



ABERDEEN BOAT CLUB

OPENING YACHT REGATTA 2020

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

**SATURDAY 19TH & SUNDAY 20TH
SEPTEMBER**



Supported by:



Commodores Message

Phew! The awaited approval from the Food & Hygiene Bureau was received in time to give sailors a week's notice that the event could go ahead as originally set in the sailing calendar. Preparations had, of course, long been in hand so ABC was ready to proceed, as soon as permission was granted.

Although the event's racing format remains essentially the same as in recent years, social gathering constraints require that all boats disperse at the end of each day's racing. See the specific instructions with which ABC is bound to comply. The other change, is that ABC has applied for the Opening Regatta to be designated a Clean Regatta by the Sailors for the Seas. ABC's standard practice with regard to conservation and preservation already meets ecological objectives in general, so formal endorsement would be welcomed.

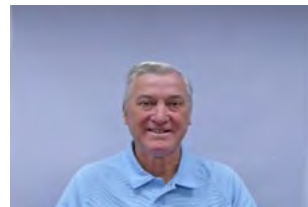
Once again we give thanks to sponsors Sky International, as distributors and Box Steam Brewery for their generous allocation of refreshing cold beers; and to Fuegy for their discounted supplies of clean reliable fuel. Their collective contribution in assisting ABC to host the season's start is much appreciated.

The format adopted over the past several years ---namely Windward/Leewards on the Saturday and Island races on Sunday ----evidently appeals to most and so is offered once more. For details see the SI's which feature in particular a wide variety of Island courses intended to provide a spectrum of flexibility to cope with all but the worst weather.

On the subject of SI's please ensure these are read thoroughly and understood even though much of the content may be familiar. Course setting takes pains to keep boats clear of the shipping lanes and we urge skippers to pay close attention at all times to comply. Nothing is more discordant during a race than to hear 5 Blasts!

In line with the social distancing constraints there can be no prize-giving or Club celebrations on either day, but there will certainly be a separate Prize Party as soon as restrictions are relaxed. With firstly a big vote of thanks to our Marine & Sailing Team for all their preparatory work and their efforts afloat over the weekend to come, it is my pleasure once again to welcome all competitors to this fun, yet competitive, start to the ABC Sailing Season.

May the recent light and fickle winds find some strength and direction over the coming week ...



Chris Pooley
ABC Commodore

ABERDEEN BOAT CLUB OPENING REGATTA 2020

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

SATURDAY 19TH AND SUNDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER

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

1. Rules

1.1 The Regatta will be governed by the 'Rules' as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 2017 – 2020.

1.2 The Prescriptions of the Hong Kong Sailing Federation (HKSF) 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 handed yacht entries are not acceptable;
- the HKPN Handicap System, (including the PIPS – Performance Increase Penalty Scheme);
- the World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations Category 4 - Appendix B Inshore Racing plus VHF radio, except that the requirement to be self-righting will not apply to the Multihull Classes;
- Class Association rules of competing classes – e.g. J 80 etc.;
- the Opening Yacht Regatta 2020 Notice of Race (OYR 2020 NoR).

In case of conflict between any of the above, succeeding items take precedence. This changes RRS 63.7.

1.3 The International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (IRPCAS), (Steering and Sailing Rules) will apply between sunset and sunrise and will replace the rules of RRS Part 2.

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 64.1.

1.5 Any Notice to Mariners that may have an impact on racing will be posted on the Official Notice Board (ONB) at ABC main club and shall be deemed part of these SIs.

2. Notice to Competitors

2.1 Notices to Competitors will be posted on the ONB at the Aberdeen Boat Club, which is located in the passage outside the Marine & Sailing Office and outside the top carpark entrance.

2.2 Copies of the Amendments and Notices to Competitors will also be displayed on the Regatta website: http://www.abclubhk.com/opening_regatta_2020.aspx

3. Changes to Sailing Instructions

3.1 Changes to the Sailing Instructions will be posted on the ONB and regatta website before 1800 hrs on the day before it will take effect.

3.2 Late changes may be made on VHF Ch. 72 prior to the warning signal, in this event Code flag L will be displayed on the committee boat.

