



NECRA Whitby to Hartlepool Offshore Race



Sunday 24th May 2020

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Rules

The event will be governed by RRS 2017-2020, the prescriptions of the RYA, the IRPCS, NECRA rules and these Sailing Instructions.

2. Risk Statement

Rule 4 of the ISAF Racing Rules of Sailing states: “The responsibility for a boat’s decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone.” Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:

- a) They are aware of the inherent element of risk involved in the sport and accept responsibility for the exposure of themselves, their crew and their boat to such inherent risk whilst taking part in the event;
- b) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;
- c) They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;
- d) Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
- e) The provision of a race management team, patrol boats, umpires and other officials and volunteers by the organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
- f) The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances;
- g) For offshore races: They are responsible for ensuring that their boat is equipped and seaworthy so as to be able to face extremes of weather; that there is a crew in sufficient number, experience and fitness to withstand such weather; and that the safety equipment is properly maintained, stowed and in date and is familiar to the crew;
- h) Their boat is adequately insured, with cover of at least £2 million against third party claims, which must include racing.

The safety of a boat and her entire management, including insurance, shall be the sole responsibility of the owner/person in charge, who must ensure that the boat and crew are adequate to face the conditions that may arise in the course of the race.

3. Disclaimer

Neither these Sailing Instructions nor any inspection of the boat limits or reduces the absolute responsibility of the owner/person in charge for the crew, the boat and her management. Every owner/person in charge warrants the suitability of the boat for the race or races and that the boat contains at least the minimum safety equipment specified by NERR/NECRA. By participating in this event each competitor agrees to release the race organizers from any and all liability associated with their participation in this event to the fullest extent permitted by law.

4. Conditions of Entry

- a) Boats must be registered with NECRA prior to the start of this event.
- b) Each boat shall hold a valid NERR rating certificate.
- c) Boats must be adequately insured.
- d) All yachts shall comply with the ISAF Offshore Special Regulations 2018 – 2019 Cat4 Monohulls. All courses are designated category 4.
- e) The wearing of lifejackets is strongly recommended for all events but is **compulsory** for any race where sails need to be reefed or during the hours of darkness.
- f) ISAF Cat 4. Liferrafts are strongly recommended.
- g) Boats may be inspected before or after racing.

5. Intention to Race

Prior to the event boats should indicate their intention to race on the NECRA website. On the day boats **must** indicate their intention to race by notifying the race station on channel M1. This notification must include the boats class and the number of people on board.

6. Classes

Boats will compete in one of the three classes below:-

Class 1 – boats with a NERR rating of TCF 0.9000 and above.

Class 2 – boats with a NERR rating of TCF below 0.9000

Class 3 - is designated a 'white sail' class. Boats in this class shall not use a spinnaker and their non-spinnaker NERR rating will be used to calculate the results

Boats are required to fly the appropriate numerical pennant from their backstay.

7. Notice to Competitors

Notices to competitors will be posted in the Whitby YC and on the NECRA website.

8. Changes to Sailing Instructions

Any changes to Sailing Instructions will be posted on the WYC notice board not later than 90 minutes before the scheduled race.

9. Schedule of Races

	Class	Warning	Start
Sunday 24th May	All Classes	09:55	10:00

10. Tidal Times

Whitby Tidal times BST

Hartlepool Tidal times BST

Whitby Tidal times BST				Hartlepool Tidal times BST			
Sun 24th May				Sun 24th May			
	0543	1159		1143	1744		
	5.41m	1.31m		1.01m	5.10m		
Bridge	0930						

11. Starting Sequence

Signal	On the water – VHF Ch.M2	From the WYC race station
Warning signal (5 minutes to start)	10sec Count down	One green light
Preparatory signal (4 minutes to start)	10sec Count down	One green and one white light
1 Minute to start	10sec Count down	One green light
Start	10sec Count down	All lights extinguished

These WYC light signals may be supplemented by a countdown on VHF Ch.M1.

12. Recalls

Signal	On the Water	From the YC
Individual recall	VHF Ch. M2	One red light
General recall	VHF Ch. M2	Two red lights

13. Postponement

Will be indicated either by 2 red lights from the race office or on M2. The new start time will be broadcast on VHF Ch.M1 and/or M2.

14. Starting Line

A transit line between white triangles mounted above and behind the Race Station and WYC Race Mark "A", the Outer Limit Mark.

The Race Station is a white hut on the West Cliff about 200m NW from Whitby Harbour.

Mark "A" is a 1.5m x 0.6m cylinder, approx. $54^{\circ} 29.813N$ $000^{\circ} 36.98W$ (Datum WGS84)

15. Course

Start (South East to North West).

Tees Channel 1 & 2 buoys (Port) Red & Green buoy at approx. $54^{\circ} 40.39' N$, $001^{\circ} 07.37' W$.

Longscar Bell (Port) at approx. $54^{\circ} 40.86' N$, $001^{\circ} 09.92' W$.

THYC H (Port) orange buoy at approx. $54^{\circ} 41.39' N$, $001^{\circ} 11.1' W$.

THYC Finish Line (North to South).

16. Finishing line

Between the inner and outer yellow buoys 200m and 400m from the Middleton south pier on a transit between the white pole at the end of the pier carrying red harbour lights and the inner yellow buoy 200m east from the breakwater.

The race station could be unmanned so there will be no lights. Own times should be taken and notified to

THYC NECRA representative text 07976 938064, email honsec@necra.co.uk

Finish times must be notified no later than 2 hours after the time limit or the entrant will be deemed as DNF.

17. Course Amendments

The course may be amended. An announcement will be made via VHF Ch.M1. The OOD will attempt to confirm by VHF that each competitor is aware of the amendments. However, the onus is on competitors to monitor VHF Ch.M1 for such announcements.

18. Continuous Obstructions

Uppang Rocks

Attention is drawn to the fact that an area of rocks extends well offshore from Uppang Ravine, west of the Race Station, at Whitby, as charted. They are weed covered and have a charted depth of 1 metre at CD with seas breaking on them in strong N winds. (LW approach likely).

Tees Bay Wind Farm Safety Zone

Is designated as a continuous obstruction and must not be entered when racing.

Wind farm North $54 39.55N$ $001 06.04W$

Wind farm East $54 38.38N$ $001 03.87W$

Wind Farm South $54 38.07N$ $001 05.18W$

Wind Farm West $54 39.02 N$ $001 07.26W$

The Tees and Hartlepool Channels

Are designated as continuous obstructions and must not be entered when racing. Commercial shipping in many cases is constrained by draft and cannot take action to avoid collision.

Traffic leaving or entering these areas might require to alter course unexpectedly. If in doubt about ship movements please call Tees VTS on channel 14.

19. Time Limit 1800 Sunday 24th May.

20. Retirement

Any boat retiring from the race must inform NECRA representative by text message on 07976 938064 or e-mail honsec@necra.co.uk

21. Penalties

If a yacht contravenes a rule of part 2 of RRS while racing she may exonerate herself by taking a 720° turns penalty in accordance with RRS44.

22. Protests

Protests must be advised to OOD by VHF Ch.M2 and protest forms handed in to THYC race office as soon as practical after the finish of the last boat.

23. Radio Communication

A boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile phones. WYC “Whitby Race Control” will address all racing yachts as “NECRA fleet.”

24. Scoring

Race results will be calculated using boats' NERR ratings as shown in the registered details on the NECRA Website at the time of the event.

NECRA scoring will be as RRS Appendix A using low points.

For the Offshore Series boats will score their best results from half of the races to count, rounded up to the nearest whole number.