1. **RULES**

Racing will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).

1. **NOTICES TO COMPETITORS**

Notices to Competitors will be posted on the notice board located on the club pontoons.

1. **CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

Changes to Sailing Instructions will be posted on the official notice board ( in the Kon-Tiki on the pontoons) at least 10 minutes before the warning signal of the race in which they take effect. The L flag will be flown.

1. **HANDICAP RACES**

4.1 All boats racing in handicap races shall sail to their Portsmouth Number and have their time corrected accordingly.

4.2 At its discretion, the regatta committee may allocate a special Portsmouth Number to a boat, which the boat must sail for the entire regatta. All such numbers will be posted on the notice board in the Kon-Tiki on the pontoons.

1. **ENTRIES**

A boat will be entered in all the races that it its eligible to take part in taken from the class declared on entry.

1. **SCHEDULE OF RACES**

6.1 Regatta race schedule will be published on the Norfolk Punt Club website and Facebook page and the regatta WhatsApp group

6.2 Starts will not be any earlier than those published, but may be later

6.3 The race committee reserves the right to change the racing programme with all notices / changes being posted in the Kon-Tiki , on the pontoons.

1. **CLASS FLAGS**

Class Flags will be as stipulated in the sailing instructions. River Cruisers will have a class flag the same colour as their boom ribbon, as per the briefing document. A boon ribbon must be collected from the pontoon and displayed in all races. Failure to display the ribbon may result in a boat not deemed to be racing.

1. **THE COURSE**

8.1 The course to be sailed will be displayed on the club pontoon and the starting raft if being used.

8.2 A separate course for junior races may be displayed on the club pontoon below the main course, or indicated elsewhere at the race officer’s discretion.

8.3 The course display will consist of a series of coloured boards with white characters to be read from left to right. The colour of the board background (red or green) will indicate the side (port or starboard respectively) on which the mark is to be left.

8.4 The number of rounds to be sailed will be indicated by a white figure on a black background at the end of the course display.

8.5 The race officer may, at his or her discretion, shorten course in accordance with RRS 32. ( A sound signal and a flag S with a class flag displayed on the pontoon before the leading boat crosses the finish line.).

8.6 The course will not be changed after the start sequence has begun. This changes RRS 33.

8.7 When marks 1 and A are consecutive (in either direction) all boats shall pass to the east of Pleasure Island ( between the gap).

1. **MARKS**

9.1 Marks of the course will be pink / red buoys (except the Mark J which has a white buoy) displaying appropriate mark insignia as detailed below.

Mark D displays code flag D

A blue and yellow square with a black stripe

Description automatically generated

Mark J displays code flag J

A blue and white square with a white stripe

Description automatically generated

Mark R displays code flag R.

A red and yellow square with a cross

Description automatically generated

9.2 Approximate positions of the marks are as follows:

Mark 1 – in the area of the broad north of the club pontoons

Mark 2 – near Pleasure Island and the East Gap

Mark A – in the south east corner of the broad, near the River Ant entrance

Mark N – in the south west corner of the broad, near the Neatishead channel.

All other marks may be positioned anywhere on the broad as published on the pontoon.

9.3 Starting distance marks will be red/pink buoys with white flags.

9.4 The exclusion zone marks are red/ pink buoys with a white flag with an X on the flag

9.5 The finishing mark will be a large yellow inflatable buoy.

9.6 Mark J will be used for junior races or may be used for other races if no juniors are racing.

1. **AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS**

10.1 A large inflatable red/orange buoy, referred to as the Dolphin, placed in the vicinity of the northern shore at the entrance to Neatishead channel, denotes a shallow water area. It shall be treated as an obstruction and shall be passed to the east. RRS19 (Room to Pass an Obstruction) shall apply, excluding 19.2(a). RRS 18 (Mark Room) shall not apply.

10.2 The club pontoons shall be treated as a fixed obstruction and must always be passed to the east, (the front) of the pontoons.

1. **COMMITTEE BOAT (RAFT) /PONTOON STARTS**

11.1 If races are to be started from a committee boat / raft, a yellow flag will be flown on the club pontoons.

11.2 The starting line will be between a signal post on the committee boat / raft, and an outer distance mark. The line will be limited by an inner distance mark. Any boat that sails between the committee/ boat pontoon and the inner distance mark, once a starting sequence is underway, will be disqualified.

11.3 A board representing naval code flag D will be displayed to the left of the first mark to be rounded following the start. The committee boat/ raft may display the course, but SI 8.1 is not changed.

11.4 The inclusion of the letter F, in white on a blue background, in the course indicates a clubhouse finish, having rounded the mark preceding the letter F the prescribed number of times.

11.5 A starting exclusion zone may be marked by red/pink buoys with a flag marked ‘X’ positioned to leeward of the starting line. Boats may not sail between these buoys and the starting line before their starting sequence signal. RRS 30.1 will not apply.

11.6 If any part of a boat’s hull is on the course side on the start line at her starting signal, and they can be identified, an individual recall will be used called in accordance with RRS29.1, except that the class flag will remain “ at the dip” instead of flying code flag X.

