Medway Yacht Club



Topper Traveller Series 2017 No 11

**SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

**3rd September 2017**

1. Organising Authority

1.1 Medway Yacht Club (MYC) on behalf of the International Topper Class Association UK South East Area

2. Rules

2.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 2017-2020

2.2 Other rules as listed in the Notice of Race (NOR)

2.3 The following RRS are changed:

 2.3.1 RRS 63.7

 2.3.2 RRS 40 and the preamble to Part 4

 2.3.3 Signal AP

 2.3.4 RRS 35 and Appendices A4 and A5

**3. Notices to Competitors**

3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the MYC official notice board in the lower marquee in front of the club house

**4. Changes to Sailing Instructions**

4.1 Any changes to these SI’s will be posted on the official notice board no later than 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start of the first race of the day.

4.2 Changes to the racing schedule will be posted before 2100hrs on the evening before the race affected.

**5. Signals Made Ashore**

5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the mast by the race box on the mound by the clubhouse.

5.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, ‘1 minute’ is replaced by ‘not less than 30 minutes’ in race signal AP. This changes Signal AP.

5.3 When flag AP is displayed ashore, boats are requested not to launch.

**6. Schedule of Races and Briefing**

6.1 Dates of racing

 Sunday 3rd September 2017

6.2 Number of races

 Four races are scheduled

Race Warning Signal Race Warning Signal

1 Not before 10.55 hrs 2 back-to-back with race 1 3 As soon as possible 4 back-to-back with race 3

after lunch.

6.3 The scheduled time of the competitors’ briefing is not before 10.00 hrs

6.4 To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, the orange starting line flag will be displayed with one sound signal at least one minute before a warning signal is made.

**7. Class Flag**

7.1 The class flag will be T

**8. Racing Area**

8.1 The River Medway between Upnor Castle and Buoy 29.

**9. The Courses**

9.1 Details of the courses will be given at the briefing.

**10. Marks**

10.1 Marks will be orange inflatable buoys, white inflatable buoys or yellow marks with a staff displaying an orange flag or as described at the briefing

10.2 The Outer Distance Mark (ODM) for the start and finish lines will be either a white inflatable buoy or a yellow mark with a staff displaying an orange flag.

**11. Obstructions**

11.1 This event is held on a navigable river and large vessels have right of way. If a large vessel is being escorted, no boat shall sail between a guard vessel displaying naval numeral *“zero”* and the large vessel it is escorting. Boats shall not obstruct the fairway. Any boat reported by an Official Vessel to have contravened this instruction or otherwise deemed to have caused an obstruction will be subject to protest and liable to be scored DNE.

11.2 Vessels on moorings or at anchor are deemed to be obstructions for the purposes of RRS. If a boat or its crew make contact with a moored or anchored vessel she shall declare the contact when signing off at the end of the race and accept a 20% Scoring Penalty pursuant to RRS 44.3(c). If a boat causes injury or serious damage her penalty will be to retire. A boat deemed to have contravened this instruction will be subject to protest and liable to be scored DNE. A mooring line or chain or an object accidentally attached to a moored or anchored boat is not part of it.

11.3 Any reasonable means of propulsion may be used by a boat to avoid making contact with a moored or anchored vessel provided the boat does not gain a significant advantage in the race.

11.4 Boats shall not sail over span lines on fore and aft moorings.

**12. The Start**

12.1 The starting line will be between a mast/staff displaying an orange flag on the race committee vessel and either a staff displaying an orange flag on the ODM or the course side of a white inflatable ODM.

12.2 At the race committee vessel end of the start line the starting mark will be the race committee vessel together with any dinghy, RIB, buoy or other inflatable object attached to it.

**13. The Finish**

13.1 The finishing line will be between a mast/staff displaying an orange flag on a race committee vessel and either a staff displaying an orange flag on the ODM or the course side of a white inflatable ODM.

**14. Time Limits and Target Times**

**14.1 The time limit for all races will be 70 minutes.**

14.2 The target time for all races will be 40 minutes.

14.3 Boats failing to finish within 15 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes and are still racing may be given a finish position at any point on the course at the discretion of the Race Officer. This changes RRS 35 and Appendices A4 and A5.

**15. Declarations**

15.1 Declarations are required from boats who have taken a tally but did not come to the starting area (DNC), did not start (DNS), did not finish (DNF), retired after finishing (RAF), or who have taken penalties under rule 44.1.

15.2 Declaration sheets will be posted near the tally board near the main entrance of the clubhouse.

15.3 Declarations must be made before the expiry of the protest time limit (see 16.1).

**16. Protests and Requests for Redress**

16.1 Protest forms are available from the race office located at the MYC library. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit.

16.2 The protest time limit is 30 minutes after the last boat comes ashore after the last race of the day or the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is the later.

16.3 Notices of protests will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses.

16.4 Notices of protests by the race committee or protest committee will be posted to inform boats under rule 61.1(b).

16.5 The Exoneration Penalty, the Advisory Hearing and RYA Arbitration of the RYA Rules Disputes Procedures will be available.

**17. Scoring**

17.1 See NOR 9.

**18. Safety Regulations**

18.1 See NOR 3.1.7 (this changes RRS 40 and the preamble to Part 4) and 10.

**19. Replacement of Crew or Equipment**

19.1 Substitution of competitors after entry will not be allowed without prior written application/approval of the race committee.

19.2 Boats wishing to use a sail that does not bear the boat’s registration number, and which must not duplicate the number of another boat racing, must obtain prior written approval from the race committee.

**20. Official Boats**

20.1 Official support vessels will display Numeral ‘9’, but a failure to display shall not constitute grounds for redress.

**21. Prizes**

21.1 See NOR 11.

**22. Risk Statement**

 Rule 4 of the RRS states “The Responsibility for a boat’s decision to participate in a race or 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:

* 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 while taking part in the event;
* They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;
* They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;
* Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
* 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;
* The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can practically be provided in the circumstances.
* 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 venue or event and to attend any safety briefing held at the venue.

**23. Insurance**

23.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £2,000,000 per incident or the equivalent.

**Medway Yacht Club
19th July 2017**