



HONG KONG SAILING FEDERATION (“HKSF”) Code of Practices for Umpires

The Hong Kong Sailing Federation (“HKSF”) Sailing Umpires Code of Practices has been developed for all umpires to abide by whilst participating in an official capacity at any race and regatta. It is recognized that umpires play an integral role in sailing and their performance and professionalism is observed by all in the sailing community in their capacity as an umpire.

The Judge and Umpire Committee (“JUC”) under the management of HKSF’s Council, is responsible for the training, development, and supervision of the sailing umpires registered in Hong Kong.

PRACTICES FOR UMPIRES

1. Study and understand the rules of the game, watch the work of other umpires and make an attempt to improve at all times.
2. Know and master the mechanics of umpiring.
3. Prepare yourself both physically and mentally to administer the race or regatta in a professional manner at all times.
4. Dress and maintain your appearance in a manner befitting the dignity of the HKSF.
5. Honor all umpiring contracts and/or assignments.
6. Enforce the rules of the game being fair and unbiased in all your decisions. Render the rules without regard to the score or to a particular incident that may have arisen during the race or regatta.
7. Remember that while you work as an umpire, that you conduct yourself in a manner that keeps the race or regatta, sailors and yourself under control.
8. Exhibit proper and ethical behavior while interacting with sailors, instructors, coaches, race management personnel and spectators at races or regattas.
9. Always be firm but never overbearing, courteous but not ungrateful, positive but never rude, dignified but never cocky, friendly but not companionable, and most importantly being calm by always being alert.
10. Cooperate and be professional in your club or association with your fellow umpires, doing nothing to cause them public embarrassment.
11. Make sure that all the races or regattas that occur are covered properly by you and your partner(s).
12. Do not smoke or use foul or abusive language in the vicinity of the playing field, nor drink any alcoholic beverages on the day you are scheduled to work.

13. Use your knowledge and judgment to become the most consistent umpire that you can be.
14. Always supports, making sure you backup your partner(s) and always leave the water together.

DOs and DON'Ts

DO's of Umpiring

1. Be neat and clean in your appearance
2. Accept assignment and be on time
3. Hustle and be alert on every play
4. Meet your partner/go over everything that you feel needs to be covered
5. Have a pre-race conference with the coaches/introducing yourself and your partner(s)
6. Keep the race or regatta, players and yourself under control. Keep the game moving
7. Cooperate and be professional with your partner(s), do nothing to cause them embarrassment
8. Be fair and unbiased in your decisions
9. Leave the water together and have a Debriefing Session.

DON'Ts of Umpiring

1. Try to be the center of attention
2. Joke around with sailors, instructors or coaches, race management personnel.
3. Get in a shouting match with anyone on and off the water
4. Be overbearing, uncourteous, rude, undignified, cocky, bait or intimidate the players
5. Smoke or drink alcohol whilst umpiring
6. Make comment to the media unless authorized by the appropriate personnel
7. Ever leave your partner(s) unprotected in any situation