



Aberdeen Boat Club

Waglan Series: 2023 - 2024

Notice of Race

Supported by



Commodores Message

The forward weather forecast from Mid-September shows constant Easterly to SE'ly winds, which would indicate an early transition of the monsoon auguring well for the first race in the Series on Sunday 8th October 23. The ABC Opening Regatta on 23rd September 23 will give more of a clue and sharpen appetites for the Autumn Racing that follows. We all hope there is much to look forward to afloat over the twelve races in the series, until April 2024.

As regulars know well and newbies will discover, this exciting Series exposes sailors to more dependable, often strong winds, choppy seas and occasional heavy swells; hence more challenging fun. Bear in mind the adjective 'challenging' when it comes to safety: while no race will commence in extreme conditions, this is no guarantee that mild or modestly breezy conditions at the start will prevail around the Islands. Ah, the Islands: we are blessed in having such an enchanting backdrop as our bailiwick, for the benefit of all entrants.

In line with precedent there are five divisions open to entry, with the first race in which a boat enters determining its place for the whole series regardless of any subsequent change in handicap. The final divisional splits will be decided upon the closure of the entry lists, prior to the beginning of the series. The splits and courses have been set with a view to allowing all, with leisurely ladies and flat-out racers, to compete with their peers.

The ABC SSIs are periodically updated in the light of previous experience and the increasing number of changes wrought by the HK Marine Department, so participants must ensure they have the latest revision on board, and then read it! The same applies to the Notice of Race below, equally important, in fact an essential guide. If unsure, please contact the ABC Marine & Sailing Office, whom are always glad to assist.

Regarding the HK Marine Department; please note carefully that local Yacht Races are coming under increasing security and breaches of the rules related to HK's busy Traffic Lanes, which could potentially jeopardise the issue of future Race Permits for the club, which govern every race.

There is much to look forward to with the bisque of a decent deal from our regular sponsor and supporter Fuegy Fuels to get boats to the start line in time at a generous fuel discount, along with various fuel voucher, as prizes.

None of the exhilaration to come, the organisation and operation of the series itself would not be possible, without the wholehearted and enthusiastic preparation, plus support from our Marine & Sailing staff, with the deployment of the full range of ABC's equipment and vessels. Their input and work are very much appreciated.

So that said; I wish all participants a most enjoyable, exciting but safe season's racing to come. This is an open series to which ABC is delighted to welcome all, members, non-members and newcomers.



Chris Pooley
ABC Commodore



Waglan Series 2023 - 2024

Notice of Race

The Regatta Organising Authority is the Aberdeen Boat Club under the auspices of the Sailing Federation of Hong Kong, China.

1. Rules

- 1.1 The Series will be governed by the 'Rules' as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (R R S) 2021 – 2024.
- 1.2 The Prescriptions of the Sailing Federation of Hong Kong, China (SFHKC) will apply, together with:
 - The IRC Rules, Parts A, B and C (IRC Rule 22.4 shall not apply).
 - There will be no limitations on crew number or weight, except single or shorthanded Yachts or open keelboat entries are not acceptable;
 - **the SailSys PHS handicap System (PHS) (formally the HKPN handicap system);**
 - the World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations Category 4 - Appendix J, plus VHF
 - Radio for Yachts with accommodation (except that the requirement to be self-righting will not apply to the Multihull Classes);
 - Class Association rules of any competing classes – One Design/J80s;
 - this Notice of Race (NoR) and the ABC Standard Sailing Instructions 2021 – 2024: ABC SSI 2022 – Revised Edition.
- 1.3 In case of conflict between any of the above, succeeding items take precedence. This changes RRS 63.7.
- 1.4 For the purposes of IRC Rule 21.1.5 (d) & (e) the series is run on week-ends over the season. Replacement sails may be permitted during the series by informing the Race Committee. A replacement sail will only be permitted if it is of similar cloth weight, area and design
- 1.5 If the Protest Committee decides that a boat which is party to a protest has broken a rule and is not exonerated, it may impose a scoring penalty (which may be no penalty) at its discretion, as an alternative to disqualification. This changes RRS 64.2
- 1.6 This NoR may be amended by the ABC SSI 2022 – Revised Edition and the Waglan Series 2023 – 2024 Notice to Competitors (NTC) # 1.