4. Schedule of Races

- 4.1 Racing will be scheduled to start on Saturday 19th September with the warning signal for the first class or division of class at 1025 hrs. On Sunday 20th September the warning signal for the first class or division of class will be at 1025 hrs.
- 4.2 Classes might be started together depending on the entries received. For subsequent starts, classes may be started in any order.
- 4.3 On Saturday, all classes will start in the area East of Lamma Island for Windward/ leeward courses.
- 4.4 On Sunday, the start line will be announced on the event website by 9:00am. The start line will be either at the vicinity of ABC Round Island or ABC Lamma Island Area.

5. Class Flags and Divisional Splits

- 5.1 The following flags will serve as divisional Flags:

IP	DIVISIONS
Flag O	Yachts IRC Class 0
Flag T	Yachts IRC Class 1
Flag D	Yachts IRC Class 2
Flag F	Yachts HKPN Class A
Flag G	Yachts HKPN Class B

- 5.2 While racing, a boat shall display the flag assigned to her class on her backstay. This does not apply to Sports Boats and other small keel boats.
- 5.3 The Final Divisional splits will be issued in a Notice to Competitors (NTC) by 1900 hrs on Thursday 17th September 20.

6. Race Area

The Racing Area will be in Hong Kong Waters and outlined in Appendix A to these SI's.

7. The Courses

- 7.1 All courses to be sailed are listed in Appendix A – Windward/leeward and Island Courses.
- 7.2 The number of the course to be sailed will be signaled by a flag showing the course number in conjunction with the Class Flag.
- 7.3 No later than the Warning Signal, the Race Committee Signal Boat will display the approximate compass bearing to the windward mark.

For Island Courses only:

- 7.3.1: If Flag "W" is displayed with the course number (flag), the first mark of the course will be an yellow mark to windward of the starting line and shall be rounded to Port, if a red flag is displayed below Flag 'W', and to Starboard if a green flag is displayed. The second mark of the course will be the first mark in the course description.
- 7.3.2: If a "W" flag is not flown, the first mark of the course will be the one listed and described in the course description in Appendix A.
- 7.3.3: The Race Committee will broadcast on VHF Ch.72 if the windward mark, is laid.

8. Marks

- 8.1 The marks of the courses will be inflatable buoys and islands as described in Appendix A.
- 8.2 A new mark, as provided for in SI 10, will be a black spherical buoy with a white contrasting band or a yellow cylindrical buoy with a white cover depending on the Class or division.
- 8.3 The port end ODM Starting Mark will be an orange cylindrical buoy.
- 8.4 The Finishing Mark will be an orange cylindrical buoy.

9. The Start

- 9.1 Races will be started using RRS 26, with the warning signal made five minutes before the starting signal.
- 9.2 To warn boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, an orange flag will be displayed with one sound at least four minutes before the first warning signal.
- 9.3 The starting line will be between the staff displaying an orange flag on the Committee Boat at the starboard end, and an orange cylindrical starting mark (ODM) at the Port end. If an Inner Distance Mark (IDM) is laid, boats shall not pass between the Committee Boat and the IDM.
- 9.4 For the first race each day the Race Committee intends to start classes in the order as signaled on the Committee Boat.
- 9.5 In addition to RRS 29.1 individual recalls may be broadcast on VHF Ch. 72. Individual recall details such as sail numbers and/or yacht names may subsequently be given, but not necessarily immediately after the start. It remains the responsibility of individual boats to start correctly.
- 9.6 In addition to RRS 29.2 general recalls will also be announced on VHF Ch. 72.
- 9.7 A boat starting later than 10 minutes after her Starting Signal may be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1.
- 9.8 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other classes.

10. Change of the Next leg of the Course.

- 10.1 Marks will be changed according to RRS 33.
- 10.2 To change the next leg of the course, the Race Committee will lay a new mark (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.
- 10.3 Boats may without penalty request details or confirmation of a course change from the Race Committee Signal Boat on VHF Ch. 72.
- 10.4 For Course One and Two, the new mark will be a **black spherical buoy with a white contrasting band for Mark 1.**
- 10.5 For Course Three and Four, the new mark will be a **yellow cylindrical buoy with a white cover for Mark 1 A.**

11. The Finish

The finishing line will be a line between a staff displaying an orange flag on the race committee boat at the starboard end and the port-end orange cylindrical finishing mark.

12. Penalty System

For Monohull and Multihull Classes, RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

13. Exoneration Penalty

13.1 A boat that may have broken a rule may, after finishing the race concerned and before the start of a related protest hearing, notify the Race Committee that she accepts a 20% scoring penalty, except the minimum scoring penalty shall be three places. This changes Rule 44.3(c).

