

Scheduled race with a committee boat start.

1. Before Arriving:

- Check the Sailing programme to ensure you know which races are to be run. E.G Midships series 3&4/ Club Cup etc.
- Ensure you are familiar with the SBSC sailing instructions (SI's) In particular the starting procedure and course layouts. All sailing Instructions can be found on the club website:
<http://www.snetbeach.co.uk/pages/club-racing.php>
- Please note that Open Meetings have *specific* sailing instructions that can all be found under each event:
<http://www.snetbeach.co.uk/pages/open-meetings.php>
- If you have any questions please contact the Sailing Secretary or one of the fleet captains.
- Arrive at the club a minimum of **60 minutes** before the scheduled Race Start.
- Two Starting Watches are on board committee boat.

2. On Arrival:

- Make sure you have a set of new **Results Sheets**
(In holder on Port side of cabin together with pens/pencils and clipboards)
- Two Starting Watches in plastic box on cabin floor.
- Horn extension cable in box – plug into DIN socket under rubber flap closest to steering wheel. When removing the plug take care to depress the button on the underside before pulling out.
- Make sure you collect a **charged VHF radio** from the classroom, your call sign is 'Committee Boat' (If you are unfamiliar with the radios ask the safety boat driver to show you how they work)
- *If using the Tender:* This is a small blue dinghy stored upside down behind the containers; put it on its trolley and pull round to the front of the containers.
- The tender's 2-stroke engine is a small outboard on the end of the bench in container 2. (fuel in GREEN plastic fuel can on bench).

- Oars stand in the corner and rowlocks hang on the rope along the left wall of container 2.
- Make Sure you run the engine in the water butt before putting it on the tender (if unsure how to operate the engine, ask the safety boat driver.
- Before going afloat **liaise with the Safety Boat Driver(s)** to ensure they understand what racing is taking place and how you want them to operate.
- Perform a radio check with all stations i.e. Safety Boats(s) & shore.
- Ask the safety boat driver to take with them any required **additional buoys & ground tackle**. For club races this is usually the **yellow mark 'X'** and/or the **orange mark "Y"** (for open meetings the large inflatable orange buoys should be ready)
- Everything else you need should be on the committee boat

3. Going Afloat:

- Get a ride on the Safety Boat to the Committee Boat
(OR : The tender will allow you to get out to the committee boat early to start the races on time)
- If using the Tender, tie the tender to the committee boat mooring buoy whilst you ready her for departure

4. Aboard the Committee Boat:

- Unclip the chain from the tiller to free the rudder.
- **Pumping the bilge** happens automatically when the engine is turned on.
- **The sea cock** - allows the engine to cool and **MUST** be open prior to starting the engine - is normally left OPEN therefore needs no attention..
- **Keys** for the engine are behind the cabin door (left unlocked)
- **Pull lever boss to Starboard** & push forwards slightly to dis-engage propeller then insert the key to start the engine.
- Turn Key anti-clockwise for approx. 20 seconds to pre-heat then turn fully clockwise to start the engine.
- **CHECK water is pumping out of the exhaust** at the rear of the boat on starboard side.
If **no water** - **STOP the ENGINE IMMEDIATELY**. Check the Sea Cock is fully open - a hand wheel on a brass pipe located under the loose deck board forward of the engine cover. Open valve by turning ANTI-Clockwise.
- Pull the gear lever back allowing it to spring into neutral. Ensure the **gear lever is in neutral** before moving anywhere

- Pushing the lever forwards will engage the propeller & move the boat forwards. Pulling the lever backwards will engage reverse.
- Instruct the crew to '**let go**' the mooring line
- Drive away from the mooring being careful **not to foul the propeller**.

5. Positioning the committee boat:

- **Anchor** approx. 15 Meters directly downwind of the leeward mark.
(see sailing instructions for starting plan and course layout)
- Crew has the **anchor out of the locker** and ready to go.
- Approach position **into the tide**
- **Stop** boat before releasing the anchor - **Reverse slowly** until anchor bites
- **Tie off anchor line** using the loop spliced into the warp when the boat is holding fast and in the right place.

6. Setting the Start Line:

- Give the small buoy with an **orange flag** to the safety boat driver -
- Ask the safety boat driver to position the **buoy** off the **PORT** side of the committee boat.
- The line needs to be **long enough** for all of the boats racing (better to be too long than too short)
- The line needs to be roughly **square** to the wind to enable boats to start on **starboard** (beware of the effect of tide and waves)
- If you are unsure of the line bias ask a competitor to sail along the line so that you can check.

7. The Course and Starting (for full details see the sailing instructions):

- You must make sure you enter all sail numbers and all other information into the results sheet at this stage
(full details of how to do this are on the sailing notice board in the club)
- All courses will be **port hand** i.e to be sailed anti clockwise
- For all club and club cup racing the first race will always be a triangle
- The second race will always be a windward/leeward
- If you need to use mark **X** and/or **Y** to get the course you want ask the safety boat to do this for you.

- Once you have the desired course set, indicate this by positioning the **relevant numbers/letters in the slot on the starboard side** of the cabin
(NOTE we DO NOT indicate the number of laps for club racing)
- Hoist both the **orange (on station for start)** and **red (port course)** flags.
- **Ready all other flags** - attach to the halyards on the engine cover and insert into the socks. Raise the socks to the crosstrees.
(see committee boat door and sailing instructions for full details - The Flag Box attaches to the back of the cabin on a wing nut)
- Fly flags by pulling on the **RED** halyards.
- DO Not fly the postponement flag (red white stripes) unless the first start is delayed
- **Countdown** : always 5 - 4 - 1 - GO
- **Commence Start Sequence** as per sailing instructions.

8. Race Underway:

- Each time a boat rounds the leeward mark simply tick the lap they are completing on the results sheet.

9. Race Finishing:

- When you are ready to 'finish' the race (average race should be about 45 minutes) Blow the hooter and hoist the '**S**' Flag (White with inner blue square) along with the '**on station for the finish**' flag (Blue square)
- The **boats finish** when they cross between the leeward mark and the mast of the committee boat.
- Give each boat a **hoot** as they finish and **record** their elapsed time on the results sheet
(their elapsed time is the time that has elapsed since the 'Go' Signal - not the start of the countdown)

10. Weighing Anchor and Returning to the mooring:

- Safety boat returns the start line buoy to the committee boat
- When retrieving the anchor use the crew on the foredeck pulling in the warp whilst driving slowly in the direction of the anchor (don't drive over the anchor.)
- Head back to the mooring - approach **into the tide**.
- Crew to foredeck with the **boat hook**.
- Crew retrieves mooring warp and secures to the bow.

- Once boat is secure - **switch off** the engine and return key to hook behind door.
- Stow Boat Hook in the cabin
- Tidy the boat - with all flags placed back in the flag box and watches returned to Plastic Box
- Secure all items in the cabin - so that they don't move around in rough weather.
- Clip chain onto tiller to secure the rudder

11. Returning to Shore:

- Get a ride back on the Safety Boat – If using the tender and it gets too rough, ask the safety boat to take you to shore towing the tender.
- Put the tender away
- Run the engine in fresh water before returning to container 2
- Return the radio to the charging station in the classroom
- PHOTO THE RESULTS SHEET AND EMAIL TO **Results Officer** - and then post the results sheets in the white box below the noticeboard inside the front door.

SBSC Race Management

OOD Duty Guide