



BEQUIA EASTER REGATTA 2009



SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1.0 ORGANISATION

1.1 The Bequia Easter Regatta is organised by the Bequia Sailing Club. Regatta headquarters are located at the Frangipani Hotel.

2.0 RULES

2.1 The regatta will be governed by the ISAF 2009 – 2012 Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the CSA Rules, and the Notice of Race, except where these are changed by the Racing Information page in the Program, and by these Sailing Instructions.

2.2 The Regatta is classified as Category C under ISAF Regulation 20.3.1.

2.3 CSA Rule A7 (crew weight restrictions) will not apply, except in the J24 Class, where the J24 Class crew weight rule shall be amended to 1000kg.

3.0 SAFETY RULES.

3.1 All boats shall comply with CSA minimum safety requirements. The Race Committee may conduct spot checks during the regatta. Any boat found to be deficient may be protested, disqualified from one or more races, or subject to such other penalties as the jury may decide.

3.2 Anchors shall not be carried over the bow or stern while racing.

3.3 All Classes shall race with a minimum of three crew on board, except for the Single-handed Race on Sunday April 12th.

4.0 RESPONSIBILITY AND CONDUCT.

4.1 Competitors are reminded of the Fundamental Rules of the RRS.

4.2 As a condition of competing in this regatta, skippers and crew accept that they have sole and inescapable responsibility for the management and safety of their boat and crew and that neither the Organising Authority, Race Committee, Jury, Sponsors nor any of their members, employees or representatives bear any responsibility for any loss, damage, loss of life or injury to persons or yachts which may occur, however caused, before, during or after the regatta..

4.3 The skipper of each boat competing in the regatta shall be responsible for the behavior of each member of his/her crew and guests of the boat while attending any official Bequia Easter Regatta 2009 function.

4.4 In the case of any serious breach of conduct, the boat may be banned from further competition in the regatta or future events organized by the Bequia Sailing Club.

5.0 ENTRIES

5.1 Eligible boats may be entered by completing an entry form and submitting it together with a valid measurement certificate (if applicable) and the required entry fee, to the Regatta Registrar by the deadline for entries.

5.2 A valid 2009 CSA measurement certificate shall be submitted for all entries under CSA rule. However, a boat that has been measured but is unable to present a valid copy of the certificate may be permitted to race, provided the conditions of RRS 78.2 are met.

6.0 CLASSES

6.1 Entries will be accepted in the following categories.

Racing Class - Sails must comply with RRS and CSA Rules

Cruising Class I - Sails must comply with RRS and CSA Rules. Spinnakers are not permitted.

Cruising Class II (Fun/Live-Aboard) - Boats may be assigned a temporary handicap based on a limited number of measurements. Spinnakers are not permitted. This handicap is valid only for this regatta.

J24 – One Design Class with Spinnaker.

6.2 Classes and Courses to be sailed by each Class will be determined after the close of registration, by a committee appointed by the Race Committee and Organising Authority.

6.3 The number of Classes and the assignment of a yacht to a particular Class rests solely with this Committee, whose decision shall be final.

6.4 CLASS FLAGS Each yacht will receive a Class flag at the Skippers' Briefing on Thursday April 9th at 1730 hrs. Class flags shall be displayed at all times while racing. Flags shall be flown from the backstay above the level of the pulpit. In the absence of a backstay, Class flags shall be flown from the starboard shroud or signal halyard, at least six feet above deck level. Apart from the class, protest or penalty flag(s), no other flag(s) shall be flown while racing.

<u>Class</u>	<u>Class Flag</u>
Racing	White
Cruising I	Blue
Cruising II	Green
J24	Lilac

7.0 COMMUNICATION

7.1 Notices to competitors and race results will be posted on the Bequia Sailing Club Official Notice Board, which will be at the Frangipani Hotel. A Results board will additionally be located as follows:

Date	Event	Location/time
Thursday April 9th	Skippers' briefing	Frangipani Hotel 1730hrs
Friday April 10th	Post race party	Frangipani Hotel 1730hrs
Saturday April 11th	Post race party	Sailors Restaurant 1730hrs
Monday April 13th	Prize Giving	Gingerbread 1630hrs

7.2 Changes to the Sailing Instructions will be posted by 0800hrs on the day they take effect. Any change to the schedule of races or change of courses to be sailed will be posted by 2000hrs on the day before it will take effect.

7.3 VHF Radio - The R/C will be operating on VHF Channel 06. When appropriate, the R/C may broadcast non-prejudicial information to competitors on this channel. Competitors shall not make transmissions on this channel except in the event of an emergency, or to inform the R/C of retirement from a race or of a protest.

7.4 Time check - The R/C may broadcast an official time check on VHF Channel 06 at 0930hrs each race day, followed by an announcement of any changes to the Sailing Instructions that have been posted.

8.0 RACING AREA AND COURSES

8.1 The racing areas and course descriptions are designated in Regatta Programme pages 5, 7, 9, 11; the J24 Class course descriptions are on a separate sheet in the Regatta Programme.

8.2 In all cases the written course description shall govern over the course diagram.

8.3 MARKS: All course marks will be described at the Skippers' Briefing and these descriptions posted on the Official Notice Board.

