



Ras Al Hamra Boat Club

Team Racing Series for the Hobie 16 2014-15 Season

SPECIAL SAILING INSTRUCTIONS REV 02

1. Rules and Management

- 1.1 This event will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 2013-2016 published by ISAF, the Hobie International Class Rules (IHCA) and with particular respect to IHCA General Rules 12.3, 17.2 & 27 and by the RAHBC Special Sailing Instructions (SSI) for the Team Racing Series.
- 1.2 Rule 7.1 of the Hobie 16 Class Rules shall be changed as follows: replace 285lbs (129.3kg) with 299.7lb (135.0kg) the remainder of Hobie 16 Class Rules shall apply.
- 1.3 In the region of 5 knots of wind speed is recommended to start a race; however the OOD shall consider the prevailing tidal / current effect / sea state and may increase or decrease this minimum value at his or her sole discretion. Once a race is started the recommended minimum wind speed value stated does not apply.
- 1.4 The designated team shall provide Officers of the Day (OODs), the Sailing Section of the Ras al Hamra Boat Club (RAHBC) and their appointed members will manage the Team Race Series.

2. Racing Area

The Racing Area will be in close proximity to and generally to the North of Ras Al Hamra Recreation Club.

3. Changes to the Special Sailing Instructions and Race Schedules

- 3.1 Any changes to the Special Sailing Instructions (other than the Racing Schedules) will be posted before 08.30 hrs on the day it will take effect.
- 3.2 Any change in the first scheduled Starting Time will be posted 72 hours before it will take effect.

4. The Course and Marks

- 4.1 One Course Area will be used.
- 4.2 A diagram of the courses showing the position of the marks and the starting and finishing lines, the order in which the marks are to be rounded, the side on which each mark is to be left and a description of the marks will be shown on the Notice Board.
- 4.3 The Race Committee may replace a missing mark with any mark or vessel displaying Flag M.
- 4.4 The OOD shall display a board or number detailing the course identification:

Course 1: Start, A, B, Finish

Course 2: Start, A, B, A, B, Finish

Course 3: Start, A, B, A, B, A, B, Finish

All rounding marks to port



5. Classes

Only open to the Hobie 16 catamaran without spinnaker.

6. Prizes

Trophies or prizes will be awarded for the following teams:

- First Place
- Second Place
- Third Place

At the sole discretion of the organisers they may award additional prizes. Prize giving will be at the end of last Team Race Day of the season scheduled and held at the Ras al Hamra Boat Club.

7. Registration

Teams shall register before the first team race of the season. New teams may join during the season; any new team that joins through the season will be scored DNC as per Para 18.6 for all races prior to their registration.

8. Schedule of Races

8.1 10 Team Race Days are planned; each team race day is planned to consist of two pools with three races each. However, each pool may consist of 1, 2 or 3 races at the OOD's discretion.

8.2 The last Team Race in June may be held over two days, with Pool 1 Teams competing on Day 1 and Pool 2 teams competing on Day 2. The plan is to hold two long distance races to and from Bander Jissah if weather conditions permit. The Commodore decision is final in this regard to whether these races are held as long distance races or as normal races at PDO club area. The result of both Pools will be combined as a One Team Race Day result.

8.3 A minimum of three races from Pool 1 or Pool 2 or combination of pools are required to be completed to qualify a Team Race Day.

8.4 A minimum of three Team Race Day results are required to be completed to qualify a Team Racing Season and award prizes.

8.5 Briefings:

Before starting Pool 1 the assigned OOD or his / hers representative will hold a short briefing explaining the "flag" start sequence, early starters recall, general recall, back to back flags. This briefing will be at 10:30 on the boat club the bridge (above the terrace area).

All other notices shall be posted on the Official Notice Board on the boat club bridge.

8.6 Start Times:

Pool 1: The first race of pool 1 will not start before 12:00 noon.

Pool 2: The first race of pool 2 will not start before 14:00.



9. Start Sequence:

Each start sequence will be as follows: -

- | | | |
|----|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| -5 | Hobie Class Flag up | Sound Signal Warning |
| -4 | Flag P, I, or Black flag up | Sound Signal Preparatory |
| -1 | Preparatory Flag down | Sound Signal One Minute |
| 0 | Hobie Class Flag down | Sound Signal Start |

NOTE: Flag L will be displayed on the Finish Line to indicate that the races are back-to-back.

If Flag L is not flying than all teams are required to return to shore after finishing.

10. Start Signals

- 10.1 Signals will be made from the Race Committee boat stationed at the starboard end of the line **or** from the Shore Bridge should weather conditions dictate. Changes to Committee Start location and revised Course's will be advised on the official notice board.
- 10.2 The start line will be between a mast of a vessel or a staff on the Race Committee boat, which will be identified by the display of a Red Flag, and the Outer Distance Mark (ODM). The Race Committee boat will be stationed at the starboard end of the line and the ODM will be laid at the port end of the line.
- 10.3 An inner distance mark (IDM) may be laid near the Race Committee boat. No part of any boat shall sail in the triangle created by this mark and the extremities of the adjacent committee boat whilst racing. This prohibited area does not rank as an obstruction when approaching the line to start and the IDM shall rank as a starting mark for the purpose of RRS 18.1 (a).
- 10.4 Starting boats must pass inside the ODM & IDM that delineates the length of the start line.
- 10.5 A boat shall not start later than 4 minutes after the start signal. A boat failing to start within this prescribed time limit shall be scored as "Did Not Start" (DNS).**
- 10.6 If in any start there are premature starters, Flag X will be displayed on the Race Committee boat immediately following the start signal and one sound signal will be made. It will be the responsibility of each team to determine whether they have started correctly.
- 10.7 Flag X will be lowered when all premature starters have returned correctly to the pre-start side of the line or four minutes after start signal, whichever is the earlier.

