



BIRZEBBUGA SAILING CLUB

St. Peter's Regatta July 26th - 27th 2025

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. GENERAL

- 1.1 The St. Peter's Regatta 2025 organised and hosted by the Birzebbuga Sailing Club Freeport shall be held between Saturday 26th and Sunday 27th July 2025.

2. RULES

- 2.1 The regatta shall be governed by the rules as defined in the **2025-2028 Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)**.
- 2.2 No national authority prescriptions will apply.
- 2.3 The following Class Rules and instructions shall also apply:
- I. **The International Optimist Dinghy Association (IODA).**
 - II. **The International Laser Class Association (ILCA).**
 - III. **The RS FEVA International Class Association (RSFCA).**
 - IV. The class rules of any other constituted class during the regatta.
 - V. The **Portsmouth Yardstick 2021 (PY)** handicap rating system.
 - VI. The **Notice of Race (NOR)**.
 - VII. The **Sailing Instructions (SI)**, and any amendments there to. In the event of conflict, this SI shall prevail.
- 2.4 Attention is drawn to IODA Class Rules 2025, 4.2(a) Buoyancy aids and clothing, and 4.3 (a)bailers, (b)paddles & (c) painters.
- 2.5 Rule 40 applies at all times while afloat.

3. COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Notices to competitors shall be posted on the official notice board(s) located at the BSC Race Office.

4. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 4.1 Any change to the Sailing Instructions shall be posted at least one hour before the start of races affected by that change.
- 4.2 Any changes to the schedule of races shall be posted by 21:00hrs on the day before it will take effect.

9. THE COURSES

- 9.1 The diagrams in Appendix IIa, b & c show the courses that may be used, including the approximate angles between legs, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.
- 9.2 For all Optimist and Laser course configurations, a leeward gate could replace Marks number 3 and 4. For Race Area A course configurations, a leeward gate could replace Mark 2.
- 9.3 By not later than the warning signal, the Race Committee signal boat shall display the course number.

10. MARKS

- 10.1 Marks 1, 2, 3, 3a, 4 and 5 shall be inflatable cylindrical Orange buoys.
- 10.2 A small inflatable cylindrical Orange Marker buoy shall be used as the start pin end mark.
- 10.3 A small inflatable cylindrical Orange marker buoy shall be used as a finishing pin end mark for Finish line F1.
- 10.4 The inflatable cylindrical Orange buoy designated as Mark 2, shall be used as a finishing pin end mark for finish line F2.
- 10.5 A race committee boat signalling a change of a leg of the course is a mark as provided in SI 13.
- 10.6 In case of a missing mark at a gate, the remaining mark should be rounded, leaving the mark to port. This changes RRS 28.1.

11. AREAS OF OBSTRUCTION

- 11.1 As illustrated in Appendix III, six areas of obstruction lie within Race course Area A:
 - I. LNG FSU Tanker – Permanently berthed at the Delimara Power Station quay.
 - II. Fish Farm - Situated near the approaches of Fort Saint Lucian lee shore
 - III. Enemalta Refuelling Dolphin - Situated just midway between Fort St. Lucian and Delimara Power Station.
 - IV. The narrow passage between Delimara reef and peninsula
 - V. II - Hagra reef - Situated close to the approaches of Fort St. Lucian sea shore.
 - VI. The Area enclosed within the three Cardinal marks and the Malta Freeport Terminal (also refer to SI 19.4)

12. THE START

- 12.1 The starting line shall be between the race committee signal boat's mast, bearing an Orange flag and the course side of the port end starting mark.
- 12.2 To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, an Orange flag shall be displayed with one sound signal five (5) minutes before a warning signal is displayed.
- 12.3 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area. The starting area is defined as a rectangle 30 meters from the starting line and marks in all directions.
- 12.4 Boats that have finished shall return directly to the starting area or ashore, keeping well clear of all boats still racing and of all boats whose warning signal has been made.
- 12.5 A boat starting later than 4 minutes after her starting signal shall be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This changes RRS A4 and A5.

13. CHANGE OF NEXT COURSE LEG

- 13.1 To change the next leg of the course, the race committee shall 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 shall be replaced by an original mark.
- 13.2 Except at a Gate, boats shall pass between the committee boat, signaling the change to the next leg and the nearby mark, leaving the mark to port and the committee boat to starboard.