13.2 The Exoneration Penalty is not available for a breach of Rule 2 or of class rules or for gross misconduct under Rule 69. Nor is it available to a boat that caused injury or serious damage, or gained a significant advantage by her breach of the rules.

13.3 When an exoneration penalty is accepted; neither the boat nor the Protest Committee may then revoke or remove the penalty.

14. Time Limits

14.1 The time limit for each Windward/Leeward race is 2 hours.

14.2 The time limit for the Island Race(s) on Saturday 19th & Sunday 20th September 2020 is 1630 hrs.

14.3 Boats failing to finish within these time limits will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF) without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5.

14.4 The Race Officer may shorten the course as he sees fit in accordance to RSS 32, in order to give all boats a finish.

15. Protests and Requests for Redress

15.1 A boat that wishes to protest or seek redress shall advise the Race Committee by hailing or on VHF Ch. 72, or by telephone to the Race Officer (Tel: 9312 8893) no later than 30 minutes after the last boat of the specific division finishes each race.

15.2 Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered to the Race Office within the appropriate Time Limit. Protest Forms are available at the Race Office and in the Middle Island Protest tents.

15.3 For each class the protest time limit is 90 minutes after the last boat in the protesting boat's class finishes the last race scheduled for the day. This changes RRS 61.3 and 62.2.

15.4 Notices will be posted no later than 15 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will held in the ABC protest tent at Middle Island, as soon as possible.

15.5 On the last day of the Regatta, a request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered.

15.5.1 Within the protest time limit if the requesting party was informed of the decision on the previous day.

15.5.2 No later than 30 minutes after the requesting party was informed of the decision on that day. This changes RRS 66.

16. Scoring

- 16.1 All races will count equally and there will be no discards.
- 16.2 Corrected times for boats racing under a rating system will be calculated to the nearest whole second.
- 16.3 A minimum of one race will constitute a series. The starts for each day's subsequent races will follow as soon as possible after completion of the previous race.

17. Safety Regulations

- 17.1 Each skipper or his representative shall register for the Regatta in accordance with the Notice of Race.
- 17.2 No anchor shall be carried forward of the stem or with any part of it outboard, except when anchoring.
- 17.3 All boats must carry a working VHF radio.

18. Radio Communications

- 18.1 The Race Committee may broadcast information to the fleet on VHF Channel 72 at the start and finish of the race. Boats are strongly advised to monitor VHF Channel 72 with a loudspeaker or handheld VHF on deck. A boat may, without infringing RRS 41 (outside help) request and receive repetition of information broadcast by the Race Committee, or be told whether or not a broadcast has been made.
- 18.2 Any boat which retires from racing must report to the ABC Committee boat on VHF Channel 72.

19. Prizes

Prizes will be awarded on Sunday 29th September at approximately 1830 hrs, subject to any outstanding Protests, at the ABC Middle Island Clubhouse.

20. Social Distancing

All participants will be required to follow the Hong Kong Government guidelines on social distancing which are in force at the time of this event. The event may need to be modified, rescheduled or cancelled if Government imposed health related restrictions apply. Check the event website for the latest information:

http://www.abclubhk.com/opening_regatta_2020.aspx

21. Disclaimer of Liability

- 21.1 The Aberdeen Boat Club, the Organising Committee, the Race Committee, Regatta 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 Regatta.
- 21.2 The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone. (RRS Fundamental Rule 4). In addition competitor's attention is drawn to the ISAF Special Regulations 1.02.1 (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 regatta entirely at their own risk.

21.3 Owners and skippers are invited to co-operate with the Organising Authority, Race Committee and ABC Marine & 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 to comply.

22. Insurance

Entered boats shall have third party liability insurance at least to the minimum cover required under Hong Kong SAR law.

Additional Information

Marine Services Manager: Alex Johnston: Mob: 6773 – 2066
ABC Sailing Office: Jennifer Li: 2552 - 8182 Ext: 834

Yacht Trophies

IRC Class 0	Tau Chau Cup
IRC Class 1	Crystal Trophy
IRC Class 2	Lamma Channel Cup
IRC Class 3	Sung Kong Cup
HKPN Class A	Pacific Cup
HKPN Class B	Adamasta Channel Cup
J 80's	Hong Kong Clipper Cup

ABERDEEN BOAT CLUB OPENING REGATTA 2020 APPENDIX A

COURSE DIAGRAMS AND DESCRIPTIONS FOR WINDWARD/LEEWARD COURSES

After starting and before finishing all marks will be rounded to Port in the following order:

COURSE ONE	Start,	1,	3,	1,	3,	1,	Finish
COURSE TWO	Start,	1,	3,	1,	Finish		
COURSE THREE	Start,	1A,	3A,	1A,	3A,	1A,	Finish
COURSE FOUR	Start,	1A,	3A,	1A,	Finish		

- The Starting Outer Distance Mark (ODM) will be an orange cylindrical buoy
- Mark 1 will be a large spherical black buoy
- Mark 1A will be a large cylindrical yellow buoy
- Mark 3 will be large black spherical buoy
- Mark 3A will be a large cylindrical yellow
- The Finishing Outer Distance Mark will be an orange cylindrical buoy
- The Course Change Mark will be a black spherical buoy with a white contrasting band for Mark 1
- The Course Change Mark will be a yellow cylindrical buoy with a white cover for Mark 1A.



Mark 1



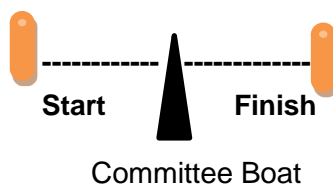
Mark 1A



Mark 3A

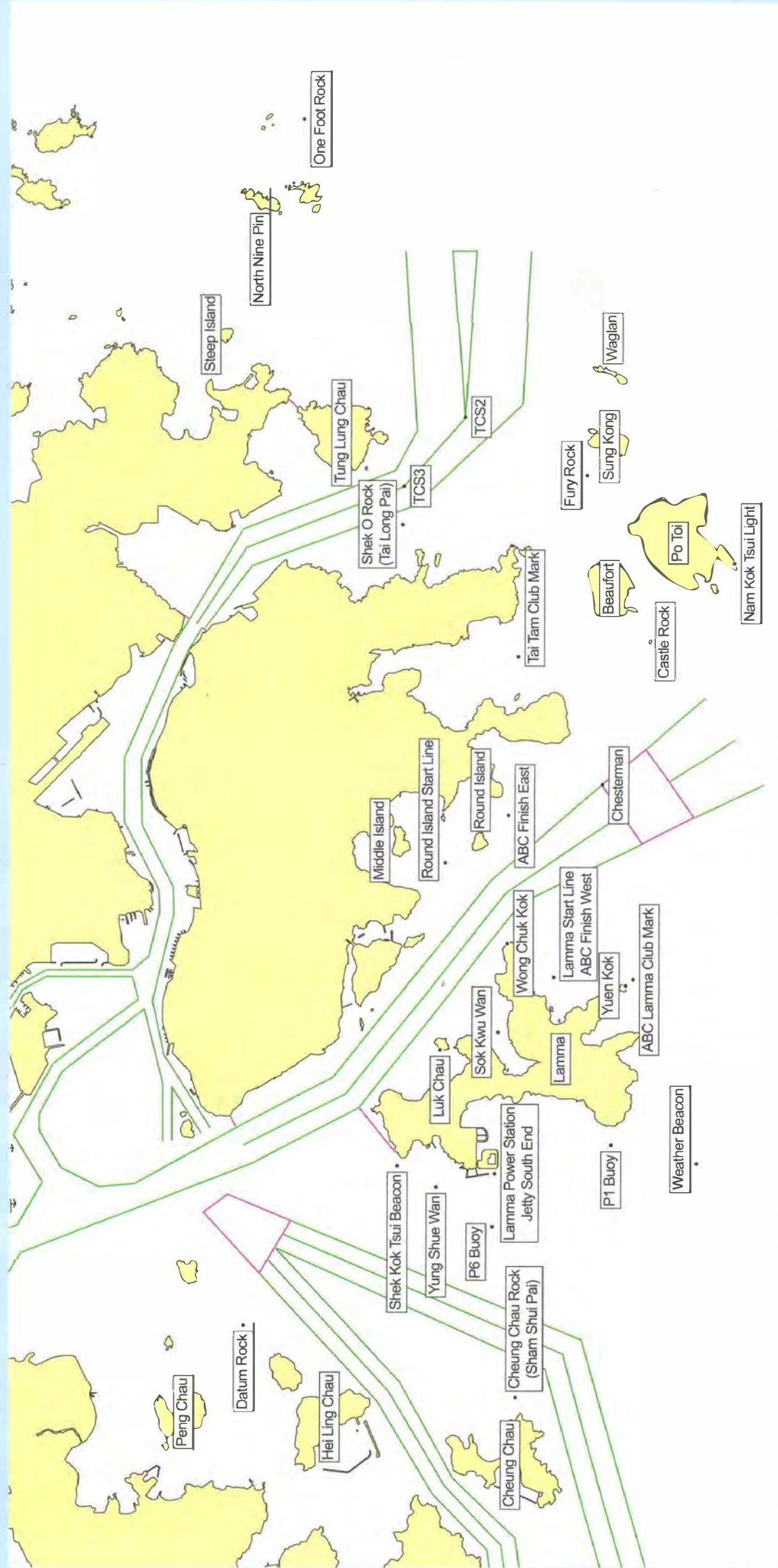


Mark 3



10	ABC Round Island Start; Chesterman Buoy (Port); Tai Tam Club Buoy (Starboard); Castle Rock (Starboard); Chesterman Buoy (Starboard); Round Island Finish (10.6 nm).
	ABC Lamma Start – Western Courses
11	Lamma Start; Lamma Yuen Kok (Starboard); Lamma Island (Starboard); Cheung Chau Rock (Starboard); Datum Rock (Starboard); Lamma Island (Port); P1 Buoy (Starboard); Lamma Yuen Kok (Port); ABC Lamma Finish (23.7 nm).
12	Lamma Start; Lamma Yuen Kok (Starboard); Lamma Island (Starboard); Cheung Chau Rock (Starboard); Lamma Island (Port); Lamma Yuen Kok (Port); ABC Lamma Finish (14.3 nm).
13	Lamma Start; Lamma Yuen Kok (Starboard); Lamma Island (Starboard); P1 Buoy (Port); Weather Beacon (Starboard); P1 Buoy (Starboard); Lamma Island (Port); Lamma Yuen Kok (Port); ABC Lamma Finish (12.8 nm).
14	Lamma Start: Lamma Yuen Kok (Starboard), Lamma Island (Starboard); P1 Buoy (Starboard); Datum Rock (Port); Cheung Chau Rock (Port); Weather Beacon (Port), P1 Buoy (Starboard); Lamma Yuen Kok (Port); ABC Lamma Finish (24.2 nm).
15	Lamma Start; Lamma Yuen Kok (Starboard), P1 Buoy (Starboard); Datum Rock (Port); Hei Ling Chau (Port); P1 Buoy (Starboard); Lamma Yuen Kok (Port); ABC Lamma Finish (21.5 nm).
