



# Chelmarsh Sailing Club

(rev 7/15)

## OODs guide to SETTING A COURSE AND START LINE

Please use this book for courses best suited to the wind direction. It makes your day easier and provides less chance of mistakes and it reduces the 'luck' element! These courses avoid windward shore marks. It is not the same for everyone as if you are in a gust you can easily gain 50m or more. Luck is part of sailing but as an OOD you must minimise it. Most sailors would prefer to sail in areas of the lake where there is wind and exciting legs.

### The Golden Rules of Setting a course.

Use 3 as your primary windward mark. Be prepared to move E/W to give truer beats. Avoid setting legs that take sailors under the lee shore. e.g.

- o Buoy 3 to 4 or 5 if shadowed by trees as they, and others, bring unpredictable windshifts / luck/ capsizes into the racing. Use E & W instead of 4 & 5.
- o Buoy 1 to 8 or 9 if shadowed by clubhouse hill, and 3 to W if wind off trees.

First leg – a long beat – but only if possible.

First mark – **port** rounding (the rules are written for port rounding at the first mark)

Try to have a run; (gives sailors decisions to make downwind); a reach (beware: spinnaker boats struggle if too tight); at least one good beat. NO fetches (a leg when fairly close hauled between two marks but no tacks needed)

**Avoid** mark 6, unless the wind is blowing between marks 2 and 6. The wind can be flukey at 6 as the wind is from the lake sides. Use W as an alternative.

E & W – **use** them instead of 4 & 5 / 8 & 9 if wind shadowed by the trees / hill.

Put the course into the course board: **Red** numbers = **port** roundings; **green** = **starboard**. Number of laps/pursuit minutes - use the **black** number boards.

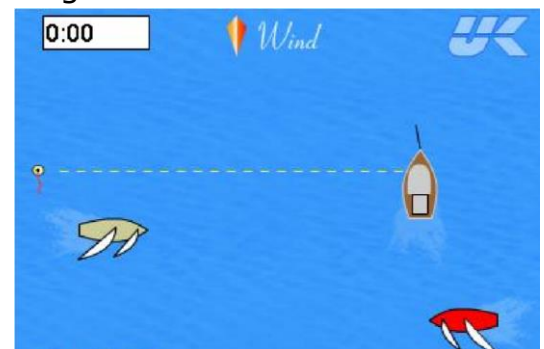
Check it twice – make sure there are no loops, i.e. where a string around each mark leads directly to the next mark without the string crossing itself.

### Setting a Start Line

The Start line should be

- Perpendicular to the wind.
- At least 1 ½ boat lengths for each starter, long.

Drop your anchor well upwind of where you want the committee boat to end up. This allows the boat to fall back to your correct position to ensure a good start line.



When you are ON STATION, display Course Board and Raise Orange Flag.

**Don't hang around long for boats, as they may be waiting for you!**

See Example Courses elsewhere in this folder.