14. THE FINISH

- 14.1 For the Optimist class, the finish line (F2) shall be between a race committee finishing boat's signal mast bearing a Blue flag at the Starboard end and the course side of Mark 2.
- 14.2 For all other constituted classes, the finish line (F1) shall be between the race committee boat's signal mast, bearing a Blue flag on the port end and the course side of the starboard end finishing mark.
- 14.3 For all Race Area A course configurations, the Finish line (F1) shall be between a race committee finishing boat's signal mast bearing a Blue flag on starboard end and the course side of the port end finishing mark.
- 14.4 Boats that have finished racing shall sail to the waiting area well clear of the race course, without interfering with the boat still racing.

15. Intentionally left blank

16. TIME LIMITS

16.1 The time limit for the first boat to sail the course and finish is 60 minutes for all classes.

16.2 The course target times will be as follows:

- I. Optimist Class: 45 minutes
- II. ILCA and all other classes: 50 minutes.

Failure to meet the target times shall not be grounds for redress. This changes Rule 61.1(a).

16.3 The Mark 1 time limit shall be 30 minutes for all classes. If no boat has passed Mark 1 within the Mark 1 time limit, then the race shall be abandoned.

16.4 Boats failing to finish within 15 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes, shall be scored Did Not Finish (DNF). This changes Rules 35 A4 and A5.

17. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

17.1 In addition to 60.2 a boat protesting another boat shall inform the committee immediately after finishing of the boat being protested. If she retires she shall inform a race official at the first reasonable opportunity.

17.2 The protest time limit is 90 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day or the Race Committee signal no more racing today, whichever is later.

17.3 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 shall be held in the Race Office located at the BSC clubhouse.

17.4 Notices of protests by the a committee shall be posted on the notice board.

17.6 Breaches of SI 2.4, 12.3, 19, 20.2, 23, 24 and 25 will not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes Rule 60.1(a).

17.8 On the last day of the regatta, a request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered within the protest time limit if the party requesting reopening was informed of the decision on the previous day.

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

18. SCORING

18.1 The Low Point Scoring system of appendix A shall apply.

18.2 Three **(3)** races are required to be completed in order to constitute a regatta in each class.

18.3 When:

less than four races have been completed; a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.

four to six races have been completed; a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

18.4 To request a scoring correction, a boat shall complete a scoring enquiry form available at the race office.

18.5 Scores are applied to the sailors and not the boat .

19. SAFETY REGULATIONS

19.1 No launching of boats is permitted before the appropriate signal described in SI 5.4 is displayed.

- 19.3 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity before leaving the race course area and shall complete the relevant form available at the Race Office within the protest time limit
- 19.4 Unless prior consent from Marsaxlokk Port Control (VTS) is duly given to the Race Committee before each race being held, no competitor shall roam or sail before, during and even after any races inside the Out of Bounds shaded area as illustrated in Appendix III, as this may cause an obstruction to the free movement of heavy shipping.
- 19.5 In the event of imminent shipping movements, any instructions to clear the area should strictly be adhered to. Any boat which is deemed likely to cause difficulty to shipping will be towed out of the area by the appointed race officials. Failure of not abiding with the above safety instructions (excluding SI 19.4) a discretionary penalty shall be imposed (SI 17.7) for each race of that day on which these instructions were not observed or outright expulsion from the regatta at a second offence of this SI in which case the results of the offending boat shall be excluded from all of the results of the races sailed before the second offence took place.
- 19.6 Competitors who require assistance shall blow a whistle or wave the paddle or one arm. The Race Committee may assist competitors who in their opinion require assistance, regardless of the wishes of the competitor. This will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.1(a).
- 19.7 When possible competitors are urged to carry a handheld VHF marine transceiver set on the designated VHF Event Safety Channel No. 72.
- 19.8 When International Code Flag “V” is displayed, RRS 37 shall apply. All official, support and coach boats shall monitor the VHF Event Safety Channel 72.
- 19.9 If a boat is abandoned, it will be marked with striped emergency tape, preferably tied through the bow eye to signal that the sailor is safe.

