Aberdeen Boat Club

Opening Yacht Regatta 2022

Saturday 24th & Sunday 25th September

Supported by:

Commodore's Welcome Message

This year's curtain raiser to the allure of the autumn and Winter Sailing season is a week later than last year in the hope that by then the Monsoon will have turned.

Entry numbers in recent races have been encouragingly large stimulated in part by the frustrations of the Covid restrictions [now largely behind us] and the attraction of the three 25th Anniversary Regattas which saw many new participants. This encourages the expectation of a similarly large turnout for this event. Further encouragement is offered by the adjusted start times half an hour later on both days! All the more reason to speed your applications---hence the early release of this Notice of Race.

Participating sailors will enjoy the support of our regular loyal sponsors: Sky International well known for their long contribution to the sport in HK and as suppliers of that nutritious Steam Box Brewery Craft Beer for prize-winners; and Fuegy Fuels helping to keep yacht tanks full at a discounted price. A big thank to each of them, greatly appreciated.

As ever race-management is a key factor in any Regatta, not least in inclement weather but always when close to busy Traffic Lanes; although courses are designed to steer well clear to the extent possible. To this end it is important that skippers and navigators familiarise themselves with this Notice of Race. Please note carefully the ABC SSI's have been revised in a new edition to be issued by Mid-September. The main changes relate to marks and some courses owing to measures imposed by the HK Marin Department: it is important that these are hoisted aboard by everyone. Copies are obtainable from ABC's Marine Office or online on the Opening Regatta 22 event webpage.

A weekend with much to offer afloat and ashore for the après on MI where ABC's traditional hospitality, boosted by Steam Box Brewery brew, will bubble.

On that note I welcome all participants, long-time regulars and new crews on boats large or small and ask all to acknowledge that without the hard work, both behind the scenes, and actively on the water by ABC's Marine & Sailing Team and member volunteers, there would be no Regatta!

Wishing you all fair, competitive, spirited and fun racing in the delightful waters of ABC's bailiwick. And plenty of cheerful chaff later ashore.

Chris Pooley
ABC Commodore

Aberdeen Boat Club
Opening Yacht Regatta 2022

Notice of Race

Saturday 24th and Sunday 25th 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 (R R S) 2021 - 2024.

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, shorthanded yachts or keelboat entries without accommodation, are not acceptable;
- the HKPN Handicap System, (including the PIPS – Performance Increase Penalty Scheme);
- the World Sailing 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.
- this Notice of Race (NoR) and the ABC SSI's 2022 – Revised September Etd.

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

1.4 For the purposes of IRC Rule 21.1.5 (d) & (e) the regatta is run on consecutive days. Replacement sails may be permitted during the regatta in exceptional circumstances with the permission of the Race Committee. A replacement sail will only be permitted if it is of similar cloth weight, area and design.

1.5 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.

1.6 This NoR may be amended by the ABC SSI 2022 - Revise September Etd and/or a Notice to Competitors.

2. Advertising

2.1 Boats may be required to display the regatta sponsor's advertising chosen and supplied by the organising authority.

2.2 World Sailing Regulation 20 will apply for Competitors boats/crew wear displayed during the event.

3 Eligibility and Entry

3.1 The regatta is open to the following classes and boats:

3.1.1 **Class or division of Class**

- Yacht IRC Class/divisions – Rating split TBA.
- Yacht HKPN Class/divisions – Rating split TBA.
- Multihulls with accommodation.
- Day Keelboats with accommodation, such as J 80's, will race under HKPN.

3.2 Boats from other classes may also be considered by the Race Committee on application, by 1700 hrs on Wednesday 21st September 22.

3.3 Divisional splits will be re-allocated by the Race Committee in a Notice to Competitors (NTC) subject to entries received and in the interests of fair racing. The final divisional splits will be issued by a NTC to competitors by 1700 hrs on Thursday 22nd September 22.

3.4 A boat will be entered in one class only. The IRC and HKPN Classes will be divided into suitable rating bands depending on the number of entries received.

3.5 A class or division will consist of a three boat minimum for all classes.

3.6 All boats must be in the vicinity of the starting line at its class warning signal in order to be eligible for the Regatta.

3.7 Eligible boats are yachts which have valid IRC Certificates or HKPN ratings and other seaworthy boats at the discretion of the Race Committee, including multihulls with or without accommodation.

3.8 Boats without valid IRC or HKPN ratings may be accepted by and have HKPN ratings allocated for the regatta by the HKPN Rating Committee at the discretion of the Race Committee. Any such allocation will not be subject to protest. Valid IRC & HKPN ratings will be listed as published on the current HKSF website by 1700 hrs on Wednesday 21st September 22.

3.9 Entry may be made by submitting a completed online entry form and Declaration of Skipper form before 1700 hrs on Wednesday 21st September 22. Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the Race Committee but will be subject to an additional late entry fee of $250 HKD.

3.10 Class lists will be published on the event website no later than 1700 hrs on Thursday 22nd September 22.

4. Entry Fees

The entry fees will be as follows:

- Yachts: $600
- Multihulls (with accommodation): $600
- Keelboats - J80s & Keelboats with accommodation: $600

5. Schedule and Course Locations

5.1 **Saturday:**

- IRC Yacht divisions up to three Windward/leeward races; HKPN Yachts/keel boats & Multi-hulls divisions: up to two windward / leeward races in the Lamma sailing area.
- The actual number of races will be determined by the race committee and/or race officer taking into account the weather conditions.
- The scheduled time for the first warning signal will not be before: **1055 hrs.**

5.2 **Sunday:**

- IRC Yachts, HKPN Yachts/keel boats, Multi-hulls - An Island course.
- The start area will be determined by the race committee and/or race officer taking into account the weather conditions and ABC's designated sailing areas.
- The start area for all divisions will be posted on the regatta website by 0900 hrs on the day of racing.
- The scheduled time for the first warning signal will not be before: **1055 hrs.**

6. Measurements

6.1 IRC boats shall submit a copy of their current IRC Certificate to the Marine and Sailing Office no later than 1700 hrs on Wednesday 21st September 22, unless their IRC rating is listed on HKSF website. A scanned soft copy sent by email is acceptable. RRS 78.2 will also apply, if a boats certificate cannot be produced.

