

Merlin Rocket Inland Championships

Cardiff Bay Yacht Club

22nd – 23rd Sep 2018

Organising Authority: Merlin Rocket Owners' Association (MROA) in conjunction with the Cardiff Bay YC (CBYC)

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The notation '[DP]' in a rule in the SI means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.

1 RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* and the RYA Racing Charter.
- 1.2 In Rule 40 'Personal Flotation Devices, this rule applies at all times while afloat. Flag Y will not be displayed on shore. This changes Rule 40. [DP]

2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located adjacent to the main Club Entrance.

3 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0900 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed at the flagpole located at the head of the slipway.
- 4.2 Flag D with one sound means 'The warning signal will be made not less than 60 minutes after flag D is displayed. On days when racing is scheduled, competitors shall not launch until this signal is made. [DP]

5 SCHEDULE OF RACES

5.1 Dates of racing and number of races:

Date	First Warning Signal	Race Number	Course	Trophy
Saturday 22 nd Sep	12.55	1	Windward/leeward	South Yorkshire SC Trophy
	o/c Race 1	2	Windward/leeward	
Saturday 22 nd Sep	o/c Race 2	3	Sausage/triangle	Colne Cup Draycote Water Salver
	o/c Race 3	4	Sausage/triangle	
Sunday 23 rd Sep	09.55	5	Windward/leeward	Colin Pitts Memorial Trophy
	o/c Race 5	6	Windward/leeward	
Sunday 23 rd Sep	o/c Race 6	7	Sausage/triangle	Grafham Water Trophy

- 5.2 At the discretion of the race committee, one extra trophy per day may be sailed on any day, but the programme shall not become more than one trophy ahead of schedule and the change shall be made according to SI 3.
- 5.3 To alert boats that a race will begin soon, the orange starting line flag will be displayed with multiple sound signals at least five minutes before a warning signal is made.
- 5.4 When more than one race is scheduled on the same day the warning signal for the second and any succeeding race will be made as soon as practicable after the finish of the preceding race.
- 5.5 On the last scheduled racing day for the series no warning signal will be made after 13:00 unless fewer than 3 races have been completed in the series.

6 CLASS FLAGS

The class flag will be International Code Flag 'O'.

7 RACING AREA

The racing area will be within the Cardiff Bay barrage.

8 THE COURSES

- 8.1 The diagram in Attachment 1 show the courses, including the course signals, approximate angles between legs, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.
- 8.2 The courses to be sailed will be a mixture of Windward/Leeward and Sausage/Triangle courses. Example courses are at Appendix 1.
- 8.3 The target time for race duration will be;
- (a) Windward/leeward – 30 minutes
 - (b) Sausage/triangle - 50 minutes
- 8.4 Starts will be made using a line start.
- 8.5 The finish line will normally be at the leeward end of the course, but at the end of the last race of the day, the course is likely to be shortened to finish at the windward mark in SW wind directions.

9 MARKS

- 9.1 All marks will be large, orange cylindrical buoys.

- 9.2 The starting marks for a line start will be a committee boat at the starboard end of the start line and a committee boat at the port end.
- 9.3 The finishing marks will be a committee boat at the starboard end of the line and a dan buoy with a blue flag at the port end of the line.

10 THE START

- 10.1 The starting line will be between staffs displaying orange flags on the starting marks.
- 10.2 A boat that does not start within four minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes rules A4 and A5.

11 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will lay a new mark, move the finishing line or move the leeward gate. When a new mark is laid, the original mark will be removed as soon as possible. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.

