

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1 RULES

The race will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing 2013-2016*.

2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located in the HFSC Club House.

3 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to the sailing instructions will be advised at the competitor's briefing. This alters rule 90.2 (c)

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be flown from the Club flagpole.
- 4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 15 minutes' in the race signal AP.

5 SCHEDULE

- 5.1 Registration will take place on Saturday 11th June from 17:00 until 19:00. By prior arrangement it will also be possible to register on Sunday 12th June between 08:00 and 09:45. This is intended for those arriving on Sunday morning only and all other competitors are expected to register on Saturday.
- 5.2 The competitor's briefing will commence at 09:00 on Sunday 12th June. Attendance at the briefing is mandatory for all helms; attendance by crews is recommended.
- 5.3 The scheduled time of the warning signal for the Solent Forts Race is 10:25.

6 THE COURSE AND RACING AREA

- 6.1 The race will take place in the Eastern Solent, around certain of the Marks listed in section 7 (see also Figure 2).¹
- 6.2 HFSC intends to run this event with 2 fleets (Orange Fleet and Blue Fleet) to accommodate a wide a range of boat speeds. However if the entry for one or both fleets is small, all entries will be combined into one fleet.
- 6.3 The Marks that comprise the course and the order in which they shall be sailed will be advised during the competitor's briefing, and will be displayed prior to the start and during the race on the Course Board located near the Starting Platform. The Blue Fleet will sail a shorter course than the Orange Fleet.

¹ A pictorial guide to the race area and marks is provided in document 'Solent Forts Race 2016 Marks and Features.pdf' which competitors are recommended to read. This document does not form part of these Sailing Instructions.



- 6.4 A Start-Finish Line and a Turning Mark will be located at the entrance to Langstone Harbour, close to HFSC's launching area. On every leg, boats shall round the relevant Mark for that leg, then round the Turning Mark. A boat will complete a leg, and begin the next leg, when it crosses the Start-Finish Line after rounding the Turning Mark - refer Figure 1.
- 6.5 The Turning Mark shall be left on the port side of the boat. Any boat that rounds the Turning Mark in the wrong direction will be given a 5 minute time penalty.
- 6.6 A boat's time for the race will comprise the cumulative time for every leg of the race sailed by the boat.
- 6.7 The course for each fleet will be set depending on the prevailing wind and sea state, with the intention of providing a variety of sailing conditions and a race of approximately 5 hours duration.

7 MARKS

- 7.1 All marks listed in this section are rounding marks and shall be left on the port side of the boat.
- 7.2 The Marks are as follows (refer to Figure 2):
- Mark A: **Spit Sand Fort**. Napoleonic Channel Fort, position 50°46'.2N 1°05'.9W
 - Mark B: **No Mans Land Fort**. Napoleonic Channel Fort, position 50°44'.4N 1°05'.6W
 - Mark C: **Bembridge Ledge**. East cardinal mark, position 50°41'.1N 1°01'.7W
 - Mark D: **Nab Tower**. Cylindrical concrete lighthouse, position 50°40'.1N 0°57'.1W
 - Mark E: **West Pole**. Large 3 legged structure with red topworks located off Chichester Harbour entrance, position 50°45'.7N 0°56'.5W
 - Mark F: **Winner**. South cardinal mark, position 50°45'.1N 1°0'.2W
- 7.3 The Marks will be described further at the Competitor's Briefing.
- 7.4 A waterproof Course Diagram will be provided to competitors. This gives information about the marks and main features of the sailing area but it is NOT a chart and does not show all hazards to navigation.
- 7.5 GPS receivers and chart plotters may be used for this event.

8 AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS

The Submarine Barrier (connecting Horse Sands Fort to the mainland off Portsmouth) is designated as an obstruction; boats that sail over the Submarine Barrier risk major damage and will be disqualified. Boats may use the Inner Passage or the Outer Passage to pass through the Submarine Barrier.

