



ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB



# YACHTING MALTA SAILING INSTRUCTIONS COASTAL RACE

ORGANISED BY THE ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB  
IN COLLABORATION WITH THE ROYAL OCEAN RACING CLUB

**WEDNESDAY 19 OCTOBER 2022**

## CONTACT DETAILS

Race Committee	Coastguard	Race Office Address
Callsign "Offshore One" <u>VHF Channel 72</u>  Tel: +356 21342898  Email: <a href="mailto:racecontrol@rolexmiddlesearace.com">racecontrol@rolexmiddlesearace.com</a>	"Malta Radio"  VHF Channel 16 MMSI 002150100 +356 21 257267	Royal Malta Yacht Club Ta'Xbiex Seafront Ta'Xbiex XBX 1028, Malta

**BOATS RETIRING FROM THE RACE MUST  
IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY THE RACE COMMITTEE.  
FAILURE TO COMPLY MAY LEAD TO EXCLUSION FROM FUTURE RACES**

**THE ATTENTION OF EVERY COMPETITOR IS DRAWN TO SPECIAL REGULATION 1.02 AND TO THE IMPORTANCE OF  
HAVING SUITABLE AND ADEQUATE PERSONAL INSURANCE**

**The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone.  
(RRS Fundamental Rule 3)**

**All times are local (CEST/UTC+2)**

*The notation '[DP]' in a rule in the SI means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the International Jury, be less than disqualification.*

*The notation '[NP]' in a rule in the SI means that a breach of this rule shall not be grounds for protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a).*

*The notation '[SP]' in a rule in the SI means that for a breach of this rule a standard penalty may be applied by the Race Committee without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1, A4 and A5*

## 1 RULES

1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).

1.2 No national authority prescriptions will apply.

1.3 [DP] World Sailing's Offshore Special Regulations Category 4 with RORC Prescriptions

1.4 [DP] IRC Rules A, B and C, MOCRA Rules, ORC Rating System Rules and other class rules as appropriate.

1.5 [SP] [DP] World Sailing Test Rule DR21-01 applies. The RRS definition of "Start" is changed as follows:

**Start** A boat starts when her hull having been entirely on the prestart side of the starting line, and having complied with rule 30.1 if it applies, any part of her hull crosses the starting line from the pre-start side to the course side either

(a) at or after her starting signal, or

(b) during the last 60 seconds before her starting signal.

When a boat starts in accordance with item (b) of the definition Start, she shall not return to the pre-start side of the line, and the starting penalty shall be 30 minutes added to her elapsed time.

RRS 29.1 does not apply. This changes RRS A5.

1.6 The Notice of Race (NoR)

1.7 The Sailing Instructions (SI). The SI shall take precedence over the NoR. This changes RRS 63.7.

## 2 [DP] EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

2.1 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the Rules.

## 3 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS & CHANGES TO THE SI

3.1 All notices to competitors will be posted on the Virtual Official Notice Board (ONB) on the event website at <https://rolexmiddlesearace.com/race/documents/> and may be replicated at the Royal Malta Yacht Club (RMYC).

3.2 Any changes to the Sailing Instructions will be posted no later than 21:30 on Tuesday 18 October.

3.3 [DP] Competitors are reminded of their responsibility to take account of Notice to Mariners and should be particularly aware of:

3.3.1 Malta Local NTM:

<https://www.transport.gov.mt/Maritime/Local-waters/Official-Notices/Notices-to-Mariners-Local-Archive-3545>

3.3.2 Malta Coastal NTM:

<https://www.transport.gov.mt/Maritime/Local-waters/Official-Notices/Notices-to-Mariners-Coastal-Archive-3544>

## 4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

4.1 Signals ashore will be displayed on the mast of the Royal Malta Yacht Club.

4.2 When Flag 'AP' is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced by 'no less than 120 minutes' in RRS Race Signals 'AP'.

## 5 SKIPPER'S BRIEFING

5.1 The Skipper's Briefing will be held on Tuesday, 18 October at 18:00 at the Grand Hotel Excelsior, to be attended by no more than two crew members of each boat. The event may also be broadcast, in which case a link will be available on the ONB.

## 6 [DP] [NP] EVENT BACKSTAY FLAGS AND BATTLE FLAGS

6.1 All competitors will be provided with an official Yachting Malta backstay flag that shall be flown at least 1.5m above the deck while racing.

## 7 [DP] AIS

7.1 All boats shall have their AIS transponder switched on, transmitting (at least every minute) and receiving from 08:50 on Wednesday 19 October and throughout the race.

7.2 A boat's AIS must transmit; the boat's MMSI number and current racing name.

7.3 Nothing shall be done to inhibit AIS transmissions.

7.4 Boats unable to meet these requirements shall submit comprehensive details of the reason on their Declaration Form and may be subject to protest. **The penalty for breaking this rule is at the discretion of the International Jury and may include disqualification.**

## 8 [DP] YB TRACKERS

8.1 Not applicable for the Coastal Race.

## 9 [DP] [NP] COMMUNICATIONS

### At the Start

9.1 **VHF Ch.72** - The Race Committee (Callsign "Offshore One") may broadcast information on VHF Ch.72 at the start. Boats are strongly recommended to **listen** to the Race Committee until well clear of the start. Start information such as sail numbers and/or boat names of boats having been OCS and subject to the penalty in SI 1.5 may be announced approximately one minute after each start.

