

RYA NORTH East Youth Racing Series 2019

These guidelines have been written for the host clubs and for the race officers and their teams. Their purpose is to provide a consistent format of racing across the fourteen regattas in the Series, the guidelines are in two parts, the Clubs and the Race teams

Information for Host Clubs

1. The regattas

The 2019 Youth Racing Series comprises fourteen regattas between April and July, geographically spread from Kielder Water to Rotherham. The objective is to encourage young sailors to participate in Open Meetings to develop their skills and experience.

Although the number of competitors qualifying for a series result (participation in at least 4 regattas) has fallen in recent years, the experience of sailing away from their home club will be encouraged again this year by awarding series prizes at the last event of the season.

Publicity

The regattas are publicised on the YHYSA website, linked through from the RYA North E Region site. Standard event documentation – Notice of Race, Entry Form and Sailing Instructions are available on this site.

Harken are supplying a number of small prizes for each open meeting and further prizes for the series final event at Ripon. Please ensure that their sponsorship is mentioned at the event and highlighted in any press/media reports (see later for event report information)

2. Insurance and Entries

The RYA NE Region and YHYSA carry no insurance to cover this sort of event, so it is important that each event is run under the burgee of the host club. This ensures that the Club's child protection and data privacy policies will apply.

An Open Meeting entry form is attached to the Notice of Race with the normal conditions of entry for Open Meetings. If your club has other conditions, then please ask for an amended entry form for your regatta.

To encourage young sailors to take part the maximum entry fee for 2019 is to be £10.00 per boat. A per boat fee of £2 from the host club to YHYSA will be levied to build a prize fund for the overall open meeting series. (That is, £8 to the club, £2 to YHYSA)

Class membership and boat measurement;

Class membership and measurement certificates are not an entry requirement. This is intended to encourage participation in events by those young sailors without their own boats. We expect that competitors will treat this condition in the manner intended and not to use it to sail boats which are known to be out of class and which clubs would normally disqualify. Gross breaches of Class Rules can be protested and there is guidance in the NOR on how this is penalised.

The use of replica sails is permitted.

3. Organisation

We hope to have a consistent format of events to minimise confusion at different venues. However, local constraints and weather condition may require different formats in types of course and number of races (Ideally 5 or six short races).

Please start each regatta with a briefing around 10.30 with the first race planned to start at 11. This briefing should be given using simple language so that the youngest/most inexperienced sailor has a clear understanding of the sailing instructions and the course.

Parents have expressed their concern in the past about the complicated courses set at some events, which did not take into the account the wide range of ability, experience and ages of the competitors. Therefore please note the points below;

- A simple straightforward course is preferred.
- The use of a lead boat is not required, but please provide assistance and guidance on the water for less experienced sailors with regards to the course.
- The start line is also the finish line and the course is set to pass through the line on each lap.
- If there is a large number of classes and abilities, the use of average lap times should be considered to allow the slower boats to finish without completing the full number of laps. Please record the elapsed time and number of laps completed for each boat in each race.

Please run lots of short races, 30-35 minutes for the leader with all boats finishing when they complete their next lap is ideal. Everyone has plenty of starting practice and the tail enders do not become too demotivated!

4. Safety cover and Outside Help.

Safety Cover;

A ratio of 1 power boat to 10 competitors is recommended to provide adequate safety boat cover, in line with the RYA recommended guidelines. Safety boats crews should preferably hold a RYA PB2 qualification. Safety boats should be manned and on the course before any sailors are on the water and until the last sailor is ashore.

Coaching and Outside Help

Wherever possible the organisers (YHYSA and the Club) will provide some on the water coaching at each event, especially to encourage the back markers. The RRS will be amended by the Sailing Instructions to permit this. The coach boat will obviously assist with rescue when needed but should be a supplement to the basic safety fleet.

The NOR states that Rule 41 Outside Help is changed for this Youth Racing Series to allow outside help during the race for competitors needing assistance.

To clarify that help with righting boats and any other assistance required by the less experienced sailors is permitted (and indeed encouraged) without penalty. Safety boat crews and coaches should be briefed accordingly. This will be reflected in the Sailing Instructions for each event.

5. Sailing Instructions

The standard Sailing Instructions are Appendix S of the Racing Rules of Sailing 2017-20. Each club will have their own requirements and these can be incorporated into a Supplementary sailing Instructions, posted on the day and explained at the briefing. [See website for standard Sis and example of Supplementary Instructions.](#)

6. Prizes

Prizes on the day are at the discretion of the organizing club but as a minimum should be awarded as follows:

Youth Fleet (under 19) – first place

Junior Fleet (under 14)– first place

Depending on the fleet size consideration should be given to awarding second and third prizes.

7. Results

Harken are supplying a number of prizes for each regatta and for the series final. The organisers will try to transfer the Harken banners between the host clubs before their event. Please try to ensure that the banners are displayed at your club and at the prize giving and included in the prize photos.

Please will the host club send the full overall results of the meeting, including the different age groups, to the Youth Racing Series results master, (Ian Smith at i.s.smith@ntlworld.com)

If possible clubs are requested to use Sailwave software to process the results, however any format is acceptable so long as this easily understandable. Please send the results by the Tuesday following the regatta at the latest.

If the results are written/printed, then please photograph the sheet and attach to an email to Ian Smith.

