



GYC SAILING INSTRUCTIONS 2017

1. RULES

Races will be sailed under the Racing Rules of Sailing for 2017-2020, with RYA Prescriptions, these Sailing Instructions, and the Rules of each Class as modified by these instructions.

Special events may have separate Sailing Instructions.

2. CHANGES

These Sailing Instructions may be changed by notice posted on the Club Notice Board not later than 24 hours before the start of any affected race.

3. COURSES

Courses shall EITHER be posted on the Club Notice Board not less than 24 hours before the start of a race OR chosen from the following Race Marks, and displayed or announced at least 20 minutes before the start of the first Class:

- a) in the case of all Yacht Classes by radio on VHF Channel 37A (M1); and
 - b) in the case of all Dinghy Classes on the Club Course Board (outside the Clubhouse).
-
- A Beacon (Post) on Anfre Rock
 - B Yellow Race Buoy approx 280m SW of Brehon Tower
 - C Portable Buoy approx 200m E of Moulinet Beacon
 - Distance Yellow Race Buoy approx 370m SSE of Castle Breakwater Light
 - E Reffe South Cardinal Buoy
 - F Beacon (Post) on Demie Flie Rock
 - G Goubiniere Rock
 - H Yellow Race Buoy approx 800m NE of Reffee South Cardinal Buoy
 - J Island of Jethou (keep outside Epec Beacon + Grande Fauconnaire Beacon)
 - K Yellow Race Buoy approx 300m NNE of Gabrielle Rock
 - L Lower Heads South Cardinal Buoy
 - M Beacon (Post) on Moulinet Rock
 - N Yellow Race Buoy approx 300m W of Blanche Aiguillons Rock
 - P Mouilliere Rock in Petit Port Bay (keep E of Longue Pierre Beacon)
 - Q Fourquies North Cardinal Buoy
 - R Selle Rocque
 - S Portable Buoy approx 100m E of Sardette Beacon
 - T Yellow Race Buoy approx 350m ESE of Terres Point
 - U Yellow Race Buoy approx 60m S of the Distance Race Buoy
 - V Yellow Race Buoy approx 230m SSW of Vivian Beacon
 - W Portable Buoy approx 200m W of Alligande Beacon
 - X Portable Buoy approx 1500m E of Castle Breakwater Light
 - Y Portable Buoy approx 1500m E of Moulinet Beacon
 - Z Portable Buoy approx 1100m E of Anfre Beacon

A copy of the approximate Latitude and Longitude of all GYC Race Marks is available from the Club Office, on the GYC Website and in the GYC Race Procedures Manual. Please note that the positions of all Race and Portable Buoys are "approximate" and may not be protested.



Race Marks shall be passed or rounded in the order set on the Club Course Board and shall be left to port or starboard as indicated, and in the case of the Yacht Classes, as announced on Channel 37A (M1). The only exception is the Canon Trophy when Jethou may be left to either port or starboard. The last letter of the Course will be D, U or M indicating the Outer Limit Mark of the selected finishing line.

4. COURSE ALTERATIONS

The Yacht and Dinghy Captains (or their alternates) will set the Course. Course changes shall be notified on Channel 37A (M1), or by the support boats, for the Yacht Classes and by the support boats for the Dinghy Classes. This changes RRS 33.

For the Dinghy Classes the positions of Race Marks C, W, X, Y and/or Z may be redefined. Details of these changes and the relevant Course will be given in a pre-race briefing and noted on the Club Course Board.

Under special circumstances the Dinghy Classes may race in or near Havelet Bay using starts, Courses, time limits and finishes as will be detailed in a pre-race briefing.

