

VOLVO CHINA COAST REGATTA 2017

Incorporating the Volvo Hong Kong Kettle 2017

IRC - Friday 13 October to Sunday 15 October 2017

HKPN - Saturday 14 October to Sunday 15 October 2017

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The notation '[NP]' in a rule in the Sailing Instructions (SIs) means that a breach of this rule will not be grounds for a protest or request for redress by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a).

The notation '[DP]' in a rule in the SIs means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.

1. RULES

1.1 The Volvo China Coast Regatta 2017 and Volvo Hong Kong Kettle 2017 (collectively, 'the regatta') will be governed by:

- the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS);
- the World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations Category 4;
- the Prescriptions of the Hong Kong Sailing Federation (HKSF);
- the IRC Rules Parts A, B and C;
- the HKPN handicap system, including the HKPN Performance Increase Penalty Scheme (PIPS);
- the RHKYC PFD Policy (Appendix B of the RHKYC Standard Sailing Instructions, available at <http://www.rhkyc.org.hk/ssi.aspx>);
- the Volvo China Coast Regatta 2017 Notice of Race (NoR); and
- these SIs.

1.2 **IRC Racer Class Rating Bands:** Subject to adjustment as provided in NoR 3.3, the IRC Racer Class rating bands are as follows:

- IRC 0:** 1.250 and above
- IRC 1:** 1.150 to 1.249
- IRC 2:** 1.050 to 1.149
- IRC 3:** 1.049 and below

1.3 Any adjustment to rating bands or divisions or the creation of any additional class will be posted on the Official Notice Board (ONB) and the regatta website (www.chinacoastraceweek.com) no later than 2000hrs on Wednesday 11 October 2017.

1.4 Any Marine Department Notices or Notices to Mariners that may have an impact on racing will be posted on the ONB and shall be deemed part of these SIs. In accordance with RRS 48.2, a boat shall comply with the Traffic Separation Scheme regulations.

2. COMMUNICATION WITH COMPETITORS

2.1 Prior to the regatta, the race office will be located at the RHKYC Sailing Office at Kellett Island. The race office will re-locate to RHKYC Middle Island on Friday 13 October.

2.2 The ONB will be located as follows:

- up to 1800hrs on Thursday 12 October, in the Course Room at RHKYC Kellett Island; and
- from 0900hrs on Friday 13 October, outside the race office at RHKYC Middle Island.

2.3 The race committee, call sign Race Committee, will transmit information including anticipated start times and courses on VHF Channel 72.

2.4 The race committee will transmit shortened course information on VHF Channel 72.

2.5 Competitors shall maintain a listening watch on VHF Channel 72 at all times from 0900hrs on each race day until racing is completed for the day. Failure of equipment or failure to hear race committee transmissions will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to the SIs will be posted on the regatta website and ONB before 0800hrs on the day it will take effect, or, if made on the water, will be communicated to all boats on VHF Channel 72 at least 10 minutes before the warning signal.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore at RHKYC Kellett Island will be displayed on the RHKYC Kellett Island roof flagpole.
- 4.2 Signals made ashore at RHKYC Middle Island will be displayed on the RHKYC Middle Island flagpole on the hardstanding at the top of the access ramp.
- 4.3 When ICF flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 60 minutes' in the race signal AP.
- 4.4 If ICF flag L is displayed ashore, it will be displayed over a numeral pennant that corresponds to the number of that notice.

