



RHADC Standard Sailing Instructions 2026

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

PREAMBLE

This "Standard Instructions" document is to be read with, and forms part of, the individual Notice of Race (NOR). Regattas may vary these instructions by reference in the NOR, or by Amendments in accordance with SI 3.

This "Standard Instructions" document provides the complete Sailing Instructions (SI), unless modified by, or otherwise indicated in the individual NOR.

The NOR will identify in its Preamble, whether the "One-Design", or the "Handicap" rules will be used, and where alternative rules exist.

SI # SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. MEDIA RIGHTS

Competitors give absolute right and permission to the Organizing Authority; the Host Club; the Bermuda Class Association(s); The Bermuda Sailing Association; and the event sponsors to use, publish, broadcast or otherwise distribute for promotional, advertising or any other purpose, any images and sound recorded during the event of persons and boats free of any charge.

2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to the SIs will be posted before 1700 on the day before it will take effect.

3. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

ONE-DESIGN - *Windward / leeward*

HANDICAP – *Distance Courses*

3.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the Official Flagstaff at the Host Club.

Signals made ashore will be displayed at the Host Club, unless the start is an "RBYC Start" as defined in SI 11.2, when signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagstaff at RBYC.

3.2 When Code Flag "AP" is displayed ashore this means "Racing is postponed, do not leave the dock". The first scheduled warning signal will be made not less than 60 minutes after Code Flag "AP" is lowered.

4. SCHEDULE OF RACES

The annual schedule is as per Addendum 2. Each regatta schedule will be as indicated in the NoR

5. CLASS/DIVISION FLAGS

ONE-DESIGN - *Windward / leeward*

HANDICAP - *Distance Courses*

For windward-leeward one design racing:




Class insignia and flags will be:

Class	Insignia	Flag
J/105		Red Flag with white class insignia
Etchells		Yellow Flag with black class insignia
IOD		Green Flag with white class insignia
Viper		White Flag with red class insignia




RS21		Code Flag "R"
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For windward-leeward handicap races

Division insignia and flags will be:

Class	Insignia	Flag
All		Code Flag "O"
Division #1		Numeral Pennant "1"
Division #2		Numeral Pennant "2"

Division insignia and flags will be:

Class	Insignia	Flag
All		Code Flag "O"
Division #1		Numeral Pennant "1"
Division #2		Numeral Pennant "2"

6. THE COURSES

6.1 The diagrams in "Addendum 1 – Course Card" show the courses, including the course number, approximate angles between legs, order in which marks are to be passed, and side on which each mark is to be left.

ONE-DESIGN - Windward / leeward

HANDICAP - Distance Courses

6.2 a) No later than the warning signal, the RC Signal Boat will display the course number, and the approximate compass bearing from the starting line to Mark 1.
 b) A leeward gate (two rounding marks) will be used. Boats shall sail between the gate marks from the direction of the previous mark and round either gate mark. If only one gate mark is set, boats shall round the single mark to port. The gate may be laid after the starting signal.

No later than the warning signal, the Race Committee Signal Boat will display the course number. As a courtesy the RC may advise the course by VHF 73.

7. MARKS

ONE-DESIGN - Windward / leeward

HANDICAP - Distance Courses

Rounding Marks will be yellow tetrahedral, the start/finish line pin-end will be an orange tetrahedral, the change mark indicated in SI 9.1 will either be a red or green tetrahedral.

Mark "H" is a yellow ITB located in Granaway Deep. Marks for courses 10 and higher may include Government navigation marks, named features on Admiralty Charts and Bermuda Offshore Cruising Association (BOCA) marks. A R/C boat signaling a change of a leg of the course is a mark as provided in SI 12.2.