5. CLASS SIGNALS

Classes will be indicated by the following numbers and letters and appropriate International Code Pennants and Flags may be flown:

A	All Yachts and Dinghies	6	Class 1 Dinghies
D	All Dinghies	7	Class 2 Dinghies
1	Class 1 (Racers) Yachts	8	Junior Class 1 Dinghies
2	Class 2 (Cruisers) Yachts	9	Junior Class 2 Dinghies
3	All Yachts	J	All Junior Dinghies
4	"Kona One" Windsurfers	M	Melges
5	Catamarans	L	Laser 1 and Laser Radial Dinghies
		O	Optimist Dinghies

For the purpose of these Sailing Instructions, Yacht Classes will be defined as 1, 2, 3 and M, the Dinghy Classes will be defined as 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, J, L, O and D.

6. STARTING PROCEDURES

Races will be started using RRS 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal, modified as follows:

Castle starts

For Castle Starts, the warning signal for each Class is the Class number or letter and the preparatory signal is one white disc.

Committee Boat Starts

For Committee Boat starts, RRS 26 shall apply unless changed by Sailing Instructions issued for any race or event.

Classes will start at 5 minute intervals, the start of each Class being the warning signal of the next. A countdown of whole minutes may be announced on Channel 37A (M1).



If there are no starters for a particular Class scheduled to race, the starting times of succeeding Classes will not be brought forward.

7. RECALL

Castle Starts

For Castle Starts, RRS 29 is changed as follows:

Premature starters will be recalled by display of one orange disc and one sound signal to draw attention. The disc will be concealed when all yachts have started correctly. The disc will be displayed for a maximum of 4 minutes. Yachts may be hailed by loudhailer or on Channel 37A (M1). A General Recall will be signalled by the display of two orange discs and two sound signals to draw attention. If there are succeeding Classes to be started then the re-called Class will start 5 minutes after the last scheduled start.

Committee Boat Starts

For Committee Boat Starts, RRS 29 shall apply.

8. STARTING LINE

Castle Starts

The starting line shall be an extension of a line indicated by triangles in the South East Corner of the Castle and approximately aligned towards the Outer Limit Mark, normally Race Mark D. The Yacht or Dinghy Captain may redefine the Outer Limit Mark of the starting line with Mark U or M, in which case the change will be announced with the details of the Course in accordance with Sailing Instruction 4.

Committee Boat Starts

The starting line shall be an extension of a line from the Orange Flag flown on the Committee Boat to a laid Outer Limit Mark which will be a Portable Buoy.

9. FINISHING LINES

Castle Starts

Each finishing line shall be an extension of two triangles situated in the South East corner of the Castle aligned to Race Marks D, U or M.

NOTE: If either Race Mark D or U is missing, boats shall use the remaining Race Mark as the Outer Limit Mark of the finishing line, finishing in the same direction as indicated by the Course Instructions. If Race Marks D and U are missing, Race Mark M will be used as the finishing line.

If the triangles have been removed Yachts shall time themselves in on the Starter's flagpole bearing 280 deg Magnetic, passing inside Race Mark D, or if Race Mark D is missing, inside a transit of the White Rock Pierhead Light and the Castle Breakwater Light.

TO FINISH

The direction of race finishes are based on the last Race Mark rounded on the Course (either set, altered or shortened) as follows:

Group	Last Mark	Finish if Mark D Set	Finish if Mark U Set	Finish if Mark M Set
North	B E F H S V	D North to South	D to Port U North to South	M East to West
Centre	G J N Q R W X Y	U to Starboard D South to North	D to Port U North to South	M East to West



South	A C K L M P T Z	U to Starboard D South to North	U South to North	M East to West
--------------	-----------------	------------------------------------	------------------	----------------

Where the Course, set, altered or shortened, requires a Yacht to finish from any of the North Group of Race Marks (B, E, F, H, S or V), and Race Mark D is set as the Outer Limit Mark, cross the finishing line North to South. Where Race Mark U is set as the Outer Limit Mark, leave Race Mark D to port and cross the finishing line North to South.

