

PIPER OWNERS' ASSOCIATION

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PIPER CLASS CHAMPIONSHIPS 2017 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 1 RULES** Races will be governed by the Rules of Sailing 2017-2020 (RRS), any relevant appendices, the RYA Prescriptions, the Piper O.D. Class Rules, the General Sailing Instructions for racing at Gourrock, and these Sailing Instructions. Paragraphs 3,4,12,13, 14,15,17,21,&22 of the Gourrock Instructions do not apply. The Organising Authority is RGYC, in association with HLSC.
- 2 THE SERIES** will consist of 6 races. The intention to run another race will be signalled by the display of IC Flag 'E' at the finish of the preceding race. Racing may take place with an onshore start. In this event IC Flag 'O' will be displayed at the Clubhouse, and/or on the Committee Vessel.

Discards For the Trophies awarded separately for each day's racing, 2 races will count on each day. For the overall Championship, if 6 races are sailed – 2 discards, 5 races sailed – 1 discard, otherwise all to count.

3 TIMES AND SIGNALS

CLASS	START	SIGNAL
PIPER OD	11.00	NN2

Starting procedure, RRS 26. RRS Appendix A4 Low Point System will apply re scoring.

A Time Signal will be made 5 mins before the warning signal of each race.

No yacht will start later than 15 minutes after the valid starting signal.

- 4 SHORE START COURSES** Group **C** of the Standard Course table will be used. Where the Course Number is displayed with:
- Letter X- Group A will be sailed
 - Letter Y- Group B will be sailed
 - Letter Z- Group D will be sailed

The RGYC General Sailing Instructions, Course Chart and Key to Racing Marks, and Standard Course Table, can be downloaded from the RGYC Website, www.rgyc.org.uk, Yearbook 2017.

5 OFFSHORE START COURSES

RACE AREA This will be in the Firth of Clyde in the area bounded by the Cowal, Ashton and Kilcreggan shores.

COURSES

Orange/yellow inflatable marks will be laid as required and left in the order:

1. Start -W - L -W - L - W - L - Finish
2. Start -W - G - L - W - L - W - G - L - W - L - Finish

The length of the windward leg will be determined by the wind strength apparent and/or forecast.

All marks will be left to port, unless a green flag is displayed by the Committee Vessel (C/V), in which case all marks will be left to starboard.

RRS 33 will apply when changing a leg of the course. The signalling vessel may clear the mark after the first three boats have rounded.

STARTING LINE This will be between the leeward Mark 'L' and a temporary mark.
FINISHING LINE This will be between Mark 'W' and the mainmast of the C/V, or Mark "W" and a temporary mark

- 6 TIME LIMIT** In alteration to RRS 35 there will be a Fixed Time Limit of two and a half hours for each race. If by the "Fixed Time Limit", no yacht has finished, but one or more yachts have completed one or more legs of the course, then the results will be taken from the position of the yachts at the end of the last completed leg, without regard to any subsequent event. Until the expiry of the 'Fixed Time Limit' all yachts are racing.

If, however, no yacht has completed one leg of the Course, then the race will be abandoned. If one or more yachts have completed one or more legs before the 'Fixed Time Limit', then the 'Time Limit' will be extended by 15 minutes for all other yachts. .

If any yachts are considered by the Race Officer to be still racing at the "Fixed Time Limit", two sound signals will be made, and the Class Flag will be hoisted. If by the completion of the 'Extension', any yachts are still considered to be racing, then two sound signals will be made, and all flags lowered.

- 7 TROPHIES** A trophy will be awarded for each individual day's racing. The Class Trophy will be presented to the cumulative winner for the two days. See Paragraph 2 re format.

- 8 PEELPORTS RESTRICTIONS & COMMUNICATIONS** "Narrow Channels"- Competitors' attention is drawn to Paragraph 19 of the General Sailing Instructions for Racing at Gourrock, and Paragraph 12 of the General Sailing Instructions for racing at HLSC. Particular attention should be paid to the byelaw prohibiting yachts and other craft from manoeuvring within 100 metres of any Ferry Terminal. Any boat reported to be in breach of this byelaw by the Ferry Operator, a fellow competitor, or a third party, will be proceeded against by the Race Committee, and may be disqualified. The same conditions will apply to any boat hindering the passage of a Western Ferries or Argyll Ferries vessel, plying between their respective terminals. RRS 41 applies vis a vis communications, particularly with respect to mobile phones, now carried with few exceptions, on all boats. This also applies to VHF radios.
- 9 LIABILITY** The acceptance of these sailing instructions in no way limits or reduces the complete responsibility of the Owner/Skipper, racing the boat, for his/her crew, boat equipment, and the management thereof. Attention is drawn to the declaration appearing on the Entry Form which has to be signed by all helmpersons confirming the carrying of third party liability insurance of at least £2,000,000. It also confirms that the RYA Risk Statement, which appears in Paragraph 19 of the RGYC Sailing Instructions, and Paragraph 14 of the HLSC Sailing Instructions, has been read, and crew members have been made aware of this Statement. RRS Appendix J refers. RGYC and HLSC disclaim any and every responsibility for the loss, damage, injury, or inconvenience, to persons, vessels, or associated aspects, howsoever arising, directly or indirectly, ashore or afloat, from their policy, rules or rulings, during the races, and related activities.
- 10 PROTESTS** In alteration to RRS 61.3, protests shall be lodged with the Race Committee immediately on coming ashore at the end of the day's racing. The hearing will be held in the Clubhouse as soon as possible thereafter, or at such a time and venue as mutually agreed by the parties involved. The RYA Arbitration, Advisory Hearing, and Exoneration Penalty procedures will be available. Decisions from RYA Arbitration can be referred to a Protest Committee, but cannot be reopened or appealed
- 11 RAFT RACE** Competitors are advised that on Saturday 12th, a Raft Race is taking place along the shore, in the vicinity of RGYC Clubhouse. The vast majority of participants in this event are **NOT** sailors, and their craft are limited in their ability to manoeuvre. Should you find yourself in their vicinity, the widest possible berth should be given, at the earliest.