



COCKLE ISLAND BOAT CLUB



GENERAL NOTES FOR RACE OFFICERS

Version 2

*(Contains Minor Amendment to version 1 in that paragraph 8 (regarding commencement of timing) has been deleted
also paragraph 11 (now paragraph 10) has been reworded for clarity)*

A RACE OFFICER WHO IS UNABLE TO FULFILL THEIR ROLE FOR A RACE FOR WHICH THEIR NAME APPEARS ON THE SUMMER PROGRAMME MUST ARRANGE FOR A REPLACEMENT

1. The Summer Programme is made available to all club members and sets out the race programme, the start times and the rota for Race Officers (ROs).
2. Particulars of the CIBC. Sail Boat Fleet are circulated from time to time and a copy is in the ROs box.
3. The RO should arrive at the Battery (or take up position on board a boat in plain view of the Start Line, when the race is to be controlled from a boat) at least 20 minutes before the 10 minute Warning Signal is expected. It is the responsibility of the Race Officer to ensure the starting procedure is orderly and on time.
4. The RO must decide if the weather conditions are suitable for racing. It is his/her decision to be taken having due regard to any small craft warning issued by the coastguard for the Bangor/Belfast Lough area. If the RO decides that the race should be cancelled, a message should be sent to the CIBC sailors WhatsApp group.
5. All races are single class (and therefore all boats start at the same time), except for the Pursuit Race.
6. It is the Race Officer's responsibility to have all necessary equipment in his/her possession on arrival for duty.
7. Course Selection
 - 7.1 The course is made up of one or more rounds, the configurations of which are shown in Appendix A. When selecting the course the RO should take into account the sea and wind conditions and the maximum time for the race.
 - 7.2 During the race the RO may change the number of rounds and/or which round is to be sailed next (See appendix A for diagrams). This must be done before the leading boat crosses the start/finish line (and/or by radio if appropriate).

No signals are required.
8. Communication between the RO and CIBC boats is on Channel 77.
9. If it is decided to sail fewer rounds ensure that slower boats are informed.
10. Arrangements must be made by the Race Officer to deliver a list of the boats that started the race and a note of the start time (in case the race was postponed for some reason) by email to sailingsecretarycibc@gmail.com. Also the equipment should be delivered to the person who is to be responsible for the next race. Any problems with the equipment or the need to have flags dried or radio charged should be made clear to the next scheduled Race Officer.

STARTING RACES when AFLOAT

Race control from the Race Officer's boat.

Requirements vary depending on whether the radio is to be used exclusively for signalling or if some use is made of flags and sound. The use of a horn is suggested and flags may be used but the choice of signalling is left as a matter for the Race Officer who must brief the boats in the procedure he/she is going to use. If sound signals are to be used they should be made exactly at the 10 and 5 minute 'guns' and a slightly lengthier one (50% ?) at the start. It is recommended that the transmit button on the radio is activated at the same time as the horn signal is made.

ITEMS REQUIRED

- A. A radio capable of transmitting and receiving on channel 77 (*the boat's radio?*)
- B. An accurate timepiece (*for timing the Start and any Time Limit*)
- C. Paperwork for the race records (*make sure that writing material is usable*)
- D. Access to a smart phone (*in case a 'Race cancellation notification has to be made to the WhatsApp group*)
- E. The flag box containing the flags (*if flags are to be used*)
- F. A horn (*if one is to be used*)

PRE-RACE PREPARATION

20 minutes before the race start time Race Officer (RO) should:-

- A. Announce (on channel 77) that He/She is the RO.
- B. Welcome the boats to (series name), (race number).
- C. For Crowe Cup, Wrinklies and Late Season series announce that:-
 - the course is A, Alpha; B, Beta; C, Charlie; or D, Delta.
 - the course will be port or starboard hand.
 - the number of rounds will be 1, 2 or 3.
- D. For Round the Lough series the course is long or short, port or starboard hand.
- E. For Round the Islands series the course is port or starboard hand.
- F. For the Glenarm Race and Portpatrick Races the Start will be either East-West or West-East, See Appendix B.
- G. Boats should record their times at the end of each lap, and report these times to the Sailing Secretary within 6 hours of the start of the race. Failure to report times will be recorded as DNF.
- H. Request boats to acknowledge receipt of this information.

PRE-START TIMING

- 10½ minutes before the start of the race the RO commences a countdown to the 10 minute signal.
- 10 minutes before the start of the race the RO announces '10 minute gun'. (+ 1 sound signal, if being used).
- 5½ minutes before the start of the race the RO commences a countdown to the 5 minute signal.
- 5 minutes before the start of the race the RO announces '5 minute gun'. (+ 1 sound signal, if being used).
- 30 seconds before the start of the race the RO commences a countdown to the start of the race.
- 0 **START** At the start of the race the RO announces 'start'. (+ 1 longer sound signal, if being used).

POSTPONEMENT

If an error is made during the starting procedure or there is a delay of some nature (eg insufficient water for boats to leave their moorings), immediately inform boats that the start is being postponed. Once the matter has been resolved commence (or re-commence) the countdown from the Warning Signal.

If flags are being used display Flag AP (with two sound signals if possible) and then one sound signal when lowering. The Warning Signal should follow one minute later.

RECALLS

If one (or more) boats are over the line at the time of the start **AND it/they can be identified** then an **INDIVIDUAL RECALL** should be signalled. This may be done by radio (together with one sound signal, if possible), clearly identifying the boat(s) involved, who should return until they are behind the line and then start,

This is the display of **Flag X** (a White Flag with a Blue cross on it) accompanied by one sound signal. The flag should be taken down (without a sound signal when all offending boats have returned and started correctly behind the Line.

If a number of boats are over the line at the time of the start **but they CANNOT all be identified** then a **GENERAL RECALL** should be signalled. This may be done by radio (together with two sound signals, if possible), with the fleet being told that there has been a General Recall.

The **First Substitute** (a Blue triangular flag with a triangular inset of Yellow) should be displayed accompanied by two sound signals. The flag should be taken down (with one sound signal) and exactly one minute later commence a new starting sequence with a Warning signal.

RECORD KEEPING

The RO should record the names of participating boats and report this information to the Sailing Secretary within 6 hours of the start of the race.

The weather, sea conditions and whether or not the Time Limit has been extended should also be reported.

It is not necessary to record any finishing times for the competitors as they are required to record and report their own times on each occasion they cross the Start/Finish Line (at the end of each round and when they finish).