

EAORA Sailing Instructions - PART 1

(Changes for 2009)

1. RULES

- 1.1. The rules applicable to all EAORA races are as follows:
 - 1.1.1. [Racing Rules of Sailing \(RRS\) 2009 – 2012 with the prescriptions of the R.Y.A.](#)
 - 1.1.2. [ISAF Special Regulations 2008/09 with the R.O.R.C. Stability and Safety Screen Rules.](#)
 - 1.1.3. [The IRC 2009 rules Parts 1,2 & 3](#)
 - 1.1.4. The EAORA sailing instructions – to ensure competitors have as much up to date information as possible these are issued in two parts. Part 1 provides the overall information required to enter a race and Part 2 provides any updated or new information immediately prior to the race.
- 1.2. If there is any conflict with the above rules, the information in the later paragraph will take precedence (e.g. paragraph 1.1.4 overrules 1.1.1).
- 1.3. Exception A - between sunset and sunrise, or between times stated in the EAORA Sailing Instructions part 2, RRS Part 2 shall not apply and is replaced with the IRPCAS (International Regulations for the Prevention of Collisions At Sea).
- 1.4. Exception B - For the purposes of IRC Crew Limitation Rules and Sail Limitation Rules, no race will form part of a regatta. The crew number on the IRC certificate shall stand plus one - with no minimum. Penalty for exceeding the maximum as printed on the IRC certificate plus one will be disqualification.
- 1.5. Steering Aids - automatic, mechanical and wind-vane devices for steering are prohibited while racing.
- 1.6. Interpreting the EAORA Sailing Instructions;
 - 1.6.1. The Race Committee is defined as any person or committee of people appointed by the Organizing Authority to manage each race.
 - 1.6.2. "Shall" is mandatory for competitors, "will" is mandatory for race committee and "may" is permissive for both parties.
 - 1.6.3. Times are B.S.T. when it applies, unless stated otherwise.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1. The Notice of Race for each race in the annual series will be published in the current year EAORA Handbook.
- 2.2. [Amendments to the Notice of Race will be issued as Part 2 Sailing Instructions by the appropriate Organising Authority](#)

3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1. Any changes to these Sailing Instructions and/or Notice of Race will be advised as follows:
 - 3.1.1. Written Changes will be advised by and available from the relevant Race headquarters. The Principal Committee Vessel will indicate any written changes by displaying Flag L over a numeral pennant to indicate the number of the latest change to the Sailing Instructions.
 - 3.1.2. Oral Changes will be announced by VHF only. The Principal Committee Vessel will indicate any oral changes by displaying Flag L over Flag O. In these circumstances all competitors shall make radio contact if not heard and understood.
- 3.2. The Race Committee (call sign "Offshore One") may use VHF radio for all communications with competitors on the water to give instructions or to provide information. VHF Channel 72 will be used unless otherwise stated in Sailing Instructions part 2. The service is not guaranteed except when giving course details. Yachts shall not transmit except as required by Sailing Instructions or in an emergency.
- 3.3. All competitors should monitor the relevant VHF radio channels (see 2.3) at all times during the race and as appropriate before and after each race.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1. [Any signals will be given in the Part 2 Sailing Instructions.](#)

5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 5.1. Races will be scheduled in accordance with the Race Programme as printed in EAORA Handbook for the current year.

- 5.2. The schedule start time for each race will be as given in the Notice of Race printed in the Current year EAORA Handbook. Except EAORA Week, when the schedule start times will be given in the EAORA Week Handbook.

6. HANDICAP CLASSES & CLASS FLAGS

- 6.1. For all EAORA races Competitors will be categorized in the following classes. Class Flags shall be flown from the backstay (or nearest equivalent) when racing.

Class	T.C.C. Range	Class Flag
One	1.036 & above	IC Numeral 1
Two	0.978 – 1.035	IC Numeral 2
Three	0.977 & below	IC Numeral 3

7. RACING AREAS

- 7.1. The racing areas for each race is shown in the Notice of race for each race as printed in the EAORA Handbook for the current year.

8. THE COURSES

- 8.1. The courses to be sailed for each race will be published in the Notice of Race in the EAORA handbook for the current year (courses will be accurate at the time of going to press). Any amendments to those courses will be published in the Sailing Instructions Part 2.
- 8.2. The Principal Committee Vessel may be identified in Sailing Instructions part 2.

