

GUIDANCE / PROCEDURES TO PERMIT A RETURN TO RACING

APPLICABLE TO: RACE OFFICIALS, RACE CREWS, BLUE FLAG SAFETY BOAT CREWS.

Introduction

Use of the Dinghy Park and foreshore guidelines, and the provision of Blue Flag Time on Water safety boat cover, makes the reintroduction of competitive sailing possible. To respect government and RYA guidelines, the following restrictions and procedures will be adopted to enable limited Club Racing to start, noting that the Club House continues to remain closed.

Communication

Proposed race events will be announced on FIU, will be included in the Club Programme on the website, and will be coordinated via the Dinghy Racing WhatsApp Group. Communication should remind people that Dinghy Park and foreshore Social Distancing (SD) rules are in force and that conservative and considerate behaviour is expected between racers and casual on water users. Racers also need to be reminded that safety boat cover is limited, and is not dedicated to racing.

Registration and Scoring

To avoid anyone having to fill out / handle paper forms, registration will be via a customised race registration page on the website. Results will be recorded by the Race Officer, who will provide electronic copies to the Results Officer for processing, thus avoiding the need for paper transfers.

Timing

Race timings will be aligned with appropriate Blue Flag scheduled sessions, thus benefitting from identified periods with safety boat cover in place.

Equipment

Race equipment will be made available in the Buoy Store, along with a full range of cleaning equipment and sanitisers, soap, wipes, paper towels etc. This is consistent with Safety Boat provisions. The Race Officials are responsible for cleaning their equipment, using the materials provided, at the start of the period, and then ensuring all equipment is returned and stowed tidily back, after the event.

SD with the safety boat crew is to be respected, with only one 'household bubble' team being allowed in the Buoy store at one time. The Starter hut may be used as a matter of choice, with access being limited to the race officials.

Buoy store key arrangements will need coordinating between race officials and safety boat crew, noting that these can be obtained from, and returned to, the takeaway window at the back of the club.

Conduct

Race officials will be limited to RO and ARO who will be from the same household bubble.

To reduce SD infringements, all races will use the Club Line for starting / finishing; ie, no use of committee boat.

To reduce start line boat density, races will be conducted using three fleets as the default. This may be adjusted at the discretion of the Race Officer if competitor numbers are small enough to still allow plenty of space on the start line.

An abridged Club Notice of Race / Sailing Instruction will be produced to cover this restart racing format.

Only permanent race marks will be used, to avoid the need for handling CYC marks and use of support boat.

Courses will be set within sight of the Starter Hut in order to ensure it takes place under the Blue Flag cover. It will be communicated over WhatsApp 1 hour before the 1st race start time. RO / ARO will produce a paper schematic to verbally tell people, although there will be no formal briefing.

Racing will be limited to a maximum of Force 4 conditions. If the wind exceeds this limit for 15 consecutive minutes then racing, as with the Blue Flag, is to be halted.

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