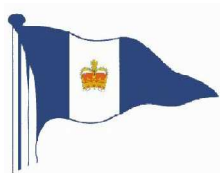


NATIONAL FIREFLY CLASS



THE CRAFTINSURE 62ND NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

**SATURDAY 2 AUGUST – FRIDAY 8 AUGUST
2008**



Organising Authority

**ROYAL TORBAY YACHT CLUB
TORQUAY DEVON ENGLAND**

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

ALL TIMES ARE BRITISH SUMMER TIME (BST)

1. RULES

- 1.1 The championship will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing and these Sailing Instructions.
- 1.2 The Prescriptions of the Royal Yachting Association will apply.
- 1.3 Rules of the National Firefly Class will apply (except as any of these are changed by the Sailing Instructions).
- 1.4 If there is a conflict between languages the English text will take precedence.

2. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

2.1 Measurement

Boats may be measured before or after any race at the discretion of the race committee and the National Firefly Association. The race committee may elect not to protest a boat that fails a measurement. Such decisions will be posted on the official notice board. This changes rule 78.3.

2.2 Scrutineering

Boats must be presented for scrutineering by the National Firefly Association before racing commences. The National Firefly Association may check compliance of the rules at any time during the championship.

2.3 Distinguishing Numbers

Under exceptional circumstances and at its sole discretion, the race committee may permit a boat to use sails carrying a distinguishing number other than that required by Appendix G.1.1 (c). This changes rule 77. All competitors should ensure that the sail number shown against their name in the final list of entries as held by the beachmaster is the same under which they are sailing. Any changes to sail numbers have to be in writing to the race committee before the first points race. No boat will be allowed to carry the same sail number as another competing boat.

2.4 Sponsor's Logo

Competitors will be issued with two Musto stickers at registration, which must be attached, one to each side of the boom, for the duration of the championship.

3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located at Royal Torbay Yacht Club.

4. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0900 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

5. SAFETY REGULATIONS

5.1 Personal Buoyancy

All competitors shall wear life jackets or other adequate personal buoyancy at all times whilst afloat. Wet suits and dry suits are not adequate personal buoyancy. This changes rule 40.1.

5.2 **Tallies**

- 5.2.1 The tally system will be located at the top of the slipway in Torquay Harbour.
- 5.2.2 Numbered tallies will be issued to individual members of a boat's crew and shall be worn whilst afloat.
- 5.2.3 Each member of a boat's crew shall individually tally out before racing and individually tally in immediately on returning to shore after racing. The time limit for tallying in is within 30 minutes of the last boat finishing the last race of the day.
- 5.2.4 Timing for the release of tallies prior to going afloat will be on the instruction of the principal race officer.
- 5.2.5 Boat's crew who forget to tally out will be liable to a fine of £5, which will be donated to the RNLI.
- 5.2.6 Failure to comply with any part of instruction 5.2 shall not be grounds for protest by another boat. This changes rule 60.1.

6. **GENERAL SAFETY**

- 6.1 Competitors are strongly advised to ensure that their boat has adequate buoyancy that is properly secured so that in the event of a capsize they may right, bale out and continue to race or to sail home without becoming an undue liability to patrol boats.
- 6.2 As soon as possible before the start of each day's racing and no later than the preparatory signal, each boat shall display her sail number to the race committee boat by sailing close by her starboard side, which the race committee will endeavour to acknowledge.
- 6.3 A boat that retires from a race shall, when possible, notify a race committee vessel or patrol boat before leaving the race area and shall notify the beachmaster immediately upon returning ashore.
- 6.4 Competitors in difficulty must obey the instructions of patrol boat handlers. A competitor who needs assistance from a patrol boat shall signal this by waving his/her hands with open palms. A competitor who does not require assistance should wave his/her hands with clenched fists.

7. **SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

- 7.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flag mast located at the inshore end of Haldon Pier.
- 7.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, "1 minute" is replaced with "not more than 60 minutes" in the race signal AP.

