



VRC Polar Bear Series 2009/2010

Sponsored by Quantum Sail Design Group

1. RULES

1.1

Races will be governed by: the 'Rules', as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing 2009-2012; including but not limited to the prescriptions of the CYA, PHRF of British Columbia, the Pacific International Yachting Association (PIYA) Special Regulations Governing Minimum Equipment and Accommodations Standards effective January 1, 2009; except where they are modified by these Sailing Instructions and any subsequent amendments to same.

1.2

Yachts must have a valid and up-to-date PHRF handicap rating. As the organizing authority for this series, in its sole discretion the Vancouver Rowing Club (VRC) may assign, to any boat entering this series that does not have a valid PHRF certificate, a temporary handicap (a "Club Rating") for one race. You must apply to BC Sailing for, obtain and submit to the VRC office a PHRF handicap rating certificate prior to the next race.

1.3

The Racing Rules of Sailing 2009-2012, in accordance with Appendix K, will be changed or modified in the Polar Bear Series Sailing Instructions as follows:

- The Race Committee may attempt to hail boats that are OCS (On Course Side); however failure to do so will not be grounds for redress. This changes Rule 62.1(a).
- No finishes will be recorded after 1500hours. If however, at least one boat finishes by 1500, the deadline will be extended by half an hour. In this situation, boats failing to finish by 1530 hours will be scored 'Time Limit Expired' (TLE), and be scored two points more than the last boat finishing.

However no boat will receive a score worse than the number of points awarded a DSQ. This changes Rule 35 and Rules A4.2 and A11

- Rule A 4.2 and rule A 9 are modified such that the following scoring shall be used:
 - DNF (Did Not Finish) = number of boats in race +1
 - DNS (Did Not Start) = number of boats in race +1
 - DNC (Did Not Compete) = number of boats in race +2
 - DSQ (DiSQualified) = number of boats in race +2
 - TLE (Time Limit Expired) = number of boats that finish + 2
- A DSQ shall not be excluded from a boat's series score. This changes rule A2
- If as a result of a protest, a boat has been found to have impeded commercial traffic, the boat will be scored DSQ. This changes Rule 64.1(a).

2. ENTRIES and ELIGIBILITY

2.1

All racing and cruising boats, provided the boat's skipper is a member of a club recognized by its national authority, are welcome to participate.

2.2 Entry Forms at the VRC Office and on our website

www.vancouverrowingclub.com/yachting.

3. FEES

3.1

The entry fee of \$25.00 for the series must be submitted along with your entry form and PHRF Certificate (BC Sailing or assigned) to the VRC office prior to racing. Entry forms and fees will not be accepted by the Race Committee, so please be sure you act promptly. Boats not having submitted an entry form will be scored DNC.

4. SCHEDULE OF RACES

4.1

Races will be held on the following Sundays:

- November 8th and 22nd
- December 6th and 20th
- January 17th and 31st
- February 14th and 28th
- March 14th

2010 dates are subject to change pending Olympic schedule

5. COMMUNICATION

5.1

Communication will be on VHF 73.

5.2

Checking in with the Race Committee prior to each race is mandatory! A boat that fails to check in will be scored DNS. Check in may be done via VHF or coming within hail of the committee boat.

5.3

A boat that retires from the race shall notify the Committee boat at the time of retiring via VHF or by some other means. Failure to notify of retirement before leaving the course area, will result in a DSQ

6. MEASUREMENTS

6.1

See 1.2

7. INSURANCE

7.1

All yachts must carry a minimum liability insurance of \$1,000,000.00 and carry a copy of their insurance certificate on board at all times.

8. DIVISIONS

8.1

There will be two divisions:

Division 1 (numeral pennant #1)

Division 2 (numeral pennant #2)

Division 2 is to support racing between cruising boats. Division 2 may fly spinnakers.

8.2

Any boat with a PHRF or Club Rating is eligible to race in either Division 1 or Division 2, however once registered in a division you may not switch divisions during the series. If fewer than three Div 2 boats register for the season then the two divisions will be combined.

8.3

If a boat has registered in Div 2 for the series, all her results will be scored as Div 2. If only one Div 2 boat shows for a given race, she can race with Div 1. She will still be scored as Div 2, and the other Div 2 boats not racing that day will be scored DNC. If more than one Div 2 boat shows, then they will either all race a separate course, or they will all race Div1's course. This will be determined by the Race Committee.

