

# East Dorset Sailing Club

## Abridged Sailing Instructions for Cruiser Bay Racing

### Season 2019

**1. Rules.** All races will be held under the current Racing Rules of Sailing, the prescriptions of the RYA, the EDSC Sailing Instructions and the Notice of Race.

**2. Alterations to instructions.** The Sailing Committee reserves the right to vary and alter these instructions at any time. Check with the Race Officer before each race for information regarding alterations to courses and sailing instructions. If the race has already started all endeavours will be made to notify the boats of any alterations but the race organisers will bear no responsibility for failure in communication.

**3. Indemnity.** The race organisers shall not be liable for any loss, damage, death or personal injury howsoever caused to the owner/competitor, skipper or crew, as a result of their taking part in the race or races.

A boat is entirely responsible for her own safety, whether afloat or ashore, and nothing, whether in the Notice of Race or Sailing instructions or anywhere else, reduces this responsibility. It is for the boat to decide whether she is fit to sail in the conditions in which she will find herself. By launching or going to sea, the boat confirms that she is fit for those conditions and her crew is competent to sail and compete in them.

The boat is required to hold adequate insurance and in particular to hold insurance against third party claims in the sum of at least £2 million. Nothing done by the organisers can reduce the responsibility of the boat nor will it make the organisers responsible for any loss, damage, death or personal injury, however it may have occurred, as a result of the boat taking part in the racing. The organisers encompass everyone helping to run the race and the event, and include the organising authority, the race committee, and the race officer and patrol/support boats.

The provision of patrol/support boats does not relieve the boat of her responsibilities.

**4. Safety.** The boat is responsible to ensure that she is equipped and seaworthy so as to be able to face any type of weather, that there is a crew sufficient in number, experience and fitness to withstand such weather and that the safety equipment is properly maintained, stowed and in date and that the crew know how to use it. All competing cruisers shall carry a working VHF radio.

**5. Entries.** For Bay Races all participating cruisers shall radio the committee boat or start boat, and radio their finishing times to the Race Officer as soon as possible after the race, unless a committee boat is still stationed on the finishing line. Any skipper who is not able to get back to the clubhouse immediately after the race may telephone the Racing Sec within two - days to advise him of his elapsed time.

**6. Eligibility.** Unless a race is classified as 'open' in the Sailing Programme or in a Sailing Instruction amendment, yachts shall be steered by a member of EDSC or LSC although the helm can be taken temporarily by another hand.

**7. Handicaps.** Every cruiser competing shall have a current Poole Harbour Handicap System certificate. Before participating cruisers shall declare whether they will be racing with or without spinnaker. In the case of a race series this shall be done before the commencement of the series. The craft shall be handicapped appropriately for all races and cannot be changed after declaration.

Cruisers with **lifting keels** shall keep their keels down fully whilst racing or face disqualification. If a cruiser with a lifting keel should run aground and lifts her keel to get off, she shall retire.

**8. Communication.** Race Control will be ' East Dorset Committee Boat' or a named start boat using VHF channel M1 or 37A.

**9. Commercial Shipping.** There is a moving prohibited zone 500 metres ahead of commercial shipping (at least 3 ships lengths) & 15metres to the side of this commercial shipping. Any vessel impeding commercial shipping/passenger vessels whilst racing will be disqualified from that race and will have to appear before the sailing committee who may increase the penalty to disqualification from the series or a ban from club racing for a period that is appropriate to the severity of the incident.

Any vessel finding itself in a position where it may impede a commercial vessel may use its engine to evacuate the danger area and then continue racing. Any vessel taking this course of action shall immediately report the fact to the Race Officer (CH 37 A) who may impose a time penalty if it is felt a gain was made.

**10. Identification/Class Flags.** Cruisers participating in Bay Races may fly either a Class code flag or Code flag E above the club burgee. Class flags shall be removed once a yacht has retired from a race.

**12. Race Officer.** EDSC will set the course and time for cruiser races. If while doing a Race Officer duty your yacht cannot compete in that race due to the duty, then your yacht's average points will be awarded to your yacht for that race.

**13. Starting procedure for Bay Races.** Unless-specified otherwise by the Sailing secretary, a Gate Start, will be used for all Bay races.

The starting procedure

5 minute preparatory signal	Horn	Code E Flag displayed
4 minute warning	Horn	Code E & P Flags displayed together
1 minute warning	Horn	Code P removed
<b>START</b>	Horn	Code E flag removed

Boats shall congregate on the starboard side of the course, to starboard of the start boat's anticipated track. Boats start by sailing on starboard tack across an imaginary line between the stern of the start boat and the starting mark. (see Guidance on the use of Gate starts)

Any boat using its engine after the 5-minute preparatory signal will incur a time penalty of five minutes added to their elapsed time. Unless they are late for the start and have notified the Race Officer.

Any boat finding itself on the wrong side of the course at the start shall have made a false start and may exonerate itself by rounding the Start mark to port. Late starters shall also round the start mark to port before joining the race

P.Y.R.A. starts. PYRA may be using The Rig Shop(formerly known as Vinyl Solutions) mark as a start line. It has been agreed that they will have priority and EDSC boats will keep clear. Should boats from different clubs be rounding the same mark during a race, normal right of way rules will apply.

**14. Finishing line.** For Bay races and in the absence of a committee boat, all boats will take their own finishing time. A boat completes the last leg of the course when she rounds the FINISH mark on the correct side and her bow crosses the extension of the line from the previous mark through the finishing mark.

**15. Time Limits.** To qualify, the leading boat shall finish within the following time limit from the start.

Cruiser Bay Races First boat 4 hrs. All other boats within 5 hrs.

All boats finishing outside these limits will be deemed to have retired. If no boats finish within the time limit, the race will be abandoned.

**16. Retirements.** In the event of retirement from the race:-

**CRUISERS** - Lower class flags and notify the Race Officer by VHF.

**17. Points system.** Points for each race will be awarded as follows:

Position 1st = 1 Point, 2<sup>nd</sup> = 2 points, 3rd = 3 points etc.

Boats starting but not finishing a race will be awarded points equal to the number of starters in that race plus one.

Non-starters and disqualified boats will receive points equal to the number of starters in that race plus two.

**18. Discards.** Boats will be allowed discards as follows:

Number of races held: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14

Races to count: 1 2 3 3 4 5 5 6 7 8 8 9 10 10

In the event of a tie, discarded races will be taken into consideration.

**19. Cancellation.** If the race is cancelled, for any reason, then Code flag 'N' will be flown from the clubhouse when possible.

**20. Protests.** Protests shall be submitted to the Race Officer in writing as soon as possible but no later than two hours after the race.

**21. Results.** Provisional results will be displayed on the race results page of the club website as soon as possible after the race

**22. Race Officers discretion.** All races will be held at the absolute discretion of the EDSC Race Officer and Race Committee