12 THE FINISH

- 12.1 The finishing line will be between the staff displaying a blue flag on the committee boat and the port end finishing mark.
- 12.2 Alternative Finish Line

After the first boat has finished, the race committee may set alternative finishing lines as follows:

- (a) When a committee boat displays flag W with two sounds, boats that have not yet rounded the nearby mark shall finish between this mark and the staff on the boat displaying flag W.
- (b) When flag W is displayed near a mark that ends multiple legs of the course, separate finish lines exist and separate finishing orders will be recorded for each of these lines.
- (c) When a boat finishes in accordance with this instruction, she shall be awarded a finishing place after all boats that have passed the nearby mark ahead of her before flag W was displayed.
- (d) Boats that have passed the mark before flag W is displayed, and have not retired from the race, but subsequently fail to finish, shall be awarded the average of the points for places available to them had they finished. This changes RRS A4.2.
- (e) The times specified in SI 15 will apply also at every flag W finish line defined by SI 13.2 (a).
- 12.3 In an emergency or adverse wind or current race committee finishing vessel may use engines to assist in holding station.

13 TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES

- 13.1 Failure to meet the target time at SI 8.3 will not be grounds for redress. This changes rule 62.1(a).
- 13.2 The Mark 1 time limit will be 15 minutes. If no boat has passed Mark 1 within the Mark 1 time limit the race will be abandoned.
- 13.3 The time limit for each race will be twice the target time for that race.
- 13.4 Boats failing to finish, or cross an alternate finish line (see Si 13.2) within 20 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes rules 35, A4 and A5.

14 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

14.1 Protest forms are available at the race office, located in the club compound. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the time limit.

14.2 The Exoneration Penalty and the RYA Arbitration procedures of the RYA Rules Disputes procedures shall apply. The outcome of an RYA Arbitration can be referred to a protest committee, but an arbitration cannot be reopened or appealed.

14.2.1 Exoneration Penalty

14.2.1.1 A boat that may have broken a rule of Part 2 of the Racing Rules of Sailing or rule 31 may, after finishing the race concerned and before the start of any related protest hearing, notify the race committee that she accepts an Exoneration Penalty – a 30% scoring penalty (SCP) calculated as stated in rule 44.3(c), except that the minimum penalty is three places and she shall not be scored worse than DNF. However, if the boat caused injury or serious damage or, despite taking a penalty, gained a significant advantage in the race or series by her breach her penalty shall be to retire.

14.2.1.2 When an Exoneration Penalty is accepted:

- (a) Neither the boat nor a protest committee may then revoke or remove the penalty.
- (b) The boat shall not be penalized further in a protest hearing when the protest committee decides that it was appropriate to the facts found and the applicable rules.

14.2.2 Advisory Hearing

When there is an incident that will not result in the lodging of a protest or a request for redress, a boat may request an advisory hearing and notify any boat involved in the incident. An adviser will then call a hearing to learn what may have happened and, provided all parties are willing to attend, will state whether any rule appears to have been broken, and by which boat. A boat may as a result notify the race office that she accepts an Exoneration Penalty when it applies to the incident, or choose to retire, but is not required to do so.

14.2.3 RYA Arbitration

14.2.3.1 When a protest is lodged, a boat may at the same time request RYA Arbitration, or the protest committee or race committee may offer it.

14.2.3.2 If the parties and a member of the protest or race committee agree that RYA Arbitration is suitable, an arbitrator (who may be that member of the protest committee) will call an Arbitration Hearing. When it is the arbitrator's opinion that a boat that is a party to the arbitration hearing has broken a rule for which the Exoneration Penalty is available, the party will be invited to accept that penalty and, if accepted, the protesting boat will be allowed to withdraw the protest, changing rule 63.1.

14.2.3.3 When there is not agreement to use RYA Arbitration or when, after RYA Arbitration, a protest is not withdrawn or the Exoneration Penalty is not applicable to the facts, there will be a normal protest hearing at which the arbitrator may be a member of the protest committee. Rules 66 and 70 (reopening and appeal, respectively) do not apply to an arbitration since this is not a protest committee decision or procedure. A boat may still accept an Exoneration Penalty at any time before the start of a protest hearing and receive its protection from further penalization. She may also retire.

14.3 The protest time limit is 90 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day or the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later.

14.4 Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties. Hearings will be held in the protest room,

located in the race office, beginning at the time posted. Hearings may begin before this time with the agreement of all parties.

