 Antigua Yacht Club

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**Notice Of Race & Sailing Instructions**

**The Budget Marine Yacht Club Hightide Series 2019**

**19th, 22nd & 26th  December**

**Organising Authority: Antigua Yacht Club**

The Race will be known as “The Budget Marine Hightide Series” and will consist of a series of five races.

The Series will be completed if two or more races are completed.

The Sponsor will be **Budget Marine Ltd.**

1. Rules: The race will be governed by ISAF SSR (*The Racing Rules of Sailing)* 2017-2020.
2. Eligibility and Entry.
   1. Classes: There will be two classes – class A (racers and high performance boats) and class B (cruisers, smaller boats and lesser performance boats). Should the entry be only 6 boats or less then there will be one combined class A. If there are sufficient entries, a third class may be used for cruisers, classic yachts and workboats and for those yachts who either have no rating or who wish to race less seriously. These yachts will be given an appropriate AYC rating. Obvious performance yachts will not be allowed to enter this class. Classes will be allocated by the Organisers and skippers will be informed of their class at the Skippers Briefing or no later than the first warning signal for the event.
   2. Ratings: For both classes A and B current 2019 CSA ratings will be used. If a boat has an outdated rating – 2018 or 2017, it may be accepted after updating by the organizers. Ratings prior to 2017 are unlikely to be accepted. Any boats that do not have a valid CSA rating may race on a fun basis and will be allocated a start time, given a finish time and place in the fleet but will not qualify for any prizes.
   3. CSA Sail Wardrobe: A declaration for the series must be made at the time of entry or at latest before the warning signal for their start. The rating will then reflect the sail wardrobe selected. Yachts failing to publically declare their sail wardrobe/rating will be given their highest rating number shown on their CSA certificate. Note: A VHF announcement to the Race Officer and other competitors on CH 12 will be accepted as ‘public’. No changes in sail wardrobe may then subsequently be made for race 1 – 4. Changes to sail wardrobe/ratings will, however, be accepted (if made publicly) prior to the start sequence for race 5.
3. Entry Fees: Boats up to 50ft @ EC$170 for the series or EC$70 for Boxing Day (Race 5) only.

Boats over 50ft @ EC$200 for the series or EC$80 for Boxing Day (Race 5) only.

**Note: Entries before noon on Wednesday 11th December, will qualify for an Earlybird 25% discount.**

1. Schedule:

Wednesday 11th December 12.00 Earlybird 25% discount deadline

Wednesday 18th December 18.00 Skippers Briefing at AYC Events Centre

Thursday 19th December 16.00 Race 1 start

Sunday 22nd December 13.30 Race 2 start

15.00 Race 3 start (or ASAP after completion of Race 2)

Thursday 26th December 12.00 Race 4 start

14.00 Race 5 Boxing Day Barrel start (or ASAP after completion of Race 4, if later)

18.00 Prize Giving at AYC Events Centre (competitors, friends and family welcome)

1. Courses: Will be laid within the Rendezvous Bay – Hercules Pt. area. Except for Race 5 which may go to Curtain Bluff Mark CB. Course plans and diagrams will be loaded on the website and displayed at AYC no later than Wednesday 11th December and confirmed at the Skippers Briefing and/or by email. Actual course to be sailed for any race will be notified by the Committee Boat / Race Officer by flag, hail or radio before the warning signal.
2. Start/Finish Line: Start and Finish line will be the same and will be located just inside the Falmouth Harbour entrance.
3. Starting Procedure - Will be in accordance with RRS 26 (5:4:1:Go)

The 1st warning signal for the day will be at 5 minutes prior to the advertised time of the start.

1st Start (if applicable) Fun/Cruiser Class Warning signal is a RED Flag

2nd Start Class B Warning signal is a YELLOW Flag

3rd Start Class A Warning signal is a GREEN Flag

The Preparatory (4 minutes) signal for each class will be indicated by the raising of flag P (or a solid BLUE Flag) which is dropped at 1 minute prior to the start. The Class Warning are lowered at the start.

A sound signal ‘may’ also be given to draw attention to the flags.

Note: Depending on the number of entries, two or more classes may be combined for starting. This would be indicated by flying the appropriate class flags together at the Warning signal.

Other Signals and Procedures: Postponement, Shorten Course, etc. shall be in accordance with RRS.

1. Time Limits: For races 1 to 4 will be 30 minutes after the first boat in class finishes. There will be no time limit for race 5. However, the committee boat will leave station approx. 30 minutes before sunset.

Boats not finishing within the time limit will be scored DNF.

1. Protests: This is a friendly club event, so protests are positively discouraged. However, in the unlikely event that one should occur, protest procedure must comply with World Sailing RRS part 5 section A and must be submitted in writing to the Race Officer within 60 minutes of the protesting boat’s last finish of the day. Protests will be heard at the AYC as soon as possible. A protest jury will be convened from IJ’s NJ’s or knowledgeable local yachtsmen not involved in the incident.
2. Scoring: Will be RRS Appendix A, Low Point system, amended as follows:-

Races 1-4;

Finishing - points equal to finishing place in that race

DNS/F/C - points equal to one more than the number of entries in that race

DSQ - points equal to two more than the number of entries in that race

Race 5; Ditto above except finishing points and penalties doubled (Double points race).

All races to count, no discards.

Boats scoring only in the Boxing Day Barrel race will not interfere with points scored for the boats competing in the whole series.

1. Race 5: Boxing Day Race will be an open race to any yacht. Yachts competing only in this race will score against all other series yachts in class/fleet but will not count in the scores/results of boats competing in the whole series. The Boxing Day Barrel Trophy will be awarded to the yacht in any class which beats the second place competitor in their class by the biggest percentage margin.
2. Prizes: “Hightide” prizes provided by the sponsor, Budget Marine Ltd., will be awarded to the series winning boats 1st, 2nd and 3rd in each class.

Additional daily prizes (bottles of rum) – Sponsored by AYC - will be presented for the class winners of each days racing.

The Boxing Day Barrel Trophy will be awarded to the overall winner of Race 5. This may or may not be a boat entered for the full series.

1. VHF Communications: The Committee Boat and Race Officer will use CH 12, which all yachts will be expected to monitor. Failure to hear any verbal instructions, properly put out, will not be grounds for protest or redress.
2. Insurance: Each skipper is responsible for his own liability via insurance or otherwise. Antigua Yacht Club have no legal liability whatsoever for any incident or damage arising to boats or persons or their conduct elated to this event. All boats take part on this understanding.
3. Safety: It is each Skipper’s obligation to be wholly responsible for the safety of their vessel and crew. Yachts are asked to notify the Committee Boat of their intention to retire from the race. In event of serious danger, yachts are to call in to Committee Boat immediately and to contact ABSAR by telephone (464-1234) or use VHF CH 16. All other close-by yachts are then obligated to stand-by and offer assistance in such a situation. Failure to do so may result in disqualification and possibly more serious sanctions.

Mervyn Gutteridge

AYC Fleet Captain