9. ENTRIES & IRC CERTIFICATES

- 9.1. Entries will be accepted from monohull yachts that must comply with the “SSSN” Stability and Safety Screening Numeral system (Base Minimum of 15) or STIX rating (Minimum of 23) for each race.
- 9.2. Entries shall be made by (where applicable use the RORC entry form.):
- 9.2.1. completing all parts of the official Race Entry Form available in the current EAORA Handbook and sent with the appropriate race entry fee to reach the Organizing Authority by the published closing date.
 - 9.2.2. Or, by completing the entry form on the EAORA web site, which will be electronically transferred to the organizing authority. Competitors must send the appropriate race entry fee to reach the Organizing Authority by the published closing date.
 - 9.2.3. Competitors who intend to race two handed must clearly state this on their entry form and provide the appropriate handicap.
- 9.3. Late entries will be accepted at the discretion of the Organizing Authority.
- 9.4. The entry fee will be £25 per race unless otherwise indicated on the relevant race entry form. RORC races will be at the prescribed RORC fee. (If not a RORC race a £35 Fee is applied for races finishing outside the UK)
- 9.5. The current, valid, signed and endorsed rating certificate and/or class certificate, or a copy, shall be kept on board at all time.
- 9.6. When a yacht is issued with a revised rating during the season, the owner/person in charge shall notify the Organizing Authority of the next race in which the yacht is expected to compete.
- 9.7. A yacht will race using the rating in force at the closing date for entries for each race, unless the Race Committee decides otherwise at its sole discretion, or when a yacht's first rating is not issued until after that date.
- 9.8. When a published rating is incorrect, the Race Committee may correct it before or at any time after the race.
- 9.9. A provisional entry list of yachts may be sent by post or email to the owner/person in charge of each yacht prior to each race, but this may not be complete or exact. Final entry lists will be made available by the Organizing Authority before the start.
- 9.10. A protest by a yacht concerning the rating of another yacht in the same race shall be lodged at Race Headquarters as per the timescales in paragraph 14 of these Sailing Instructions.

10. SAFETY, ELIGIBILITY AND EQUIPMENT

- 10.1. Every yacht entering for or taking part in any EAORA organized race must comply with the ISAF Special Regulations (Race Category 3 Monohulls with Life Raft) with the additional prescriptions printed in the EAORA or RORC Handbook as appropriate. Inspections and spot-checks will be

carried out at any time by the Organising Authority for each race. When a yacht fails the safety equipment check she will be protested by the Race Committee.

- 10.2. Every owner/person in charge shall have their yacht checked by an EAORA committee member or an approved member of an EAORA member club prior to the first EAORA race of the current racing season in which the yacht competes. An inspection in no way limits or reduces the complete and unlimited responsibility of the owner/person in charge under the Regulations (ISAF Special Regulation 1.02).
- 10.3. A completed checklist signed by the owner / person in charge and authenticated by the EAORA Committee Member/Club Member undertaking the inspection shall be retained on board and a copy shall to be sent to the EAORA Chief Race Officer.

11. THE START

- 11.1. The starting line will be defined in the EAORA Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions Part 2 as appropriate.
- 11.2. The race committee will give a time check signal by VHF radio 10 minutes before the first start using a count-down procedure and display an Orange flag with one sound signal.
- 11.3. Prior to the first warning signal at the start of each race, yachts shall register their participation by passing close to the Principal Committee vessel and make themselves known to the Race Committee, giving details of the number of crew, and receive an acknowledgement before starting.
- 11.4. Retirement - a yacht that does not start after reporting to the Race Committee at the start, or which retires before finishing, shall inform the Race Committee by whatever available means, including VHF radio, as soon as possible, and receive an acknowledgement, failing which she shall inform the coastguard.
- 11.5. Races will be started in accordance with RRS 26 using the 5 – 4 – 1 – 0 minute sequence.
- 11.6. Classes will start at 10 minute intervals in the order Class Three - Two - One.
- 11.7. A yacht whose warning signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area and all yachts that are racing.
- 11.8. When an Inner Limit Buoy is laid near the Committee Vessel on her starting line side, a yacht shall not sail between the buoy and the committee boat after her warning signal has been made. If a yacht has to sail into this area after her warning signal she must return to the pre-start side of the line before starting by sailing round the Committee Vessel.
- 11.9. Individual Recall - when flag X is displayed, the race committee may, using the specified VHF radio channel, give the sail numbers or names of yachts affected. They may also give the information that those yachts have returned correctly. This does not change the responsibility of each yacht to start correctly, and failure to broadcast the information will not be grounds for redress (affecting RRS 62, Redress).
- 11.10. A yacht starting late shall inform the race committee of the intention to race but any yacht coming to the start area later than 60 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS). (Additional criteria with regard to RRS 4)
- 11.11. If a yacht is late starting, she may use her engine or be towed after her preparatory signal to reach the starting area provided that she:
 - 11.11.1. stops her engine or drops her tow as appropriate, and then makes a 360 degree turn before crossing the start line;
 - 11.11.2. does not start until at least 5 minutes after her starting signal;
 - 11.11.3. reports this on her declaration. (This changes rules 41, Outside Help and 42, Propulsion).