Where the Course, set, altered or shortened, requires a Yacht to finish from any of the South Group of Race Marks (A, C, K, L, M, P, T or Z), and Race Mark D is set as the Outer Limit Mark, leave Race Mark U to starboard and cross the finishing line South to North. Where Race Mark U is set as the Outer Limit Mark, cross the finishing line South to North.

Where the Course, set, altered or shortened, requires a Yacht to finish from any of the Centre Group of Race Marks (G, J, N, Q, R, W, X or Y), and Race Mark D is set as the Outer Limit Mark, leave Race Mark U to starboard and cross the finishing line South to North. Where Race Mark U is set as the Outer Limit Mark, leave Race Mark D to port and cross the finishing line North to South.

Committee Boat Starts

The finishing line shall be the starting line approached from the direction of the last Race Mark of the Course, whether the Course has been set, altered or shortened, unless changed by Sailing Instructions issued for any race or event.

10. SHORTENED COURSES

RRS 32 shall be changed as follows:

The Course for any Class may be shortened by the Race Officer.

Castle Starts

The shortened Course signal shall be the Class Number preceding a black "S" on an orange background which will be followed by two sound signals repeated three times at two minute intervals.

Committee Boat Starts

The shortened Course signal shall be an "S" flag followed by two sound signals repeated three times at two minute intervals.

In addition, the boats shall be notified of the new Course in accordance with Sailing Instruction 4.

Instructions to shorten a Course shall be issued before any boat in the affected Class commences the last leg of the new Course for that Class.

11. TIME LIMITS

Unless otherwise prescribed, time limits apply to all Classes and are as follows:

- a) Morning Races: all Classes 2 ½ hours.
- b) Afternoon Races: all Classes 17:00 hours.
- c) Evening Races: 21:00 until and including August, thereafter 20:30.

For all races when time limits apply reference to RRS 35 is changed as follows:



For all races, Yachts still racing 30 minutes after expiry of the time limit shall retire immediately unless superseded by separate Sailing Instructions.

12. SCORING SYSTEM

The low point scoring system set out in Appendix A, modified as follows:

Yachts which RETIRE (RTD) will receive 1 point more than the number of competitors whilst, Yachts DISQUALIFIED (DSQ) 2 points more and Yachts which DID NOT COMPETE (DNC) 4 points more.

Discards as follows:

<i>Races Held</i>	<i>Discards</i>
12 or more	4
9 – 11	3
6 – 8	2
4 or 5	1
3 or less	0

(A different scoring system may be adopted for certain Classes. Notice of these changes will be posted 24 hours prior to the start of the first race).

13. USE OF AUXILIARY PROPULSION

RRS 42 is changed as follows:

After the preparatory signal a Yacht which is still bound for the starting area may use auxiliary power until the Starter's flag pole is seen South of the Castle Breakwater Light when approaching from the North or seen clear of the Southeast buff of the Castle when approaching from the South.

14. SAFETY REGULATIONS

(a) Yachts – All Yachts racing within 15 miles of St. Peter Port, shall comply with ISAF Offshore Special Regulations Category 4 (“OSR Cat 4”) (see note (i) below), except as follows:

- (1) Dayboats (a Dayboat is defined as a boat which cannot meet all the requirements of OSR Cat 4 and is designated by a “D” on its IRC Certificate). When racing within 15 miles of St. Peter Port, Dayboats shall:-
 - (a) comply with the safety requirements in their respective Class Rules; AND
 - (b) comply with IRC rule 24.3 (see note (ii) below); AND
 - (c) carry a VHF radio capable of receiving and transmitting on Channels 16 and 37A (M1), navigation lights, relevant chart(s) of the sailing area, a waterproof first aid kit, foghorn, radar reflector and an effective means to quickly disconnect or sever the standing rigging from the hull (see note (i) below).
- (2) Any Yacht, other than a Dayboat, which cannot comply with OSR Cat 4, may apply in writing to the Sailing Committee for exemption from that part of OSR Cat 4 with which they cannot comply.