A boat may, without infringing RRS41 (Outside Help), request and receive repetition of information broadcast by the Race Committee or enquire whether or not a broadcast has been made.

### At the Finish

9.2 **VHF Ch.72** - The Race Committee (Callsign "Offshore One") may broadcast information on VHF Ch.72 at the finish. Boats are strongly recommended to **listen** to the Race Committee until clear of the finish area and respond if requested to aid identification.

### At all Other Times

9.3 **VHF Ch.16** - Boats are reminded of their legal obligation to keep a continuous watch on VHF Ch.16 throughout the race.

9.4 Inter-boat communication calls should when possible be on DSC or VHF Ch.16 as a calling Channel and VHF Ch.72 as a working Channel.

9.5 Boats with communications in addition to VHF should act as a link, taking other boats' reports on VHF and passing them to the Race Committee or Coastguard when requested or called upon to do so.

9.6 **Onboard Mobile** – Boats are reminded to monitor their nominated onboard mobile phone. This may be needed by the Race Committee in an emergency situation.

9.7 **Satellite phone, if available:** Boats which have a Satellite phone are requested to keep it operable, and especially to check it for messages frequently. If the Race Committee is unable to reach a phone, it may send a message requesting contact with the boat.

9.8 Competitors are reminded of the restrictions on Outside Assistance as per the NoR 9.2/9.3.

## 10 [DP] [NP] STARTING GROUPS/CLASS FLAGS

10.1 No later than the Skipper's Briefing (SI 5.1), competing boats will be assigned to starting groups. The list of starting groups and the associated racing pennant/class flag will be published on the Official Notice Board. The racing pennants will be provided by the Organising Authority and shall be displayed ABOVE the Yachting Malta Flag on the backstay, or on boats with twin backstays, on the PORT backstay or shroud.

## 11 STARTING TIMES AND SIGNALS

11.1 The race will be started by using RRS 26, with the warning signal being made 10 minutes before the starting signal.

11.2 The first warning signal will be displayed on Wednesday, 19 October at 09:50. The warning signal for each succeeding class will be made with or after the starting signal of the preceding class.

11.3 A time check will be provided 10 minutes before the first warning signal.

11.4 A list of starting groups and their planned starting times and associated signals will be made available with the list of starting groups in SI 10.1.

11.5 The Race Committee reserves the right to amend starting times for classes when necessary due to weather conditions or safety concerns. Only the visual signals at the start line are binding and conclusive as per RRS 26.

11.6 Competitors are reminded that World Sailing Test Rule DR21-01 applies. See SI 1.5.

## 12 STARTING LINE

12.1 The Starting Line is detailed in Appendix A.

## 13 [DP] LATE AT THE START

13.1 If a boat has not previously come to the starting area at her preparatory signal and comes to the starting area under power (or being towed), they shall stop their engine (or drop their tow) and complete a Two-Turns penalty as specified in RRS 44.2 before starting.

13.2 No penalty will be imposed for an infringement of RRS 42 for complying with SI 13.1.

## 14 AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS

14.1 No area is designated an obstruction.

## **15 THE COURSE**

15.1 The course is detailed in Appendix A.

## **16 RETIREMENTS AND NON-STARTERS**

16.1 Retirements and non-starters shall promptly inform the Race Committee (see page 1 for contact details). It is imperative that boats that are no longer competing can be excluded from any Search & Rescue operation. **Failure to comply with this rule may lead to exclusion from future races.**

## **17 [DP] USE OF ENGINE**

17.1 When a boat uses its engine for propulsion, e.g., to avoid collision, in a grave emergency, or when instructed by governing authorities such as the coast guard, VTS or harbour master, the facts shall be reported on her Declaration Form.

17.2 Temporary discontinuance of racing: If a boat makes fast in order to take shelter or in an emergency, the crew may temporarily leave the boat to handle her moorings. If she uses her engine for propulsion she shall, on rejoining the race, return to the spot where she began to use her engine, turn off her engine and continue to race from that spot. She shall report the circumstances on her Declaration Form. This changes RRS 45 and 48.2.

17.3 A boat that is secured in harbour may receive any assistance to effect repairs or take on any supplies or equipment. This changes RRS 41 and 48.1.

## **18 MECHANICAL POWER**

18.1 The use of an Autopilot is permitted. This changes RRS 52.

18.2 [DP] The use of powered winches is permitted according to the rules in the applicable rating system.

## **19 TIME LIMIT**

19.1 The Time Limit for this race is Wednesday, 17:00. Boats still racing will be scored DNF without a hearing after this time. This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5.