8. SCHEDULE OF RACES

8.1 Dates of racing and number of races:

Date	Race	Warning Signal	Course	Trophy
Sat 2 Aug	Practice	1525	Triangle-Windward-Leeward	
Sun 3 Aug	Points 1	1155	Triangle-Windward-Leeward	City of Plymouth
Mon 4 Aug	Points 2	1055	Trapezoid	Sussex Silver Firefly
	Points 3	As soon as possible after Points 2	Trapezoid	Felixstowe Ferry
Tue 5 Aug	Points 4	1155	Triangle-Windward-Leeward	RAFSA
Wed 6 Aug	Points 5 Gore & Marlow	1055	Triangle	Mike Nye Memorial Sir Ralph Gore Challenge Cup & Marlow Cup
Thu 7 Aug	Points 6	1055	Trapezoid	Stern Light
	Points 7	As soon as possible after Points 6	Trapezoid	Avon Bailer
Fri 8 Aug	Points 8	1055	Triangle-Windward-Leeward	Tomato Boats

8.2 When there has been a long postponement and when more than one race will be held on the same day, the warning for the first race and each succeeding race will be made as soon as practicable. To alert boats that a race will begin soon, flag AP will be displayed with two sound signals for at least 4 minutes before a warning signal is displayed.

8.3 If races are not completed as scheduled or if the race committee considers it unlikely that races will be completed as scheduled, one extra race per day may be sailed.

8.4 On the last day of the championship no warning signal will be made after 1400.

9. CLASS FLAG

The class flag will be flag F.

10. RACING AREA

The racing area will be in Torbay.

11. THE COURSES

- 11.1 The diagrams in the attachments show the courses, including the approximate angles between legs, the order in which marks are to be passed and the side on which each mark is to be left.
- 11.2 The course and the number of rounds to be sailed will be indicated on a blackboard on the race committee boat.
- 11.3 No later than the warning signal, the race committee boat will display the approximate compass bearing of the first leg.

12. MARKS

- 12.1 Marks 1, 2, 3 and 4 will be large yellow buoys.
- 12.2 New marks as provided in instruction 14 will be large orange buoys.

13. THE START

- 13.1 When flag G is displayed on the race committee boat, a gate start will be used and instruction 13.4 will apply.
- 13.2 When flag W is displayed on the race committee boat, a line start will be used and instruction 13.5 will apply.
- 13.3 Change from gate start to line start and vice versa:
Should a change from a gate start to a line start and vice versa be decided upon, flag G will be lowered with two sound signals and flag W will be hoisted with two further sound signals and vice versa.
- 13.4 **Gate Start**
 - 13.4.1 A starting mark will be a white dan buoy with an orange flag, which will be laid at the leeward end of the gate.
 - 13.4.2 The gate launch will display flag G and the guard launch will display flag U. Starting signals will be made on the race committee boat.
 - 13.4.3 The pathfinder for the practice race will be nominated by the race committee. The pathfinder for the first points race will be the boat that finished tenth in the 2007 National Firefly Championship or as nominated by the race committee. Subsequently, the pathfinder will be the tenth boat in the preceding race. When she is unable to race, or has been the pathfinder previously in the championship, the pathfinder will be the eleventh boat in the preceding race and so on. Her number will be posted on the official notice board. The pathfinder shall report to the gate launch five minutes before the warning signal. When two races with gate starts are being sailed on the same day, the pathfinder's sail number for the second race will be displayed on a blackboard on the race committee boat prior to the warning signal.
 - 13.4.4 At or around the starting signal the pathfinder will sail from the starting mark on a close-hauled port tack. During the start the pathfinder will be followed by the gate launch and the guard launch will keep station off the pathfinder's starboard bow.
 - 13.4.5 The starting line will be between the starting mark and the centre of the stern of the gate launch.
 - 13.4.6 The pathfinder shall maintain her course until released by the race officer.
 - 13.4.7 After the release of the pathfinder, the gate launch will maintain her course and speed for a period of time determined by the race officer, subject to the gate

having been open for at least two minutes after the starting signal. When she stops she will lower flag G half way and make a sound signal.