20. SUBSTITUTION OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

- 20.1 Substitution of competitors shall not be allowed without prior written approval of the race committee.
- 20.2 Substitution of damaged equipment may be permitted provided the relevant form has been completed at the Race Office and both the damaged and the substituting equipment has been inspected by the Technical Committee
- 20.3 If the substitution was made on the water between races, both the damaged and the substituted equipment shall be presented to the Race Committee after the end of the day's racing. The substitution is subject to the approval of the Race Committee given retrospectively.

21. EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

- 21.1 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 a race committee measurer to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.

22. ADVERTISING

- 22.1 Boats may display advertising material as provided by their respective class rules.
- 22.2 Boats may be required to display advertising material chosen and supplied by the organizing authority.

23. SUPPORT BOATS

- 23.1 From the warning signal until all boats have finished a race or retired or a race is postponed or abandoned, all support boats shall stay outside the course area and keep a minimum of 50 m from boats racing.
- 23.2 When a race official indicates to a support vessel to move further away from the course area, that vessel shall do so promptly.
- 23.3 All boat associated with the infringing support boat may be penalized at the discretion of the Protest Committee, for the race on which the support personnel failed to comply with SI 23.1 and 23.2.
- 23.4 Competitors shall not approach any vessel other than an official vessel or registered support vessel from their first warning signal of the day until they finish their last race of the day or the Race Committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later.

- 23.6 Support persons (team leaders, coaches, parents, guardians and other support personnel) intending to use support vessels, shall register for accreditation at Race Office and carry a functioning VHF marine transceiver set on the designated VHF Event Safety Channel No. 72 at all times whilst afloat.
- 23.7 As per SI 19.8, all support boats are required to assist in safety cover if International Code Flag "V" is displayed on the Race Committee Boat.

24. OFFICIAL BOATS

- 24.1 Only Official boats appointed by the race committee are allowed on the course areas.

25. RADIO COMMUNICATION

- 25.1 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, radios, hand or other visual or verbal signals from spectator boats or outsiders.
- 25.2 The only exception to SI 25.1 is in case of distress or safety situations that might arise whilst racing. Competitors may communicate with the Event Safety team on the Event VHF Safety Channel as specified in SI 19.7 & SI 19.8.

26. TRASH DISPOSAL

- 26.1 In addition to RRS 47, trash may be placed aboard support and official boats. Water bottles should be tied into boats using shock cord to prevent loss during manoeuvres.

27. PRIZES

- 27.1 Prizes will be awarded in accordance with Section 14 in the Notice of Race.

28. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

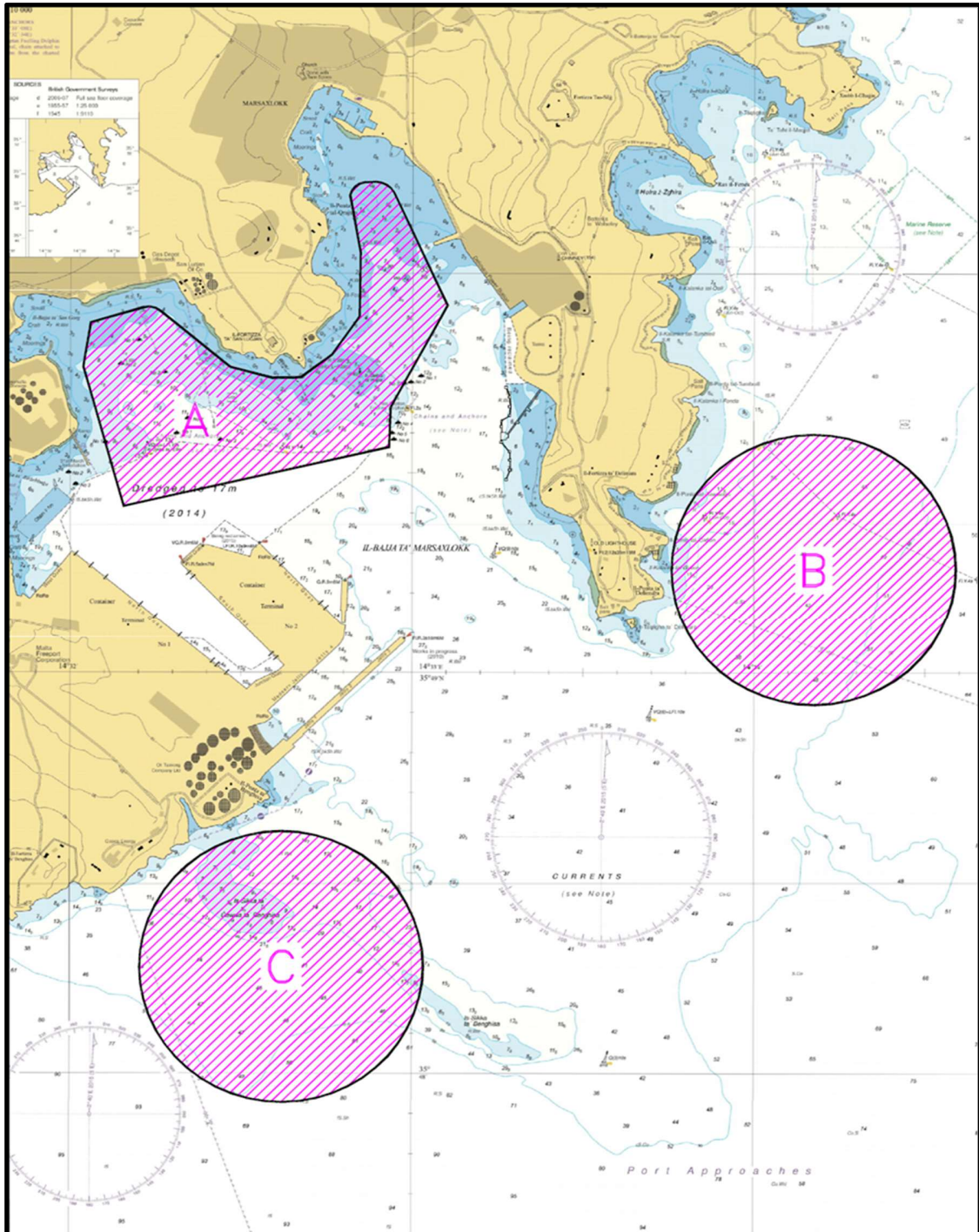
- 28.1 Competitors and support team members participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS Rule 3, "Decision to Race". The organizing authority will not accept any liability for damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.
- 28.2 The Organizing Authority and any other party involved in the organization of the regatta accept no liability whatsoever for any injury, damage, loss, or claim whether personal or material, incurred by or inflicted to participants before, during or after the regatta.
- 28.3 The fact that the race committee will provide rescue boats will not remove from competitors the responsibility they have accepted by participating in this regatta.
- 28.4 By launching, competitors are aware of the inherent element of risk involved in the sport and accept responsibility for exposing themselves and their boat to such inherent risk whilst taking part in the event. Additionally by launching, they are also confirming that their boats are sound and seaworthy for the weather conditions whilst racing, properly fitted out according to the class rules design and regulations.
- 28.5 It is the competitors' responsibility to familiarize themselves with any risks specific to the venue or this regatta drawn to their attention in any rules and information produced for this venue or event, and to attend any safety briefings held for the event.

29. INSURANCE

- 29.1 Insurance is mandatory. The owner or charterer of a boat intending to take part in the regatta shall hold a valid marine legal liability insurance policy with respect to the boat whilst racing.

APPENDIX I

Racing Areas



The racing area chosen for this regatta will be one of the areas designated under Areas A,B or C