9 THE START

- 9.1 Races will be started by using the signals described in rule 26.
- 9.2 In these Sailing Instructions 'flag' shall be taken to mean both fabric (flexible) flags and flags painted or printed onto a rigid base.
- 9.3 The Orange and Blue fleets will have one start unless the entry is large enough to require separate starts.
- 9.4 Class Flags will be as follows:



- Single start for Orange and Blue fleets - letter 'F'
 - Orange fleet start only - an orange flag
 - Blue fleet start only - letter 'F'
- 9.5 The Start/Finish Line will be located close to the end of the Club slipway at Langstone Harbour entrance, and will be a transit between the mast of the Starting Platform and the HFSC flagpole.
- 9.6 A boat starting later than 5 minutes after the starting signal will be scored Did Not Start.
- 9.7 Boats that are OCS and do not restart in accordance with rule 29.1 will incur a 5 minute elapsed-time penalty. However any boat that is on the course side of the Start/Finish Line at the time that the preparatory flag is removed (1 minute before the start) and does not return to the pre-start side of the Start/Finish Line before the start of the race will be disqualified. This alters rule 29.1.
- 9.8 No individual recall numbers will be displayed.

10 TIME OUT

- 10.1 Immediately after completing a leg (i.e. crossing the Start-Finish Line after rounding the Turning Mark), a boat may elect to postpone the start of the next leg so that it can return to shore for up to 30 minutes for a 'Time Out'.
- 10.2 A boat commencing Time Out shall hail the Starting Platform to make its intentions clear.
- 10.3 A boat on Time Out shall proceed immediately to shore where the helm or crew shall complete a Time Out declaration in the Race Register located on or near the Starting Platform. The time recorded against the entry shall be the time shown on the Starting Platform clock. A boat failing to make a Time Out declaration in the Race Register might not have the Time Out time subtracted from its elapsed time for the race.
- 10.4 During Time Out, a boat:
- Is still considered to be racing
 - Shall keep clear of all other boats that are racing
 - May make repairs or adjustments
- 10.5 To continue the race after Time Out, a boat shall leave the Turning Mark to Port and then pass through the Start/Finish Line.
- 10.6 The time period recorded for a boat's Time Out (and subtracted from the boat's elapsed time for the race) will be the lesser of the following:
- The period between crossing the Start/Finish Line after completing a leg, and crossing the Start/Finish Line again to continue the race after Time Out
 - 30 minutes
- 10.7 During its approach to the Turning Mark after Time Out a boat shall keep clear of all other boats until such time as she has rounded the Turning Mark.
- 10.8 A boat is allocated only one Time Out period.
- 10.9 Whilst ashore on Time Out, a boat will not be disqualified for receiving outside assistance.



11 THE FINISH

A boat will finish the race when it passes through the Start/Finish Line after rounding the Turning Mark, having rounded all Marks of the course, unless the course is shortened at a Mark in which case the boat will finish the race at the Mark.

Competitor's notice is drawn to the possibility that two or more boats may pass through the start-finish line together. The boats may be on different legs and therefore any sound signal given by the Race Committee may not apply to all boats.

12 SHORTEN COURSE

12.1 Competitor's notice is drawn to the use of two courses in this event which may be shortened independently as described below.

12.2 The course may be shortened:

- At the Start/Finish Line
- At a Mark

12.3 Where the course is shortened at the Start/Finish Line:

- Flag 'S' will be displayed on the Course Board which also will be amended to show the Mark reference(s) that have been removed, by drawing a line through them (refer Figure 3).
- Flag 'S' will be flown from the Starting Platform
- A boat will finish the race when it passes through the Start/Finish Line after rounding the Turning Mark, having rounded all Marks of the course. However in the event of low wind and an adverse tide, flag 'F' will be displayed on the Starting Platform in addition to Flag 'S', in which case boats will finish the race as they cross the Start-Finish Line inbound to Langstone Harbour (and therefore do not have to round the Turning Mark).
- A leg will be removed BEFORE any boat has started that leg. The Race Committee may draw competitor's attention to the shorted course by two sound signals.

12.4 Where the course is shortened at a Mark, boats shall pass between the Mark and a Support Boat displaying flag 'S'. After passing between the Support Boat and the Mark, boats shall return immediately to shore unless instructed otherwise by the crew of the Support Boat.