In addition, when racing more than 15 miles from St. Peter Port, all Yachts, including Dayboats, shall carry a liferaft capable of carrying all the crew in safety, or positive buoyancy.

NOTE: All safety equipment must be in date and/or serviced in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions including, but not limited to, all liferafts, lifejackets and flares.



Any Yacht may be inspected, without notice, by the Safety Officer or other member of the Sailing Committee and if found not to comply fully with these regulations may be refused permission to race, or not given results, until all defects have been remedied.

Notes for clarification:

- (i) “an effective means to quickly disconnect or sever the standing rigging from the hull” does not necessarily mean bolt cutters. For example, tools sufficient to quickly undo bottle screws will be sufficient.
- (ii) Dayboat IRC rule 24.3.5, “life jacket” may be substituted with “adequate personal flotation device”.

(b) Dinghies – All Class Dinghies, Catamarans and Windsurfers must comply with their Class buoyancy requirements and every Dinghy and Windsurfer crew shall wear an adequate personal flotation device.

All non-class Dinghies, Catamarans and Windsurfers must be certified by the Safety Officer of the Sailing Committee as being seaworthy and suitably equipped.

All Dinghies and Catamarans must carry a rope capable of being used for towing and at least one suitable paddle.

Practical buoyancy checks may be carried out at any time, without notice, by the Safety Officer or any member of the Sailing Committee.

Important Notice for trapeze Dinghies – all trapeze or hiking harnesses must have a device that can quickly release the competitor from the boat at any time while in use.

(c) Whenever Code Flag “Y” is flown from the Castle start hut flag staff or from the Committee Boat, RRS 1.2 and 40 are changed as follows: All crew of Yacht Class boats must wear life jackets with whistle attached or, in the case of Dayboats only, an adequate personal flotation device.

(d) Except in single-handed races, Dinghies and Catamarans which normally carry a crew of 2 or more may not be raced single-handed without the prior consent of the Race Officer of the day.

15. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

Races are open to all Yachts and Dinghies complying with GYC Safety Regulations and which are owned by, or on charter to, and when racing, in the charge of, a member of the GYC or a GYC Affiliated Club or of any Yacht or Sailing Club recognised by a National Authority; but only members of the GYC, RCIYC Guernsey or GYC Affiliated Clubs are eligible to receive points or trophies, unless otherwise stated.

Entries shall be made on the appropriate form available at the Clubhouse, or on the GYC Website, and sent to the Club Secretary, at least 24 hours before the first race in which a Yacht or Dinghy is to compete. In the case of Yachts entering an IRC Class a photocopy of the IRC Certificate must accompany the entry form. All entries must include the appropriate fee.

All Yachts and Dinghies must carry the same number on their mainsail as that entered on their race entry form. A Yacht or Dinghy may be disqualified if a different number, or no number, is displayed on their mainsail, unless the Sailing Committee is informed in writing or the Race Officer is informed personally before the start of a race.



In all races sailed under Class J, only boats helmed and crewed by persons of GYC Junior Member age group shall be eligible to receive points or trophies, or to have their results recorded in this class. Helmsmen must be a member of the GYC.

A Junior Member may continue to race in that Class for the remainder of the year in which his/her 18th birthday falls.

All Yacht Classes must display sponsors bow stickers where these are provided. Dinghy Classes are also encouraged to display bow stickers.

16. CREW LIMITS (IRC CLASSES)

No crew number or weight limitation will apply when racing in IRC Classes. This changes IRC rule 22.4.

17. ENTRY FEES

Yacht Classes, £18 per race, £60 per series or, for the season, £7 (Class 1) or £3.50 (Class 2) per foot (any fraction of a foot is rounded up) LOA (see GYC Yacht Race Entry Forms on the GYC Website)

Dinghy Class fees are included in Dinghy Park Fees (See Page 12 and Dinghy Park Registration Forms on the GYC Website). Fees must be enclosed with the Entry form and/or Dinghy Park registration form.

