

BIFFA CHAMPIONSHIP REGULATIONS

STATUS

- (1) These Regulations cover the annual Championships for which trophies are owned by the BIFFA, i.e. the Championship of the British Isles, the Inland Championship, the Northern Championship, the Southern Championship and the Scottish Championship. The Regulations are for the information and guidance of the organising clubs. They should be adhered to insofar as is practicable, but must not be departed from without prior permission from the Championship Committee.

VENUES

- (2) Championships shall be held by Clubs who are able to offer necessary keelboat facilities, specialised experience and willing labour, preferably Clubs with recognised Flying Fifteen fleets. However, this paragraph does not preclude the Association accepting an invitation from a Club with no Flying Fifteen fleet, provided the facilities offered can be shown to be adequate.
- (3) The Championship of the British Isles shall be held:
 - (a) on sea water, and on waters suitable for courses giving a true test on all points of sailing;
 - (b) at venues proposed by the BIFFA Championship Committee and endorsed by the BIFFA membership at AGM.
- (4) The Northern Championships shall be held north of a line from the Wash to the Mersey (or extension thereof) and the Southern Championships to the south of this line. These Championships may be held in Ireland or Scotland, notwithstanding the existence of separate Irish and Scottish Championships.
- (5) The Inland Championships shall be held on inland waters;

DURATION

- (6) The Championships of the British Isles shall normally be decided over a period of at least four but not more than six days (a 6-day championship) during which a series of 6 races or more races shall be scheduled (weather conditions permitting). Other Championships shall be decided over a series of either 4 or 5 races, depending on the period the organising Club allots to the event.

RESPONSIBILITY AND LIAISON

- (7) Responsibility for organising the Championships rests with the Host Club (that is, the club which invited BIFFA), not with the local fleet or any other body. It is recommended that the FF Fleet Captain of the Host Club be a member of the Club's Championship Committee.

- (8) The Club shall state clearly who is responsible for liaising on their behalf with the BIFFA, on whose part all liaising will be the responsibility of a nominated member of the championship committee.

SPONSORSHIP

- (9) The BIFFA shall use their best endeavours to obtain sponsorship at national level and shall inform the Host Club as early as possible how much money will be available. The Host Club may have full responsibility for obtaining further sponsorship at local level. It is advisable for clubs to co-ordinate their efforts with those of the BIFFA

LIMITATION OF SIZE OF ENTRY

- (10) The BIFFA recognises that any limit on the number of entrants is best set by the Host Club who knows their own facilities but it is recommended that the upper limit be 100 boats. In the case of a limit being in operation, this shall be made clear when the venue is proposed and publicised when (if possible, before) the Entry Forms are sent to all BIFFA members; the Host Club shall accept entries in the strict order in which they are received, except that places shall be held for the first 10 helmsmen in the preceding year's Championship of the British Isles, for the first 3 helmsmen in the preceding year's Northern, Southern, Inland and Scottish Championships, and for the Officers of the BIFFA; one month before the closing date of entries, these places shall cease to be held open.

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

A set of Standard Sailing Instructions shall be used at all Championships and shall conform to the following regulations (11 to 17).

OTHER THAN RACING

- (11) Prior to a boat being launched, the owner (or their representative) shall produce to the Host Club a valid Measurement Certificate and current BIFFA Membership Card. A person who is not a member of the BIFFA cannot enter or steer a boat for any Championship race; but a crew who is not a member may steer a boat for short periods during such a race. For the purpose of these Regulations, members of any Association affiliated to *ff* International are deemed to be members of the BIFFA.
- (12) Boats may be spot checked or measured, in addition to the Host Club's pre-launch inspection of certain items of equipment and the Race Committee's (or Competitor's) right to have measured any boat apparently at fault. The following wording is recommended: "The Race Committee reserves the right to require any yacht or sail to be submitted for measurement at any time before or during the series".

- (13) Boats may be either moored or slipped depending on the facilities of the Host Club, but boats shall not be scrubbed or polished while out of the water between races unless the facility to do so is available to all competitors.

RACING

- (14) The Sailing Instructions shall make provision for moving any marks of the course, during or before a race, at the discretion of the Race Officer.
- (15) The 720-degree turns penalty as provided in Rule 44, Penalties for infringement of a Rule of part 2 of the Racing Rules of Sailing 2005 - 2008, shall apply.
- (16) The time limit for each race shall be as shown in the table below, if any boat completes the whole course within the time limit shown, there shall be an extension of the time limit as shown.