Publicity for the event and the results

Please do take some photographs and write a short report on the event for the press and social media. In addition to any local press contacts which you use, please send reports(as soon as possible after the event) to Ian Smith who will link these into the regional RYA sites.

8. Race Management

Clubs are asked to ensure that they have an experienced race management team available for the event. Please post the results for each race as soon as possible after the race has finished as this allows possible errors to be identified and corrected before prize giving.

The objective is to encourage participation by providing a high standard of race management throughout the series. Race officers experienced with handling naïve queries, inadvertent and accidental boat handling issues are much to be encouraged.

Further Information or assistance

David Staniforth – Ulley SC

David Rowlands – Ulley SC,

Ian Smith – Ripon and Yorkshire Dales Sailing Clubs

Information for Race Teams

Thank you for agreeing to host a YHYSA race day event.

The checklist below, in approximate chronological order through the day, has been compiled from the experience of many clubs in previous seasons. They are suggestions only.

1.1 People are available for each job – (If you need help there are many willing and RYA qualified parents of competitors, please ask and they will come prepared for your needs.)

Welcoming / Signing on crew. e.g. 09:00 – 10:30

Car Parking & Rigging areas Supervisor e.g. 09:00 – 10:30am

Race Officer and assistants

First aider(s), (hopefully not required).

Catering.

Lead rescue cox and crew(s).

Results calculation, Sailwave

Launch and recovery assistance, if required.

RYA Race Coach can be accommodated on a rescue boat if present?

Protest arbitrator.

1.2 Safety

Conditions which will cancel racing have been considered. Please postpone racing if the wind strength is too high for your water.

Rescue boat(s) available & reliable.

First aid supplies – emergency contact arrangements etc.

What should be in the briefing: e.g. cold/hot temperatures, sun cream, drink water etc.

1.3 Committee boat for water start / finish line (preferred).

Good anchor.

Flags Competitors to be informed at the Briefing.

Cross trees and halyards

Air horns.

Extra marks, which can be moved as required & stay put.

Radios or mobile phones & numbers.

Reliable & secured timer/clocks

1.4 Catering supplies

Suitable for young people. Lunches are always welcome, they are not included in the entry fee and competitors will expect to pay for food.

If your venue has limited catering facilities let us know and we can inform competitors to bring packed lunches.

1.5 Prizes

Please provide modest prizes for the day. If the entry number warrants it, go down to 5th place and you may wish to present a “good sportsmanship” or other prize for competitors who tried hard but didn’t get a high place. Prizes should be purchased from the club’s portion of the entry fee, sponsorship or donations.

Prizes can be small bits of sailing equipment from shackles, rope sealing lighter, burgee, Sweets, caps to fleece, Tools, Mugs or cups, USB stick, Certificates of participation (can be put in school portfolio of activities and interests).

At the last regatta of the season, some Series prizes will be awarded.

1.6 Series and Race handicap calculation system

Sailwave preferably with a printer if available.

Competitors will enter each regatta separately even if they have competed in an earlier event in the Series. The standard entry form (on the YHYSA web site) provides sufficient information for age classifications.

Different numbers of laps can be accounted for. The average lap time system is ideal when running a number of short races with a variety of different boat speeds.

Portsmouth Yardstick handicaps are available from the RYA web site.

1.7 Paperwork - signing in etc

Entry forms– these can be downloaded from: www.yhysa.org

Cash float for change.

Race log sheets to record each sail number & lap time for each boat on every lap –

Protest forms and a current copy of the 'Racing Rules of Sailing'.

1.8 Timetable example

09:00 – 10:30 arrive, meet and greet, rig, change, sign on, book lunch.

10:35 Sailors briefing.

11:00 - 12:30+ Race 1, 2 and 3, can be back to back afloat.

12:30+ to 13:30+ Lunch.

13:45 – 15:45 + Three more races

De-rig, pack and change (full results calculated).

16:45 Prize giving.

17:00 Depart.

1.9 Race Course

The Start Line and Finish Line should be the same.

Keep the courses simple. Triangle preferred.

At the finish remember the 'Concertina Rule' - End a race when the boats will finish fairly quickly behind each other, the lead boat does not have to be the first finished.

1.10 Topics covered at the briefing

Registered and entered, lunch ordered?

Safety – e.g. cold water, hot conditions - sun cream, drink plenty etc. Shallows / Dangers / Exclusion zones, obstructions, etc.

Changes to SI's on Official Notice Board which is located

The course will be displayed.....

Launch areas are located at.....

Approximate start times (see timetable displayed

Start display (if used)

Launch signal (if used) e.g. 10 minutes to start, you can / cannot be on the water before.

The course may be changed up to the launch / preparatory signal?

Start / Finish Line.

Individual Recalls – X & 1 sound signal and hail if possible.

General Recalls - first substitute flag & 2 sound signals.

Use of "U" or "Black" flags

Postpone or abandon race.

1.11 After the racing

Copy of the results given electronically & hard copy with Race Log Sheets and Entry Forms to one of the YHYSA officers at the event or e-mailed to I.S.Smith@ntlworld.com.

YHYSA sent £2 of entry fee per competitor. YHYSA will provide an account number for the club treasurer.

Send story and photos of event to local paper for club publicity. Report and photos to Yachts & Yachting (good idea to appoint a “press officer” to manage this)

Thanks given to everyone involved in making it a successful and enjoyable event.