

Sailing Instructions

PCC Racing

2017/18 Club Racing Series

1.0 THE EVENT

1.1 These Sailing Instructions cover all 2017 PCC races, except the Holms Race.

2.0 RESPONSIBILITY

2.1 Yacht racing can be dangerous. The attention of owners, skippers and crew is drawn to RRS Fundamental Rule 4: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone". The safety of a yacht and her crew is the sole and inescapable responsibility of the owner or owner's representative who must do their best to ensure that the yacht is fully found, thoroughly seaworthy and manned by an experienced crew who are able to sail in bad weather. They must be satisfied as to the soundness of the hull, spars, rigging, sails and all gear. They must ensure that the safety equipment is properly maintained and stowed and that the crew know where it is kept and how it is to be used. Nothing, whether in the Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions or anywhere else, reduces this responsibility.

2.2 Nothing done by the organisers can reduce the responsibility of the skipper nor will it make the organisers 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 organisers encompasses everyone helping to run the races and events, and includes any appointed organising authority, race committee, race officers and beachmasters.

2.3 PCC is an amateur organisation and entrants should consider this when participating in any race organised by or on behalf of the club. In particular entrants should not suppose that the race organiser or 'Officer Of the Day' is qualified or trained in managing such events.

2.4 PCC conducts races in areas of intermittent shipping. It is the entrants responsibility to monitor VHF CH12 at all times and to remain clear of all commercial shipping, particularly those vessels that are 'swinging' (proceeding past the dock and performing a sharp turn to port to face a flooding tide as they approach the lock).

3.0 RULES & REGULATIONS

3.1 The race will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) of the ISAF and the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea.

4.0 ELIGIBILITY & CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

4.1 Competitors attention is drawn to stipulations 4.2 to 4.4 in the Notice of Race

4.2 All competitors to wear lifejackets for the duration of the race.

4.3 The boat is required to hold and abide by the terms of adequate insurance and in particular to hold insurance against third party claims in the sum of at least £2,000,000 sterling that includes cover for racing.

5.0 ENTRIES/CLOSING DATES/ETC

5.1 Entries will be accepted on the day, subject to prompt completion of the entry form and payment of race fees.

5.2 Mooring fees for races that include a stop-over are not included in the race entry fees.

6.0 REGISTRATION & SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

6.1 Entry for any race is completed by radioing the Officer Of the Day from the starting area to confirm intention to race (you must specify whether entering the fast or cruiser fleet for the Cockburn series).

6.2 New entrants should contact the racing secretary (directly or via pccsailing@yahoo.com) before entering a race to receive a handicap number.

7.0 SCORING

7.1 Yachts scoring DNF or RTD will score points for the number of starters in the race +1. All other yachts not classified (DNS, DSQ, etc) will score points for the number of starters in the race +2. All yachts that have competed in the series but not in a given race will score points for the number of starters in the series +1.

7.2 One third or more of the starters must finish, or the race is void and will, if possible, be re-run.

7.3 The minimum number of boats that constitute a PCC race is two.

7.4 All races will be conducted as a single fleet, with the exception of the Cockburn series where entrants can elect to compete in either the 'Fast' or 'Cruiser' fleets (by radioing the OOD when registering for a race). The nominal cut off is a handicap of 1000 and courses will be set accordingly. Competitors can switch between fleets mid-series, but all results to date will be void.

7.5 The Cockburn series will be awarded to the best five results from nine races. All other series will be awarded for the best two results from three races. Boats completing three or less races in the Cockburn series will not be scored in the series results.

7.6 Results will be published on the PCC website.

8.0 THE START AND FINISH

8.1 Entrants are permitted use of the engine until one minute before the start for downtime races and five minutes before the start for top of the tide races.

8.2 No sound or visual signals will be given at the start or finish of the race. Countdowns will be provided at 5, 4, 1, 0 minutes before the start on VHF CH37/ M1.

8.3 Entrants should keep clear of the start / finish areas unless starting / finishing so as not to interfere with competing boats.

8.4 Any boat retiring from a race must confirm this to Race Control (VHF CH37/M1).

8.5 See Appendix 1 for start and finish lines, which may be different.

9.0 THE COURSE

9.1 Courses will be set on the day from (but not limited to) the following list of marks:

- Cockburn: port channel mark to north of King Roads
- Denny Shoal: south cardinal mark to north of King Roads
- Newcome: port channel mark to north of King Roads
- Firefly: starboard channel mark to south of King Roads
- Outer: starboard channel mark to south of King Roads
- Middle: starboard channel mark to south of King Roads
- Outfall: PCC laid mark in vicinity of N51°31.70' W002°41.65'
- Denny Island: rocky islet 2nm NNW of Portishead pier
- Inflatable mark: laid orange cylindrical buoy(s)

- 9.2** The location of many of the marks above are shown in Appendix 2.
- 9.3** Course details will be announced over VHF before the warning signal.
- 9.4** In the Cockburn series the two fleets may have different courses.
- 9.5** The OOD may shorten the course by removing legs of the course that have not been started by the leading boat.