Races per Day	Target Time	Time Limit	Extension
1	2 hrs	3 hrs	60 mins
2	1.25 hrs	2 hrs	40 mins
3 or more	1 hr	1.5 hrs	30 mins

The target time is for the mid-fleet position and is provided for guidance. Boats failing to finish within the extension period after the first boat sails the course will be scored Did Not Finish. This changes rules 35 and A4

SCORING

- (17) The Low Point System shall be used and all races shall be sailed in numeric order. The Championship shall be won by the yacht with the lowest aggregate points after discarding one of its races, if 3 or more races are sailed. If 7 or more races are sailed, then a second discard shall be allowed. Fewer than 3 races are sailed then all shall count. In the event of a tie this shall be broken in accordance with appendix A 8 of the Racing Rules of Sailing;. (No discard is allowed for the Owners Association Trophy.)

ANNUAL CHALLENGE TROPHIES

- (18) Trophies owned by the BIFFA (of which a list is appended) shall:
- (a) be awarded only to members of the BIFFA (or other Association affiliated to FFI, but these trophies shall not be taken outside the British Isles);
 - (b) be insured by the BIFFA (this is the responsibility of the Secretary);

- (c) be engraved by the winners, who shall send the account for engraving to the Secretary for payment from the BIFFA's funds (owners may chose to make this a donation to association if they wish).
- (d) have photographs taken as awarded to each recipient, and passed to the General secretary of the association after the championship

(19) The Championship Trophy shall be awarded to the winner of the series.

(20) The Owners` Association (lately the John Player Gold Leaf) Trophy shall be awarded to the yacht registered not later than 31st December, 7 years prior to the year in which the event is held, with the lowest aggregate points in the Championship of the British Isles, using the Low Point system. The number of the newest yacht eligible shall be shown in the notice of race.

(21) Scoring System; for this Trophy no discard shall be allowed, and a tie shall be broken as described in Appendix A, Rule A8 of the Racing Rules of Sailing 2005-2008.

PRIZES (KEEPERS)

(22) Equal prizes shall be given to the helm and crew of the prize winning yachts.

(23) All other prizes are the responsibility of the organising Club; as a guideline it is suggested that prizes are awarded to the top 12.5% overall in the final results, and to the winning yacht (if possible the first three) in each race. Except where there are the BIFFA Challenge Trophies for Classic Competitors the organising club should offer prizes to Classic Boats as for the open fleet above, (though a lower percentage may be required given the lower number of starters in this fleet). A similar system may be adopted for BIFFA designated "silver" fleet boats. A small souvenir to each competitor has also proved extremely popular in the past. We draw the host clubs attention to the guidance below.

(24) The BIFFA Year Book shall list the winners of all the trophies owned by BIFFA of which the following are competed for annually in Championships. The race day trophies shall be awarded for all racing undertaken on the indicated day of the championships, where more than one race is sailed the winning boat shall be the lowest aggregate scores for the racing on that day. In the event of a "short" National Championship these trophies will be awarded for the individual races in the order they are sailed; in the event of less than six races being sailed the race day prizes will be awarded for the races which are sailed in numeric order races, trophies not awarded shall be returned to the secretary for safe keeping.

THE CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE BRITISH ISLES

Championship Trophy

Ulster Cup (1st Race Day)

Owners` Association Trophy (Stolen)

Calypso Cup (2nd Race Day)

John Clark Trophy (3rd Race Day)
Restronguet Bowl (4th Race Day)
(Missing)
Laing Viking Warrior (5th Race Day)
City of Plymouth Cup (last Race Day)
Dimple (ladies Prize)
Island Sailing Trophy (combined ages of
helm and crew 80 - 99 yrs)

Kempner Trophy (combined ages of
helm and crew at least 100 yrs)
Royal Torbay Silver Trophy
Royal Motor Yacht Club Classic trophy
(1st boat with sail no. 3000 or below)
Youth Prize 1st under 21

Classic National Championship

The Classic National Championship
Trophy
The Ladies Classic Championship
Trophy
The Royal Torbay Trophy (1st Race
Day)
The Llangorse Pennant (2nd Race
Day)

