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**Contessa 26 National Championship 2021**

**Wednesday 7th and Thursday 8th July 2021**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Portsmouth Tide Times (BST)** | | | |
| **2021** | **HW** | **LW** | **HW** |
| **Wed 7th July** | **1052** | **1553** | **2307** |
| **Thur 8th July** | **1052** | **1637** | **2349** |

**SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

**The Organizing Authority is the Contessa Class Association Limited with support from Royal Lymington Yacht Club.**

1. **Rules**
   1. The event will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing, (RRS)*.
   2. Boats intending to race, racing or that have been racing, may be found to break the IRPCAS if they impede the passage of a vessel (such as a Wightlink ferry) that can safely navigate only within a narrow channel or fairway. A boat that breaks RRS 42 in order to comply with IRPCAS, or for other safety reason, shall report the incident to the Race Committee before the end of the protest time limit for that race. If no racing advantage was gained, there will be no penalty.  In cases of doubt, the Race Committee shall protest the boat in order that the Protest Committee may hear the case and decide any appropriate penalty.
   3. Add to RRS 32.1: ‘(f) for any reason considered appropriate by the Race Committee.’
   4. Competitors and support persons shall comply promptly with any reasonable request by a Race Official.
   5. RRS 44.1 is changed so that the two-turn penalty is replaced by the one-turn penalty (one tack and one gybe).
2. **Changes to Sailing Instructions**
   1. Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted before 0900 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

2.2 Oral instruction or changes to a sailing instruction may be given in accordance with SI 3.4.

1. **Communications with Competitors**
   1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board(s) located at [www.contessa26.net](http://www.contessa26.net) .
   2. There will be a briefing for competitors at 0900 on Wednesday 7th July outside the Haven Bar Restaurant at Lymington Yacht Haven – upstairs on the balcony if there’s space (opens at 0900), downstairs in the car park if there isn’t!
   3. A list of entries may be published on the official notice board.
   4. The following communications may be made by the Race Committee on VHF Channel 28
      * + Time check(s)
        + The approximate location of the Race Committee Boat
        + The use of alternate preparatory signals
        + The courses to be sailed and any changes or shortening
        + The approximate bearings and distances to moveable/first marks
        + The warning, preparatory and starting signals for all classes.
        + Between the warning and preparatory signal, any starting penalty flag to be displayed.
        + Sailing Instruction changes (confirmation of changes posted)
        + Postponements and abandonments
        + Individual and general recalls
        + The intended time of the first warning signal of a starting sequence
        + The times of the first, second and last finishers.

3.5 While racing, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

1. **Code of Conduct**
   1. [DP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with the reasonable requests from race officials.
2. **Signals made Ashore**
   1. No signals will be made ashore. Signals will be displayed on ONB. WhatsApp may be used to notify competitors when notices have been published on the ONB.
   2. When AP is displayed on the ONB, ‘1 minute’ is replaced with ‘not less than 40 minutes’ in the race signal AP. This changes RRS Race Signals.
3. **Schedule of Races**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Race day** | **Number of races scheduled each day** | | **Time of first warning signal** | |
|  | **Class 1 & 2** | **Class 3** | **Class 1 & 2** | **Class 3** |
| Wednesday 7th July | 3 | 1 | 1055 | 1101 |
| Thursday 8th July | 2 | 1 | 1055 | 1101 |

* 1. Subsequent races will be started as soon as practical after the finish of the previous race.
  2. After a long postponement, or to alert boats that a race will begin soon, an orange flag will be displayed with multiple sounds, at least five minutes before a warning signal is displayed.
  3. On Thursday 8th July no warning signal will be made after 1350.

1. **Class Flags**
   1. Class flags will be:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Class / Event | Flag |
| Event | K Kilo.bmp |
| Class 1 | NP 1 1.bmp |
| Class 2 | NP 2 2.bmp |
| Class 3 | NP 3 3.bmp |

* 1. When a visual signal is displayed under the event flag, the signal applies to all boats in the event. This changes RRS Race Signals.
  2. Each boat is required to display the appropriate Class flag on its backstay or in some other conspicuous place. A breach of this Sailing Instruction may be penalised with a 20% scoring penalty applied by the Race Committee without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.
  3. For boats racing under the Contessa 26 Handicap system, any changes to the boat, rigging, sails or equipment that could materially affect the performance of the boat during the series shall be notified in writing to the Race Committee before the start of the next race entered.

1. **Racing Areas**
   1. The locations of the racing areas are shown in Attachment A.
2. **Courses**
   1. The courses are described in Attachment A.
3. **Marks**
   1. The marks are described in Attachment A.
4. **Areas that are Obstructions**
   1. Areas designated as obstructions are shown in Attachment A.
5. **The Start**
   1. Races will be started by using RRS 26 (5-4-1-Go). The warning signal for Class 3 will be displayed at least five minutes after the start for Classes 1 & 2.
   2. The starting line and its location is described in Attachment A.
   3. A boat starting later than 5 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A4 and A5.
6. **Change of Course**
   1. The system for changing the course is described in Attachment A.

Unless there is a postponement or abandonment there will be no change of course after the warning signal for each Class, except as described in Sailing Instruction A10 – Shortening Course.