11.7 If any part of a boat’s hull is on the course side on the start line at her starting signal, and they can not be identified individually a general recall will be called in accordance with RRS29.1 by flying 1st Substitute. That start will then go to the back of the starting sequence in that series.

1. **THE START**

12.1 Races will be started as follows:

**5** minutes before start, (warning signal), Class flag, 1 sound signal

**4** minutes before start, ( preparatory signal) Flag P or black flag, 1 sound signal

**1** minute before the start, preparatory signal down, a bell .

**Start,** class flag removed, 1 sound signal.

12.2 If the start is from the pontoon the starting line will be a prolongation of an imaginary line drawn through the white signal post behind the officer’s box, and the red and white striped post in front of the officer’s box. Inner and outer distance marks may be used.

12.3 A starting exclusion zone may be marked by buoys displaying a flag marked ‘X’ positioned to leeward of the starting line. Boats may not sail between these buoys and the starting line before their preparatory signal.

12.4 If any part of a boat’s hull is on the course side on the start line at her starting signal, and they can be identified, an individual recall will be called in accordance with RRS29.1 except that the class flag will warning signal will remain “ at the dip” instead of flying code flag X. The start team will not call the sail numbers of boats if they are on the course side at the start of their race.

12.5 If any part of a boat’s hull is on the course side of the start line at her starting signal, and they cannot be identified individually there will be a general recall in accordance with RRS 29.2 by flying 1st Substitute. That start will then go to the back of the sequence in that series.

12.6 The start times for the river cruiser class will be posted on the pontoon no less than one hour before their start.

12.7 If there is a general recall that start will go the back of the sequence and their next start will be blacked flagged.

12.8 A boat shall not start later than two minutes after her start.

1. **THE FINISH**

13.1 The finish line will be an imaginary line drawn from the central position of the signal mast in front of the officer’s box to, but not beyond, a yellow inflatable buoy. You must pass between the officer’s box and the yellow buoy.

13.2 After finishing, a boat is still racing until her hull, crew and all equipment, in their normal positions, have crossed the finish line.

13.3 When a race is shortened, code flag S, with a class flag, will be displayed with two sound signals, before the leading boat crosses the finish line.

13.4 If a boat has not completed their race within 30 minutes of the first boat to finish in their start, they will be deemed not to have finished and be marked accordingly.

1. **PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**

14.1 Protest forms are available from the officer’s box. Protests shall be delivered in writing to the officer’s box within the protest time limit.

14.2 For the purposes of RRS 61.3, the protest time limit will be 30 minutes after the finish of the last boat in that race.

1. **SCORING FOR OPEN EVENTS**

15.1 The scoring system for the regatta will be under ISAF Rules of sailing Appendix A.

15.2 If three or fewer races are available, a boat’s score shall be the total of all her race scores. ISAF Rules of sailing Appendix A 2.

15.3 A boat that does not sail the correct course as displayed in accordance with RRS 28, shall be disqualified without a hearing.

15.4 A boat whose helm is on duty as a Race Officer / safety boat crew and is therefore unable to compete in one race of a series may be awarded points for that race, calculated from her average points from the other races in that series.

1. **SAFETY REGULATIONS**

16.1 Personal flotation devices shall be worn by **ALL dinghy sailors**, at all times, while racing. This changes RRS 40.

16.2 When a red flag is displayed on the club pontoon, all competitors, in all competing boats, shall wear personal flotation devices. This changes RRS 40.

16.3 Any competing boat whose crew fails to comply with 16.1, or 16.2 when applicable, will be immediately disqualified from the current race.

16.4 Boats that retire from a race shall notify the race officer as soon as possible.

1. **PRIZES**

Prizes will be awarded in accordance with the regatta programme.

1. **DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

18.1 The club will not accept liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with, prior to, during, or after racing. Attention is drawn to RRS 2 and 4.

18.1 RRS 3. The responsibility for a boat’s decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is theirs alone.

1. **INSURANCE**

Each participating boat shall have valid third-party insurance for a minimum of £5,000,000.

1. **ALTERNATIVE PENALTIES FOR RIVER CRUISER CLASS YACHTS ONLY**

20.1 A River Cruiser, when racing shall not be subject to RRS 44. Instead, the following shall apply: The One and Two Turn(s) Penalties (RRS 30 and RRS 44.1) are replaced by Time Penalties of 1 and 2 minutes respectively, added to the boat’s elapsed time, to be acknowledged as soon after the incident as possible by the said boat flying a green rectangular flag.

20.2 It is the responsibility of the helmsman to declare to the Race Officer within 30 minutes of the finish of the last boat in that race, which penalty or penalties the boat is taking.

20.3 A boat that fails to make a declaration shall be deemed to have accepted a 2-minute penalty.

20.4 It is the responsibility of other competitors to ensure that these provisions are enforced.

20.5 This amendment applies for all races, including allcomers races where river cruisers may be entered, but only applies to river cruisers. All other competitors are sailing under RRS 30 and RRS 44

1. **REPLACEMENT OF EQUIPMENT**

Under exceptional circumstances the race officer may , on request prior to racing, permit a boat to use sails carrying a sail number other than those required by RRS 77

A map of a river

Description automatically generated