12.5 Where the course has been shortened or the time limit reached, boats that are unable to complete the required number of legs to sail the correct course will be given race finish positions determined firstly according to the number of legs completed, and secondly according to the corrected time of each boat. This alters rule 35.

13 CHANGE OF COURSE

13.1 Competitor's notice is drawn to the use of two courses in this event which may be altered independently as described below.

13.2 The course may be changed after the start, by adding or removing whole legs.

13.3 Where the course is changed, flag 'C' will be displayed on the Course Board which will also be amended to show the Mark reference(s) that have been changed as follows (refer Figure 3):

- A line will be drawn through the deleted Mark reference(s).



- Replacement leg(s) will be added, with a solid bar above and below the Mark reference(s).

13.4 When the course is changed in this way, a leg will be changed BEFORE any boat has started that leg. The Race Committee may draw competitor's attention to the change of course by two sound signals. This alters rule 33.

14 PENALTY SYSTEM

For all classes rule 44.2 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

15 TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES

- 15.1 The time limit for ALL boats to finish the course is 17:30. This alters rule 35. Any boat that continues to race after this time will be disqualified and risks removal of support cover.
- 15.2 The target finish time for an F18 (Orange Fleet 'base boat') is 15:30 (5 hours race duration not including any Time Out time).
- 15.3 The target finish time for a Hobie 16 (Blue Fleet 'base boat') is 15:30 (5 hours race duration not including any Time Out time).

16 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 16.1 Protests shall be made within 1/2 hour of the protesting boat finishing.
- 16.2 A completed protest form shall be handed to a member of the Race Committee. Protest forms are available from the Club House.

17 SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

- 17.1 Boats are advised that a busy shipping channel passes through the race area, and boats will cross this several times during the race. The ships using the channel are constrained by their draft with very restricted ability to manoeuvre. **All boats are reminded of their obligation to maintain a good lookout and to keep clear of all shipping.**
- 17.2 All boats that register for the race will be assumed to have started the race and competitors are not required to 'sign-on' or 'tally on'. Any boats that do not start the race are required to advise the Race Committee at the first opportunity.
- 17.3 A boat that retires from the race shall notify the Race Committee as soon as possible by telephoning the Race Committee mobile number. The Race Committee mobile number will be advised during registration.
- 17.4 RRS 40 (Personal Buoyancy) applies at all times when afloat; code flag Y will not be flown (this alters rule 40).
- 17.5 Competitors shall wear a wet suit or dry suit whilst afloat.
- 17.6 All boats shall be designed to be righted from capsized by the crew without outside assistance.
- 17.7 At least one mobile phone shall be taken on each boat, and shall be carried on the person (it may be carried by either the helm or crew). The mobile phone shall comply with the requirements given below:
- Waterproof (marked or certified as IP 67 or equivalent), OR kept in a waterproof bag from which it can be operated without being removed from the bag.



- Connected to a network that has good coverage in the Eastern Solent (such as EE (Orange) or Vodaphone).

During registration:

- The Race Committee mobile number shall be entered into the phone.
- The competitor's mobile phone number shall be recorded on the entry form, and a test call made to the Race Committee mobile phone.

It is the competitor's responsibility to ensure that the phone is adequately charged, and has sufficient credit available if it is on a pay-as-you-go tariff.

- 17.8 Every Competitor shall carry at least one distress signal of a type suitable for locating a person in the water. This shall be carried on their person whilst afloat. Types of distress signal suitable for this purpose include daytime handheld red, handheld orange smoke or multiple-shot aerial type (e.g. Pains Wessex Personal Distress Signal 9 Shot Flare Gun).
- 17.9 All single-handed competitors shall carry a 'rescue' knife on their person whilst afloat.
- 17.10 All boats shall carry the following:
- A righting line.
 - A line of minimum length 10m, and minimum diameter 6mm, suitable for towing the boat. Sheets or other ropes are acceptable for this purpose providing they can be removed easily from the boat (i.e. no spliced attachments or stopper knots that cannot easily be undone).
- 17.11 The following are strongly recommended:
- A second mobile phone
 - A paddle
 - A compass
 - A rescue knife per person for double-handed boats (a rescue knife is mandatory for single handed boats)

18 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

A boat or its equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with its class rules and the sailing instructions.

