



Dabchicks
Sailing Club



2021 DSC Optimist Open

10th July 2021

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

for

Optimist Main Fleet and Optimist Regatta Fleet

1.0 RULES

Racing will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*, current IOCA UK class rules, the Notice of Race and these Sailing Instructions together with any subsequent amendments to these Sailing Instructions.

Competitors should note this event will be conducted in accordance with the RYA Racing Charter and that they will be required to undertake to sail in compliance with the Charter, which can be found at the front of the RYA rule book (Racing Rules of Sailing), or at www.rya.org.uk/racing/charter.

The relevant rules and byelaws of Dabchicks Sailing Club will apply.

2.0 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the event Official Notice Board located at the Dabchicks Sailing Club, at the top of the main staircase.

3.0 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any changes to the Sailing Instructions will be posted on the Official Notice Board and signalled to competitors by the displaying of code flag L ashore for at least one hour before the advertised start time of the race.

4.0 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

Signals made ashore will be displayed on the Dabchicks Sailing Club main mast.

When flag AP (postponement) is displayed ashore further instructions will be given at briefing or on the Official Notice Board. This is an amendment to the RRS Race Signals.

5.0 TALLIES

At registration each sailor will be allotted a tally number. A tally board will be situated at the natural gateway at the top of the slipway. Before going afloat each competitor intending to race shall "tally out" by taking the tally band bearing their tally number from the tally board and place it securely on their wrist or arm.

Immediately after coming ashore, before passing to the landward side of the tally area, each competitor shall "tally in" by replacing their tally band on the tally board.

When the Protest Committee decides that a competitor has not complied with this procedure, the penalty will be a Post-Race Scoring Penalty of 5 places, which shall be applied to the competitor's best (lowest) scoring race of that day's racing.



6.0 SCHEDULE

Registration	09:30-10:15
Safety Fleet Briefing	10:15
Sailors Briefing	10:30
Race 1	12:30 expected - First Warning Signal.
Races 2, and 3	As soon as possible after the previous race.
Race 4	May be sailed if, in the opinion of the Race Committee, time and weather conditions permit.

7.0 SCORING

7.1 Races Scheduled and Races required to constitute a series:

Up to four races are scheduled.

One completed race will constitute a series.

7.2 Scoring will be in accordance with RRS Appendix A using the low point system, A4. Series ties shall be dealt with in accordance with RRS A8.

7.3 There will be discards as follows:

3 or fewer races – no discards.

4 or more races – 1 discard.

8.0 CLASS FLAGS

Main Optimist Fleet Class flag and warning signal will be flag 'O'.

Regatta Optimist Fleet Class flag and warning signal will be flag 'R'

9.0 RACING AREA

The racing area will be designated on the day depending on tide and weather. Competitors are reminded that the race area may be a considerable distance from the launching site and that adequate time must be allowed to reach the race area, taking into account adverse tide and winds.

Competitor's shall follow the navigational instructions of the Safety Boats when sailing to and from the race area.



10.0 THE COURSE

It is intended to run one course for the Optimist Main Fleet and a separate course and area for the Optimist Regatta Fleet.

10.1 Optimist Main Fleet:

The Course to be sailed will be displayed on the Committee Boat at the Warning signal and will refer to the courses defined in Appendix 1.

The target race length will be 40 minutes.

10.2 Optimist Regatta Fleet:

The Course will be advised at the Regatta Fleet Briefing.

11.0 MARKS

Main Fleet Course Marks will be orange or yellow inflatable marks.

Regatta Fleet marks will be confirmed at their Fleet briefing.

12.0 AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS

The following areas are designated to be obstructions:

All moored yachts and motor vessels.

13.0 THE START

Races will be started using RRS 26 with the warning signal 5 minutes before the start.

If two fleets race on the same course there is no specified fleet starting order. The fleet in sequence will be defined by class flag flown at the Warning Signal. Competitors are advised to pay careful attention to the class flag to ensure they start in the correct fleet. Competitors are to keep clear of the start area when another fleet is in sequence.

The starting line will be between the main mast of the Committee Boat displaying an orange flag and the course side of the starting mark.

A boat starting later than 4 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start. This changes RRS A4 and A5.

14.0 Minimum/Maximum Wind Strength

Races will not be started unless the Race Officer, in concurrence with the Safety Officer, is satisfied that the wind strength is suitable.

15.0 THE FINISH

15.1 The finish line will be a line between the main mast of the Committee Boat and the course side of the finishing mark.