APPENDIX IIa

Course Configurations

Optimist Class

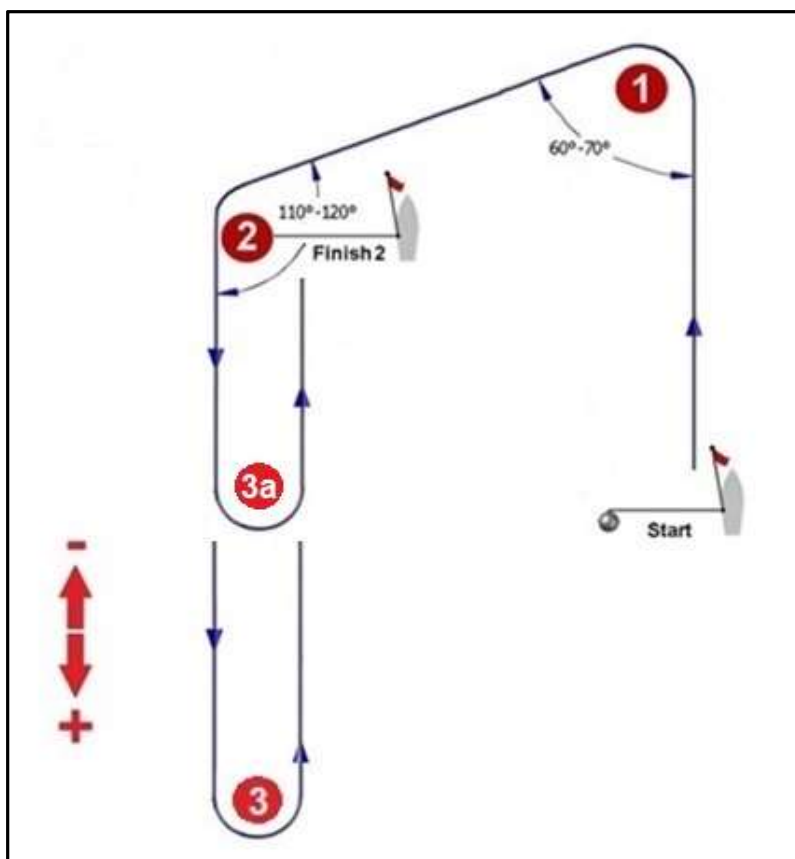


Illustration of the course configurations for the Optimist class only

The **Optimist** course configurations must be sailed leaving all marks to **PORT** as follows:

Novice Category:

Course 1: **Start - 1 - 2 - 3a - Finish F2**

Open Category:

Course 1: **Start - 1 - 2 - 3 - Finish F2**

Course 2: **Start - 1 - 2 - 3 - 2 - 3 - Finish F2**

Marks 3 and 3a, may be moved to extend or shorten the length of the selected course so that the target time specified in Sect. 16.1 is always achieved.