- 13.4.8 A boat not having correctly started which is on the port side of the gate launch while the gate is opening, shall not cross the starting line from the course side.
- 13.4.9 After the preparatory signal a boat which interferes with or tries to pass between the pathfinder and the gate or guard launch, or that causes another boat to interfere in these ways, will be disqualified without a hearing. If the race is restarted, resailed or rescheduled she is not entitled to compete. This changes rule 63.1
- 13.4.10 The gate launch, the guard launch and the pathfinder until release, rank as starting marks.
- 13.4.11 A boat that cannot avoid touching a starting mark may hail a right-of-way boat for room and shall retire.
- 13.4.12 A boat shall not start later than five minutes after the starting signal when flag G on the gate launch and the race committee boat will be lowered.

13.5 **Line Start**

- 13.5.1 The starting line will be between a mast displaying an orange flag on the race committee boat at the starboard end and a mast displaying an orange flag on a race committee boat at the port end.
- 13.5.2 A boat starting later than five minutes after her starting signal shall be scored Did Not Start. This changes rule A4.

14. **CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE**

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.

15. **THE FINISH**

The finishing line will be between a mast displaying an orange flag on the race committee boat at the starboard end and a white dan buoy displaying an orange flag at the port end.

16. **TIME LIMITS**

- 16.1 With the exception of instruction 16.3, when one race is scheduled in a day, boats failing to finish within 60 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish, except that if the first boat fails to sail the course and finish within 2½ hours of a valid start, the race will be abandoned. This changes rules 35 and A4.
- 16.2 When two or more races are scheduled in a day, boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish, except that if the first boat fails to sail the course and finish within 2 hours of a valid start, the race will be abandoned. This changes rules 35 and A4.
- 16.3 For the Sir Ralph Gore Challenge Cup and Marlow Cup, boats failing to finish within 60 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish, except that if the first boat fails to sail the course and finish with 4½ hours of a valid start, the race will be abandoned. This changes rules 35 and A4.

17. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 17.1 Protest forms are available at the race office. Protests shall be delivered there within the protest time limit.
- 17.2 The Protest time limit is 60 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day.
- 17.3 Protests will be heard in approximately the order of receipt and as soon as possible.
- 17.4 Notices will be posted within 30 minutes of the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the race office.
- 17.5 Rule 61.1(b) is amended so that the listing of a boat on the protest schedule shall constitute informing the boat and the time limit is altered accordingly. It shall be the sole responsibility of the competitors to check the official notice board and to attend any protest hearing together with witnesses.

18. SCORING

- 18.1 Three races are required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 18.2 (a) When fewer than four races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- (b) When four or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

19. REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

- 19.1 Substitution of competitors will not be allowed without prior written approval of the race committee.
- 19.2 Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed unless approved by the race committee. Requests for substitution shall be made to the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

20. PRIZES

Prizes will be given for the series and individual races at the discretion of the National Firefly Association as follows:

Sir Richard Fairey Points Cup

- The winner of the points series during the Nationals. This does not include the practice race and includes a discard if enough races have been sailed.

Rothmans Trophy

- The helmsperson with the best position overall for the week counting all races. This includes the practice race and allows for no discard even if enough races have been sailed.