11. General Recall

A General Recall will be indicated by the display of Flag '1st Substitute' and two sound signals. After the removal of Flag 1st Substitute and one sound signal the warning signal will be made approximately one minute later.

12. Shortened Course

The shorten course signal, Flag S, will be flown on an official boat before the first boat rounds the "new" last mark of the course. The first boat shall then round the "new" last mark as described in the sailing instructions and proceed directly to the finish. **(This modifies RRS 32.2).** When crossing a shortened course finish line, the onus is on the boat to decide whether or not it has completed the shortened course.



13. Finish

- 13.1 The finish line will be between a mast of a vessel or a staff on the Race Committee boat, which will be identified by the display of a Blue Flag, and the ODM. **The IDM is not mark of the course when finishing.**
- 13.2 In the case of an emergency the committee boat may leave the finish line at any time, should this occur all boats shall continue racing the prescribed course. Before leaving the course the OOD shall lay a replacement mark to form a finish line between the ODM and the placed new mark. All boats shall record their own finishing place and elapsed time.

14. RRS Penalty System

A penalty turn comprising of one tack and one gybe may be completed instead of the specified two tacks and two gybes penalty to comply with RRS 44.1 & 44.2. **15.**

15. Time Limit

- 15.1 The time limit will be 1 hour for the first team to cross the finishing line after her starting signal.
- 15.2 Team(s) failing to finish within 15 minutes of the first Team may be scored a result to reflect her actual position on the water at this particular elapsed time. This is at the sole discretion of the OOD. **(This modifies RRS 35)**

16. Damage to Boats – Applicable to RAHRC Teams using RAHBC Boats

Should a catamaran sustain damage whilst racing or in transit to or from the racing area then for the next race or number of races the offending helm / crew shall transfer their boat allocation rights to cover the withdrawn boat. This will apply until repairs are affected to the satisfaction of the Race Committee.

17. Protests

Any protest or protest procedure shall be carried out as in Part 5 of RRS.

18. Scoring

- 18.1 The Low Point Scoring System in accordance with RRS Rule A4 shall apply.
- 18.2 Each Team that finishes a Race and not thereafter retiring or being disqualified will score points as follows:

Finishing Place	Points
1st	1
2nd	2
3rd	3
4th, 5th, 6th, etc	4, 5, 6, etc

- 18.3 A team in breach of Rule 29.1 on the course start before the start signal as denoted by the preparatory flag the (OCS), or not starting i.e. attempted to go to the starting area (DNS), or not finishing (DNF), or retiring (RTD) or disqualified (DSQ) will be scored with one more point than the number of boats entered for that particular race. **(This modifies RRS A4.2)**
- 18.4 Team(s) that are disqualified non excludable (DNE) will be scored with five more points than the number of Teams entered for the Team Race Series. **(This modifies RRS A4.2)**



18.5 The following sailing penalty points will be added to any team / sailor for the following infringements.

Note, **Any helm's "first" time on the water is their qualifying race(s).**

Infringement

Penalty points per race

A Team's failure to have at least 2 race officials on the start boat during racing 2 Points

A sailor that helms a second time in any pool for their own team or any other team 2 Points

A sailor failing to sign on for any pool (legible full names required) 2 Points

These penalty points will be allocated on a per race basis

Non penalty actions

A sailor that crews a second time in any pool for their own team or any other team 0 Points

A sailor that crews and then helms in any pool for their own team or any other team 0 Points

A sailor that helms and then crews in any pool for their own team or any other team 0 Points

18.6 A Team that fails to come to the starting area shall be scored a DNC and will be scored 5 additional points per race plus the number of teams entered for the Team Race Series or the number of boats sailing that particular race whichever is the greater. Should additional teams register during the season, then the penalty points assigned to Teams prior to their participation, shall remain as originally computed. (This modifies RRS A4.2)

18.7 Each team's race results on the day will be computed as one gross total of points. If there are any additional penalty points as described in para 18.5 & 18.6, these shall be added to the team's gross total to create a final total. Teams will then be ranked on the day and their gross score will be accumulatively calculated throughout the season. .

18.8 If four or more Team Race Days are completed then one Team Race Day result may be discarded, but not a Team Race day that includes a DNE.

18.9 All boat, crew weight and equipment violations may additionally be protested under RRS 2 (Fair Sailing) and will be scored under DNE – Disqualified Not Excludable. Whenever possible, competitors will be warned of potential equipment violations on the beach before racing when observed by other competitors, the jury, or Team Race Series officials.

18.10 In the event of a tie for any final position, the winner on each Race Day and at the end of the Series will be decided in accordance with Appendix A of the RRS.

19. Lifejackets / Buoyancy

Adequate personal buoyancy is to be worn at all times in accordance with RRS 40 except that Flag Y will not be flown. Non-compliance will result in a disqualification not excludable, (DNE). Wet suits and trapeze harness are not adequate personal buoyancy unless designed to include a buoyancy aid.

20. Sign on / Sign off

Teams are required to Sign on for each pool.

21. Insurance

All competitors and vessels must be covered by a minimum of Third Party liability insurance which shall cover competitive racing and recreational sailing.



22. Disclaimer

Competitors sail entirely at their own risk. Neither, RAHRC, RAHBC, or the OOD, nor its members, event sponsors, officers, committees or volunteers accept any liability for damage, accident, injury or loss, material or personal, suffered during the course of the Team Race Series, or at any other time. It is the sole responsibility of each competitor to decide whether to start, or continue to race. A detailed disclaimer form shall be signed by every competitor / guardian when competing in the Team Race Series.