

**Volvo H-boat World Championship
2nd to 9th of August 2008 in Hanko, Finland**

Sailing instructions, as amended 5.8.2008

1. Rules

1.1 The Regatta will be governed by the 'rules' as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), The International H-Boat Association Class Rules and World Championship Rules.

1.2 The Notice of Race and these Sailing Instructions will apply. In the event of conflict the Sailing Instructions shall prevail.

1.3 Rule 44.2 is changed so that the two turns are replaced by one turn.

1.4 Rule A2 is changed, refer to item 17 Scoring below.

1.5 The official language of the Regatta is English.

1.6 The Prescriptions of the Finnish Sailing Federation shall not apply.

2. Entries

Only eligible boats for which a signed entry form has been received, registration and measurement have been completed, and the full entry fee has been paid before the warning signal for the first race, are entitled to race.

3. Notices to Competitors

Notices to the competitors will be posted on the Official Regatta Notice Board at the HSF Clubhouse in the Regatta harbour.

4. Changes in 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 in the schedule of races will be posted before 20.00 on the day before it will take effect.

5. Signals Made Ashore

5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on a mast by the Official Regatta Notice Board.

5.2 Flag AP displayed alone with two sound signals means "The warning signal will be made not less than (120) minutes after Flag AP is lowered." Boats are requested not to leave the harbour until Flag AP is lowered. This changes Race Signal AP.

5.3 When Flag Y is displayed, Rule 40 applies at all times while afloat. This changes the Part 4 preamble.

6. Schedule of races

6.1 The Race Schedule is according to the Notice of Race, item 6, with Championship races:

Monday 4 th of August	Warning Signal for tune-up race at 14:00
Tuesday 5 th of August	First warning signal at 11.00; 2 races
Wednesday 6 th of August	First warning signal at 11.00; 2 races
Thursday 7 th of August	First warning signal at 11.00; 2 races
Friday 8 th of August	First warning signal at 11.00; 2 races
Saturday 9 th of August	First warning signal at 11.00; 2 races

6.2 The Organisers reserve the right to sail two (or more) races on one day, if necessary

6.3 When more than one race is held on the same day, the warning signal for the next succeeding race will be made as soon as practicable. To alert boats that another race will begin soon the postponement signal AP will be displayed for at least four minutes before the warning signal is displayed.

6.4 On the last day of the regatta no warning signal will be made after 15.00.

7. Racing Area

The attached map shows the approximate locations of the racing areas.

8. The Course

8.1 The diagram Attachment 1 shows the course, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left, with the following exceptions:

8.2 At the end of the leg Mark 2 to Mark 3A/B boats shall sail between the gate marks from the direction of the previous mark rounding 3A mark to starboard or Mark 3B to port.

8.3 Mark 1 will be approximately 1,0 nautical mile from the starting line.

The Windward/Leeward Course (*Graphic attached*):

Start - 1 - 2 - 3A/B - 1 - 2 - 3A/B - Finish.

Mark 2 will be in close proximity to Mark 1.

On the first leg of the course, Marks 3A and 3B (if laid) will not be marks of the course.

9. Marks

9.1 Marks 1, 2, 3A and 3B will be orange cylindrical buoys.

9.2 New marks as provided in instruction 12.1 will be yellow cylindrical buoys.

9.3 A Race Committee boat signalling a change of course is a mark as provided in instruction 12.2.

9.4 Mark boats may be stationed at any mark, and if stationed will fly a yellow flag. Failure of a mark boat to be on station will not be grounds for redress under rule 62.1(a)

10. Reporting to Principal Committee Boat Before Starting

Before the warning signal for the first race of the day each boat shall, while sailing close hauled on starboard tack, pass within hailing distance of and report to the Principal Committee boat and receive an acknowledgement. Boats failing to report may be scored "DNS".

11. The Start

11.1 Races will be started using Rule 26 with the warning signal given 10 minutes before the starting signal, the class flag being the H-boat Class Flag.

11.2 The starting line will be between the staff displaying an orange flag on the starboard starting mark (the Principal Committee boat) and the port-end start mark (an orange cylindrical buoy).

11.3 An inner distance mark may be laid adjacent to the Race Committee boat at the starboard end of the line, not necessarily on the starting line, and, if laid, is a starting mark for the purpose of rules 18.1(a) and 31.

11.4. A boat starting later than 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored "Did not start ". This changes rule A 4.1.

12. Change of Position of Next Mark.

12.1. To change the position of the next mark, the Race Committee will lay a new mark (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. The change will be signalled before the leading boat has begun the leg, although the new mark may not yet be in position. Any mark to be rounded after rounding the new mark may be relocated without further signalling to maintain the course configuration. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.