15.2 Alternative Finishing Line. The race committee may give a finishing place to any boat as follows:

15.2.1 When a race committee boat displays flag W with two sounds, boats that have not yet finished may be given a finishing place anywhere on the race course, at a nearby mark or not.

15.2.2 When a boat finishes in accordance with this instruction, she shall be awarded a finishing place matching her race position in that race. This changes RRS A5.



16.0 TIME LIMITS

The time limit for the first boat in each start shall be 50 minutes or for subsequent finishers within 25 minutes after the first boat finishes, whichever is later. This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5.

17.0 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

Protest forms are available from the Dabchicks Sailing Club. A boat intending to protest or to request redress shall hail her intention to the Race Committee on the finishing line as soon as possible after finishing and shall have the hail acknowledged. This changes RRS 61.1.

The protest must be delivered to the race office within the protest time limit of 90 minutes after the last boat finishes the last race of the day.

18.0 NOT USED

19.0 SAFETY REGULATION

No boat may go afloat without the permission of the Beach Master and must wear their tallies. Competitors shall wear life jackets or other adequate personal buoyancy at all times when afloat, launching or recovering their boat. Flag Y will not be displayed. This changes RRS 40.

The Organisers may stop a boat launching, or require it to return ashore, if they consider the boat, its equipment, helm or crew are not adequate for the likely conditions, or for any other reason. The decision is final and there will not be grounds for redress. This does not relieve the competitor of their own responsibility for their decision whether to launch.

Competitors in difficulty shall obey any instruction given by a Safety/Support boat crew.

All dinghies must be equipped in accordance with their class rules and have a painter of sufficient length for towing purposes. The painter shall be attached permanently to a towing point and ready to use on all boats.

Identification number labels or streamers if provided at the briefing must be clearly displayed on the boat and on the launching trolley. Other coloured streamers must be removed.

Safety/support boats are allowed to reunite any crew with their vessel should they become parted. In this situation it is not necessary for the participant to retire and no competitor may protest the vessel. The safety/support boat is allowed to assist in righting of the vessel. This is a change to rule 41.

20.0 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

n/a

21.0 SUPPORT BOATS AND PERSONS

Kill cords, if fitted, shall be worn at all times whilst the engine is running.

22.0 RUBBISH DISPOSAL

Boats shall not put rubbish in the water. Rubbish may be placed aboard Support Boats.

23.0 PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded based on the results gained based on the fleet racing.



24.0 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Rule 4 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states: "The responsibility for a boats decision to participate in a race or to continue is hers alone." Where the competitor is a minor this remains with their parent or Guardian. Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event 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 the 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 the event and they are fit to participate.
- (e) The provision of a race management team, safety/support boats, and other officials and volunteers by the event organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibility.
- (f) The provision of a safety/support boat cover is limited to such assistance particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances.

25.0 RISK STATEMENT

- (a) Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk, see RRS rule 4, Decision to Race. Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of Risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:
- (b) They are aware of the inherent element of risk involved in the in the sport and accept responsibility for the exposure of themselves, their crew and their boat to such inherent risk while taking part in the event.
- (c) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore.
- (d) They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions.
- (e) Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate.
- (f) The provision of, actions by, of a race management team, patrol boats and other officials and volunteers by the event organizer does not relieve them of their own responsibilities.
- (g) The Race Organizers shall not be liable for any loss, damage, death or personal injury howsoever caused to the owner/competitor, as a result of their taking part in the race or races.
- (h) The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances.

26.0 Insurance

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £3 million per event or the equivalent.



APPENDIX 1 (BEWARE : THIS MAY APPEAR INCORRECTLY WHEN VIEWING ON A MOBILE PHONE)

Course	No. Laps	All race marks are to port	'Triangles' & 'Sausages'
1	1	1p,2p,3p - Finish	
2	2	1p,2p,3p,1p,2p,3p - Finish	
3	3	1p,2p,3p,1p,2p,3p,1p,2p,3p - Finish	
4	2	1p,2p,3p,1p,3p - Finish	
5	3	1p,2p,3p,1p,3p,1p,2p,3p - Finish	
6	1	1p,3p - Finish	
7	2	1p,3p,1p,3p - Finish	
8	3	1p,3p,1p,3p,1p,3p - Finish	

APPENDIX 1 – (BEWARE : THIS MAY APPEAR INCORRECTLY WHEN VIEWING ON A MOBILE PHONE)