Separate entry fees may be required for some events, these will be notified on the Entry Forms or in the Sailing Instructions for those events.

18. HANDICAPS

All handicaps will be posted on the Club Notice Board and IHS handicaps may be changed at any time during the season at the discretion of the Ratings Panel appointed by the Sailing Committee. The decisions of the Ratings Panel shall be binding excepting that an owner or owner's representative has the right to appeal against such decisions, in writing, to the Sailing Committee, whose decision shall be final. For the purpose of such a decision the Sailing Committee shall exclude any member of the Ratings Panel.

19. DECLARATIONS

Yachts timing themselves in must declare their finish times, in writing or by text to 07839 755481 or such other mobile number you may be advised of in the Sailing Instructions for any race or event, or to the Yacht Secretary as soon as possible and in any case not later than 2 hours after finishing.

20. PROTESTS

Protests must be notified verbally to the Sailing Committee as soon as practicable and submitted in writing to the Yacht or Dinghy Secretary, as appropriate, within 2 hours after a boat finishes or should they not finish, after their arrival in port, accompanied by a deposit of £25, which will be forfeited if the Protest Committee consider the protest to be either frivolous or vexatious.

The Exoneration Penalty and the Advisory Hearing and RYA Arbitration procedures of the RYA Rules Disputes Procedures will be available. See the Club Notice Board for details.



Protest hearings will be held as soon as practicable. If the hearing does not take place on the day of the race, notice of the date and time of the hearing will be posted on the Club Notice Board within 5 days, unless verbal notice is given to each party. Protests will be heard by a Protest Committee appointed by the Sailing Committee and three members thereof will constitute a quorum.

21. NOTIFICATION OF POSTPONEMENT OR ABANDONMENT

RRS 27.3 and RRS 32.1 shall be changed as follows,

Up to 30 minutes prior to the first Race Start

a) if between 30 minutes and 90 minutes before the scheduled race, notice shall be posted on the Club Course Board, and in the case of Yacht Classes, shall be announced by radio on VHF Channel 37A (M1),

b) if between 24 hours and 90 minutes before a scheduled start, notice shall be posted on the Club Course Board, as soon as practicable, and endeavours will be made to notify potential competitors by electronic means (i.e. facebook, twitter, email and/or text).

c) notice of any other change to a scheduled race shall be posted on the Club Notice Board not less than 24 hours before the scheduled start time,

d) notice of a re-sail, if any, shall be posted on the Club Notice Board as soon as possible after a postponement or abandonment.

From 30 minutes prior to first Race Start

If the race is postponed, an AP flag shall be flown from the Castle start hut flag staff or the Committee Boat, as appropriate followed by two sound signals. Yachts will also be notified on VHF Channel 37A (M1) and Dinghies by the support boats. At the end of the postponement period the AP flag will be taken down followed by a sound signal with the start Warning Signal occurring approximately 1 minute after the removal of the AP flag.

During a Race

If the race is abandoned an N flag shall be flown from the Castle start hut flag staff or the Committee Boat, as appropriate, followed by three sound signals repeated at two minute intervals three times. Yachts will also be notified on VHF Channel 37A (M1) and dinghies by the support boats.

22. LONE YACHTS

In any Class, two boats are required to start or no race.

23. RISK STATEMENT

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 any event organised by The Guernsey Yacht Club LBG ("GYC"), 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 any GYC 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 any GYC event and they are fit to participate;
- (e) The provision of a race management team, support boats and other officials and volunteers by the GYC does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
- (f) The provision of support boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances;
- (g) It is their responsibility to familiarize themselves with any risks specific to the venue of any GYC event drawn to their attention in any rules and/or information produced for any GYC event and to attend any race and/or safety briefings held for any GYC events;
- (h) 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 crew sufficient in 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; and
- (i) Their Boat is adequately insured with cover of at least £2,000,000 against third party claims.