12.2. Except at a gate boats shall pass between the Race Committee boat signalling the change of course and the nearby mark leaving the mark to port and the Race Committee boat to starboard. This changes rule 28.1

13. The Finish

13.1 The finishing line will be between the staff displaying an orange flag on the Principal Committee Boat and the port-end mark a yellow cylindrical buoy placed approximately 100 metres from the Principal Committee Boat.

13.2 When the course is shortened at a gate, a Race Committee boat near the gate will display flag S and boats shall finish by sailing through the gate from the direction of the previous mark. The finishing line will be between the gate marks. This changes race signal S.

14. Penalty System

14.1 A boat that has taken a penalty or retired under RRS 31.2 or 44.1 shall complete an acknowledgement form at the race office within the protest time limit.

14.2 Appendix P 2008 Immediate Penalties for Breaking Rule 42 shall apply. Appendix P2.1 first penalty is changed from a two-turns penalty to one-turn penalty.

15. Time Limit

15.1. The time limit for the first race of the day is 3 hours. The time limit for each succeeding race that day shall be 2 hours.

15.2 Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat finishes, will be scored Did not finish. This changes rules 35 and A 4.1

15.3 If no yacht has passed mark 1 within 40 minutes of the start, the race will be abandoned.

16. Protests

16.1 Protests forms are available at the race office. Protests and requests for redress shall be delivered there before the end of the protest time limit.

16.2 The protest time limit is 90 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day. This time will be posted on the official notice board. The same protest time applies to all protests by the race committee and Jury and requests for redress. This changes Rules 61.3 and 62.2

16.3 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 Jury Office as announced on the Official Regatta Notice Board

16.4. Notice of protest by the Race Committee or Jury will be posted to inform yachts under rule 61.1(b). By the display of such notice, competitors shall be considered adequately informed of a protest by the Race Committee or the Jury.

16.5 For the purposes of rule 64.3(b) the "authority responsible" is the Measurer appointed by the Organising Authority.

16.6 Breaches of instructions 14.1, 18, 22, 23, and 24 will not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes Rule 60.1(a). Penalties for these breaches or breaches of Class Rules discovered by the measurers' spot checks during the regatta may be less than disqualification if the Jury so decides.

16.7 On the last day of a regatta a request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered:

(i) within the protest time limit if the party requesting reopening was informed of the decision on the previous day.

(ii) no later than 30 minutes after the party requesting reopening was informed of the decision on that day.

(iii) on the last day, within 30 minutes after the abandonment signal is displayed if racing is abandoned ashore, or within 90 minutes after the abandonment signal is displayed if abandoned afloat

This changes RRS 66.

16.8 Decisions of the International Jury will be final as provided in RRS 70.4.

17. Scoring

17.1 The low point scoring system of rule Appendix A will apply, except that in A 4.2 the words "registered for the series" shall be substituted for "entered in the series". This changes A 4.2

17.2 Five races are required to be completed to constitute a series of World Championship status.

17.3 (a) When five races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.

(b) When six or more races have been completed, a yacht's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

17.4 Prizes will be awarded according to the Notice of Race, item 11.

18. Safety Regulations

A boat that retires from a race shall notify the Race Committee as soon as possible.

19. Replacement of Crew or Equipment

19.1 Substitution of competitors will not be allowed without prior written approval of the Jury

19.2 Substitution of lost or damaged equipment will not be allowed without prior written approval of the Race Committee.

20. Equipment and Measurement Checks

A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the Class Rules and Sailing Instructions. On the water a boat can be instructed by the Race Committee or Measurer to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.

21. Official Boats

Official boats will display flags provided by the Organizing Committee, see instruction 26.

22. Support Boats

22.1. Team leaders, coaches, spectators or press boats shall stay more than 100 meters from any racing boat from the time of the preparatory signal until boats have finished the race or the race committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment.

22.2 Support boats shall be marked with identifying flags or with stickers as may be provided by the race committee upon registration.

23 Haul-out Restrictions

All yachts shall be afloat before 18.00 on Monday 4th of August, and shall not be hauled out during the regatta except with, and according to, the terms of prior written permission of the Jury

24. Plastic Pools and Diving Equipment

Underwater breathing apparatus, plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used around participating boats after their final launching prior to 18.00 on Monday 4th of August.

25. Electronic Equipment

A boat shall neither make radio transmissions while Racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones. Boats may be required to carry a tracking system provided by the Organizing Authority. Further Electronic Equipment other than timers and compasses permitted by the Class Rules shall not be carried on board

26. Official Boats

The Race Committee Boats will be identified through display of yellow flags, and the Principal Committee boat will display the HSF club flag with a red bottom edge.

Jury boats will display a flag marked "JURY" or Flag J.

27. Liability Disclaimer

Competitors participate in the regatta 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, or during or after the regatta. See also the Notice of Race, item 13.

28. Insurance

28.1 Each participating yacht shall be insured with valid third party liability insurance with a minimum cover of € 1,000,000 per event or the equivalent.

28.2 Competitors are also advised to effect their own personal accident insurance.
