EXE REGATTA 2021

MONOHULL DINGHY COURSE – TIPS FOR COMPETITORS

Colin Lee - PRO

The Course

Due to the low tide (HW is 2.8m on both days) we may be constricted on the courses we can lay.

We will need to avoid the shallow bank to the East of No. 23 and 25 buoys. No course marks will be laid in this area but if you are tempted to go over this bank to keep out of the tide you may run aground!

We have 3 course options – T, W and O. Please read the Sailing Instructions for details!

Which course we will use will depend on the direction and strength of the wind on the day. The Committee Boat will fly the course flag and we will also display the selected course, rounding direction and number of laps on a blackboard.

The course may be varied for the second race as that will be nearer to High Water. **Watch** the flags and course board!

The Start

We will be using a Committee Boat start as in the Sailing Instructions and will aim to position the start line downwind of the Leeward Mark (Mark 4). If we are really pushed for room, we may need to lay the Start line upwind of Mark 4.

Either way, Mark 4 is NOT a mark of the course on the first leg and you do NOT need to pass through the Start line on each lap.

The Windward marks (Marks 1 and 2)

Mark 1 is for the Fast Handicap and Hornet classes. Mark 2 is for the Slow Handicap and Juniors, to give a shorter beat for these classes only.

The other marks are common to all fleets.

Spreader Marks (Marks 1a and 2a)

We are using spreader marks for all courses, to avoid the risk of boats rounding the windward mark and turning on to a run as other boats are approaching.

These marks will be 50 - 80 metres from Marks 1 and 2 and must be left on the same side.

Completing the laps

The number of laps will be displayed on the Committee Boat.

A complete lap will be as you round the Leeward Mark (Mark 4). When you have completed the number of laps signalled, or the course is shortened, you must then sail back to, and round, Marks 1 and 1a (or 2 and 2a for the slower boats) again before you head for the finish on the SYC line.

Shorten Course

If we decide to shorten the course, the Committee Boat will fly Flag S and make 2 sound signals as the leading boat in each fleet approaches Mark 4.

Flag S on it's own means the course is shortened for all fleets. If the course is shortened for some fleets only, Flag S will be flown with the class flag(s). **Know your class flag!**

Juniors

A reminder for our Junior competitors. You start with the Slow Handicap fleet and sail the same course.

We may shorten course for Juniors only. Look out for Flag S and your class flag (Numeral 4) flown together.

The Finish

After you have completed all laps, you must then sail to, and round, Marks 1 and 1a (or 2 and 2a) then head for the Finish line, which is a transit between the SYC Race Box flagpole and No. 29 Green navigation buoy.

There will be a final mark (Mark CL) laid near the Finish line to spread boats out and give the Race Box the best chance of reading sail numbers.

This CL mark may be laid to the North or South of the Finish line, depending on the course from Marks 1a and 2a. You must leave No. 29 buoy and the CL mark on the same side before crossing the Finish line. See the diagram in the Sailing Instructions.