6.2 No alteration to a boat's TCC will be permitted after this date, except as a result of a rating protest or to correct rating office errors.

6.3 HKPN boats which have had any recent performance enhancing changes shall submit a completed HKPN PIPS declaration form to the Marine and Sailing Office no later than 1700 hrs on Wednesday 21st September 22. HKPN PIPS forms can be found at: https://sailing.org.hk/subpage/ocZh8aBGdCSoN3rLt?lang=eng

7. Sailing Instructions

The event will be sailed under the ABC SSI's 2022 – Revised September Etd which can be downloaded at: https://www.abclubhk.com//annual_events.aspx

8. Venue

The ABC main club house and Middle Island club house will be used by the organising authority. Racing will take place to the South, East and West of Hong Kong Island.

9. Registration

Registration will be completed by sending the signed Declaration Form (with IRC certificate and HKPN PIPS form, if appropriate) to the Marine and Sailing Office before 1700 hrs on Wednesday 21st September 22. Class Flags and bow stickers (if required) will be distributed from the Marine and Sailing Office.

10. Penalty & Arbitration

10.1 Prior to a protest hearing an Arbitration Hearing may be offered in accordance with Appendix T as modified in NoR 10.2. If an arbitration hearing is not available, a boat may nonetheless take a postrace penalty as defined in NoR 10.2. (This changes Appendix T2.)

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

10.3 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:

10.4 (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, or 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).

10.5 Protest time limit for all boats is 90 minutes after the last boat finishes.

10.6 RRS rule Appendix A - Clause 5.3 will apply.

11. Scoring

11.1 Boats will be scored according to their IRC or HKPN ratings, depending on class entered.

11.2 Yachts and multi-hulls divisions: Scoring all races will count equally, with no discards.

12. Safety & Support Boats.

12.1 No anchors shall be carried on deck forward of the bow or end of a fixed bowsprit while racing.

12.2 ABC support boats may be suitably marked with the sponsors or event branding.

13. Berthing & Moorings

Subject to availability, temporary moorings can be provided, in either Deepwater Bay or Aberdeen Typhoon Shelter for boats wishing to stay overnight before or after the race. Details may be obtained from the Club on 2552 8182 (Ext. 834) or by emailing to marinecoord@abclubhk.com. Space booking is required but not guaranteed.

14. Minimum Safety Requirement

Boats must comply with their class rules regarding safety requirements and Cruisers must comply with the World Sailing Special Regulation Category 4: Appendix B – Inshore Racing plus VHF Radio: http://www.sailing.org/documents/offshorespecialregs/index.php

15. Radio Communications

15.1 Communications between the Race Committee and competitors will be on Marine VHF Channel 72. This applies to all competing boats in the regatta.

15.2 Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.

16. Prizes

16.1 The Opening Yacht Regatta 2022 Trophies will be awarded to boats placed overall first, second and third places for each class, depending on the number of entries and class entered – e.g. either IRC or HKPN.

16.2 A Line Honours prize will be awarded to the first boat in each class to finish the Island Course on Sunday 25th September 22.

17. Prize Giving

Prizes will be awarded at the ABC Middle Island clubhouse on the Sunday after racing, subject to any outstanding protest hearings and the HK government current Covid 19 restrictions. Please also see clause 20.2.

18. Disclaimer of Liability

18.1 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.

18.2 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 competitor's attention is drawn to the ISAF Special Regulations1.02.1 (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.

18.3 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.

19. Insurance

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

20. Food and Beverage Arrangement

20.1 A Breakfast buffet on both days will be available at the main clubhouse from 0800 hrs.

20.2 **On the Sunday evening there will be Prize-giving Ceremony at Middle Island, subject to the current HK Government Covid 19 restrictions for numbers allowed to attend. Please tick the appropriate box on the online entry form, if your crew is attending.**

21. Further Information

21.1 **Car Parking**

Car parking is not available for visitors on race days. Other public car parks are opposite the main club above the bus station and the Jumbo Car Park on Welfare Road.

21.2 **Club Signing Rights**

Visiting competitors from the Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club, Hebe Haven Yacht Club and Discovery Bay Yacht Club may sign chits on the race day on presentation of their club membership card.

21.3 **Food and Beverage**

Non-member competitors may use Octopus Cards at the Coffee shop and at ABC MI, which are valid for use only on the designated race days and prize giving presentation.

21.4 **Ships Stores & Fuel**

Drinks and ice are available from the Galley on the day of the race and the take away food requires pre-order the day before. Fuel is obtainable from Fuegy Fuel Barge located at the western entrance of the Aberdeen Harbour or the Aberdeen Marina Club fuel pier.

21.5 Event website: http://www.abclubhk.com/opening_yachtregatta_2022.aspx

21.6 **For Event enquiries:**

Alex Johnston – Marine Services Manager
Email: marine.services@abclubhk.com
Tel: +852 2518 9523 - Ext: 835

21.7 **For Entries & Mooring enquires:**

Jennifer Li – Assistant Marine & Sailing Manager
Email: marinecoord@abclubhk.com
Tel: +852 2552 8182 - Ext: 834