5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 5.1 The provisional schedule of races is as follows:

5.1.1 IRC Racer Class

Friday 13 October	2 races
Saturday 14 October	3 races
Sunday 15 October	2 races

5.1.2 IRC Premier Class and IRC Cruiser Class

Friday 13 October	1 race
Saturday 14 October	2 races
Sunday 15 October	2 races

5.1.3 HKPN Class

Saturday 14 October	2 races
Sunday 15 October	2 races

- 5.2 Scheduled races may be any combination of windward/leeward and islands courses to suit the prevailing conditions. The race committee intends to include two islands races for each class or division over the series.
- 5.3 The schedule in SI 5.1 may be varied by increasing or decreasing the number of races in a day, provided that IRC Racer Class shall not have more than three races a day and no other class shall have more than two races a day.
- 5.4 The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race each day is 1025hrs. The starts of subsequent races will be signalled as soon as it is practicable to do so.
- 5.5 To alert boats that a race or a sequence of races will begin soon, the orange starting line flag will be displayed with one sound signal at least five minutes before a warning signal is made.
- 5.6 On Sunday 15 October, no warning signal will be made after 1500hrs. In the case of one or more general recalls when the initial warning signal was made prior to 1500hrs, the race committee may display subsequent warning signals after this time. This exception will not apply to a race that is abandoned or postponed.
- 5.7 No race will be started if local Storm Warning Signal No. 3 or higher is in effect. Any race affected may be rescheduled.

6. CLASS FLAGS

6.1 Class flags and division streamers will be:

<u>Class/Division</u>	<u>International Code Flag</u>	<u>Streamer</u>
IRC Racer Class Div 0	G	Purple
Div 1	V	Pink
Div 2	K	Orange
Div 3	D	White
IRC Premier Class	E	Black
IRC Cruiser Class	W	Dark Blue
HKPN Class	T	Turquoise

6.2 Boats shall display the appropriate coloured streamer, as supplied by the race office, on their backstay (or starboard shrouds in the case of boats not having backstays) at all times whilst racing. [NP] [DP]

7. RACING / STARTING AREAS

7.1 The racing area for all races will be in waters to the east and south of Hong Kong Island.

7.2 For windward/leeward courses, the starting area will be south-east of Lamma Island. For islands courses, the starting area will be south-east of Lamma Island or south of Stanley Peninsula as advised by the race committee on VHF Channel 72. The location of the starting area may be changed by the race committee at any time and will be broadcast on VHF Channel 72.

8. THE COURSES

8.1 Appendix A lists the windward/leeward courses. Appendix B lists the islands courses.

8.2 No later than the warning signal, the race committee signal vessel may display the approximate compass bearing of the first leg.

8.3 A windward mark may be laid for an islands course and a red or green board or flag will be displayed by the race committee signal vessel to signify if the mark is to be left to port (red) or starboard (green).

9. MARKS

9.1 **For windward/leeward courses,**

Mark A will be:

IRC Racer Divisions 0 & 1 and IRC Premier Cruiser Class - a **black inflatable buoy (long course)**.

IRC Racer Divisions 2 & 3, IRC Cruiser and HKPN - an **orange inflatable buoy (short course)**.

Mark C for all divisions/classes will be a **black inflatable buoy**.

New marks, as provided in SI 12, will be:

IRC Racer Divisions 0 & 1 and IRC Premier Cruiser Class - a **black inflatable buoy with a white band**.

IRC Racer Divisions 2 & 3, IRC Cruiser Class and HKPN Class - a **white cylindrical buoy**.

9.2 **For islands courses**, the windward mark (if laid) and Ocean 1 and 2 marks will be **orange inflatable buoys**. The approximate GPS coordinates of the Ocean 1 and 2 marks are in Appendix B. Other marks of the islands courses will be geographical features. Any difference between the coordinates of the Ocean 1 and 2 marks in Appendix B and the actual location of the marks will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a). [NP]

9.3 The starting marks will be a race committee vessel at the starboard end of the line and a race committee vessel or an orange inflatable buoy with a white or sponsor's jacket at the port end.

9.4 The finishing marks will be a race committee vessel at the starboard end of the line and an inflatable buoy at the port end.