- 14.5 Notices of protests by the race committee or protest committee will be posted to inform boats under rule 61.1(b).
- 14.6 On the last scheduled day of racing a request for redress based on a protest committee decision shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the decision was posted. This changes RRS 62.2.

15 SCORING

- 15.1 The Low Point Scoring System of Appendix A applies as follows:
- (a) One race is required to be completed to constitute a series.
 - (b) When fewer than five races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
 - (c) When five races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
 - (d) When seven races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her two worst scores.
- 15.2 To request correction of an alleged error in posted race or series results, a boat may complete a scoring enquiry form available at the race office.

16 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

- 16.1 Except for the Crew's Race, substitution of competitors will only be allowed in accordance with the Notice of Race. [DP]
- 16.2 Where a boat uses equipment other than that presented for the pre-event measurement checks, approval shall be obtained from the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity. [DP]

17 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

- 17.1 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 equipment inspector or measurer to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection. [DP]
- 17.2 The measuring authority referred to in rule 64.3(b) will be the RYA

18 TRASH DISPOSAL

Competitors shall not put trash in the water. [DP] Trash may be placed aboard support or official boats.

19 BERTHING

Boats shall be kept in their assigned places while they are in the dinghy park. [DP]

20 RADIO COMMUNICATION

Except in an emergency, 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.

21 PRIZES

Race prizes will be awarded in accordance with the SI 5.1, after racing each day. Overall prizes will also be awarded at the end of the event.

22 RISK STATEMENT

Rule 4 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states that: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to race or to continue racing is hers alone."

Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:

- (a) They are aware of the inherent element of risk involved in the sport and accept responsibility for the exposure of themselves, their crew and their boat to such inherent risk whilst taking part in the event;
- (b) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and any other property whether afloat or ashore
- (c) They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to extent caused by their own actions or omissions;
- (d) Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
- (e) The provision of a race management team, patrol boats and other officials and volunteers by the event organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
- (f) The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances.
- (g) It is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks specific to this venue or this event drawn to their attention in any rules and information produced for the event and to attend any safety briefing held for the event.

23 INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £5 million per incident or the equivalent. Competitors will be required to sign a declaration to this effect at registration.

24 RIGHTS TO USE NAME AND LIKENESS

By participating in this event, competitors automatically grant to the organizing authority and the event sponsors the right, in perpetuity, to make, use, and show, at their discretion, any photography, audio and video recordings, and other reproductions of them made at the venue or on the water from the time of their arrival at the venue, until their final departure, without compensation.