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8. THE START		
8.1	<p><i>ONE-DESIGN - Windward / leeward</i></p>	<p><i>HANDICAP - Distance Courses</i></p> <p>Races will be started by using RRS 26, excepting pursuit races as identified in the schedule. Pursuit races will be started as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Races shall be started by boats crossing the line on or after their scheduled start time (synchronised with GPS time) as posted on the notice board or advised by the Race Committee. 2. A sound signal may be made for boats that start early, and the Race Committee may hail the boat using VHF, no other signals will be made. 3. Boats not starting shall keep clear of the starting line. <p>This changes RRS 26, 29.1 & 29.2,</p>
8.2	<p>The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the R/C Signal Boat at the starboard end and the course side of the port-end starting mark.</p>	<p>Unless specified in the Notice of Race, the start and finish lines will use a Race Committee Signal Boat ("<i>Committee Boat Start/Finish</i>").</p> <p>For a "<i>Committee Boat Start</i>", the starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee Signal Boat at the starboard end and the course side of the port-end starting mark.</p> <p>For an "<i>RBYC Start</i>", the starting line will be a transit line using the black triangle on the roof of the RBYC and the RYBC flagpole, with RBYC being the starboard end of the line.</p> <p>For an "<i>STGDC Start</i>", the starting line will be a transit line using the flagpole at St. George's Dinghy Club and the "Three Sisters Light, with STGDC being the port end of the line.</p> <p>For a "<i>Princess Start</i>", the starting line will be between the course side of the starboard-end starting mark and the course side of the port-end starting mark.</p>
8.3	<p>A boat starting later than 4 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start, without a hearing. This changes RRS A4.</p>	
8.4	<p>Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races.</p>	
8.5	<p><i>ONE-DESIGN - Windward / leeward</i></p> <p>As a courtesy to competitors, the anticipated starting order will be indicated on the course board in descending order &/or broadcast on VHF 73. Failure to do so is not grounds for redress.</p>	<p><i>HANDICAP - Distance Courses</i></p> <p>n/a</p>
8.6	<p>When Code Flag "W" is displayed with the warning signal, it will mean that spinnakers shall not be hoisted for that class during that race.</p>	<p>n/a</p>
8.7	<p>As a courtesy the R/C may attempt to notify any boat that breaks RRS 29.1 by broadcasting their sail number on VHF channel 73. The following will not be cause for redress: failure of a boat to receive the recall broadcast; a boat's position in the sequence of broadcast numbers; or failure of the R/C to hail a boat's number.</p>	
8.8	<p><i>ONE-DESIGN - Windward / leeward</i></p> <p>n/a</p>	<p><i>HANDICAP - Distance Courses</i></p> <p>For an "<i>RBYC Start</i>", individual recalls may be signaled with one sound signal only, the absence of the display of flag 'X' shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 29.2.</p>



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8.9	<p>[DP] Before the warning signal of her first race of the day, each registered boat shall sail on starboard tack past the stern of the R/C Signal Boat and hail her sail number until acknowledged by the R/C.</p>	<p>[DP] Before the warning signal of her first race of the day, each registered boat shall sail past the stern of the R/C Signal Boat or contact the R/C by VHF 73, and hail her sail number until acknowledged by the R/C. [DP] Boats shall advise the R/C of a change in class and/or sail selection prior to the warning signal, should the regatta provide this option in the NOR.</p>
<p>9. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE</p>		
9.1	<p>To change the next leg of the course, the RC will lay a new mark (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark</p>	
9.2	<p>If the signal is displayed with the Class Flag (SI 5) it will apply to that class only. This changes RRS 33.</p>	
9.3	<p>When there is a change of course prior to the start, the R/C Signal Boat will signal the change with the warning signal of the class starting but <u>without</u> repetitive sound signals. This changes RRS 33</p>	
<p>10. THE FINISH</p>		
10.1	<p><i>ONE-DESIGN - Windward / leeward</i></p> <p>When finishing to windward, the finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on the finishing mark at the starboard end and the course side of the port-end finishing mark.</p>	<p><i>HANDICAP - Distance Courses</i></p> <p>Unless specified in the Notice of Race or Course Card, the finishing line will be the same as the start line.</p>
10.2	<p>When finishing to leeward, the finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on the starboard side of the Race Committee signal boat and the course side of the finishing mark on the Race Committee signal boat's starboard side, except for any race day that only one class is racing – in which case the finishing line will be the starting line.</p>	<p>For a “Committee Boat Finish”, the finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on the Race Committee Signal Boat and the course side of the finishing mark. For an “RBYC Finish”, the finishing line will be a transit line using the black triangle on the roof of the RBYC and the RYBC flagpole, with RBYC being the port end of the line. For an “STGDC Finish”, the finishing line will be a transit line using the flagpole at St. George’s Dinghy Club and the “Three Sisters Light, with STGDC being the starboard end of the line.</p>
<p>11. PENALTY SYSTEM</p>		
<p>The first two sentences of RRS 44.1 are changed to: ‘A boat may take a One-Turn Penalty when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 or rule 31 in an incident while racing. However, when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 while in the zone around a mark other than a starting mark, her penalty shall be a Two-Turns Penalty.’</p>		
<p>12. TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES</p>		
12.1	<p><i>ONE-DESIGN - Windward / leeward</i></p> <p>Boats failing to finish within 10 minutes after the first boat in her class finishes will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF), without a hearing.</p>	<p><i>HANDICAP - Distance Courses</i></p> <p>Boats failing to finish within the time limit will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF), without a hearing. This changes RRS 35.</p>
12.2	<p>All times will be taken from GPS.</p>	
<p>13. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS</p>		
13.1	<p>A boat intending to protest or request redress for an incident that occurred whilst racing shall notify the R/C as soon as possible after retiring or finishing. This amends RRS 61.</p>	
13.2	<p>Protest forms are available at the Host Club. Protests, or requests for redress, shall be delivered to a representative of the OA/RC at the Host Club, within the protest time limit indicated in the Notice of Race.</p>	
<p>14. SAFETY REGULATIONS</p>		