9.5 Inflatable marks may carry sponsors' advertising.

10. PROHIBITED AREAS AND OBSTRUCTIONS

- 10.1 These rules apply at all times while afloat.
- 10.2 The 100m exclusion zone surrounding Waglan Island is a prohibited area.
- 10.3 Buoys (usually yellow or orange, but may be other colours) may be laid adjacent to construction sites. An area bounded by virtual lines between such buoys, and where appropriate, the nearest point of the shore shall be considered to be a prohibited area.
- 10.4 Marine works areas as described in current Marine Department Notices (see SI 1.4) shall be considered prohibited areas.
- 10.5 Commercial vessels underway and vessels engaged in towing shall be considered to be a 'Moving Prohibited Area' as follows:
- Ahead of the vessel, 200 metres or two lengths of the vessel, whichever is greater. For a vessel towing, 100 metres.
 - Abeam of the vessel, 100 metres or two widths of the vessel, whichever is greater.
 - Astern of the vessel, 50 metres.
- 10.6 Boats shall not enter any prohibited area. Any boat entering a prohibited area shall be automatically and irrevocably disqualified without any hearing.
- 10.7 At all times boats shall keep clear of commercial traffic.
- 10.8 All prohibited areas defined in this rule shall also be considered 'obstructions' (as provided for in the RRS definition of 'Obstruction') and applicable to RRS 19 and 20.

11. THE START

- 11.1 RRS 26 applies with the warning signal five minutes before the starting signal.
- 11.2 The starting line will be between staffs displaying orange flags on the starting marks when they are both committee vessels, or between the staff displaying an orange flag at the starboard end of the line and the course side of the port-end starting mark.
- 11.3 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races. [NP] [DP]
- 11.4 A boat that does not start within 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A4 & A5.
- 11.5 The race committee may transmit on VHF Channel 72 the sail numbers of OCS boats. [NP]

12. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE (windward/leeward & geometric courses only)

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.

13. THE FINISH

The finishing line will be a line between a staff displaying a blue flag on the finishing mark at the starboard end and the course side of the port-end finishing mark.

14. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 14.1 A boat that has taken a penalty or retired under RRS 44.1 shall complete an acknowledgement form at the race office within the protest time limit.
- 14.2 When the protest committee decides that a boat which is party to a protest has broken a rule and is not exonerated, it may impose a scoring penalty (which may be no penalty) at its discretion, as an alternative to disqualification. This changes RRS 64.1.

15. TIME LIMITS

- 15.1 For windward/leeward races, if the leading boat in a class or division has not rounded the first mark within 30 minutes after the start, the race for that class or division may be abandoned.

- 15.2 For windward/leeward and geometric course races, if the leading boat in a class or division fails to finish a race within 90 minutes after the start, the race for that class or division may be abandoned.
- 15.3 For islands races, if the leading boat in a class or division fails to finish a race by 1630hrs or such later time as announced by the Race Officer on VHF Channel 72, the race for that class or division may be abandoned.
- 15.4 A boat which fails to finish a windward/leeward or geometric course race within 30 minutes (elapsed time) of the leading boat in her class or division **OR** fails to finish an islands course race within 120 minutes (elapsed time) of the leading boat in her class or division, will be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5.

16. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 16.1 Protests relating to measurement, ratings or handicaps shall be submitted before the expiry of the protest time limit for the first day's racing on Friday 13 October.
- 16.2 Other racing protests and requests for redress shall be in writing (suitable forms are available at the RHKYC Middle Island race office).
- 16.3 Protest forms and requests for redress must be submitted to the race office (at RHKYC Middle Island) **within 60 minutes** of the finishing time of the last boat in the relevant class or division in the last race of the day. Protests may be e-mailed to sailingoffice@rhkyc.org.hk.
- 16.4 Failure to receive a protest or request for redress by email will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).
- 16.5 Protest notices will be posted on the ONB within 30 minutes of the expiration of the applicable protest time limits to inform competitors where and when there is a hearing in which they are parties to a protest or named as witnesses.
- 16.6 It is the responsibility of each competitor to ascertain whether or not he is required to attend a protest hearing, to attend at the correct time and have all likely witnesses in attendance. Failure to attend at the appointed time will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1.
- 16.7 For protests where only a rule of RRS Part 2 is alleged to have been broken, an arbitration hearing may be offered prior to any formal protest hearing. RRS Appendix T will apply.
- 16.8 Notices of protests by the race committee or protest committee will be posted to inform boats under RRS 61.1(b).