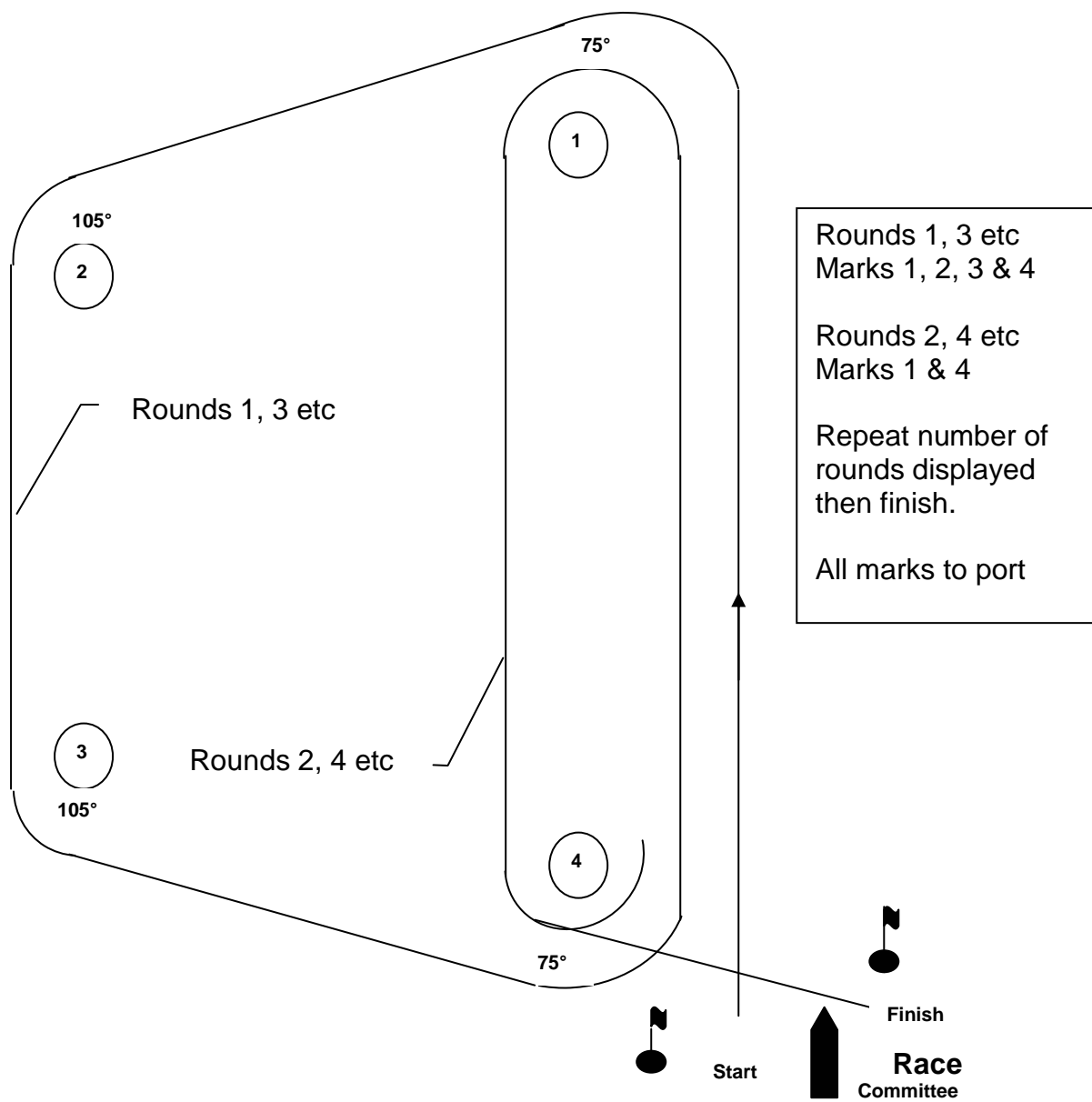
Sir Ralph Gore Challenge Cup	- The winner of the Gore Race normally sailed on the Wednesday of the championship by the top half of the fleet, historically those who have finished 15 th or higher in any of the previous races.
Marlow Cup	- The winner of the Marlow Race normally sailed on the Wednesday of the championship by the second half of the fleet, historically those who have finished 16 th or lower in any of the previous races.
City of Plymouth Trophy	- Winner of the first points race.
Sussex Silver Firefly	- Winner of the second points race.
Felixstowe Ferry Trophy	- Winner of the third points race.
RAFSA Trophy	- Winner of the fourth points race.
Mike Nye Memorial Trophy	- Winner of the fifth points race.
Stern Light Trophy	- Winner of the sixth points race.
Avon Bailer Trophy	- Winner of the seventh points race.
Tomato Boats Trophy	- Winner of the eighth points race.
Deben Ladies Trophy	- The helmswoman with the best position in the Sir Richard Fairey Points Cup.
Geriatric Trophy	- The helmsperson over 40 with the best position in the Sir Richard Fairey Points Cup.
Veterans Trophy	- The helmsperson over 40 with the best position in the Gore Race.
Ultimate Trophy	- The most senior crew with the best position in the Sir Richard Fairey Points Cup. This is raced for by the 5 oldest boats, calculated on the combined crew and helm ages.
Tolly Cobbold Cup	- The club which has the lowest aggregate points in the Sir Richard Fairey Points Cup from their 4 best placed boats.

