



## The Vital Spark Pursuit Race (14 August 2021)

### SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

#### 1. RULES

- a. The Organising Authority (OA) is the Royal Southern Yacht Club, Hamble.
- b. The event will be governed by the rules as defined in the current version of the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) and the RYA Racing Charter will apply.
- c. In case of a Stationary Committee Vessel start, RRS 26 is changed so that all visual and sound signals will be replaced with VHF communications.

#### 2. ELIGIBILITY and ENTRY

- a. Racing is open to boats of all classes, and all boats will race in one class under the VPRS handicap system.
- b. Boats shall hold a valid current [VPRS Rating](#) Certificate which is available for £20 from Ruth Kelly. Email: [ruth@vprs.org](mailto:ruth@vprs.org)
- c. By entering, you agree to be added to the event Whatsapp group.

#### 3. COVID-19

- a. The skipper must be confident that crew members of different households are able to maintain social distancing as recommended by current government guidance **AT ALL TIMES**, including while preparing the boat, proceeding to the start, the race itself, returning from the finish and packing up the boat.

#### 4. SAFETY and COMMUNICATIONS

- a. Yachts shall comply at least with [ISAF Offshore Special Regulations for Category 4 races](#) and sports boats and day boats shall comply with the [Royal Southern Sports Boat and Day Boat Safety Regulations 2020](#).
- b. VHF radio: All boats shall carry functioning VHF radio capable of receiving all usual marine channels, including M1 (Ch.37).
- c. All race communications will be made on **VHF Channel 37** and other useful communications will be made using the event Whatsapp group
- d. Where possible, any changes in Sailing Instructions will be posted for two hours before the advertised starting time of the leg on the event Whatsapp group.
- e. If possible, yachts should fly **Numeral Pennant 8** while racing.

## 5. SCHEDULE of EVENTS

The event will consist of one race. The start times will be from **11:30** depending on the yacht's VPRS Rating. Yachts will start according to the Spinnaker start times listed below unless they declare '*White Sails*' prior to 10.30 on the day of the race by informing the Race Officer via the Race WhatsApp group.

Start Times (Spinnaker)	Start Times (White Sails)	Yacht Names
11:33	11:30	Hooligan
11:40	11:35	Hot Rats
11:41	11:36	Stormcloud
11:42	11:36	Jacana
11:45	11:43	XoXo
11:46	11:41	Red Five

## 6. RACE AREA, COURSE, THE START and THE FINISH

- a. The race area shall be in the Central Solent unless communicated otherwise.
- b. There is one possible course which is described by **Appendix A - Course**. The course to be used will also be announced by VHF.
- c. The race shall be started by a Stationary Committee Vessel
- d. The starting line will be between the Statutory Committee Vessel and the ODM.

## 7. TIME LIMITS and PROTESTS

- a. The time limit for starting will be 10 minutes.
- b. There is no time limit for finishing.
- c. Due to the Social Distancing guidelines, there will not be a protest committee at the event. Boats infringing a rule should do a 360 degree turn on the water.
- d. The Post-Race Penalty and the Advisory Hearing and RYA Arbitration of the RYA Rules Disputes procedures shall apply (for information on the procedures, go to [www.rya.org.uk/go/rulesdisputes](http://www.rya.org.uk/go/rulesdisputes)). The outcome of an RYA Arbitration can be referred to a protest committee, but an arbitration cannot be reopened or appealed.

## 8. PRIZES

The presentation of the prizes will take place on Den's Deck at a time announced on the WhatsApp Group

## **9. RISK STATEMENT**

- a. Rule 4 of the 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 inherently involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:
- i. 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;
  - ii. They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;
  - iii. They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;
  - iv. Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
  - v. The provision of a race management team, patrol boats if any and other officials and volunteers by the event organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
  - vi. The provision of patrol boat cover if any is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can practically be provided in the circumstances;
  - vii. 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 sufficient in 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; and
  - viii. Their boat is adequately insured, with cover of at least £2 million against third party claims.
- b. Any inspection of a boat by the race organiser does not reduce the responsibilities set out in this paragraph.

## **10. PERSONAL INFORMATION**

The personal information that owners, charterers, competitors and others provide to the organizing authority will be used to facilitate their participation in the event. If they have agreed to be bound by the Racing Rules of Sailing and the other rules that govern the event (the rules), the legal basis for processing that personal information is contract. If they are not bound by the rules, the legal basis for processing that personal information is legitimate interest. Their personal information will be stored and used in accordance with the organizing authority’s privacy policy. When required by the rules, personal information may be shared with the RYA and/or World Sailing. The results of the event and the outcome of any hearing or appeal may be published.

## 11. FURTHER INFORMATION

For any further information please contact Matthew Richardson on 07802 796502 or [matthew@ayaya.co.uk](mailto:matthew@ayaya.co.uk) or Craig Cossar on 07590 363874 or [craig@thevitalspark.co.uk](mailto:craig@thevitalspark.co.uk).

## APPENDIX A – The Course

Mark	Name	Distance	Bearing	Cumulative	Side
4B	Coronation				Start
4L	William	0.88	126	0.88	Starboard
4H	East Knoll	1.09	191	1.97	Port
4Q	John Fisher	0.86	55	2.83	Starboard
4N	QXI International	1.2	185	4.03	Port
4V	Hamble Yacht Services	1.17	43	5.2	Port
4H	East Knoll	1.4	263	6.6	Starboard
4Q	John Fisher	0.86	55	7.46	Port
4B	Coronation	1.62	312	9.08	Finish