The SCYC Bowl (3rd Race Day)
The Coweslip Trophy (Last Race Day)
The Veterans Trophy (Oldest combined
ages helm & crew)
Youth Prize 1st under 21

SOUTHERN CHAMPIONSHIP

Championship Trophy
Medway Fifteen trophy (1st Race)
Pitsford Salver (2nd Race)
The Silver Fox (3rd Race)

The Broxbourne Chiller (4th Race)
The Rutland Trophy (5th Race) (Missing)
Marine Consultants International Half
Hull (1st Lady)
Rydon Trophy (1st Home Boat)

NORTHERN CHAMPIONSHIP

Championship Trophy
Bassenthwaite Cannon (1st Race)
Loch Earn Quaich (2nd Race)
Burntisland Cup (3rd Race)

Windermere Cup (4th Race) (Missing)
Sunderland Sextant (5th Race)
The Kielder Cup (1st Home Boat)

SCOTTISH CHAMPIONSHIP

Championship Trophy (The Skelly
Trophy)

Campbeltown Town Council Trophy (1st
Race)

Salmond Salver (2nd Race)

Ken Sturrock Loch Earn S.C. Cup (3rd
Race)

EFTEE Cup (Last Race)

INLAND CHAMPIONSHIP

Championship Trophy

Silver Fleet Half Hull (1st Silver Fleet Boat)

The Flying Fifteen Plan Drawing (1st Classic)

GUIDANCE TO RACE COMMITTEES

- (1) The BIFFA requests that the Host Club liaises with a nominated member of the championship committee (whose experience may well be of use to the Club) in good time for discussion before any irrevocable decisions have to be taken, in particular on such matters as Preliminary Notice and Entry Form, Programme, Sailing Instructions, cost of entry and entertainment tickets, sponsorship available through BIFFA.
- (2) The Host Club in liaison with the Secretary is responsible for such things as:
 - (a) providing adequate moorings for competitors, launching and slipping facilities and trailer parking space;
 - (b) giving assistance to competitors in finding suitable accommodation;
 - (c) arranging any social functions that may be thought desirable;

(3) COURSES

Courses should provide a true test on all points of sailing without undue accent being placed on any one point of sailing. (Undue accent would be when more than 55% of a course is devoted to one point of sailing.) The first leg should be as exactly to windward as possible and approximately 1 nautical mile.

Courses for the Championship of the British Isles shall be either:

- (a) triangular with an alternate up and down wind leg. The first windward leg should be approximately 1 nautical mile. Reaches should be laid so it is possible to fly spinnakers on both legs, normally 45 degrees at the weather mark and 90 degrees at the gybe mark; or
- (b) the windward - leeward course with the first mark approximately 1 nautical mile to windward of the start.

It is strongly recommended that the **Race Officer does not commence any race unless the wind is over 5 knots** and that, in the event of a race not having started within 3 hours of the advertised time, the race be postponed to another day.

Courses for other championships may be set at the race officers discretion (prior discussion about this with the championship committee is advisable), but courses should not have undue accent to one point of sailing, and should use clearly distinguishable marks.

The BIFFA require that where that where Classic Flying Fifteens (that is boats displaying sail numbers of 2700 or less or are built to a design that qualify's them as a Classic Flying Fifteen the following shall apply:-

(a) Where 7 or less Classic boats are entered these boats shall start with the Open fleet and their results shall be removed from the main fleet results and shown with separate scoring (bonus point system) e.g. 1st Classic – 0; 2nd Classic - 3 etc.

(b) Where 8 or more Classic boats are entered a separate start shall be provided approximately 5 minutes behind the Open fleet and they shall sail over the same course. The results to be shown separately as above, (additional advice may be sought from the Championship Committee and Classic fleet representatives of the BIFFA as to how best to provide this facility).

A similar system to the above may be adopted for the "Silver Fleet" Flying Fifteens that is boats numbered 2701 to 3400 which do not qualify as Classic Flying Fifteens.

(4) RECORDS

- (a) It is requested that the Host Club send each competitor a summary of the results (with a copy to the Secretary).
- (b) It is requested that a final summary of the Championship costs be sent by the Host Club to the Secretary to assist with future planning.