Restronguet Ovaloid Trophy	- Best helmsperson under 18 in the Sir Richard Fairey Points Cup.
Insurance Trophy	- Best helmsperson under 21 in the Sir Richard Fairey Points Cup.
Eden Trophy	- The best improver from their position in the Sir Richard Fairey Points Cup at the previous year's nationals to the current position in the Sir Richard Fairey Points Cup.

21. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 21.1 Competitors participate in the championship entirely at their own risk. See Rule 4, Decision to Race. The organising authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the championship.
- 21.2 A boat is entirely responsible for her own safety, whether afloat or ashore, and nothing, whether in the Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions or anywhere else, reduces this responsibility.
- 21.3 It is for the boat to decide whether she is fit to sail in the conditions in which she will find herself. By launching or going to sea, the boat confirms that she is fit for those conditions and her crew is competent to sail and compete in them.
- 21.4 The boat is required to hold adequate insurance and in particular to hold insurance against third party claims in the sum of a least £2,000,000.
- 21.5 Nothing done by the organisers can reduce the responsibility of the boat nor will it make the organisers responsible for any loss, damage, death or personal injury, however it may have occurred, as a result of the boat taking part in the racing. The organisers encompass everyone helping to run the race and the championship, and include the organising authority, the race committee, the race officers, patrol boats and beachmasters.
- 21.6 The provision of patrol boats does not relieve the boat of her responsibilities.
- 21.7 The fact that the race committee may conduct inspections of a boat does not reduce the responsibilities of the boat set out in this paragraph.