1. **The Finish and Shortening the Course**
   1. The finishing line is described in Attachment A.
   2. Procedures for shortening the course are described in Attachment A.
2. **Penalty System**
   1. Exoneration Penalty.

A boat that may have broken a rule of RRS Part 2, or RRS 31 (Touching a Mark) or RRS 42 (Propulsion), may, after finishing the race concerned and before the start of a related protest hearing, notify the Race Committee that she accepts an Post Race Penalty - a 30% scoring penalty (SCP) calculated as stated in RRS 44.3(c) except that the minimum penalty is three and she shall not be scored worse than the number of boats that came to the starting area. However, if the boat caused injury or serious damage or, despite taking a penalty, gained a significant advantage in the race or series by her breach her penalty is to retire.

* 1. When a Post Race Penalty is accepted:

(a) Neither the boat nor a Protest Committee may then revoke or remove the penalty.

(b) The boat shall not be penalized further in a protest hearing when the Protest Committee decides that it was appropriate to the facts found and the applicable rules.

15.3 Penalties when injury or damage is caused.

(a)         The penalty for a boat found to have broken a rule of RRS Part 2 in an incident that causes injury or damage shall be:

(i) For the first incident in the series, disqualification, but this may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be not excludable for damage that is more than minor.

(ii) For the second incident in a series, disqualification that is not excludable.

(iii) For the third and subsequent incidents in a series, the protest committee shall act under RRS 69, Misconduct taking the facts of the incidents to be ‘information from any source’ as in RRS 69.2(c).

(iv) If the Race Committee learns, by any means, of an incident in which contact that caused injury or damage occurred it may protest. This amends RRS 60.2(a). Such a protest shall be subject to a 7 day protest time limit after the incident.

For the purpose of this rule, minor damage is damage that does not significantly affect the value, general appearance or normal operation of the boat.

1. **Time Limits and Target Times**
   1. The time limits and target times are as follows:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Time Limit (1)**  **For 1st boat to finish as RRS 35.** | **Time limit (2)**  **Latest time to finish after 2nd boat sails the course and finishes.** | **Time limit (3)**  **Latest time to finish (even if time limit (2) has not expired).** | **Target Time** |
| Class 1 & 2 | 2 hours | 20 minutes | On Wednesday 7th 1700  On Thursday 8th 1500 | 60-90 minutes |
| Class 3 | 3 hours | 60 minutes | 120 minutes |

16.2 A boat that is racing when her time limit expires shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the last boat to finish. This changes RRS A4.2 and RRS A9. The Race Committee may instead use SI15.3, if applicable.

16.3 Boats that do not finish within the time limit may be scored in the order, corrected on handicap if appropriate, that they passed through the last gate or mark at which the race committee are able to establish a finishing order.  The race committee may display flags S-over-N at a mark to indicate that this Sailing Instruction is in force for boats rounding that mark. That mark and the committee boat shall become a gate. This may change the required side of the mark. Such a gate becomes the finishing line for those boats. However, no boat shall be scored better than any boat that completed the full course.

* 1. This Sailing Instruction 15 changes RRS 35, RRS A4 and RRS A5.

1. **Hearing Requests**

17.1 Hearing Request forms are available by request from the Race Officer, Malcolm McKeag 07903 733 888. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered to Mike Harrison at Dan Bran pontoon within the appropriate time limit.

* 1. The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day.
  2. Notices will be posted on the ONB as soon as possible after the final protest time limit of the day to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses.
  3. Notices of protests by the Race Committee or Protest Committee will be posted on the ONB to inform boats under RRS 61.1(b).
  4. Penalties for breaches of rules, except RRS Part 1 and 2 are at the discretion of the Protest Committee.
  5. Rules Dispute Advisory and Mediation Hearings are available.
  6. On the last scheduled day of racing a request for redress based on a Protest Committee decision shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the decision was posted. This changes RRS 62.2.
  7. Competitors shall advise the finishing boat by VHF if intending to lodge a protest or request redress.

1. **Scoring**

18.1 The number of races required to complete a series and the number of discards are specified in the Notice of Race.

* 1. RRS A5.3 (‘long series’) shall apply.

1. **Safety Regulations**

19.1 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the Race Committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

1. **Replacement of Crew or Equipment**

20.1 No authorisation is required for the substitution of crew or equipment, except as required by Class, handicap or rating rules.

1. **Equipment and measurement checks**

21.1 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules, notice of race and sailing instructions.

1. **Supplied boats - not used**
2. **Official vessels**

23.1 The committee vessel will probably be ‘Chinook’ - see Attachment A.

* 1. The mark laying rib will be marked with a white flag bearing the Royal Lymington lentune ship logo in blue

1. **[DP] Support teams**
   1. Support persons shall stay outside areas where boats are racing for the time of the preparatory signal for the first start until all boats have finished or retired or the race committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment.
2. **Trash disposal - not used**
3. **Berthing - not used**
4. **Haul-out restrictions – see NoR**
5. **Diving equipment and plastic pools - see NoR**
6. **Prizes – see NoR**
7. **Risk statement – see NoR**
8. **Insurance**
   1. Each participating boat shall be insured with a valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £2m per incident.

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