9. SAFETY

9.1

Safety requirements are PIYA Category 3.

10. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

10.1

The Polar Bear Series Sailing Instructions will be available on the VRC website www.vancouverrowingclub.com/yachting and in the VRC office.

10.2

Notices to competitors and any amendments to the Sailing Instructions will be posted on the notice board at the east gate of VRC by 0900 hrs on race days. The Race Committee will make reasonable efforts to also post this information on the VRC website so please be sure to check both the notice board and the website regularly.

11. THE COURSE

11.1

Racing will occur in the environs of English Bay.

11.2

The Race Committee will normally set the start/finish line in the vicinity of Cardinal Buoy QC. The course(s) to be sailed will be indicated on a course board.

11.3

The course board will be displayed on the Race Committee vessel. Divisions will be displayed on the left side of the course board and marks will be displayed to the right. The marks are to be rounded in the sequence they appear on the course board. The start/finish line will be between a staff or a shroud on the Race

Committee vessel displaying an orange flag and a course mark or a floating staff displaying an orange flag.

11.4

The Race Committee may choose to move the start/finish line, and in this case will display code flag "L."

11.5

If the Race Committee chooses to move the start/finish line, it will be between a staff or shroud on the Race Committee vessel displaying an orange flag and either a floating staff displaying an orange flag, or a nearby course mark.

11.6

The Committee will display letters indicating the course to be sailed.

"A" Point Grey Bell Buoy 49.17.35° N 123.15.9° W

"B" Kits Tugboat Buoy 49.16.9° N 123.09.3° W

"C" Stanley Park Tugboat Buoy 49.18.4° N 123.09.9° W

"D" Passage Island

"G" QC

"F" QA

"H" VRC anchored mark 49.18.0° N 123.13.0° W

"J" Gate: Boats shall sail between the gate marks from the direction of the previous mark and round either gate mark. The gate mark and the finish line will be the same. Times may be taken at this gate and used for results.

A freighter may be used as a mark, designated by the letter Z. Contact Committee for position.

- Red flag marks to port
- Green flag marks to starboard
- Code flag T course sailed twice around
- Code flag S course shortened

11.7

If course sailed twice around you must sail through the start/finish line in the direction of the course from the last mark. In this case the start/finish line is treated as a gate.

11.8

If the Race Committee vessel is racing, the start line will be between a floating staff displaying an orange flag and a nearby course mark, which may or may not be the West Cardinal buoy QC.

11.9

If the Committee boat is racing the finish line will be between a floating staff displaying an orange flag and the West Cardinal buoy QC or a nearby course mark.

11.10

In the event the committee boat is racing, please keep a record of your elapsed time i.e. the time it takes you to sail the course. If the start is 1100 (by your watch) and you finish at 1415 (by your watch), then your elapsed time is 3hrs 15min. You will not receive a finish unless you provide an elapsed time. Notify the Committee boat via VHF 73 or 604-687-3400 as soon as possible to avoid delay with the results.

12. PENALTIES

12.1

Rules 44.1 and 44.2 (2 Turn Penalty) apply to infringement of Part 2 rules.

13. SCORING

13.1

The Low Point Scoring System, Appendix A of the Rules, as modified herein will be used (see also 1.3).

13.2

The Polar Bear Series is comprised of 9 race days. There will be one race held on each of these days. If conditions permit, more than one race may be held on any given race day. A minimum of three (3) races must be completed to constitute this Series.

13.3

Your PHRF rating will be used for scoring, using time-on-time handicapping

13.4 If fewer than six races are completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.

13.5

If six, seven or eight races are completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her two worst scores.

13.6

If nine or more races are completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her three worst scores.

14. PRIZES

14.1

Performance awards for Division 1 and Division 2 will be given at VRC Award's Night in January 2011.

15. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the Polar Bear Series entirely at their own risk. See rule 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after any race comprising the Polar Bear Series.

16. CONTACT INFORMATION

16.1

For further information contact [Al Slater](#) at slater60@gmail.com or 604-790-2550

16.2

VRC Address
P.O. Box 5206
Vancouver B.C.
V6B 4B3
Phone: 604-687-3400
Fax: 604-687-6812