



Aberdeen Boat Club

Valentines/Ladies Helm Race 2025

Sunday 09th February

Notice of Race

The Event Organising Authority is the Aberdeen Boat Club under the auspices of the Hong Kong Sailing Federation and consists of the Valentine's Day race, including the Ladies Helm.

1. Rules

- 1.1. The Regatta will be governed by the 'Rules' as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 2025 - 2028.
- 1.2. The Prescriptions of the Hong Kong Sailing Federation (HKSF) will apply, together with:
 - the PHS Handicap System,
 - the World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations Category 5 - Appendix J, plus VHF radio for cruisers with accommodation (except that the requirement to be self-righting will not apply to the Multihull Classes);
 - **There will be no limitations on crew numbers or weight, except single or shorthanded Yachts or open keelboat entries are not acceptable.**
 - Class Association rules of competing classes – J 80's; etc.
 - **This Notice of Race (NoR) and the ABC Standard Sailing Instructions 2025 Edition.**
- 1.3. In case of conflict between any of the above, succeeding items take precedence. This changes RRS 63.7.
- 1.4. 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.

1.5. This NoR may be amended by the ABC SSI 2025 Edition.

2. Eligibility and Entry

2.1 This event is open to all Yacht/Cruisers mono hulls, Class boats, J 80's and multi hulls with accommodation who hold a valid PHS rating.

2.2 The Skippers of a co-owned J80 must declare their name to the Organising Authority before the race. The handicap for that skipper shall apply for the race and that skipper must be onboard the boat.

2.3 Boats wishing to enter the event must submit an online entry form and skipper's declaration by 1800 hrs - Friday 07th February 2025.

2.4 Boats without PHS ratings, please enter using the SailSystem online entry. Any such allocation will not be subject to protest. All PHS ratings will be listed on the event entry list before the start of the race on Sunday 09th February 2025.

2.5 To qualify for the Ladies Helm Trophy; the name of the lady must be submitted on the entry form.

3. Divisions, Classes and Handicaps

This is a PHS event in which all boats will race under their PHS handicap and will be placed in either the PHS Division A or B depending on entries. An NTC to all competitors will be issued on Friday 07th February 2025 at 1800 hrs with the final divisional splits.

4. Entry Fees

The fee for this event is \$375 HKD.

5. Schedule of Races

The first start for the Islands race will not be before: 1055 hrs.

6. Venue

The ABC Valentines & Ladies Helm event will be sailed around the islands and waters southeast of Hong Kong.

7. Course

The course will be chosen from the ABC Standard SSI 2025 Edition: Annex B – Islands Courses.

8. Penalties and Arbitration

8.1 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.)

8.2 A boat may take a penalty at the time of the incident as per RRS 44.1.

8.3 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:

- 8.4 (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 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).
- 8.5 Protest time limit for all boats is 60 minutes after the last boat finishes.
- 8.6 RRS rule Appendix A – Clause 5.3 will apply.
- 9. Scoring**
Scoring shall be in accordance with RRS Appendix A and the Low point System A4.
- 10. Radio Communications**
Communications between the Race Committee and competitors will be on Marine VHF Channel 72. This applies to yachts, J80s, and multihulls with accommodation only.
- 11. Prizes**
- 11.1. Provisional results for the days race will be posted online and hard copies posted on the Sailing Notice boards at the main club. There will be an informal prize giving in the Waglan Bar at the ABC main club, post-race.
- 11.2. Prizes will be awarded to the first, second and third placed boats.
- 12. Disclaimer of Liability**
- 12.1 The Aberdeen Boat Club, the Organising Committee, the Race Committee, Race Sponsors and their respective representatives, 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 race.
- 12.2 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, competitors' attention is drawn to Special Regulation 1.02 (first point) which begins "The safety of a yacht and her crew is the sole and inescapable responsibility of the Person-in-charge..." Competitors participate in the series entirely at their own risk.
- 12.3 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 race correctly and will require supporting evidence to be presented to the race committee to comply.
- 13. Insurance**
Entered boats shall have third party liability insurance at least to the minimum cover required under Hong Kong SAR law.

14. Further Information

14.1 Car Parking

Car parking is not available for visitors. There are two public car parks, one at the Aberdeen Marina Club and one at the Jumbo Car Park on Welfare Road.

14.2 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.

14.3 Food and Beverage

Non-member competitors may purchase cash coupons from the Coffee shop which are valid for use only on designated race days.

14.4 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 Aberdeen Marina Club fuel pier opposite the Club or the Fuegy Fuel Barge outside the western entrance of Aberdeen Harbour.

**14.6 Entries & Mooring enquires to be submitted to:
Mark Cheng – Assistant Marine & Sailing Manager**

Email: marinecoord@abclubhk.com

Tel: +852 2552 8182 – Ext: # 834

**14.7 Race Management enquiries to be submitted to:
Alex Johnston – Marine Services Manager**

Email: marine.services@abclubhk.com

Tel: +852 2552 8182 – Ext: # 833