17. SCORING

- 17.1 The Low Point scoring system of RRS Appendix A will apply, as amended below.
- 17.2 **Volvo China Coast Regatta 2017:**
- 17.2.1 Three races are required to be completed to constitute a series for all IRC classes or divisions and two races are required to be completed to constitute a series for HKPN.
- 17.2.2 IRC Racer Class: When fewer than seven races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores. When seven races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score. A score of DNC cannot be discarded.
- 17.2.3 IRC Premier Cruiser & IRC Cruiser Classes: When fewer than five races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores. When five races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score. A score of DNC cannot be discarded.
- 17.2.4 HKPN Class: When fewer than four races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores. When four races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score. A score of DNC cannot be discarded.
- 17.3 **Volvo China Coast Race Week 2017** (comprising the Volvo China Coast Regatta 2017 and the Volvo Hong Kong to Vietnam Race): RRS Appendix A will be applicable except that no score will be excluded. This changes RRS A2 and A8.1. A boat's series score will be the total of her score in each race of the Volvo China Coast Regatta 2017 and her score in the Volvo Hong Kong to Vietnam Race 2017. Boats

wishing to be eligible for overall results under IRC in the Volvo China Coast Race Week 2017 must complete both the Volvo China Coast Regatta 2017 and the Volvo Hong Kong to Vietnam Race 2017.

17.4 **Hong Kong Kettle 2017:**

For teams entered in the Hong Kong Kettle, scores will be calculated by combining each boat's Volvo China Coast Regatta scores without any discard. This changes RRS A2.

18. **CREW**

18.1 For IRC Racer Divisions, each boat shall restrict the number of crew carried on board whilst racing to comply with its Declared Initial Crew Number (DICN) or the crew number on its IRC certificate with the following permitted variations (except as provided in SI 18.3):

Declared Initial Crew Number Limit of Variation

Up to 4	-1 +1
5 to 12	-2 +2
13 to 20	-3 +2
21 or more	-4 +3

18.2 If no DICN is included on a boat's entry form, the number of crew shall be restricted to the specified number on its IRC certificate.

18.3 For all IRC Racer Divisions, the same number of crew shall be on board for all races on any day when there is more than one race on such day unless approved by the race committee.

19. **SELF STEERING AND POWERED DEVICES**

19.1 The use of electronic, mechanical and wind-vane devices for steering is prohibited.

19.2 In accordance with IRC Rule 15.1, RRS 52 shall not apply to boats using stored power for adjustment and operation of sails and moveable appendages.

20. **SAFETY REGULATIONS**

20.1 Any boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible. [DP]

20.2 Notification can be made by:

- VHF Channel 72; or
- telephoning Race Control on 9326 5908.

20.3 In an emergency, the Sailing Manager, Ailsa Angus, can also be called by mobile on 6465 4131.

21. **SAFETY EQUIPMENT**

21.1 All boats shall be equipped with adequate and functioning equipment to satisfy the World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations Category 4 requirements. The onus is on the owner or person in charge of each boat to ensure that adequate equipment is carried.

21.2 Boats shall not race with an anchor stowed externally on the bow. Any boat that does not comply with this requirement will be subject to disqualification by the race committee without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1 and A5.

22. **SAFE NAVIGATION**

At all times, including when not racing, boats shall be careful to avoid any close-quarter situations with commercial vessels (see SI 10). Any report to the organising authority that this has not been complied with will be investigated and action may be taken by the race committee by protesting the boat involved and, if found justified, by barring her entry in further races, or future events, of the organising authority.

23. **PRIZES**

23.1 Prizes will be awarded to the first three boats in each class or division in the Volvo China Coast Regatta 2017.

23.2 Prizes will be awarded to the winner of the Volvo Hong Kong Kettle 2017.

23.3 Day prizes for the individual classes or divisions will also be awarded. Other prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the race committee.