Neither the establishment of these conditions, their use by the GYC, nor the inspection of a Boat under these conditions in any way limits the absolute responsibility of the owner/competitor. The crew are nonetheless, advised to satisfy themselves as to the experience of the skipper and the adequacy of all safety equipment and insurance arrangements.

24. RACE OFFICER AND ASSISTANTS

Skippers/helmsmen and their crew must take their turn in doing duty as race officers or manning the support boats. Skippers/helmsmen must provide the Sailing Committee with the names of their regular crew on request. Failure to do so may result in the Sailing Committee declining to accept a race entry. It is the duty of Skippers/helmsmen to ensure that they and their crew attend for their duties, or that they arrange suitable substitutes. Failure to do so may result in disqualification of the relevant boat when next it is raced.

25. ROOM AT RACE MARKS

An inside Yacht must be given adequate sea room to manoeuvre at Race Marks A, F, G, J, M, P and R.

26. HARBOUR TRAFFIC

Starts may be delayed for shipping movements. Yachts must respect Harbour Regulations and the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea.

Within $\frac{3}{4}$ mile of the Harbour entrance sailing vessels must not impede the passage of commercial shipping entering or leaving the Harbour. Yachts must keep well clear, particularly of larger vessels in this area, failure to do so will result in the Race Committee lodging a protest under these Sailing Instructions, seeking disqualification. Yachts whose position in a race has been materially prejudiced because they have materially altered course to keep clear of a commercial vessel in a restricted area, may lodge a protest against the Race Committee seeking redress under these Sailing Instructions.

27. RADIO WATCH

All Yachts must maintain a radio watch on VHF Channel 37A (M1) whilst racing. The principal purpose of this Sailing Instruction is to enable the Race Officer to advise Yachts of commercial shipping movements, navigational hazards and course changes.



ETIQUETTE

(In these paragraphs the word Boat(s) means Yachts, Dinghies, Catamarans and Windsurfers)..
Boats which are not racing must keep well clear of Boats that are racing. A Boat is not racing until the preparatory signal is made for their Class and until that time Boats should keep well clear of the starting line and in particular not cross the starting line or anchor on it.

After finishing, Boats should avoid re-crossing the finishing line if possible – otherwise a Boat still racing may be obscured from the Race Officer's view at a critical moment, resulting in an incorrect finishing time being recorded. A finishing gun is only a courtesy signal and does not necessarily indicate that a Boat has won a race or that it has finished correctly.

A Boat (excluding Dinghies, Catamarans and Windsurfers) which has retired from a race should indicate this fact by wearing an ensign at the stern and informing the Race Officer at the first reasonable opportunity.

A Boat which is aware of any vessel or person in peril must render all possible assistance, when in a position to do so. A Boat which leaves a race to render assistance, for however short a time, should report the facts to the Race Officer. Any Boat whose position in the race has been disadvantaged by rendering assistance to another vessel should seek redress by lodging a formal protest. If the Race Officer was advised of the facts at the time, they will be able to offer assistance at the protest hearing. The Sailing Committee will support any Boat which has rendered assistance during or before a race, if its position in that race was materially affected.

Launching is on the basis of 'first come, first served' but it would be appreciated if Boats due to start before other Classes are allowed to launch before Classes starting later, and in this way waiting is kept to a minimum for everybody. Trolleys must not be left on or near the top of the slipway – this is a Harbour Regulation and this and any other Harbour Regulation or Signal must be respected in the interests of the GYC's good name as well as your own.

The Beachmaster has full authority to control the Dinghy Park and to direct launching and members must comply fully with any directive given by the Beachmaster.

It should be noted that all Boats are kept in the Dinghy Park and Rack at the owner's risk and that the GYC cannot be held responsible for any damage, howsoever caused.