
X-Yachts

BENELUX CUP

4-6 June 2010 Wemeldinge, The Netherlands

GENERAL SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Rules

1. 1 The races will be governed by the following rules:
 - The International Racing Rules of the I.S.A.F. 2009-2012
 - The ISAF Offshore Special Regulations, Cat. 4.
 - These General Sailing Instructions, except as changed or amended by the Additional Sailing Instructions of one event.
 - The Notices of Races.
 - The Additional Sailing Instructions.
1. 2 A yacht participating in a regatta must carry a sail number
1. 3 Between sunset and sunrise, the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (IRPCS) will replace the ISAF Rules.
1. 4 When encountering other shipping than racing yachts, the IRPCS or the local rules shall be complied with.

2. Notices to competitors

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located near to the race office, accordingly with International Code flag "L". The Race Office will be located in the "X-Yachts" tent.

3. Changes to Sailing Instructions

Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted before 09.00 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 22.00 on the day before it will take effect.

4. Signals made ashore

- 1 Signals made ashore will be displayed at the flagpole near the race office.
- 2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, No warning signal shall be giving within 60 minutes after flag AP is lowered.

5. Schedule of races

5. 1 Dates of racing and number of races

Friday 4th of June

20h00 - 21h30 Inscription in Regatta Office, Wemeldinge

Saturday 5th of June

08h30 Regatta Office opens

09h30 Briefing

11h00 **Family Class:** 1 long or medium distance race

11h15 **Sport Class:** 2 medium distance races

Sunday 6th of June

08h30	Regatta Office opens
09h30	Briefing
11h00	Family Class: 1 medium distance race
11h15	Sport Class: 1 medium distance race

5. 3 Warning signal
The scheduled time for the warning signal or the first race each day is 11h00.
5. 4 When more than one race will be sailed on the same day, the warning signal for each succeeding race will be made as soon as possible after the finish of the previous race.

6. **Class flags**
The flag in accordance with the Class shall be prominently displayed from a backstay when racing.
 - FAMILY : WHITE FLAG
 - SPORT: ORANGE FLAG

7. **Racing Area**
The Racing Area will be the " Oosterschelde", near Wemeldinge, Holland.

8. **The Course**
Courses will be announced at the briefing, as well as being handed out after the briefing and will be posted at the official notice board.
The course can also be announced on VHF channel 72 – at least 10 min. before the start

9. **Marks**
All marks will be existing marks, except for the starting marks. Those will be large yellow inflatable buoys, marked: NORTH SAILS.

10. **Reserve**

11. **The Start**
 11. 1 Races will be started by using RRS 26 with the warning signal given five (5) minutes before the starting signal. An attention signal (flag "F") may be given five (5) minutes before the first warning signal of the first class which will start. Flag "F" will be lowered one (1) minute before the warning signal accompanied by one (1) sound signal. This changes rule 27.1
 11. 2 The starting line:
 - 1 The starting line will be between the mast with an X - Yachts flag on the committee boat on the starboard end and a mast with an X - Yachts flag on a RIB at the port end.
 - 2 At each end of the starting line an Inner Limit Mark (ILM) will be positioned. Both ILMs will be yellow inflatable marks with a NORTH SAILS logo. These marks are considered marks of the starting line for RRS 18 and RRS 31. Boats shall not pass in any direction between the committee vessels and their respective ILMs after their preparatory signal.

11. 3 Yachts which preparatory signals have not been displayed shall keep clear of any point within one hundred (100) meters of the starting line when other yachts are starting. An infringing yacht protested by a “starting” yacht or by the Race Committee, can be penalized with twenty (20) % of the total number of yachts starting and a minimum of three places.
11. 4 In addition to RRS 29.1, the Race Committee **may** also announce individual recalls on VHF, using the words “X-Ray”. Individual recall details such as “Sail numbers” and/or “Yacht names” **may** subsequently be given, but not necessarily immediately after the start. It remains the individual responsibility of a yacht to start correctly under RRS 29.1 and RRS 30.1.
- 11 5 Only in the Family Class, a boat that started early, and did so in the last minute before the start can:
1) repair by starting correctly or
2) take a time penalty of 15 minutes on corrected time.
11. 6 In addition to RRS 29.2, the Race Committee **may** also announces general recalls on VHF, using the words “General recall”.
11. 7 A yacht starting later than fifteen (15) minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start. This changes rule A4.
- 11 8 For the first race of every day, the Sport Class starts 15 minutes after a valid start for the Family Class.