19 ADVERTISING

Boats may be required to display advertising supplied by the organizing authority.

20 PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded for race positions according to $\sqrt{\text{(number of entries in fleet)}}$, rounded down to the nearest whole number, maximum 3 places per fleet. Other prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the Organising Authority.

21 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the race entirely at their own risk. See rule 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the race.



22 INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £2,000,000 per event.

Figure 1 – Course Diagram (one lap)

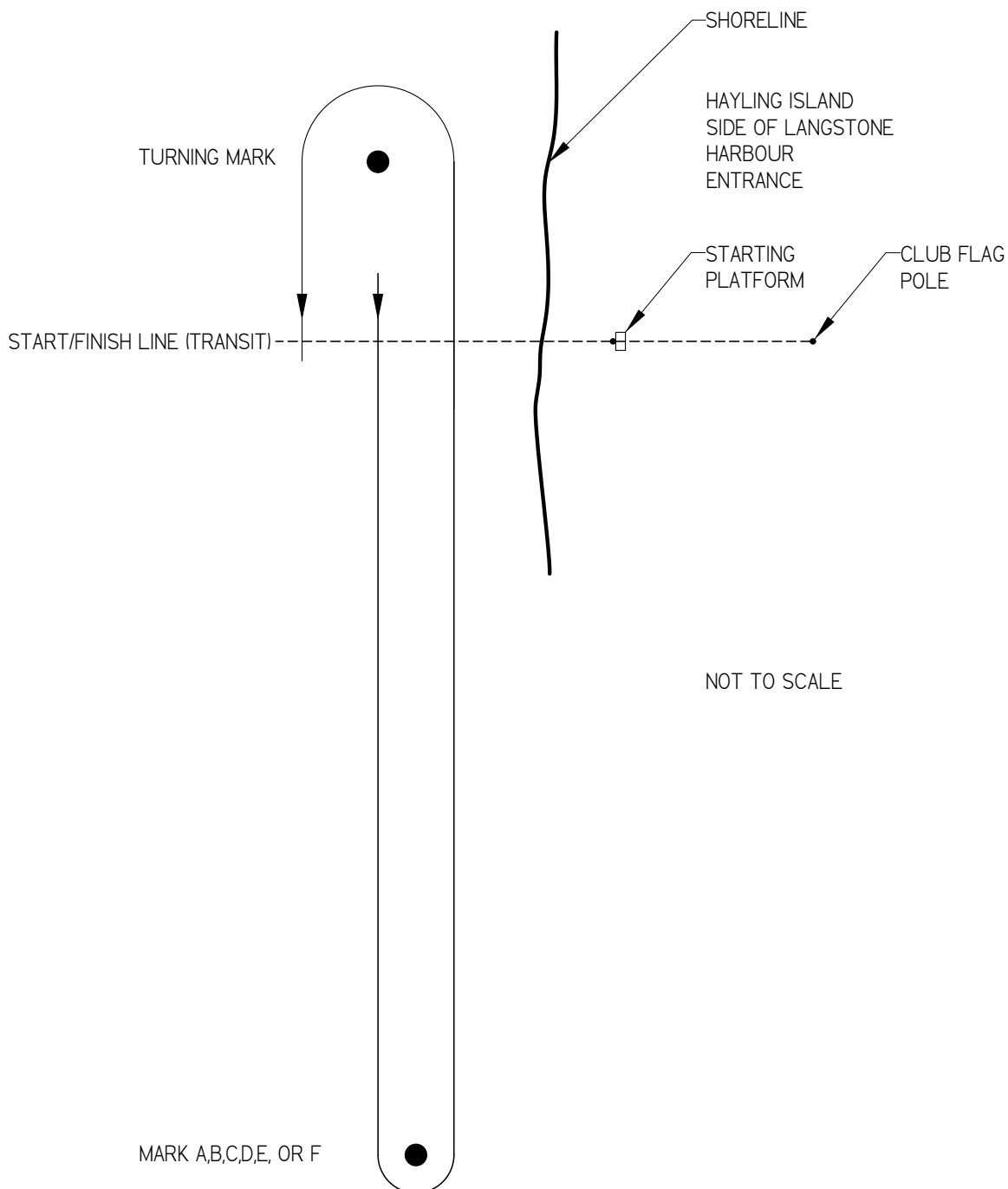




Figure 2 – Mark Locations and Racing Area

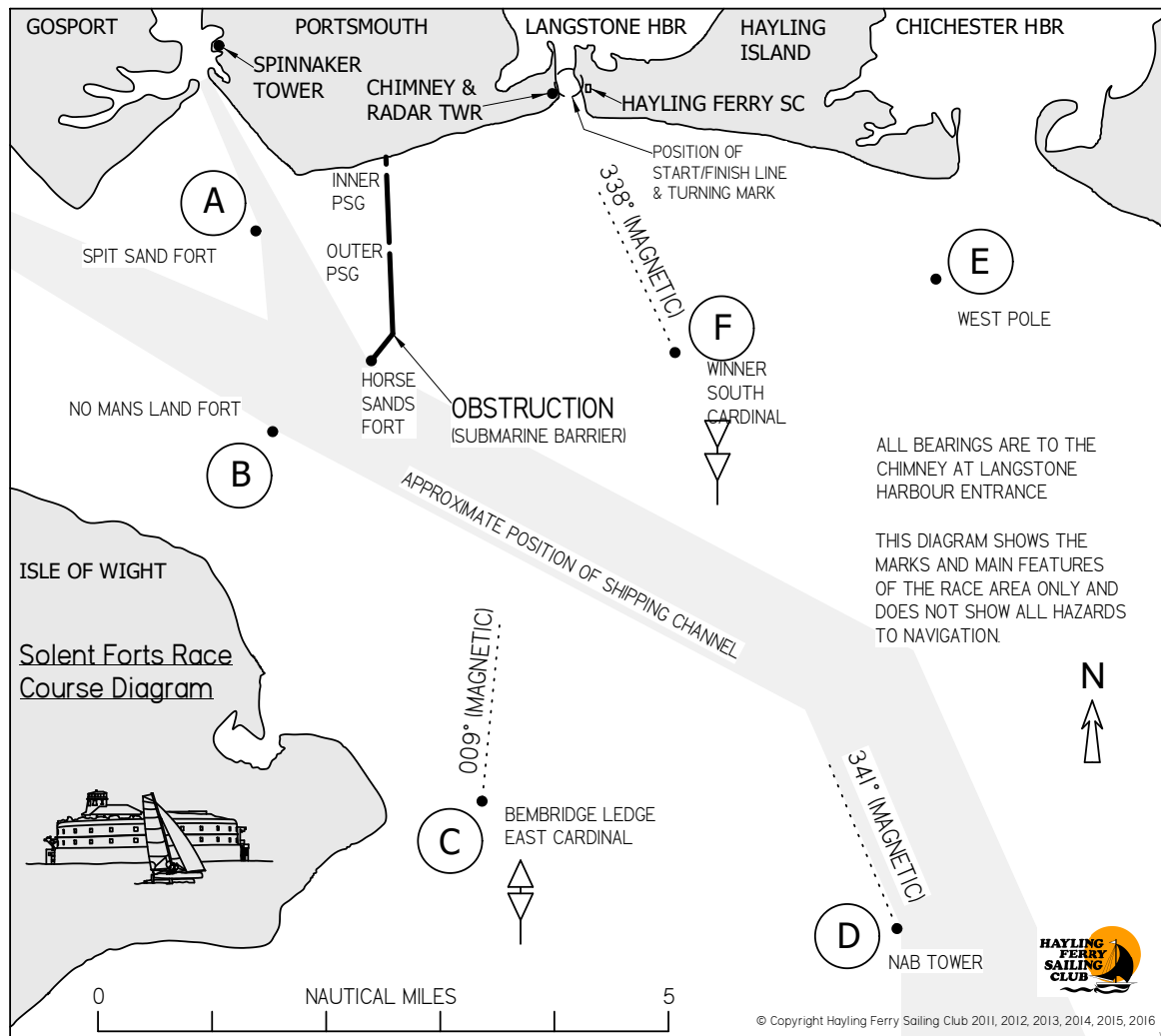




Figure 3 – Course Board

