined ages helm/crew under 42 at start of Championship).

Silver Division – first 4 places.