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**Whitefriars Sailing Club – Sailing Instructions for-
Albacore National Inland Championship
Whitefriars SC
23rd/24th October 2021**

1 Rules

1.1 Racing will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)*, the prescriptions of the RYA, the Notice of Race (NoR), these Sailing Instructions and the relevant Class Rules. The Race Officer and such persons as he/she may co-opt are the Race Committee.

1.2 The Race Officer may appoint a Protest Committee as required.

1.3 Competitors' Attention is drawn to Club Rules 6 and 8. These state that an adequate buoyancy aid must be **worn at all times** when afloat and that any person taking part in activities on the lake during cold or adverse weather conditions is strongly advised to wear an adequate wet or dry suit.

2 Notices to Competitors

2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board within the clubhouse

3 Changes to Sailing Instructions

3.1 Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted on the official notice board at least 30 minutes before the warning signal of the first race of the day, on the day it will take effect

4 Signals Made Ashore

4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flagpole on the Start Hut.

5 Schedule of Races

5.1 The start time of the first race will be no earlier than 13.00. The start times of the second and subsequent races will be advised by Race Officer at the briefing.

6 Class Flags

6.1 Flag "Numeral No2" will be used as the Albacore Class Flag.

7 The Courses

7.1 The course to be sailed and the number of rounds will be posted either;
(a) on the rail of the race control hut not later than the Warning Signal for each race,
or

(b) on the course board on the committee boat not later than the warning signal for each race.

7.2 In each case the course will be indicated by a number or letter identifying a mark. The background colour of the board shall indicate the required side (Green for a mark to be left to Starboard, Red for one to be left to Port).

The number of rounds will be indicated by a black numeral on a white background.

7.3 In addition a map of the course may be drawn on the whiteboard in the Club house, together with a list of the marks for that race. In the event of any discrepancy between this diagram/list and the course given on the Start Hut rail (or Committee Boat course board), the latter shall be considered definitive. For the start of each race a Dory power boat will lead the fleet round each mark for the first lap.

8 Marks

8.1 The marks will be selected from a set of fixed, yellow, cylindrical buoys (0-9, A-C) and a set of moveable yellow pillar buoys (U, V, X, Y).

9 The Start

9.1 Races will be started using RRS 26 (5-4-1-0). For information only a bell will be sounded approximately 10 minutes before the Start.

The schedule is for races 1-3 for Saturday and 4-6 for Sunday. But this can be changed due to weather conditions by the race officer

9.2 The Start Line will be either:

- a) the transit formed by the Start Hut Flagpole bearing a Black and White Diamond and a moveable pole on the shoreline, also bearing a Black and White Diamond; or
- b) The line between the mast of the committee boat and a fixed Club mark or Yellow Dan Buoy with a Red flag.

9.3 Inner and outer distance marks will be Yellow Dan Buoys with Red flags. If Inner and Outer Distance Marks are laid all boats shall pass between them when starting

9.4 An Individual recall will be signalled by raising flag " X" together with one sound signal.

9.5 A General recall will be signalled by raising First Substitute flag together with 2 sound signals. The start sequence will be recommenced asap.

10 The Finish

10.1 The finishing line will be either:

- a) the transit formed by the Start Hut Flagpole bearing a Black and White Diamond and a moveable pole on the shoreline, also bearing a Black and White Diamond; or
- b) The line between the mast of the committee boat and a fixed Club mark or Yellow Dan Buoy with a Red flag.

10.2 All boats shall pass between the Outer Distance Mark and the shore (or the ODM and the Committee Boat) to finish.

10.3 If a helm chooses to retire, they should inform the race officer as soon as possible after returning to shore. This will assist the race officer with monitoring the safety of boats afloat.

11 Shortening Course

11.1 Class races: When flags 'S' and the class flag is displayed with two sound signals at the final mark of the course, boats will finish when they cross the finishing line at the end of the round still to be completed by the leading boat.

12.1 The Race Officer will aim for the first boat to finish after 40 to 50 minutes, using the Shorten Course procedure if necessary.

12.2 The Finishing Window (i.e., the time limit for boats to finish after the first boat sails the course and finishes) is 20 minutes.

12.3 Boats failing to finish within the Finishing Window shall be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5.

13 Protests and Requests for Redress

13.1 Penalties should be taken accordance with Rule 44.1 and 44.2.

13.2 Protest forms are available from the Race Start Hut. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the time limit.

13.3 The protest time limit shall be 30 minutes after the last boat has finished the race or the last of back-to-back races.

Protest hearings will be heard as soon as possible after receipt by the Race Committee.

14 RISK STATEMENT

14.1 Rule 4 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone."

Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore 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 omissions.

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, patrol boats, umpires and other officials and volunteers by the organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities.

f) The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances.

g) It is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks specific to this venue or this event drawn to their attention in any rules and information produced for the venue or event and to attend any safety briefing held at the venue.

h) Their boat is adequately insured, with cover of at least £3,000,000 against third party claims.