

## **Racing Charter Questions and Answers:**

**Q: How does the Racing Charter affect me?**

**A:** As a competitor, you can expect that Organisers will adopt best practice for race management, and that there will be opportunities for feedback on the racing. Any disputes should be resolved in a timely and proper manner. Organisers and other competitors will expect from you good rule observance and sportsmanship, both on and off the water.

**Q: Will it mean I can expect top quality racing from Charter Clubs?**

**A:** Yes, and if you have any constructive criticism the Club has nominated someone for you to talk to whose job it is to help sort those problems out for next time.

**Q: Do Charter Clubs/Classes always have to use a qualified Race Officer?**

**A:** No: anyone who can run fair, fun, safe racing is suitable, although they should be working towards being able to use qualified Race Officers as a goal. However, the Race Officers have to be happy to accept constructive criticism.

**Q: Does the Charter apply to all racing, or just Open Meetings and Championships?**

**A:** It applies to all racing and in fact is probably more important for Club Racing than for anything else, as it will hopefully encourage more people to race more often.

**Q: Do Charter Classes have to use Charter Clubs?**

**A:** No, but hopefully they will find that their members are more likely to turn up if they do!

**Q: Do Charter Clubs/Classes have to appoint a person to channel feedback from the competitors to the Organisers?**

**A:** Yes, the basis of best practice is providing an effective feedback loop: only by doing that can we provide what the competitors want.

**Q: Charter Clubs/Classes are required to try to run fair, fun and safe racing. Does this increase their legal liability?**

**A:** No. It probably decreases the liability of the Flag Officers and Management Committees as they will be seen to have done everything they could have to make the sport as safe as it could be. It is accepted that sailing can never be completely safe and race organisers are already on difficult ground if they run racing outside the RYA guidelines.

Specific questions can be emailed to [racingcharter@rya.org.uk](mailto:racingcharter@rya.org.uk).

## **Guidance Notes & Best Practice**

**Q: What is Best Practice?**

**A:** The RYA has developed Best Practice guidelines in consultation with competitors and clubs, covering all aspects of racing and race management. These guidelines provide ideas and advice for clubs on how they might improve their racing programmes.