



BEER LUGGERS CLUB

Racing Rules

(Standing Sailing instructions)

BLC Document Reference : BLC RR

Date of Amendment	Version Ref	Document Control - Details of Amendment	Review By
2013	7	Revised Rules	Commodore
2019	8	Rule 19 amended, para (b) added to clarify handicap amendments	Commodore



Racing Rules - 2019

1. Racing will take place under the current International Yacht Racing Rules [IYRR] the prescription of the RYA. A minimum 2 boats will constitute a race. The point's series shall be scored as per the RYA low points system.
2. Each boat may discard one race in every four completed races.
3. Both the Line Honours Cup and the Handicap Cups will be presented to the respective winning boats overall. This is to be judged on a minimum 4 races as per the wishes of the presenters, Alan Abbott & Chris Scanes (Overall Handicap Cup). Future Club members are asked to take note of this particular request should the subject of presentation ever come up for discussion.
4. Each race should normally last between 1 and 1½ hours. One round of the course must be completed by the leading boat to constitute a race. A race may be finished at the completion of one round, or at any subsequent mark of the course. Once the leading boat has crossed the Finishing Line, the other boats still racing must cross the Finishing Line within 30 mins, otherwise they will score points as the last boat to finish +1. For the purposes of the handicap series, positions will be worked out on a proportional basis of the last completed round for all boats still racing at the time limit.
5. Races will be held on Monday evenings: In normal circumstances the warning signal will be sounded at 18.25hrs. Any decision regarding prior abandonment due to adverse weather conditions shall not be taken before 17.00hrs. It is the responsibility of the Race Officer to decide whether conditions are suitable to race, and if so, to set the course. This decision must be taken by 18.00hrs or at the discretion of the Race Officer by 18.30hrs at the latest.
6. At the preparatory signal – stop auxiliary propulsion, boat is now under racing rules.
7. No tiller wagging except to assist in going about.
8. Minimum crew - skipper & for'd hand.
9. Liability: A boat is entirely responsible for its own safety, whether afloat or ashore, and nothing, whether in the Notice of Race or Sailing instructions or anywhere else, reduces this responsibility. It is for the boat to decide whether it is fit to sail in the conditions in which it will find itself. By launching or going to sea, the boat confirms that it is fit for those conditions and that its crew is competent to sail and compete in them. The boat is required to hold adequate insurance and in particular to hold insurance against third party claims in the sum of at least £3,000,000. And a declaration form supplied by the Club must be signed to this effect by each owner and returned to the Hon. Sec. before the first race. Nothing done by the organisers can reduce the responsibility of the boat nor will it make the organisers responsible for any loss, damage, death or personal injury, however it may have occurred, as a result of the boat taking part in the racing. The organisers encompass everyone helping to run the race and the event, and include the organising authority, the race committee, the race officer, starters, patrol boats and beach masters. The provision of patrol boats does not relieve the boat of its responsibilities.
10. All helms must be signed on, declaring all crew members, and also sign off within 1 hour of finishing or retiring.



11. When the red & yellow flag is hoisted at the Clubhouse, the rescue boat should be in attendance. The rescue boat should be launched before any competitors. Competitors shall wear life-jackets or other adequate personal buoyancy at all times.
12. All helms and crew must be paid up members of the Beer Luggers Club and paid up members of Beer Sailing Club. Temporary membership is available at no charge for participation in a single race; subsequently full membership fees must be paid.
13. Handicap Series to run concurrently with the "First over the Line Series".
14. All boats racing must display a number at least 350mm in height and 250mm in width on the mizzen. The number must be clearly legible either in black or white depending on the cloth used for the sail.
15. All boats must carry VHF radios and sufficient buoyancy to prevent sinking. Radio check contact must be made with the race office before racing commences on channel M.
16. All cup races sailed on Monday evenings count towards the point's series (Line, General Handicap and Silver series). Cups will be awarded using the handicap system.
17. The Pursuit Race based on a time of 1½ hrs. This race will not count towards the Points Series (Line Honours Cup, Handicap Cups).
18. On Bank Holiday Mondays two races will be sailed back to back – each race counting separately towards the Points Series (Line Honours Cup & Handicap Cups).
19. Handicaps:
 - a) For the purposes of awarding a handicap number to a new or radically altered boat she must first compete in 3 club races.
 - b) During the race season handicaps will be reviewed following the completion of three races by each boat. If an amendment to the handicap is deemed necessary it will be by no more than 5%.
20. In the event of a capsize:
 - a) all boats shall cease racing, lower sails and render assistance as coordinated by the support boat
 - b) points/positions will be calculated on the basis of completed rounds of the course i.e. if at least one round has been completed by all boats then a result should be taken on the last round completed as per rule 4.
21. Protest time limit - Any protest shall be delivered to the race office within one hour of the last boat in the race finishing, but the protest committee may extend the time if there is good reason. Protest forms are available at the race office.

N.B. Where conflict may arise, these rules shall override all previous rules, and any disputes settled by the committee.