## **20 THE FINISH**

20.1 The Finish is detailed in Appendix A.

## **21 RACE FINISH DECLARATIONS AND RETURN OF YB TRACKER**

21.1 Not applicable to the Coastal Race.

## **22 PENALTY SYSTEM**

22.1 Standard Penalties, marked [SP], shall be applied by the Race Committee as detailed in the individual rule without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1, A4 and A5.

22.1.1 Should the Race Committee consider a standard penalty to be inappropriate, it may protest the boat.

22.2 For Rules marked [DP], the penalty shall be at the discretion of the International Jury.

22.3 Breaches of SI marked [NP] shall not be grounds for protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1a.

22.4 Other Penalties

22.4.1 When the International Jury decides that a boat that is party to a protest hearing has broken a rule other than RRS Part 1 and 2 and that no serious damage or injury was caused and no significant advantage has been gained, it may apply a time penalty of 10%. Should the International Jury decide that the breach was minor and unintentional it may at its discretion apply a different penalty.

## **23 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**

23.1 Protests may be written on plain paper or in an electronic message to [jury@rolexmiddlesearace.com](mailto:jury@rolexmiddlesearace.com), but Protest Forms are available at the Race Office. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit.

23.2 The protest time limit is 2 hours after the protesting boat finishes.

23.3 Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit for the last boat to finish the race.

23.4 The notification of a Protest by the Race or Technical Committee or by the Jury against a boat as required under RRS 61.1(b) or (c) shall consist of a notice on the Official Notice Board.

23.5 Hearings will normally be held in the jury room at the RMYC. The Jury may make other arrangements.

23.6 An International Jury has been appointed. Decisions made by the International Jury will not be subject to appeal under RRS 70.5.

## **24 SCORING**

24.1 The Scoring System as defined in Notice of Race 13, will apply.

- 24.2 The scoring abbreviation for a Standard Penalty is "SP". The Race Committee will publish a list of Standard Penalties applied on the ONB.

## **25 TROPHIES AND PRIZES**

- 25.1 Trophies and Prizes are detailed in the Notice of Race 14.

## **26 RISK STATEMENT**

- 26.1 Competitor's attention is drawn to the Disclaimer and Media Release & Image Rights Waiver in the Notice of Race 18 and 19. Additionally, competitors are reminded of Rule 3 of the Racing Rules of Sailing which states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone."
- 26.2 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:
- a) 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;
  - b) they are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;
  - c) they accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omission;
  - d) their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
  - e) the provision of a race management team and other officials and volunteers by the event organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
  - f) they are responsible for ensuring that their boat is equipped and seaworthy so as 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, in date and familiar to the crew.

## **27 PRIZEGIVING**

- 27.1 The Coastal Race Prizegiving will take place in Gracy's Brasserie in Valetta on Wednesday 19 October from 20:00.

## APPENDIX A THE COURSE

### A1 STARTING LINE

- A1.1 The Start will be in Marsamxett Harbour. The starting line is formed between a mast displaying a Yachting Malta Battle Flag on Tigné Point in an approx. position of 35° 54'.37N 014° 30'.80E on the port end; and an inflatable buoy bearing the Rolex logo laid to the Southeast of Tigné Point on the starboard end.
- A1.2 [NP] [DP] Boats, who's warning signal has not yet been displayed, shall proceed to and thereafter remain South-West of a line between St. Paul's Cathedral to the East (35° 54'N 014° 30'.7E) and the Stairs to Fort Manoel (35° 54'.15N 014° 30'.34E) to the West, unless they are proceeding for the first time from the course side to the pre-start side of the starting line. Care should be taken whilst manoeuvring to the pre-start side during a preceding group's start sequence, where boats may still be liable to infringe RRS 23.1.

### A2 THE COURSE

- A2.1 The course, including a description of the marks, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left, is detailed below:

Order	Mark	Required Side	Position (WGS84) #	
			Latitude	Longitude
1	Valletta Harbour Fairway Buoy	Port	35° 54'.75N	014° 32'.51E
2	Island of Comino	Port		
3	Comino West Cardinal Mark	Port	36° 00'.93N	014° 18'.92E
4 *	Cross a line * formed between St Mary's Gun Battery on Comino and the land in the center of Armier Bay	Cross	36° 00'.40N	014° 20'.77E
			35° 59'.52N	014° 21'.64E
5	Valletta Harbour Fairway Buoy	Starboard	35° 54'.75N	014° 32'.51E
	Finish (see SI A3 below)			

**Distance: approximately 29 nm**

# The position of marks is approximate.

\* Competitors will automatically cross this line when leaving Comino to port, however this allows the Race Committee to shorten the course to approx. 17 nm here should conditions require it.

### A3 THE FINISH

- A3.1 The finish line runs between a mast, displaying a Yachting Malta Battle Flag, set up on Tigné Point in an approx. position of 35° 54'.37N 014° 30'.80E, and an inflatable buoy, bearing the Rolex logo, laid to the Southeast of Tigné Point.
- A3.2 All boats shall listen to "Offshore One" on **VHF Ch.72** from approximately 5 miles out.
- A3.3 "Offshore One" may ask a boat to assist with identification when finishing.