12. WHILE RACING & CHANGE OF COURSE

- 12.1. A yacht may use a radio to obtain publicly available information, and may use any method to obtain information about severe weather.
- 12.2. When a yacht uses its engine to avoid collision or in a grave emergency the facts must be reported on her declaration. The Race Committee shall apply a penalty of 10% (minimum 1 place) except when the yacht at a hearing shows that the circumstances which lead to the use of her engine were entirely outside her control (When the penalty may be waived). However the Protest Committee after a hearing shall disqualify the yacht when it judges significant advantage was gained.
- 12.3. A yacht may be made fast by means other than anchoring after her preparatory signal. (This changes RRS 45).
- 12.4. A crew member may join the yacht no more than 30 minutes after the starting signal. In addition to RRS 47.2 a crew member may leave the yacht permanently at any time in the case of an emergency.

- 12.5. When a mark is not seen when passed, a yacht shall make and retain the most accurate record possible of her course and position.
- 12.6. RRS 33 will not apply. The race committee, during a race may change the course at any rounding mark. A committee vessel stationed near the mark will fly flag "C", make repetitive sound signals, and announce on the specified VHF radio channel the course to be sailed thereafter.

13. THE FINISH

- 13.1. The Finishing Line will be defined in the Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions Part 2 as appropriate.
- 13.2. When a yacht finishes at a time when she is required to display navigation lights she shall identify herself by radio to the Race Committee shortly before she finishes or as soon as possible afterwards. The Committee Vessel may show an all-round white light.
- 13.3. When a Committee Vessel is not on station at the finish line, Competitors shall record their own finish time and the position of yachts ahead and astern of them if known. The recorded time and timepiece must be presented to the race committee as soon as possible after finishing.

14. REPORTING

- 14.1. Declarations shall be made on the prescribed form and these shall be lodged with the Race Committee as soon as possible, and not later than 7 days, after finishing. These shall include the following information: Race, Club Name, Yacht Name, Race start date, Race finish date and time, Safety Inspection details, Crew number for the race, Yacht finishing ahead (where known), Yacht finishing astern (where known) and Skipper/Representative signature.
- 14.2. In severe weather, a yacht shall endeavor to:
- 14.2.1. report the position and status of herself and other yachts of which she is aware, at regular intervals to the Race Committee or the Coast Guard as appropriate.
- 14.2.2. keep a continuous dual watch on channel 16 and the specified race channel if possible.
- 14.2.3. repeat messages from other yachts when equipped to do so.

15. TIME LIMITS

- 15.1. There is no Time Limit for any race, but the Race Committee may shorten the course at any mark as per rule RRS 32, Shortening or Abandoning after the start. When a race is not shortened, this is not grounds for redress under RRS 62, Redress.

16. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 16.1. The time limit for lodging a Protest or a Request for Redress is 3 hours after the protesting/Requesting yacht finishes. The protesting/Redress seeking yacht shall notify the race committee by whatever means possible and receive an acknowledgement.