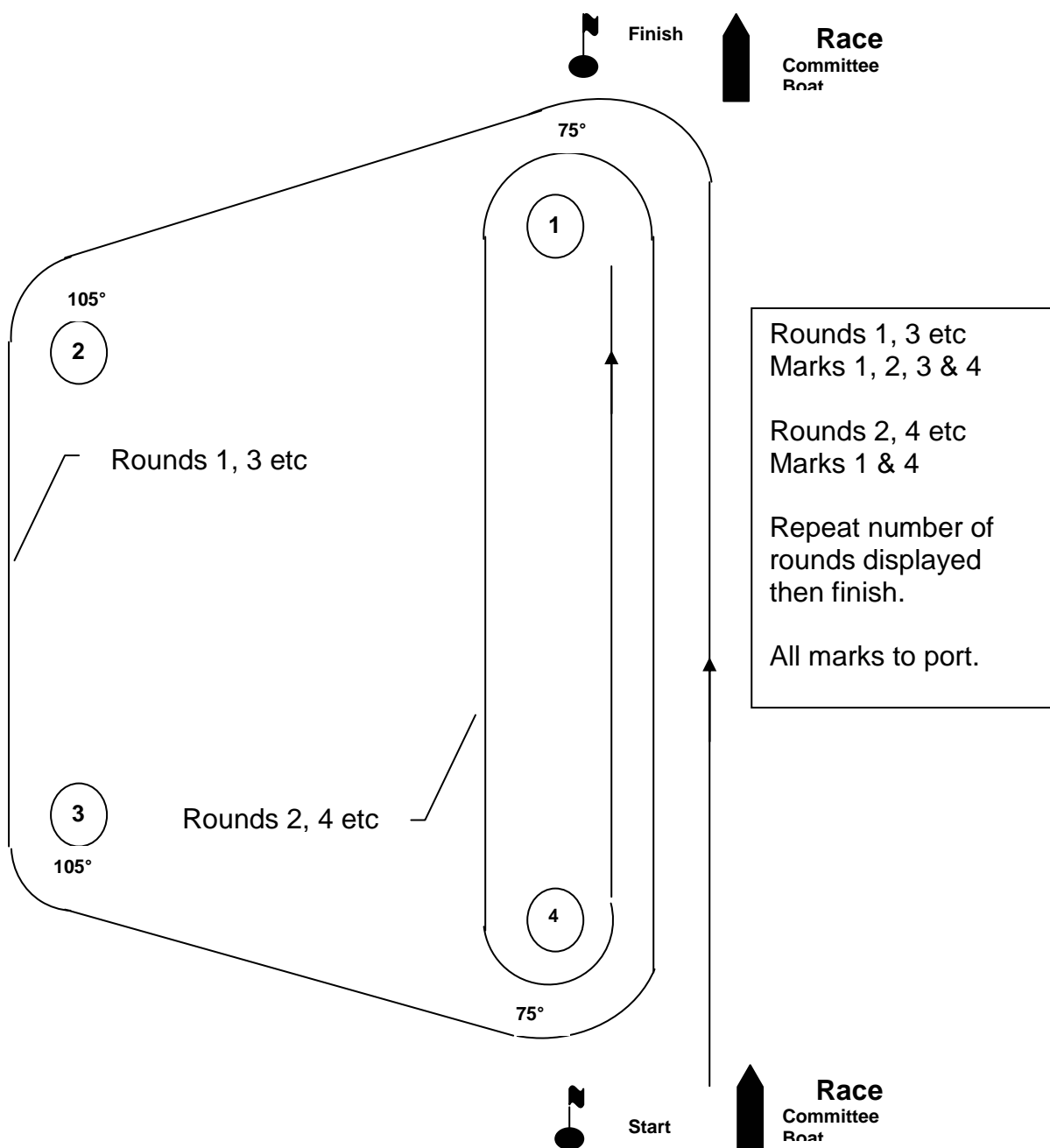
ATTACHMENT TRAPEZOID COURSE - A



Note:

1. Start below leeward mark 4 (if laid).
2. Leeward mark 4 (if laid) is not a mark of the course on the first leg of round 1.
3. Repeat number of rounds displayed on blackboard on race committee boat and then sail from mark 4 to the finish.