8.4 Positions of marks shown in course diagrams are approximate.

8.5 Competitors should be aware that the Admiralty Mark now has an Offset Mark to the Northwest. This Offset Mark must be left to Port by all boats, in all classes, in all races.

9.0 THE START

9.1 The starting line will be between the staff displaying a Yellow Flag on the R/C boat and the nearby mark.

9.2 STAND OFF MARK. A mark or float may be trailed off the stern of the R/C boat. No boat shall pass between the mark and the R/C boat or touch the mark at any time. For the purposes of RRS 31.1 any such mark or float is part of the R/C boat.

9.3 THE FIRST WARNING SIGNAL IS SCHEDULED FOR 0955hrs ON EACH RACE DAY (other than for the Single-handed Race, which will be at 0825).

9.3.1 The J24 Class will be racing different courses from the rest of the fleet, and their start times will be posted separately.

10.0 START SEQUENCE

10.1 Races will be started as per RRS 26

<u>Signal</u>	<u>Flag and Sound</u>	<u>Minutes before Starting Signal</u>
Warning	Class Flag; 1 sound	5
Preparatory	'P' flag or 'I' flag; 1 Sound	4
One Minute	'P' flag or 'I' flag removed; 1 long sound	1
Starting	Class flag removed; 1 sound	0

Times shall be taken from visual signals: the failure of a sound signal shall be disregarded.

10.2 Classes will start in the following order: 1st: Racing Class, 2nd: Cruising Class I, 3rd: Cruising Class II, and 4th: J24 Class (when applicable).

10.3 Additional Classes and starts may be added as necessary depending on entries.

10.4 KEEPING CLEAR. Competitors are reminded of RRS 23.1. Boats whose WARNING signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area, and of official R/C boats. When the J24 Class is using the start line as their finish line, boats in other Classes waiting to start **must** keep clear of the line and of boats still racing, wherever they may be on the course. Boats infringing this rule may be protested.

10.5 RRS 30.1 (Round-an-end rule) will be in effect for all starts, except for the J24 Class.

10.6 A boat in the J24 Class starting later than 5 minutes after her starting signal shall be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This amends Rule A4.

11.0 RECALLS

11.1 Individual recalled will be signaled in accordance with RRS 29.1

11.2 General recalls will be signaled in accordance with RRS 29.2

12.0 SHORTEN COURSE

12.1 Code Flag 'S' over one or more Class flags means: "The course is shortened, designated Class(es) shall finish between the R/C boat and the nearby mark".

13.0 THE FINISH

13.1 The finish line will be between a staff displaying a yellow flag on the beach in Lower Bay and an orange "tomato" mark.

14.0 PENALTY SYSTEM

14.1 A boat may take any penalty under either RRS 44.2 (720 Turns Penalty) or RRS 44.3 (Scoring Penalty).

14.2 RRS.44.3(a) is changed to allow either a Yellow Flag or an "I" flag.

14.3 RRS 44.3(c) is modified such that a protested yacht that acknowledges breaking a rule of RRS Part 2 before the protest hearing, and does not meet all the requirements of RRS 44.3, shall receive a penalty of 40% but not less than 3 places.

14.4 Penalties for protested infractions other than RRS Part 2 are at the discretion of the Protest Committee, and could include disqualification or an alternate penalty.

15.0 TIME LIMIT

15.1 The time limit for finishing is 1600hrs, except for the Monday race when it is 1400 hrs. Any yachts finishing after the time limit will be required to record their finish time and notify the Race Committee. Competitors are reminded of RRS 32.1 and RRS 35.

16.0 WITHDRAWAL

- 16.1 If a boat withdraws from a race, she shall notify the R/C by VHF Channel 06 or, failing this, she shall notify a member of the Race Committee immediately upon reaching shore.
- 16.2 A boat which fails to notify the Race Committee of her withdrawal may be protested and disqualified from one or more races.

17.0 PROTESTS

- 17.1 All protests will be heard by a jury as soon as possible after filing. Protest shall comply with RRS 61.
- 17.2 Boats are required to notify the R/C at the finish line, either orally or on VHF 06, of their intention to protest and of the identity of the boat being protested.
- 17.3 For each Class, the Protest Time Limit is one (1) hour after the last boat has finished the last race of the day.
- 17.4 The time and place of protest hearings and a list of protested boats will be posted on the official Notice Board at the Frangipani Hotel by the expiry of Protest Time. This will constitute notification as required by RRS 63.2
- 17.5 A protest involving contact may be heard by the jury even though the requirements of RRS 61.1(a) have not been met. This alters RRS 63.5.
- 17.6 Measurement protests will not be accepted after the expiry of Protest Time on the first day of racing.

18.0 SCORING

- 18.1 The low Point Scoring System of Appendix A of the RRS will apply. Each boat's series score will be the total of all her race scores. Three races are scheduled for Racing, Cruising I, Cruising II, and six for the J24 Class, of which one must be completed to constitute a series. The Single-handed Race shall not count towards the series score; all other races shall count. This changes RRS Appendix A, Section A2.

19.0 RESULTS

- 19.1 Provisional results will be posted on the Official Notice Board as soon as possible after each race.

20.0 HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS

- 20.1 All boats shall be afloat before the first warning signal on the first day of racing and shall not be hauled out during the regatta except in an emergency or with the written permission of the Race Committee..