



## EAST PATCH RACING COMMITTEE

R.N.C.Y.C. Clubhouse,  
Rhu,  
Dunbartonshire G84 8NG.

Telephone: Rhu 820 322

Dear Fellow Competitor,

This is to remind you, and record our appreciation, that you are Race Officer. If having read the guidelines you have any questions, please contact the RNCYC Office or Howard Morrison on 07795 183660, as early as possible.

1. THE RACE BAG, containing flags, hooters, etc and the Course Number Sheets, should be collected by both HSC and RNCYC Members from the Cloakroom in the main reception hall of the RNCYC Clubhouse or at James Watt Marina Reception. Collection may be made on the Friday evening prior to your duty.
2. THE RACE OFFICER'S FOLDER, containing all necessary documentation and lists of entrants, is also contained in the race bag.
3. It is recommended you check the contents at the earliest opportunity although the RNCYC Boatman or James Watt staff will have inspected the equipment.
4. CREW – It is essential to have sufficient crew for efficient operation of the Committee Vessel, it is recommended a minimum of three, plus the Race Officer.
5. TIME ON STATION – To be ready for the 10 minute warning signal, you should be on station 10 minutes before the first warning signal.
6. IMPORTANT – Race Officers must contact both the Duty Operations Officer, QHM, HM Naval Base Clyde (Tel: 674321, Ext 3555) and Clyde Estuary Control, Greenock (01475 726221) to make sure that the Channel will be clear before commencing a race.
7. RESULTS – At the end of racing, please return the Race Bag and Race Officer's folder with results to the Cloakroom at the RNCYC or Reception at James Watt **as quickly as possible**. After computer processing, the results will be posted on the East Patch, HSC and RNCYC websites respectively.

Thank you for your assistance

*Continued overleaf/....*

## EAST PATCH RACE OFFICER'S CHECK LIST

1. Check contents of Race Bag against inventory in Race Officer's wallet.
2. Check out weather forecast – If no racing possible, show abandonment on jetty at RNCYC and flagpole at HSC, and advise the Rhu Marina Office. James Watt Race Officers should contact the helpline who will deal with the north of the river signal. The helpline number is shown on Contents Index.
3. Check for Naval shipping movement – Race Officers must contact the Duty Operations Officer, QHM, HM Naval Base Clyde, Tel No 01436 674321, Ext 3555 and Clyde Estuary Control, Greenock (01475 726221) to make sure that the Channel will be clear before commencing a race. If shipping is likely to be present in the channel or vicinity of it, hoist Flag U as soon as you are on station at the start line.
4. Allocate duties to your crew:  
(a) Timekeeper (b) Flags (c) Whistle or hooter and (d) Check starter list.
5. Motor to start area – to be ready on station at least 15 minutes before first time or warning signal, having selected course, laid start line, erected tri-atic stay, bent on appropriate flags, hoisted Orange Flag (as near your mast as a sight line for start/finish) and displayed Course Number.
6. Laying start line – should be at right angles to the wind from the chosen first mark, and the length should be one and a half times the aggregate length of the largest number of starters in any one class.  
Your end of the line is an Orange flag flying on the Committee boat.
7. Familiarise yourself and your crew – with flag sequence of class starts and flag and sound signals for postponement, recall (individual and general), shorten course, etc in Race Officer's wallet.
8. Real times (HHMMSS) – should be recorded for each Class start; at the end of each round; and at the finish – for each entrant. Record each competitor in start area prior to starting sequence.
9. Change of Course – If there is a material wind change that spoils the course set, course can be altered at the end of a round. Fly Flag C and display new course before the first boat passes through the line. Give repeated hooter signals as each boat, or group of boats, approaches the line. Be aware that you may have to reset the finishing line to avoid “hook finishes”.
10. Note any boats flying protest flags – and endeavour to obtain brief details. Endorse result sheets accordingly.
11. At conclusion of racing – Return Race Officer's folder and equipment bag to RNCYC or James Watt Reception **as quickly as possible** where race and series-to-date results will be computed. Results will be processed the following working morning and posted on the East Patch, HSC and RNCYC websites respectively.