



## BASIC KEELBOAT RACING STANDARD

### Objective

To be able to participate in local club white sail (non spinnaker) races as skipper, helm and crew, of a sloop rigged keelboat of 6 to 12 meters with an outboard or inboard motor in 5 - 20 knots (not gusting over 25 knots) of wind by day, with sufficient understanding of the racing rules, race management procedures, and tactics to successfully complete the race in an enjoyable manner.

### Prerequisites

Introduction to Keelboat Racing Standard;

Pleasure Craft Operator's Card (PCOC).

It is recommended that students have completed the ROC(M) VHF with DSC endorsement.

Note: As a minimum this standard will be adjusted as required every four years to maintain synchronization with the current Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).

### Ashore Knowledge

#### Section I: Sails and Boat Setup

The candidate must be able to:

1. Name and identify the listed elements of the standing rigging and describe the procedure to dock tune the mast including the effects of tension adjustments to the standing rigging on both mast head and fractional rigs;
  - Mast Rake
  - Mast Pre-bend
  - Mast Step
  - Mast Partners
2. Name and describe the following as used to induce angle of attack, slot adjustment, twist and leech symmetry of sails:

Backstay	Main sheet
Boomvang/Kicker	Mast Bend
Cunningham	Headsail sheet leads
Outhaul	Telltails / ticklers
Halyards	Traveller
Leech lines	In haulers
Out haulers	Draft depth and location
Preset marks on equipment	
3. Identify the a typical sail cross over plan according to wind speeds and wave conditions;

#### Section II: Racing Rules & Race Management

The candidate must be able to:

4. Demonstrate a basic understanding of the International Sailing Federation (ISAF) Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) as they apply to a competitor. Specifically the Introduction, Parts 2 (Section C and D), 3 & 4 including all ISAF rule updates and Sail Canada (SC) prescriptions;
5. Identify and explain the meanings and use of Race Committee Signals (RRS Race Signals):
  - a) Postponement Signals,
  - b) Abandonment Signals,
  - c) Change the Next Leg Signals,
  - d) Other Signals;
6. Describe the purpose of Notice of Race (NOR's) and Sailing Instructions (SI's);
7. Describe the penalties and competitors responsibilities associated with:
  - a) Recalls (RRS 29),
  - b) Starting Penalties (RRS 30);



8. Describe the roles of the parties involved in a protest hearing:
 

Protest Chair	Jury Member
Protestor	Protestee
Witness	Interested Party
9. Describe the steps that occur during a protest hearing (RRS Part 5, Section B);
10. Describe the difference between a protest, redress and arbitration;
11. Describe considerations when using navigation marks as marks of the course;
12. Describe how to identify and react to non racing boats when they enter into the race area;
13. Describe what to do when there is no committee boat present at a finish line;
14. Define the difference between one-design and handicap racing;
15. Understand the use of the locally used handicapping system;
16. Understand the low point scoring system;

**Section III: Strategy and Tactics**

The candidate must be able to:

17. Describe the factors to be considered when formulating a game plan for a race;
18. Describe how to determine the favoured end of the start and finish lines;
19. Describe how to determine the favoured side of the course;
20. Describe how current would affect outcomes for:
  - a) Formulating a game plan for a race,
  - b) Determining the favoured end of the start and finish line,
  - c) Determining the favoured side of the course;
21. Describe the use of wind shifts, oscillating or persistent and the terms “header” and “lift”;
22. Describe tactics:
  - a) To protect a lead,
  - b) To overtake a competitor, and
  - c) To slow another competitor down;
23. Explain the reasons for "ducking", “crossing” or "lee bowing" a competitor;
24. Explain the difference between a tactical and a seaman-like mark rounding and when they would be used.

**Afloat Skills**

It is recommended that participants have been able to participate in at least 2 races as part of this level.

**Section IV: Seamanship**

The candidate must be able to:

1. Act as skipper, helm and crew while demonstrating the proper techniques of beating, reaching and running; tacking and gybing; heading up, bearing away, luffing and heaving to; using the following commands and responses:

<u>Commands</u>	<u>Responses</u>	<u>Alert</u>
“Head Up”		
“Bear Away”		
“Ease Sheets”		
“Tighten Sheets”		
“Ready About”	“Ready”	“Helms-a-Lee”
“Ready to Gybe”	“Ready”	“Gybe-ho”

2. Demonstrate the skipper, helm and crew action/commands from the time a member of the crew falls overboard without warning, until the crew is safely recovered. Consider the crew overboard is wearing a PFD and able to assist him/herself. Include the following minimum actions:
  - a) Sound alarm “Crew Overboard!”,
  - b) Deploy marker and buoyant object(s),
  - c) Appoint and maintain a look out,
  - d) Triangle method of return (under sail),
  - e) Describe at least two methods of getting a person out of the water and back aboard;
3. Rig and use a whisker pole and/or an outboard headsail fairlead;



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### **Section V: Manoeuvring Under Power**

The candidate must be able to:

4. Start and stop auxiliary engine on vessel, observing commonly accepted safety practices;
5. Manoeuvre and stop a vessel under power to a position alongside and parallel to a dock, portside-to and starboard side-to, not more than two feet off without the aid of lines, without the stern passing a given mark at any time during the manoeuvre;
6. Apply Rules 5 through 18 of the *Collision Regulations* as applied to a vessel under power;

### **Section VI: Racing Situations**

The candidate must be able to:

7. Demonstrate proper sail selection and shape adjustment appropriate to the prevailing conditions;
8. Correctly identify the favoured end of the start line;
9. Formulate and apply a starting strategy;
10. Demonstrate appropriate sail trim and boat balance for the prevailing conditions on each leg of the course;
11. Demonstrate tactical mark roundings;
12. Apply an understanding of the Rules as they relate to boat on boat situations which occur during the race;
13. Accurately assess crossings with range and bearing;
14. Perform the appropriate exoneration (as per RRS 44.1 & 44.2) following:
  - a) hitting a mark,
  - b) fouling another competitor;
15. Demonstrate appropriate reaction to wind shifts;
16. Correctly identification the favoured end of the finish line.

### **Resource Material**

*Listed alphabetically by title.*

2013 - 2016 The Rules in Practice, Bryan Willis  
Getting Started in Sailboat Racing, Adam Cort and Richard Stearns  
Illustrated Sail & Rig Tuning, Ivar Dedkan  
Performance Racing Tactics , Bill Gladstone, North U.  
Performance Sailing and Racing, Steve Colgate  
Racing Rules 2013 – 2016 Companion, Bryan Willis  
Racing Trim, Bill Gladstone, North U.  
Tactics, Rodney Pattison  
The Racing Rules of Sailing (including Sail Canada prescriptions) 2013 – 2016  
Understanding the Racing Rules of Sailing Through 2016, Dave Perry