**Hardway Sailing Club**

**Sailing Instructions and Rules for Cruiser and Day Boat Racing 2024**

This document covers events that take place both within and outside the harbour.

The Club Notice of Race has been issued and also displayed on the Cruiser Official Notice Board. All boats participating in HSC race events must be familiar with these instructions and rules.

Additions and/or alterations to this document during the season will be displayed on the Cruiser notice board in the club house, and where possible, emailed to owners.

1. **Racing Rules.**
	1. The Racing Rules of Sailing 2021-2024 (RRS) will govern all events except where modified by this Document, and any individual Race Instructions or Notices of Race.
2. **Radio Communication.**
	1. Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make nor receive radio transmissions while racing which are not available to all boats.
	2. This also applies to mobile telephones.
3. **Risk Statement.**
	1. The Risk Statement is published separately and will be made available to all owners who will be required to submit a signed copy to the Sailing Committee / Race Officer before competing. Any boat competing without having submitted a valid form will be scored DNC.
	2. Owners will be responsible for bringing the document to the attention of their Crew.
4. **Discards**
	1. Normally there will be one discard per series, but if 3 or less races in a series are sailed, all races will count. This changes RRS rule A2.1.
5. **Rule 62.**
	1. Any adjustment to a boat’s YTC or NHC rating is no grounds for redress.
6. **Start Times.**
	1. Evening harbour races - Warning (5 minute) Signal 1855.
	2. Sunday harbour races - Warning (5 minute) Signal 1055.
	3. All other races times will be published prior to the event.
	4. A boat starting later than 15 minutes after her Start signal will be scored DNS without a hearing.
7. **The Start.**
	1. Races will be started using rule 26 with the Warning signal 5 minutes before the

start signal.

* 1. Engines must be off before the Preparatory (4 minute) signal.
1. **Start Sequence.**
	1. See the Guidance for CRUISER RACE SIGNALS 2024.
2. **Signals.**
	1. See appendix CRUISER RACE SIGNALS 2024.
	2. Additional announcements may be made by VHF radio.
	3. The Race officers will use the Boards and/or VHF Radio to announce the course. Shortening or altering the course may also be solely by VHF radio. This adds to rule 32.2 and rule 33.
	4. The race officer will use the Lights and Radio for race signals – they may optionally use the flags and boards in support. This adds to rule 26.
	5. OCS boats will be notified by VHF radio and on returning completely to the prestart side of the line. This adds to rule 29.1 in replacing the First Substitute signal.
3. **Start Line.**

**In Harbour:**

* 1. The start line shall be formed by a line drawn through the orange triangles on the club derrick and the roof of the race box.
	2. The Outer Distance Mark (ODM) at the eastern end shall be a small red and yellow spherical buoy, which may not be in line with the Start Line. This mark is identified as ODM on the 2024 Harbour Race Chart. See 21.4.
	3. The Inner Distance Mark (IDM) shall be a small red and yellow spherical buoy positioned just off the end of HSC pontoon, which may not be on the Start Line. This mark is identified as IDM on the 2024 Harbour Race Chart. See 21.4.
	4. For safety reasons, boats are not to pass between the pontoon and the IDM after the Preparation signal (4 minutes). From when approaching the line to start and throughout the duration of the race any boat observed by the race committee passing between the inner distance marks and the pontoon will be scored NSC (Not Sailing the Course) without a hearing, unless she corrects her error.

**Outside the Harbour:**

* 1. The start line shall be formed by an imaginary line between the Committee Vessel main mast or other mast raised for the purpose of starting the race and the chosen start mark for the race unless otherwise stated in the course instructions. The Race Officer may also lay an inner distance mark to protect the Committee Vessel. Any boat passing between the inner distance mark and the Committee Vessel when approaching the line to start and throughout the duration of the race, will be scored NSC (Not Sailing the Course), without a hearing.
	2. The Committee Vessel may commence racing as soon as possible after the start signal, and will be given an appropriate time adjustment.
	3. If there is no Committee Vessel, individual Race Instructions will apply.
1. **The Finish.**

**In Harbour:**

* 1. The finish line shall be between the Outer Distance Mark and the orange triangle on the roof of the race box.

**Outside the Harbour:**

* 1. The finish may be when a single course mark has a specific magnetic bearing, or between two specified marks, or between a Committee Vessel and a mark. Details will be provided in individual Race Instructions.
	2. Elapsed Finish Times, and the position of nearby boats, must be recorded by competitors and forwarded as indicated in the course instructions.
1. **Time Limit.**
	1. Harbour evening races will be 2115hrs. (Unless an alternative is announced on Channel M2, e.g. early or late season races).
	2. Harbour Sunday races: The first boat that has sailed the Course correctly must finish within 2 hours of the start.
	3. Time limits for all other races will be provided in individual Race Instructions.
	4. Boats finishing outside the time limit will be scored DNF, unless no boat finishes, in which case the race will be abandoned.
2. **Courses.**

**In Harbour:**

* 1. Courses are set out on a separate sheet (see appendix CRUISER HARBOUR COURSES 2024), together with a chart illustrating the position of all marks (see appendix HARBOUR RACE CHART 2024), and these form part of the Sailing Instructions. The number of the chosen course may be displayed above the club balcony and will be announced by radio prior to the start of each race. All visual signals are also made from this point.
	2. Except when used as a turning mark all channel markers must be passed on the channel side.
	3. The ODM and IDM must always be passed on the channel side, whilst racing.

**Outside the Harbour:**

* 1. Individual Race Instructions will be produced separately, normally one week in advance. Whenever possible these will be emailed to owners as well as being displayed on the club notice board.
1. **Shortening Courses.**

**In Harbour:** This adds to RRS rule 32.2.

* 1. In some circumstances the Race Officer may record times as boats pass through the line at various stages of the race and at their sole discretion revert back to these times in order to produce a result.
	2. In addition the Race Officer may shorten by broadcasting instructions by radio after the first boat has passed the mark prior to the mark after which the change will take place, or by instructions issued from a boat positioned at one of the course marks. This adds to rule 33 of the RRS.
	3. Visual signals may be made from the race box balcony before the first boat reaches the mark before the altered leg.

**Outside the Harbour:**

Courses can only be shortened at a mark of the course if a Committee Vessel is available or by instructions contained in individual Race Instructions.

1. **Protests and Requests for Redress.**

**In Harbour:**

* 1. Protest forms are available from the Race Officer, and requests for redress must be delivered to the race officer within 30 minutes of the last boat finishing. The protest committee can extend this time if there is a problem with getting people back on the launch or the boat being kept away from HSC. The time of any hearings will be decided by the appointed protest committee.

**Outside the Harbour:**

* 1. Intention to protest or seek redress must be communicated by text to the Officer receiving the elapsed finish times within 30 minutes of the competitor finishing. The Officer will arrange for the completion of the forms, and date and time of any hearing.