



CHICHESTER CRUISER RACING CLUB

News – June 2020 – Return To Racing

In this newsletter:

) CCRC Return To Racing – The “Tack and Race” Series

Yesterday’s Commodore’s Bender proved to be a popular event showing how keen we are to get back on the water for some club events. So as promised in the previous June newsletter we are now ready to start racing again...

But, in these uncertain times, we must change how we do so, and we may need to be flexible.

Please read through the following explanation.

Above all, we must continue to stay safe and so keep well.

Bob Garrett

Commodore

CCRC Return To Racing Within The Rules

The current UK situation remains a little uncertain. Is the pandemic in the UK still declining and likely to continue to? In which case we might see further relaxation of the restrictions currently in place. Or is there a risk that we will see a second wave of infections which might result in some restrictions being reimposed.

Either way, we do feel we can start racing again but with changed rules and procedures to recognise the restrictions and what is prudent.

Crewing & Sails

Currently we continue to have social distancing restrictions, and for some the more rigorous shielding requirements. This means that the crew numbers for each boat are likely to be limited. Recognising this, we want to make it safer for all and to make for a more evenly competitive fleet.

For this reason we are imposing a rule that for the “Tack and Race” series of races no downwind sails may be used.

Overnight Stays

Currently we are required to stay at our main residence at night so for members living some way from their boats racing on both a Saturday and a Sunday would be difficult. So the “Tack and Race” series are all Bay Races. Also there is both a Saturday and a Sunday series in the expectation that many only be able to take part in one series or the other; ie racing Saturdays or Sundays but not both.

Handicaps

Because downwind sails are not permitted in the “Tack and Race” series all boats in the Alpha fleet will use their “VPRS no spinnaker” handicap number. For the Beta handicap all boats will be allocated their NHC base number for the start of the series; this change will even things up for those that have previously changed their Beta handicap by some keen racing with big downwind sails.

When we return to normal racing the Alpha fleet will return to the normal VPRS number and Beta handicaps will return to the handicap reached at the end of 2019.

Starts

To make for a safer start line with limited crew numbers we will adopt the CCRC Rolling Start procedure for each race.

We trust that all these rules will be seen by members as a positive step to get us racing again.

The “Tack and Race” Series

There will be two series of races; one on Saturdays and one on Sundays with a fortnight between each race of each series. So full participation for a series would require attendance on three Saturdays, and for the other series three Sundays.

As is usual, one race may be discarded so only two races are needed for a series result. Furthermore, should the series need to be curtailed by events outside of CCRC (ie the pandemic) then we will produce results for just one race.

These Series will start on Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th June. Details to be available in the Race Instructions shortly.