16	Lamma Start; Lamma Yuen Kok (Starboard); Cheung Chau Rock (Port); P1 Buoy (Starboard), Lamma Yuen Kok (Port); ABC Lamma Finish (16.5 nm).

Appendix B - Chart of Race Area



CLEAN REGATTA 2020



Clean Regattas is the world's leading sustainability certification for all water based events. Since the program's inception in 2006, over 2,300 events have shown their commitments to sustainability by hosting Clean Regattas. This program has reached over 660,000 sailors and attendees in over 40 countries. Clean Regattas is a free, self-assessment tool with powerful resources and support that awards certification levels from Participant to Platinum.

8 ways to help our ocean during this regatta!



Recycle your rubbish

There are recycling bins in both clubhouses, please use them before the general rubbish bins.



Use reusable bags

Bring reusable bags to collect ice/beverages/food that you will transfer to your boat's esky! Try to avoid single use plastic bags.



Reduce on single use items

Bring a reusable cup to get your takeaway beverage and try to eliminate single use plastic items such as plastic cutlery & plastic straws.



Eat local food or sustainable seafood

When preparing for meals on the water, try to source local food or sustainable seafood.



Water refill

Say good-bye to single use water bottles, bring a reusable water bottle and refill water at our water stations in both clubhouses!



Water only washdowns

During the regatta if you need to give your boat a clean, try to washdown only with water.

Reduce vehicle pollution

Try to carpool or use public transport. You can get to our club easily from MTR Wong Chuk Hang station or take a bus that stops at Shum Wan Bus Terminus which is directly opposite our clubhouse.



Bus 75 - from Central
Bus 72 - from Causeway Bay

Use non-toxic sunscreens

Avoid sunscreens with oxybenzone, octinoxate and petrolatum. Instead use products that contain zinc oxide and titanium dioxide (in micro, not nanoparticle form), which are less toxic to the environment.



To learn more, visit sailorsforthesea.org