- 23.4 Prizes will be awarded to the overall winner in each class or division for boats taking part in Volvo China Coast Race Week consisting of the Volvo China Coast Regatta and the Volvo Hong Kong to Vietnam Race 2017.
- 23.5 The final prizes for the Volvo China Coast Regatta 2017 and the Volvo Hong Kong Kettle 2017 will be awarded at the prize giving on Sunday 15 October 2017 at Middle Island.
- 23.6 The overall prizes for the Volvo China Coast Race Week 2017 will be awarded at the prize giving on Wednesday 1 November 2017 in the Chart Room at RHKYC Kellett Island.

24. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 24.1 Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race. The organising authority (RHKYC), race committee, sponsor(s), employees and volunteers will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.
- 24.2 Persons in charge and skippers are invited to co-operate closely with the organising authority, race committee and the RHKYC Sailing Office in completing the formalities of their boat entries by submission of all required information, certificates, forms etc. within the deadline dates quoted throughout these SIs. It is the sole responsibility of the owners and/or skippers to comply with the deadline dates and failure to do so in respect of any aspect will be treated as a failure to enter the Volvo China Coast Regatta 2017 and the Volvo Hong Kong Kettle 2017, in which case, boats will not be eligible to compete **unless** evidence of genuine extenuating circumstances for the lateness is accepted by the race committee.

25. INSURANCE

All boats shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance of at least the minimum cover required by HKSAR law (<http://rhkyc.org.hk/upload/Marine/Notices/mdn-71-2016.pdf>).

APPENDIX A – WINDWARD/LEEWARD COURSES

Course 1	Start – A – C – A – C – Finish at A
Course 2	Start – A – C – A – C – A – C – Finish at A
Course 3	Start – A – C – A – Finish at C
Course 4	Start – A – C – A – C – A – Finish at C

All marks shall be rounded to port.

APPENDIX B – ISLANDS COURSES

Apart from starting and finishing marks, all marks are rounding marks unless otherwise specified.

1. Starting areas are south-east of Lamma Island or south of Stanley Peninsula as advised by the race committee on VHF Channel 72.
2. The finish will be south of Stanley Peninsula.
3. The mark Ocean 1 will be approximately located at 22 09.21 N 114 11.20 E.
4. The mark Ocean 2 will be approximately located at 22 12.23 N 114 17.62 E.

Course 5 16.5 NM

Start
 Windward mark (if laid) P/S
 Ocean 1 P
 Ocean 2 S
 Waglan P passing
 Sung Kong S
 Finish

Course 6 10 NM

Start
 Windward mark (if laid) P/S
 Ocean 1 P
 Beaufort S
 Finish

Course 7 20 NM

Start
 Windward mark (if laid) P/S
 Ocean 1 P
 Ocean 2 S
 Sung Kong S
 Waglan P passing
 Po Toi S
 Beaufort P
 Finish

Course 8 19 NM

Start
 Windward mark (if laid) P/S
 South Ninepin P
 North Ninepin S passing
 Beaufort P passing
 Finish

Course 9 9 NM

Start
 Windward mark (if laid) P/S
 Beaufort P
 Ocean2 P
 Finish

Course 10 11.5 NM

Start
 Windward mark (if laid) P/S
 Po Toi P
 Sung Kong P
 Ocean 2 P
 Finish

Course 11 31 NM

Start
 Windward mark (if laid) P/S
 Ocean 1 P
 Beaufort P passing
 Sung Kong P
 South Ninepin P
 Bluff P
 Finish

Course 12 25 NM

Start
 Windward mark (if laid) P/S
 Ocean 1 P
 Beaufort P passing
 Sung Kong P
 North Ninepin P
 Finish

Course 13 10 NM

Start
 Windward mark (if laid) P/S
 Ocean 1 P
 Beaufort P
 Finish