17. SCORING

- 17.1. To obtain any EAORA points a yacht shall, at the time of the race for which points are being awarded:
- 17.1.1. belong, or be under charter to, a member of an EAORA Member Club;
- 17.1.2. carry a valid, current endorsed IRC certificate.
- 17.2. Recasting Results – in races containing yachts not eligible for points under SI 17.1, the points will be re-cast as if the non-eligible yachts had not raced.
- 17.3. Scoring for the Interclub Championship will be on an individual event basis where the points awarded for the overall recast results (see SI 17.7) will be used. Each Club's scores will be the aggregate of the scores from their three highest overall placed yachts in each recast race.
- 17.4. Points for class & overall will be based on a yacht's finishing position and calculated on the E.A.O.R.A. Scoring System as follows:

Place	Points	Place	Points	Place	Points	Place	Points	Place	Points
1	100	8	76	15	64	22	57	29	50
2	94	9	74	16	63	23	56	30	49
3	90	10	72	17	62	24	55	31	48
4	86	11	70	18	61	25	54	32	47
5	83	12	68	19	60	26	53	33	46
6	80	13	66	20	59	27	52	34	45 and
7	78	14	65	21	58	28	51		so on

- 17.5. Did Not Compete - yachts classified as DNC shall score zero points.

- 17.6. Did Not Finish - yachts classified as DNF, DNS or retired after finishing shall be scored points one less than the number of yachts entered in the race, or twentieth place whichever is the lesser number of points. To be recorded as Did Not Start (DNS) the yacht shall have complied with either SI 11.3 or SI 11.10. Otherwise the yacht will be recorded as Did Not Compete (DNC).
- 17.7. Rule infringement - yachts classified DSQ (disqualified) shall score zero points.
- 17.8. Tie Break - should there be a tie of total points between two or more yachts, the tie shall be broken in favour of the yacht with the most first places and should any such yachts remain tied, the most second places and so on. If the tie remains, results from discarded races will be included. Should this method fail to resolve the tie, the tie shall stand as the final placings of the Series. (changes RRS appendix A 8, Series Ties)
- 17.9. Races To Count/Discards - a Yacht may count her best scores as follows:

SERIES	RACES	TO COUNT	DISCARD	
EAORA	12	7	5	
Royal Thames East Coast Championship	5*	4**	1	* See handbook for list of races ** This must include competing in the RORC East Coast Race

- 17.10. Results will be given and displayed by the Organizing Authority as soon as possible after the finish of each race. The Organizing Authority will send a copy of the results to the EAORA Chief Race Officer and Secretary using whatever means is convenient. Individual race and overall results will be published on the EAORA web site as soon as possible during the week following the race(s).

18. TROPHIES

- 18.1. The Interclub Championship will be awarded annually to the Member Club with the highest Interclub Championship points scored during the Season. A yacht shall race for only one club during the season for the purpose of this competition. Should a yacht change hands during the season this rule may be waived provided that the new owner notifies the E.A.O.R.A. Secretary of the date of change. Where a yacht is jointly owned by two or more members of different Member Yacht Clubs, they shall nominate in writing to the Secretary of E.A.O.R.A. the clubs for which the yacht shall race in each event, before the start of the first race of the season. No changes shall be made thereafter.
- 18.2. The Class & Overall Trophies for the EAORA Series:
- 18.2.1. Overall Champion – Blackwater Cup
- 18.2.2. Class 1 Champion – Carmen Cup
- 18.2.3. Class 2 Champion – Barnard Cup
- 18.2.4. Class 3 Champion – Gunfleet Cup
- 18.2.5. One Design/Class Trophies - classes that have three or more yachts who compete in at least the required number of races to count for that Series.
- 18.2.6. The Star Trophy will be awarded at the Committee's discretion for the most meritorious unrewarded performance or service by a yacht or individual during the season.
- 18.2.7. Red Dragon Trophy will be awarded to the winning team in the RORC East Coast Race. First three yachts', from each Club, points count as a team.
- 18.2.8. The Libya Cup will be awarded to the yacht scoring the most points with no discards.
- 18.2.9. The WMYC Colonels Trophy will be awarded by WMYC to the yacht scoring the most combined points with one discard in the Pattinson Cup and Buckley Goblet races and the overall Dabchicks Sailing Club SailEast Event.
- 18.2.10. The MYC David Cole Memorial Trophy will be awarded by MYC to the yacht scoring the most combined points with no discard in the Jane's Cup and Thames Estuary races and the overall Medway SailEast Event.
- 18.2.11. The RBYC David Geaves Trophy will be awarded by RBYC to the yacht who has completed the most race miles in RORC, EAORA and RBYC Williwaw Trophy.
- 18.2.12. The Nore Command Trophy will be awarded by MYC to the yacht scoring the most combined points in the Jane's Cup and Thames Estuary races.

- 18.3. The individual Club trophies given for each race are the responsibility of the member Club and will be retained within the Club as appropriate. This may be for reasons of value or history of the trophy and each Club will decide it's own policy.