12. Change of the next leg of the course

12. 1 There will be no change of course

13. The Finish

13. 1 The finishing line will be between the mast with a blue flag on the committee boat and a yellow inflatable buoy marked North Sails. The finishing line will be near the starting area.
13. 2 A race declaration must be completed and signed, every yacht will report within 2 (two) hours of finishing the course to the Race Office.

14. Penalty system

14. 1 RRS 42.1 will be applied.
As foreseen in the Fundamental Rule of the I.S.A.F.(assistance) or to recover a person who fell overboard, the RRS 42.3 (c) (propulsion) allows to use the engine or other means of propulsion. Such an incident must be declared at the finish of the race and shall be reported on the race declaration.
In case of unforeseen circumstances, a yacht may be in a position whereby she is bound to use the engine or other means of propulsion, so as not to infringe the International Regulations For Preventing Collisions at Sea (IRPCS) or the governing right-of-way rules applicable to the area. Such an incident must be reported on the race declaration. In this case, the Jury may announce a disqualification if it is convinced that the involved yacht gained a significant advantage.

15. Time limit

Family Class: 16h30

Sport Class: 1h after first boat and 16h30

16. Protests and requests for redress

16. 1 Protests shall be written on forms available at the regatta offices and lodged before the end of the protest time. The time limit for lodging protests for all classes will be sixty (60) minutes after the last boat of her class or group of classes finishes. This time will be posted at the official notice board.

16. 2 The jury will hear a protest as soon as possible, approximately in the order of reception. Parties involved in protests (including witnesses) shall remain in the vicinity of the Jury room until the protest has been heard.
After the final race on the last day of a regatta, protests which may affect the awarding of a prize will be heard as soon as possible after they are lodged. Protests which do not affect the awarding of a prize may be heard after the prize giving ceremony, at the discretion of the Jury.
16. 3 For the purpose of RRS 66, the time limit will be thirty (30) minutes after the hearing of the last protest of the series concerned.
16. 4 A notice, posted on the official notice board before the end of protest time shall be deemed to comply with RRS 61.1(b). By display of such notice, competitors shall be considered adequately informed of a protest by the Race Committee or the Jury.

17. Scoring system

17. 1 During this event, the ranking for each individual race will be made according to the X - Yachts rating
17. 2 Each boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.

18. Safety regulations

18. 1 Any yacht which retires must immediately show her national flag and report ASAP to the Race Committee.
18. 2 Before the first warning signal of the first race of the day, each yacht will pass the starboard end extension of the starting line within 2 boat lengths of the Race Committee signal boat. If a breakwater is used as a signalling platform, yachts shall pass the breakwater at a recognizable distance. Each yacht shall have her sail number acknowledged by the Race Committee.
18. 3 A yacht finishing after sunset shall report upon arrival to the Race Committee by VHF on Channel 72.

19. Equipment and measurement checks

19. 1 The organizing authority will execute a safety inspection on any yacht at any moment before or after the races.
19. 2. All mandatory safety equipment shall be on board at all times while afloat.

20. Official boats

20. 1 Official boats will display an X - Yachts flag.
20. 3 Yachts shall keep clear and actions of official boats shall not be ground for redress.
20. 4 In circumstances of commercial traffic, either when sailing to the starting area, during the race or after the race sailing to the harbour, directions given by official boats to competitors shall be followed and immediately executed.

21. Radio communications

21. 1 The VHF channel used for information by the Race Committee:
72.
Yachts are not allowed to transmit on this channel except in an emergency and to report retirement.

22. Prizes

- 22. 1** The final prize giving ceremony of the **X - YACHTS CUP BELGIUM 2010** will be held at the "X-Yachts" tent.

23. Disclaimer of liability.

Owners or skippers are responsible for any loss, damage, injury, death included, or inconvenience to their yachts or persons. They are to take into consideration the degree of training of their crew and the material state of their yacht. Only at such time, are they to decide to enter the regatta depending on the weather, the sea state and the weather forecast.

24. Insurance

Each participating boats shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of € 1.000.000,00 (one million Euro) per event or the equivalent.

FURTHER PRESCRIPTIONS

Yachts cannot protest each other on the ground of these prescriptions.

25. Berthing facilities.

For berthing facilities, see on the internet site www.x-yachts.be,
The instructions of the harbour masters must be strictly followed.

26. Registration and entry fee

See Notice of Race for this event.