



WARSASH SAILING CLUB

THURSDAY PURSUIT SERIES – SAILING INSTRUCTIONS – 2021



Rules

The RYA Racing Rules of Sailing 2021-2024 including prescriptions shall apply unless amended by these instructions.

A boat will be deemed to be taking part in the event from the time the course flag is flown until she has finished or retired.

Notice to Competitors

The pursuit series will take place on Thursday evenings on the dates shown below. The scheduled time of the warning signal for the sequence begins at 18:40 (BST).

The event is for bona fide cabin cruisers entered by their owners. Entry is open to members of Warsash Sailing Club but guests of members may enter their own boats, providing prior permission is obtained from the Race Officer. Only boats owned by WSC members will be eligible for prizes.

All entrants should make a donation of at least £20 to enter the series, cheques made payable to Warsash Sailing Club (*which will be ring fenced and forwarded to the Rona Sailing Trust Charity*) and enclosed with the entry form.

It is the sole responsibility of each boat to decide whether or not to start or continue in each race.

All boats retiring during the race will notify the Committee Boat. VHF Channel M1 (Ch 37)

Schedule of Races

6 th May	Race 1
13 th May	Race 2
20 th May	Race 3
27 th May	Race 4
3 rd June	Race 5
10 th June	Race 6
17 th June	Race 7
24 th June	Race 8
1 st July	Race 9 & Ladies Race
8 th July	Race 10 & Charity Race

Races 1 to 10 will form the Series. There will be two Classes within the Series: Cruiser Class and the Sportier Class. Please note that Race 9 & 10 will be part of the series, and Race 9 will include a prize for those with a lady helm.

Courses

Courses are as per the course cards and will be indicated by a flag flown on the committee boat.

Start numbers and start time

Each boat will be given her own starting time and this information is provided separately to competitors. Start times will be amended during the series and those boats affected will be informed by email.

Each week the previous week's winner in each class shall start one minute later.

Start Line

The start line will be between the committee boat and Bald Head Buoy.

Starting procedure

All starts will be committee boat starts and the procedure will be:

At least five minutes before the first boat is due to start the Committee Boat will fly the relevant flag for the course to be sailed and this will remain hoisted until the last boat has started.

At 18:40 a sound signal will be made and the time will be displayed on a board on the Committee Boat.

Thereafter the time will be changed at one minute intervals accompanied by a sound signal.

BOATS WILL START WHEN OR AFTER THEIR TIME IS DISPLAYED.

Boats not about to start shall avoid the starting area during the starting times for other boats.

Recalls

It is not always possible to recall premature starters. If a boat starts before her start time and fails to return, she will be penalised, losing five places if she starts less than one minute before her start time or disqualified if she starts more than one minute before her start time.



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Shortening the Course

The course may be shortened by the Committee Boat at the Race Officer's discretion. If the course is shortened the Race Officer will make an announcement on VHF Channel M1(37) and the Committee Boat, flying flag S, will take up station at one of the marks of the course, the finish line will be between the Committee Boat and this mark. In the event that the course is shortened at the entrance to the river, for courses A, B, D, F and G the finish line will be between the Committee Boat and Pile 1, for course E the finish will be the Committee Boat and Pile 2.

Finish Line

The Finish line will be between the Committee Boat and Pile 10 unless shortened.

The Race Officer will set the course with the aim of finishing as many boats as possible at Pile 10, or at any mark of the course if shortened.

If the leading boat does not reach the finishing line by 20:15 the Committee Boat will make a sound signal and announce the race has ended on VHF Channel M1(37).

The Race Officer will attempt to take the position of each boat in the fleet at that time.

Boats racing must record the names and sail numbers of boats immediately in front and behind when the signal is made, or if not heard, at 20:15, and record this information when the declaration is signed.

Postponements

In the event of a postponement, the Committee Boat will announce the postponement, and revised start time, on VHF Channel M1 (37).

The start procedure will begin at the revised start time, with the displayed time indicating 18:40.

Although the time of the start will change the numbers will remain the same. The finishing time will be one and a half hours after the first boat entered is due to start.

Declaration

The entrant or representative must sign the declaration on the notice board near the bar in Shore House by 22:30 hrs on the day of the event. However, this ruling does not apply to those boats that cross the line by 20:15.

Scoring

Points will be awarded according to the RYA low points system:

First	1
Second	2
Third	3 and so on
Retirement:	Number of starters in race +1
Disqualification:	Number of entrants in the series +1
DNS:	Number of entrants in the series +1

Races Sailed

1 – 5	All races to count
6	1 discard
7	2 discards
8	3 discards
9 or 10	4 discards

Trophies

The Vic Croft Trophy will be awarded to the winner of the cruising class with the Sportier Plate awarded to the sportier class. Other prizes will be at the discretion of the race committee.

VHF Procedure

The Committee Boat will, if possible, announce the race has ended by calling "Warsash Pursuit" on VHF Channel M1 (37).

In the event of postponement, the Committee Boat will announce on VHF Channel M1 (37) what time the first boat will start.



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Anchors

Anchors must not be carried on the stemhead fitting whilst taking part in the event; boats seen carrying anchors on stemhead fittings will be disqualified.

Race Officers

Competitors will be asked to run the race officer duties associated with each evening to assist the volunteers. The relevant competitors will be informed before the series commences. If nobody within the crew possesses a current PB2 certificate, a Lobster helmsperson will be provided for that duty.

For a duty performed by a competing crew, the compensation awarded for that race towards the overall series will be equal first place.

RISK STATEMENT

Rule 3 of the RRS states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or continue to race is hers alone'.

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, 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, patrol boats if any and other officials and volunteers by the event organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
- (f) the provision of patrol boat cover if any is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can practically be provided in the circumstances;
- (g) their boat is adequately insured, with cover of at least £3,000,000 against third party claims
- h) sufficient risk analysis shall be conducted to minimise the spread of COVID 19 whilst sailing.