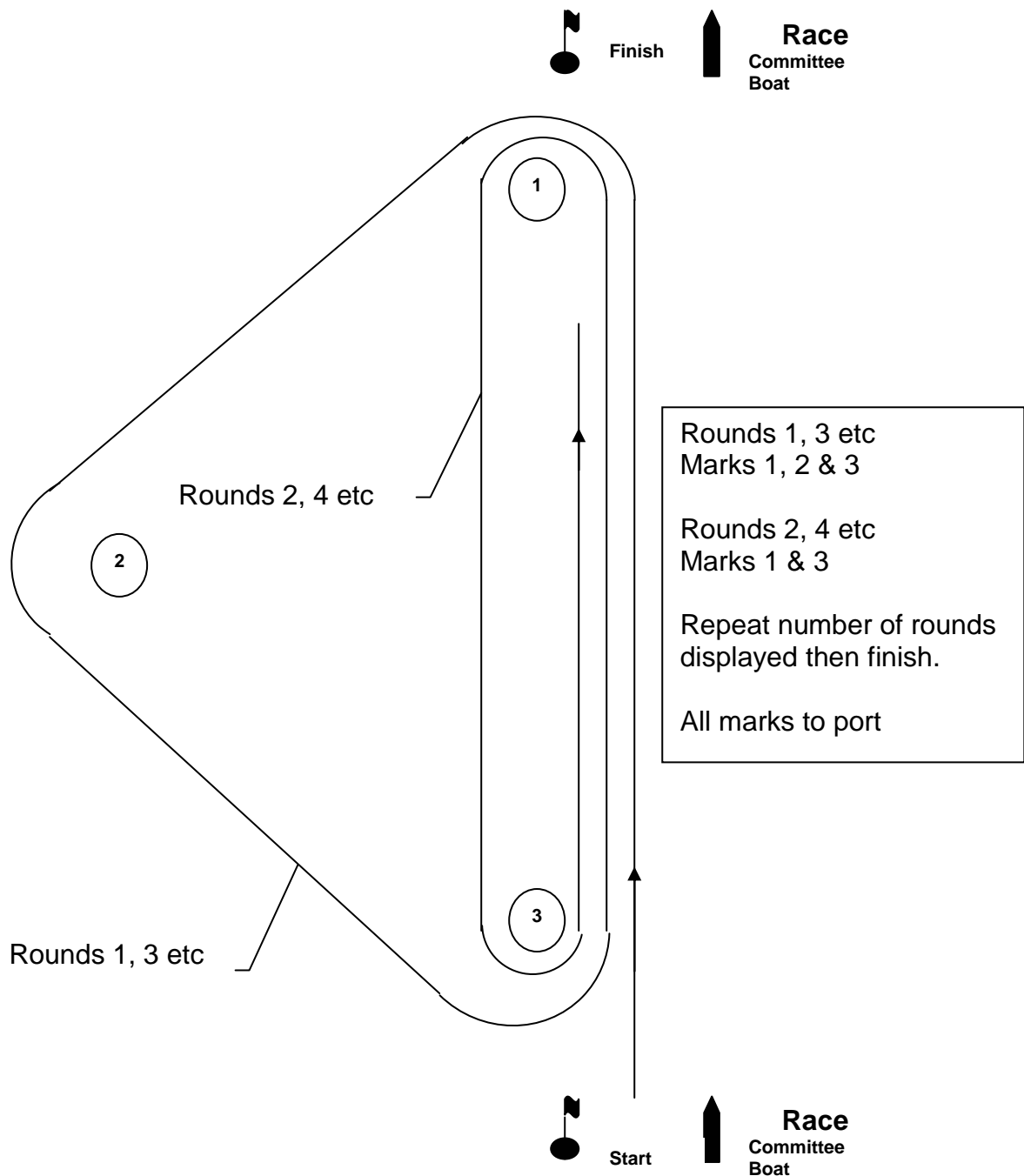
ATTACHMENT TRAPEZOID COURSE - B



Note:

1. Start below leeward mark 4 (if laid).
2. Leeward mark 4 (if laid) is not a mark of the course on the first leg of round 1.
3. Repeat number of rounds displayed on blackboard on race committee boat and then sail from mark 4 to the finish.
4. Windward mark 1 is not a mark of the course on the finishing leg.