2. Advertising

- 2.1 Boats may be required to display the series sponsor's advertising chosen and supplied by the Organising Authority.
- 2.2 World Sailing Regulation 20 will apply for Competitors boats/crew wear displayed during the event.

3 Eligibility and Entry

- 3.1 Eligible boats are Yachts which have valid IRC Certificates or PHS ratings and other seaworthy keel boats at the discretion of the Race Committee.
- 3.2 Yacht mono hulls and multi hulls with accommodation who hold a valid PHS rating.
- 3.3 Entry may be made by submitting a completed online entry form on the new SailSys, a Declaration of Skipper form, (with IRC certificate if appropriate) to the Club before 1700 hrs. on the respective Friday before racing takes place. Details can be found on the event website at: www.abclubhk.com/Waglan23-24.aspx
- 3.4 Boats wishing to enter individual races must submit an online entry form and Skippers declaration on the new SailSys by 1700 hrs. on the respective Friday before the race takes place. Details can be found as stated in clause 3.3, above.
- 3.5 **Boats may not enter on the water, on the day. All boats must have entered for the series, mini - series or individual race by the above stated deadline, in clause 3.4.**
- 3.6 The series is open to the following classes and boats:

3.6.1 Class or Division of Class

IP	CLASS/DIVISIONS
• Flag G	Yachts IRC 1
• Flag O	Yachts IRC 2
• Flag T	Yachts PHS Division A
• Flag V	Yachts PHS Division B
• Flag M	Multihulls

- 3.7 Boats from other classes may also be considered by the Race Committee on application, prior to the start of the event by **1700 hrs on Friday 06th October 23.**
- 3.8 The final class/divisional splits for Yachts IRC and PHS will be published by the Race Committee subject to entries received and in the interests of fair racing by **Friday 06th October 2023 in the Waglan Series 2023 - 2024 (NTC # 1.)**
- One Design/J 80s will race in the PHS class. IRC will also get a result in the PHS class for rating adjustment purposes only.
- 3.9 A class or division will consist of a three-boat minimum for all classes. Boats must fly their class or division flag at all times.
- 3.10 All boats must be in the vicinity of the starting line at its class warning signal to be eligible for a race throughout all the series.
- 3.11 IRC & PHS ratings will be listed as published on the current HKSF website.

4. Entry Fees

The entry fees for all series boats will be as follows: \$2,000 HKD. Boats may enter individual races at a fee of \$350 HKD but must submit an entry form and sign the skipper's declaration form online on the Club website, as outlined in the Waglan NoR 2023 – 2024: Clause 3.4.

5. Qualifying Series

The overall series will consist of twelve races, with two mini-series consisting of six races each, with an allowance of one discard per mini-series.

6. Schedule of Races

6.1 Racing will be on Sundays on the following dates:

- Waglan Series 1 - Island Race: 08 October 2023
- Waglan Series 2 - Island Race: 22 October 2023
- Waglan Series 3 & 4: X 2 Windward/Leeward cse: 05 November 2023
- Waglan Series 5 - Island Courses: 19 November 2023
- Waglan Series 6 - Island Race: 10 December 2023
- Waglan Series 7 - Island Race: 14 January 2024
- Waglan Series 8 & 9: X 2 Windward/Leeward cse: 18 February 2024
- Waglan Series 10 - Island Race: 03 March 2024
- Waglan Series 11 - Island Race: 17 March 2024
- Waglan Series 12 - Island Race: 24 March 2024
- Waglan Series Re – sail 07 April 2024

6.2 The first warning signal for all classes will not be before **10:55 hrs.** on any given race day.

7. Measurements

7.1 Boats entering the IRC Class shall submit at the beginning of the series a copy of their current IRC Certificate to the Club office no later than **1700 hrs. on Friday 06th October 2023**, unless their IRC rating is listed on HKSF website. A scanned soft copy sent by email is acceptable.