APPENDIX IIb

Course Configurations

ILCA and other Classes

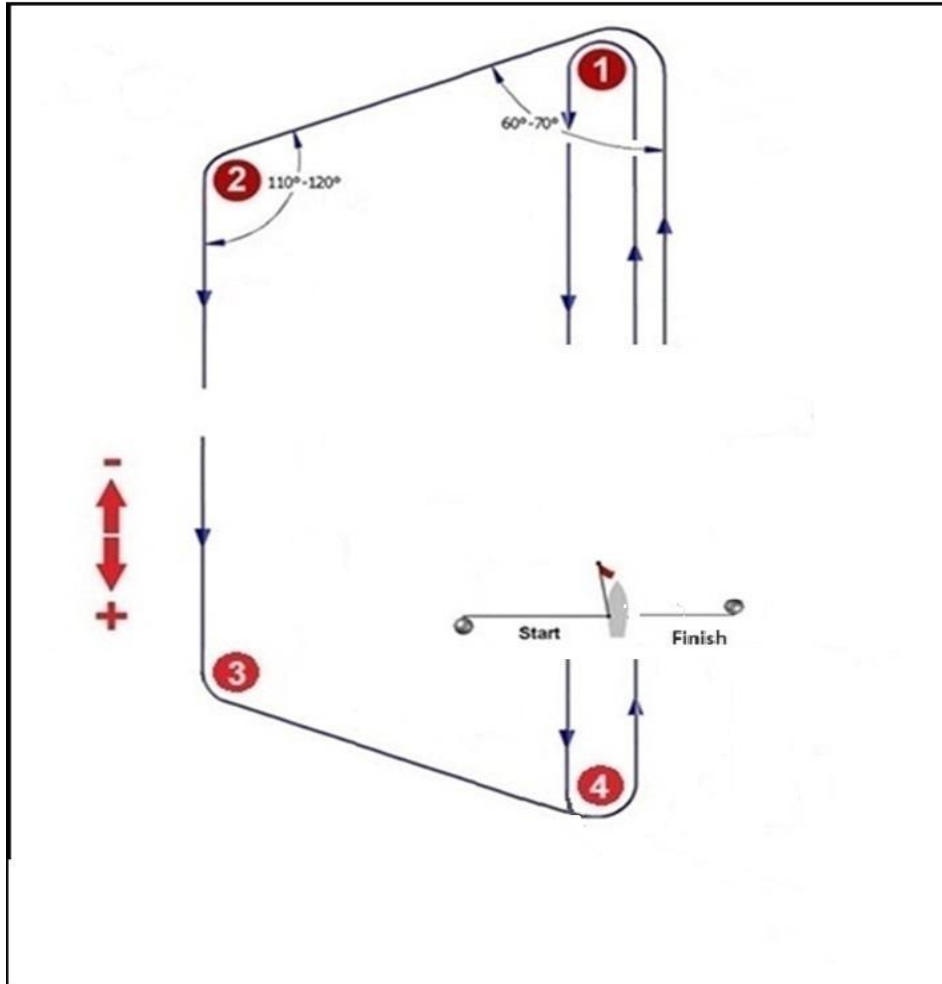


Illustration of the course configurations for all other classes except the Optimist Class

Course configurations for the **ILCA and all other constituted classes** must be sailed leaving all marks to **PORT** as follows:

Course 1: **Start - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 1 - 4 - Finish F1**

Course 2: **Start - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 1 - 4 - 1 - 4 - Finish F1**

Marks 3, 4 and 5 may be moved to extend or shorten the length of the selected course so that the target time specified in Sect. 16.1 is always achieved.

APPENDIX IIc

All Classes

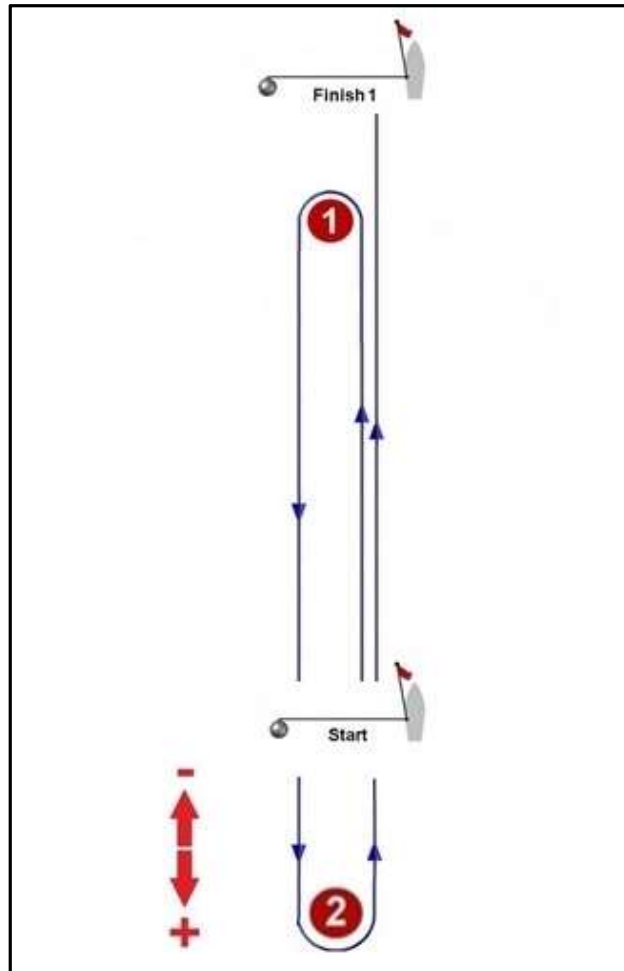


Illustration of the Race Area A course configurations for all Classes

Race Area A Course configurations for **all classes** must be sailed leaving all marks to **PORT** as follows:

Course 1: **Start - 1 - 2 - Finish F1**

Course 2: **Start - 1 - 2 - 1 - 2 - Finish F1**

Course 3: **Start - 1 - 2 - 1 - 2 - 1 - 2 - Finish F1**

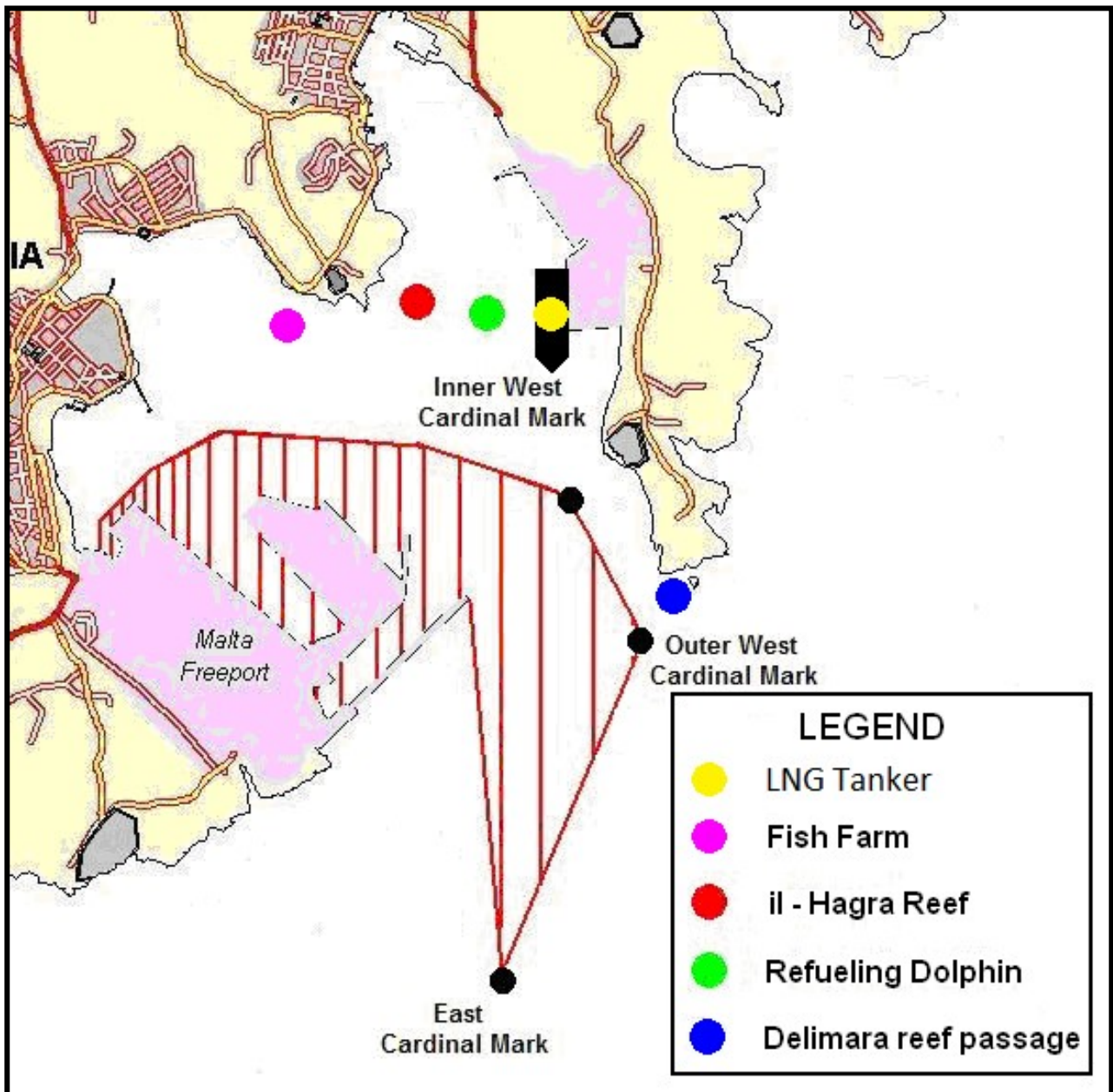
Course 4: **Start - 1 - 2 - 1 - 2 - 1 - 2 - 1 - 2 - Finish F1**

Course 5: **Start - 1 - 2 - 1 - 2 - 1 - 2 - 1 - 2 - 1 - 2 - Finish F1**

Mark 2 may be moved to extend or shorten the length of the selected course so that the target time specified in Sect. 16.1 is always achieved.

APPENDIX III

Restricted Areas And Areas of Obstruction



The shaded area between the three Cardinal Marks and the Malta Freeport Terminal is strictly out of bounds at all times during the Series.