

Sailing Instructions Holm Sailing Club yr2026

(Races and Series other than regattas)

The Racing Rules of Sailing 2025/28 (RRS) shall apply

Safety

Buoyancy Aids must be worn on the slipway and when afloat. Drysuit and /or wetsuit are advised due to the risk of hypothermia. Failure to comply will lead to DQ penalty for the racing that evening. A safety boat will be present for the duration of racing. As per Rule 3 of the RRS it is the sole responsibility of the crew to decide whether or not to launch and take part.

Racing will take place when the mean windspeed is more than 2mph and less than 20mph. When the Scapa Flow Forecast available from Orkney Harbours (at mid day on the day of racing) shows speed outwith these parameters racing will be cancelled and notified on Whatsapp. The Race Officer may abandon racing at any time before or during a race in the light of actual conditions.

Course charts are available from <https://www.orkneycommunities.co.uk/sailholm/library.asp> The appropriate course number will be visible from a board at the end of the pier and/or at a briefing 45 minutes before the start.

Daytime starts will be notified by whatsapp at least 24 hrs in advance.

Evening Start Times – The first start for the Handicap class will be 19.03hrs. The first time signal will be at 7.00pm. The Snipe Class will start at 19.08. The three minute signal for the Snipe class will be at 19.05hrs. Competitors not crossing the start line within 4 minutes of their start time will be scored DNS. The Race Officer may advise changes to this program.

Subsequent Starts will be no sooner than 3 minutes after the last finisher in the preceding race. A maximum of 3 races for each class will be held each evening.

Countdown to each start will be as follows

Countdown Sequence visible from from Holm Pier seaward end.

Loudhailer indicates 15 seconds to the 3 minute signal by hailing '**3 minutes - 3 minutes -3 minutes**'.

At 3 minutes 3 solid white discs will appear accompanied by a sound signal.

At 2 minutes 1 disc will be removed from sight leaving 2 displayed.

At 1 minute a further board will be removed leaving 1 disc visible. A sound signal will be made.

At the start the final disc will be removed accompanied by a sound signal.

Recalls

Individual boats may have their sail number called by loudhailer and must re cross the line. In the absence of a hail a helm who thinks they are over the line and does not re cross the line may be subject to disqualification. A general recall may also be called by loudhailer.

In the event of a general recall the recalled class will re start using the 3 minute countdown. The recalled class will start after the second Class.

The Tuesday Evening Series

The Spring series will run on Tuesday evenings commencing 5th May and will finish on Tuesday 30th June. The series constitutes a minimum of 6 races. A second series will run from Tuesday 4th August to Tuesday 1st September.

Dinghies wishing to race in the series must pay the appropriate fee before 6th May.. Their craft will then be added to the list of entrants for the series and other races.

Time Limits

The first finisher must finish within 40 minutes of the start or the race will be abandoned. When one boat finishes within 40 minutes the finish time limit will be extended by 15 minutes. Any boats not finishing within 55 minutes of their start will be scored DNF.

Scoring and Discards

Scoring will be by the Low Points System. RRS rule A.5.3. will apply.

Scores can be viewed at the HSC website which will be updated from time to time.

Where more than 13 races are scored by an entrant they may discard 3 scores.

Where more than 20 races are scored they may discard 6 scores.

Where more than 24 races are scored they may discard 9 scores

(in other words its possible to miss 3 nights and be in with a chance)

Prizes

Evening Points Series Snipe Overall Winner

Evening Points Series Snipe best turnout

Evening Points Handicap Overall Winner

22/04/2026.