7.2 Boats **must submit** a new IRC certificate to the Sailing Office, if their TCC rating changes during the series.

8. Sailing Instructions

8.1 The Waglan 2023 – 2024 Series will be sailed under the amended ABC SSI 2022 – Revised Edition.

8.2 The ABC SSI 2022 – Revised Edition can be downloaded from the series webpage or a hard copy collected on any day from the Marine & Sailing Office at ABC main club.

9. Venue

Racing will take place in the waters to the South, East and West of Hong Kong Island.

10. Courses

10.1 All courses, both island & windward/leeward are described in the ABC SSI 2022 Revised Edition.

10.2 All Island Courses will start in the vicinity of ABC Round Island or ABC Lamma start areas.

10.3 All Windward and Leeward Courses will be held in the vicinity East of Lamma Island.

11. Penalty and Arbitration

11.1 Prior to a Protest Hearing an Arbitration Hearing may be offered in accordance with Appendix T as modified in NoR 11.2. If an arbitration hearing is not available, a boat may nonetheless take a postrace penalty as defined in NoR 11.2. (This changes Appendix T2.)

- 11.2 A boat may take a penalty at the time of the incident as per RRS 44.1..
- 11.3 Provided that rule 44.1(b) does not apply, a boat that may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 or rule 31 in an incident may take a Post-Race Penalty at any time after the race until the beginning of a protest hearing involving the incident, in accordance with Appendix T, as modified below:
- 11.4 (a) The Post-Race Penalty is a 20% Scoring Penalty except the minimum scoring penalty shall be 3 places. (This changes Appendix T1.b.)
- (b) A boat takes a Post-Race Penalty by notifying a member of the Race Committee, or for incidents resulting in a protest, an arbitrator or a member of the protest committee in writing that she accepts a scoring penalty. (This changes Appendix T1 (c) and Appendix A.5).
- (c) Arbitration Process of Appendix T2 - 4 may be offered for each incident resulting in a protest by a boat. (This changes Appendix T2).
- 11.5 Protest time limit for all boats is 60 minutes after the last boat finishes.
- 11.6 RRS rule Appendix A – Clause 5.3 will apply.
- 12. Scoring**
- 12.1 There will be twelve races of two mini-series consisting of six races each, with one discard per mini-series, which will also be included in the overall results.
- 12.2 Corrected times for boats racing under a rating system will be calculated to the nearest second.
- 12.3 Other prescriptions as outlined in Scoring and Results of the ABC SSI 2022 – Revised Edition.
- 12.4 Provisional results will be announced during the post-race informal prize giving at ABC main club, subject to any outstanding protests.
- 12.5 Boats may win a series or mini-series overall in IRC, or PHS. A boat which wins an individual race in IRC or PHS, may only win under one handicap rating system or under the class they originally entered or placed in by the Race Committee.
- 13. Safety & Support Boats.**
- 13.1 While racing; no anchors or large bow rollers shall be carried on deck forward of the bow, unless enclosed by the hull or a fixed bowsprit.
- 13.2 ABC support boats may be suitably marked with the sponsors or event branding.
- 13.3 All boats must carry a handheld VHF radio, in addition to a ship's VHF radio set installed.
- 13.4 If a boat retires or has an incident during a race requiring assistance, the Committee Boat and/or Race Officer must be informed immediately.

14. Berthing & Moorings

Subject to availability, temporary moorings can be provided, in either Deepwater Bay or Aberdeen Typhoon Shelter for boats wishing to stay overnight before or after the race. Details may be obtained from the Club on 2552 1812 (Ext. 834) or by emailing to marinecoord@abclubhk.com. Space booking is required but not guaranteed.