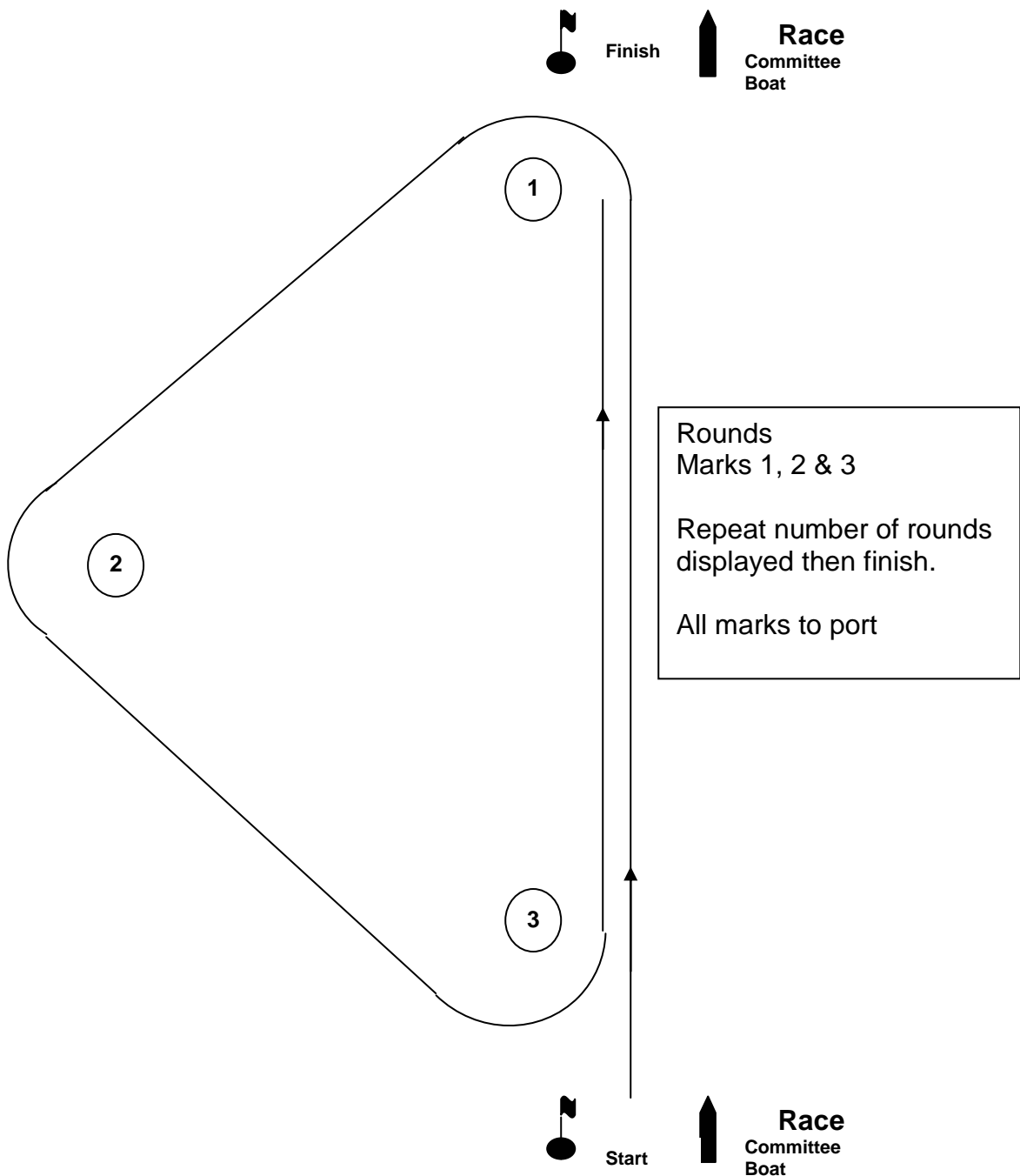
**ATTACHMENT
TRIANGLE-WINDWARD-LEEWARD COURSE - C**



Note:

1. Start below leeward mark 3 (if laid).
2. Leeward mark 3 (if laid) is not a mark of the course on the first leg of round 1.
3. The approximate internal angles between legs on rounds 1, 3 etc will be 60°.
4. Complete number of rounds displayed on blackboard on race committee boat and then sail from mark 3 to the finish.
5. Windward mark 1 is not a mark of the course on the finishing leg.

ATTACHMENT TRIANGLE COURSE - D



Note:

1. Start below leeward mark 3 (if laid).
6. Leeward mark 3 (if laid) is not a mark of the course on the first leg of round 1.
7. The approximate internal angle between legs will be 60°.
8. Complete number of rounds displayed on blackboard on race committee boat and then sail from mark 3 to the finish.
9. Windward mark 1 is not a mark of the course on the finishing leg.