10.0 COMMUNICATIONS

10.1 All competitors should monitor CH37 (M1) while in the starting area and for the duration of race. To contact the OOD call "PCC Race Control".

10.3 Channel 77 is the preferred inter yacht channel.

10.4 All entrants should monitor Bristol VTS CH 12 when in their zone of control.

10.5 For top of the tide races Notices to Competitors and Changes in Sailing Instructions will be announced by the OOD on CH37 and/or communicated via 'Yahoo Groups' and Facebook.

10.6 For down tide races, where the timekeeper may be self-nominated, entrants must check 'Yahoo Groups' or Facebook for notices within 48 hours of the start.

11.0 PROTESTS

11.1 Boats intending to protest are requested to inform the OOD as soon as possible by VHF. Protests shall then be delivered in writing to the OOD or member of the sailing sub-committee within 2 hours of the time cut off for the last race of the day.

11.2 Protests should be submitted with a protest fee of £25, which will only be returned if the protest is upheld.

11.3 Protests not involving direct inter boat damage will be decided by arbitration. Where arbitration proves unsuccessful, or there is contact and damage, then a protest committee will be formed.

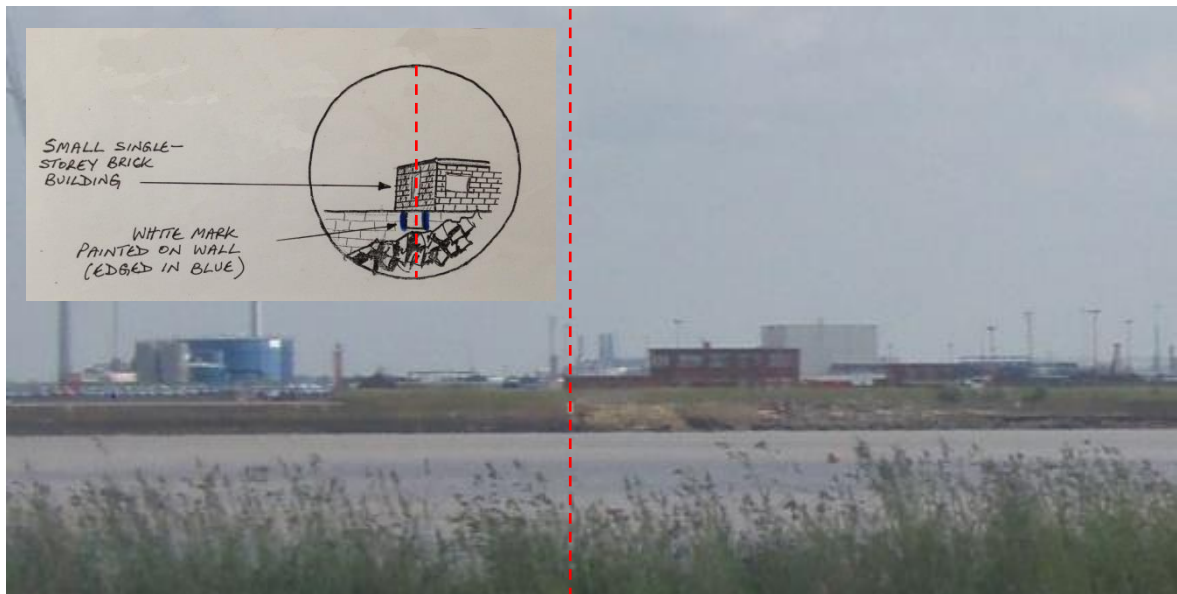
12.0 RACING COMMITTEE

12.1 Committee members are:

- Nick Duppa-Miller, Racing Secretary
- Simon Britten, Race Committee member
- Andy Brown, Race Committee member
- Hugh Gilbert, Race Committee member
- Pete Bundell, Main Committee representative

APPENDIX 1 – START LINES

A1.1 PCC start line: transit of the white mark on the Avonmouth sea wall with the window on the left (WNW) end of the single storey brick building. Although the Swash Buoy is not on the start line, it should be treated as a racing mark and always left to port.



A1.2 Light airs start line: in light winds the OOD can change the start line to the transit of the nearest and furthest windmills



A1.3 Further start lines are shown in Appendix 2

APPENDIX 2 – KING ROAD

A2.1 Shipping channels are clearly illustrated below. Any competitor interfering with shipping will be subject to a Protest Committee and liable to disqualification from the race and / or series.

A2.2 Many of the racing marks are also illustrated

A2.3 Three further start / finish lines are also depicted by dotted lines:

- Green: Portishead Pier to Firefly
- Blue: eastern end of Portbury Pier and Cockburn
- Red: an extension of the SE wall of Portishead Pier

The first two may be used in either direction and with / without an inner / outer distance mark. The line in red is only used for downtime races as a start line (leaving the pier to port), or finish line (leaving the pier to starboard).