15. Minimum Safety Requirement

15.1 Boats must comply with their class rules regarding safety requirements and Yachts must comply with the World Sailing Offshore Special Regulation Category 4: Appendix J.

15.2 The requirement to be self-righting will not apply to the multihull classes with accommodation:

<http://www.sailing.org/documents/offshorespecialregs/index.php>

16. Radio Communications

Communications between the Race Committee and competitors will be on **Marine VHF Channel 72**. This applies to all boats competing in an individual race or the series. In the event of an incident, the ABC Marine Services Manager can also be called by mobile phone on +852 6773 2066.

17. Prizes

17.1 The Waglan Series 2023 – 2024 Overall and Miniseries trophies and prizes will be awarded to boats placed overall first, second and third places for each class, depending on the number of entries. The prize giving will be at a separate date and time to be confirmed.

17.2 A short informal prize giving will be held after each race, with the first placed boat in each division receiving a prize at ABC main club - Waglan Bar & Terrace.

17.3 The Trophies award in the Waglan Series 2023 - 2024 are listed in Annex H of the ABC SSI 2022 – Revised Edition.

18. Disclaimer of Liability

18.1 The Aberdeen Boat Club, the Organising Committee, the Race Committee, Race Sponsors and their respective representatives, Officers, Members, Staff and Volunteers accept no liability whatsoever for any loss of life or property, personal injury and damage caused by, or arising out of the series.

18.2 The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone. (RRS Fundamental Rule 3). In addition, competitor's attention is drawn to the World Sailing Special Regulations 1.02.1 (first point) which begins "Under RRS 3, the responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or continue racing is hers alone. The safety of a boat and her crew is the sole and inescapable responsibility of the Person-in-charge..." Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk.

18.2 Owners and skippers are invited to co-operate with the Organising Authority, Race Committee and ABC Sailing Office in completing the formalities of their boat entries by submission of all required information, certificates, forms, etc. within the deadline dates quoted throughout this NoR. Failure to comply will result in a boat not entering the series correctly and will require supporting evidence to be presented to the race committee.

- 19. Insurance**
Entered boats shall have third party liability insurance at least to the minimum required cover under Hong Kong SAR law.
- 20. Further Information**
- 20.1 Car Parking**
Car parking is not available for visitors on race days. There are two public car parks, one at the Aberdeen Marina Club and one at the Jumbo Car Park on Welfare Road.
- 20.2 Club House**
Visiting competitors from the Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club and Hebe Haven Yacht Club may sign chits on the race day on presentation of their club membership card.
- 20.3 Food and Beverage**
Non - member competitors may use Octopus cards from the Coffee shop which are valid for use only on designated race days. There will be a buffet breakfast for every race served in the Coffee shop from 0800 hrs. at \$85 HKD – early bird special - \$95 HKD after 0900 hrs. After racing, dinner is available from 1830 hours until 2200 hours. Shorts and collarless shirts are not permitted in the restaurant in the evening and casual clothing should be clean and smart.
- 20.4 Ships Stores & Fuel**
Drinks and ice are available from the Galley on the day and the takeaway food requires pre-order the day before. Fuel is obtainable from the Fuegy Fuel Barge at the Western end of Aberdeen Harbour – there is a discount for ABC members.
- 21. Further Information**
- 21.1** Event website: www.abclubhk.com/Waglan23-24.aspx
- 21.2 Event enquiries or Race Management:**
Alex Johnston – ABC Marine Services Manager
Email: marine.services@abclubhk.com
Tel: +852 6773 - 2066 (mobile)
- 21.3 Entries & Mooring enquires to be submitted to:**
Jennifer Li – ABC Assistant Marine and Sailing Manager
Email: marinecoord@abclubhk.com
Tel: +852 2552 8182 – Ext: 834