25 USE OF ELECTRONIC VIDEO RECORDING EQUIPMENT

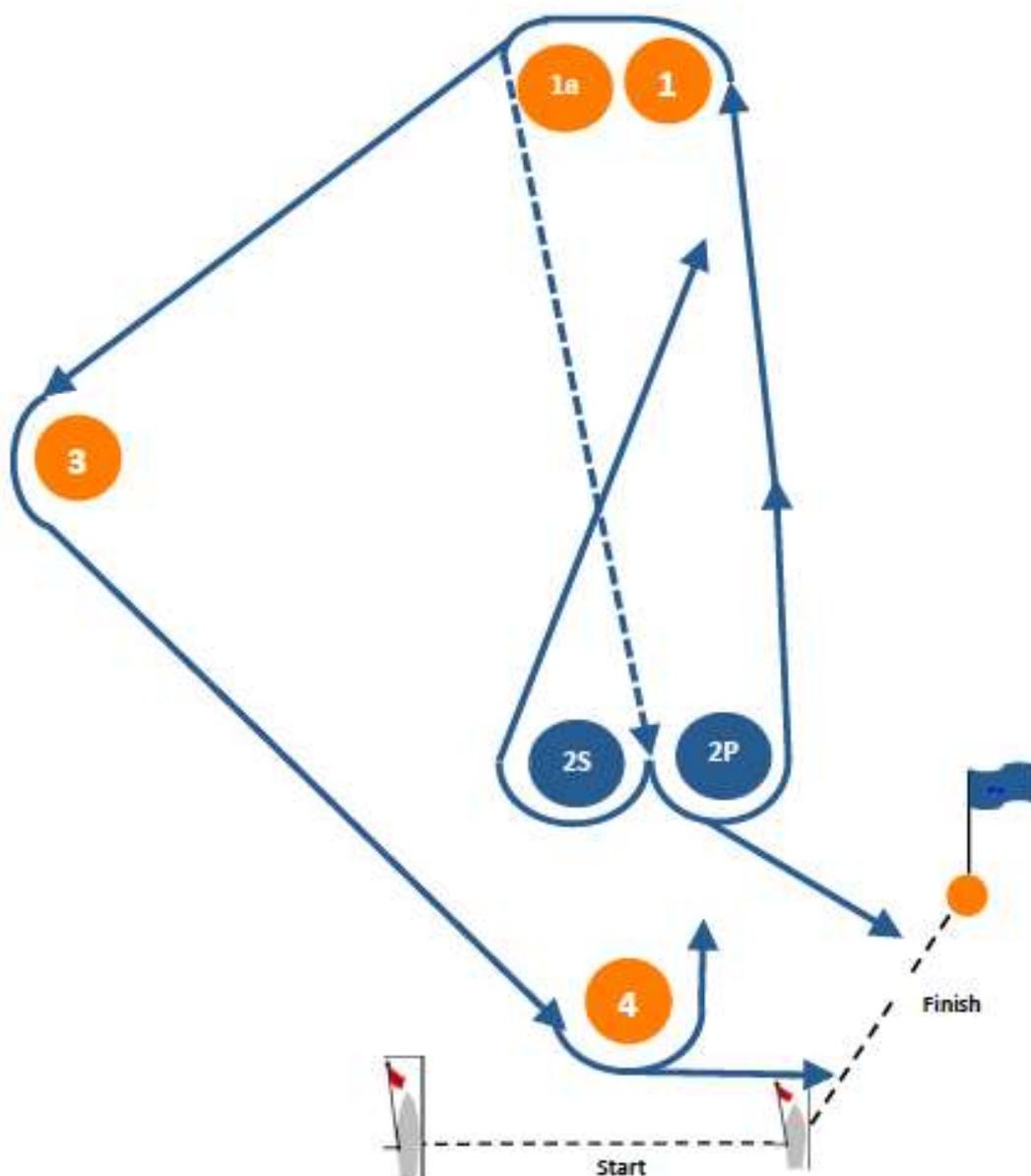
Competitors are permitted to use electronic video recording equipment whilst racing, provided that there is no output during racing. This modifies MROA Class Rule C.5.1 (a) in accordance with RRS 87. Output will not be admissible as evidence during any protest or redress hearing.

OTHER INFORMATION

There will be a competitor briefing on racing and safety on Saturday 22nd Sep at 12.00 in the CBYC clubhouse.

APPENDIX 1 – COURSES

Windward/Leeward (W) and Sausage/Triangle (S)



COURSE	Sausage/Triangle
S2	<i>Start – 1 – 1a – 2S/2P – 1 – 1a – 3 – 4 – finish</i>
S3	<i>Start – 1 – 1a – 2S/2P – 1 – 1a – 3 – 4 – 1 – 1a – 2P – finish</i>
S4	<i>Start – 1 – 1a – 2S/2P – 1 – 1a – 3 – 4 – 1 – 1a – 2S/2P – 1 – 1a – 3 – 4 – finish</i>

COURSE	Windward/Leeward
W2	<i>Start – 1 – 1a – 2S/2P – 1 – 1a – 2P – finish</i>
W3	<i>Start – 1 – 1a – 2S/2P – 1 – 1a – 2S/2P – 1 – 1a – 2P – finish</i>
W4	<i>Start – 1 – 1a – 2S/2P – 1 – 1a – 2S/2P – 1 – 1a – 2S/2P – 1 – 1a – 2P – finish</i>