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- 14.1 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the R/C as soon as possible. Use of VHF 73 is permitted for this. For races outside the reef, it is permitted to contact Bermuda Maritime Radio (ZBR) to relay a message to the R/C.
- 14.2 Boats shall comply with the International COLREGS when in proximity to commercial or privileged marine traffic, which will include ferry traffic within Hamilton Harbour. Boats that obstruct the safe passage of commercial traffic are subject to protest under RRS. A violation under this instruction may be considered a violation of RRS 2. The R/C or P/C, upon the report of information or observation of an incident will protest a yacht. This changes, and is in addition to, the requirements of RRS 60.2 (a) and the preamble to RRS Part 2.
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| <p>14.3 <i>ONE-DESIGN - Windward Leeward</i></p> <p>n/a</p> | <p><i>HANDICAP - Distance Courses</i></p> <p>All boats will be expected to comply with Bermuda Government Marine & Ports Regulations regarding safety, including the carrying of VHF radio and flares.</p> |
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- 15. REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT**
- 15.1 Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed unless authorized by the OA. Requests for substitution shall be made to the OA at the first reasonable opportunity.
- 15.2 Unless approved by the OA no boat shall race with any sail numbered differently from that under which the boat is entered. Requests for substitution shall be made to the OA at the first reasonable opportunity but prior to the first warning signal. Failure to notify the OA will result in being scored DNC. This changes A5.1
- 16. EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS**
- A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and SIs. On the water, a boat can be instructed by a R/C equipment inspector or measurer to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.
- 17. ADVERTISING**
- Advertising will be as per individual class rules.
- 18. OFFICIAL BOATS**
- Official boats will display a R/C flag
- 19. SUPPORT BOATS**
- Coaches and other support personnel, including spectators, shall not be in the racing area from the time of the competitors warning signal until the race has finished or the R/C signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment, unless specifically authorized by the R/C as a matter of safety.
- 20. HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS**
- Keelboats shall not be hauled out during the regatta except with and according to the terms of prior written permission of the OA.
- 21. DIVING EQUIPMENT AND PLASTIC POOLS**
- Underwater breathing apparatus and plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used around keelboats between the preparatory signal of the first race and the end of the regatta.
- 22. RADIO/TELEPHONE COMMUNICATIONS**
- 22.1 Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.
- 22.2 The R/C will use VHF channel 73 which will be made available to all boats to monitor. The R/C will endeavour to use this channel to advise of racing being postponed or abandoned.