



Medway Yacht Club
NOTICE OF RACE
Cruiser Class Racing 2017 Season

The organising authority is Medway Yacht Club

1 RULES

1.1 The racing will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.

1.2 The prescriptions of the RYA will apply. Reference is made to;

<http://www.rya.org.uk/SiteCollectionDocuments/Racing/RacingInformation/RacingRules/RYA%20Prescriptions%202017.pdf>.

1.3 The directives of the Peel Ports Medway (PPM) and the London Port Authority (LPA), the MYC Cruiser Class Minimum Equipment List (MEL) 2017, the rating rules and the Sailing Instructions will apply.

1.4 The National Handicap for Cruisers (NHC) will be applied to all races. If a boat is entering a MYC Cruiser Class race for the 1st time, then the RYA NHC Base number shall be applied but may be changed at the discretion of the Race Officer, if an alternative NHC rating is available from the boat's home club regattas. If a boat has entered any of the current or previous season's MYC Cruiser Class Series (Spring, Regatta or Autumn) then the handicap for the opening race shall be the NHC adjusted handicap calculated after the last race of the last series. An adjustment in handicap will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.

Boats with current IRC Certificates will be dual scored.

1.5 Racing rule 64.1 will be changed as follows:

RRS 64.1 Protest Committee penalties and exonerations; The changes will appear in full in the sailing instructions. The sailing instructions may also change other racing rules.

1.6 The exoneration penalty and the Advisory Hearing and RYA Arbitration procedures of the RYA Rules Disputes Procedure will be available. Decisions from RYA Arbitration may be referred to a protest committee but cannot be reopened or appealed.

2 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

2.1 The racing is open to all MYC members and non-members as bona fide guests of the club.

2.2 The Race committee reserves the right to refuse entry

2.3 Eligible boats may only enter races after their owner or owner's representative has registered them by completing a race declaration form and delivered it to the MYC office or the OOD. Race declaration forms are available from the MYC office and MYC website. Fees for entry will be as shown on the attached Schedule

2.4 Classes will be dual scored under both NHC and IRC, but with Class Divisions split based on NHC Base number criteria as follows;

Cruiser Division 1 is open to boats with a base line NHC ≥ 0.889 .

Cruiser Division 2 is open to boats with a base line NHC ≤ 0.888 .

Nb These class divisions are provisional only. Depending upon entries received for any individual race or series of races, the organising authority may adjust the class divisions and/or introduce a third class. Any such adjustments shall be made and will be published to competing boats at least twenty-four hours before the first scheduled warning signal of the race or the first race in the series on the MYC website and displayed on the Sailing Committee official noticeboard. An adjustment in the class divisions and/or an introduction of a third class will not be grounds for redress.

2.5 Entries shall be submitted 48 hours prior to a published race, although a late entrant after the closing deadline may announce their intention to race via VHF, stating sail number and NHC/IRC handicap, up to the warning signal of the first class start but at the *sole discretion* of the Race Officer and provided a Race Declaration Form has been submitted to the MYC Club Office.



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3 SCHEDULE OF RACES AND FEES

3.1 This Notice of Race applies to all racing for the Medway Cruiser Class except the Keelboat Regatta and Wednesday Evening Racing. Races will be held at the dates and times published in the attached Cruiser Class NOR Schedule 2017.

3.2 Race Entry Fees are detailed in the Cruiser Class NOR Schedule 2017 and/or the Cruiser Class 2017 Race Entry Form.

4 MEASUREMENTS

4.1 Where a boat is entered for NHC and is not listed in the RYA online Base List, the Cruiser Class Committee shall have discretionary powers to nominate a provisional club NHC rating. A yacht owner has no redress following the race results being published, however, may make an approach to the RYA (NHC Technical Representative) for further clarification of a yacht's correct NHC Base handicap. The Cruiser Class Committee shall use the RYA amended rating provided it is received in writing from the RYA NHC Technical Representative.

4.2 Where a boat wishes to be dual scored under IRC, a current 2017 IRC certificate shall be provided upon entry.

4.3 Boats shall race in rating trim and be available for inspection on the day of the entered race.

5 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The sailing instructions will be available on the MYC website and displayed on the Sailing Committee official noticeboard located in the entrance to the Clubhouse on or before 31st March 2017.

6 VENUE

Racing shall take place in the River Medway and Thames Estuary.

7 THE COURSES

The courses to be sailed will use navigation buoys and/or special marks. The Medway Cruiser Class Course Sheet 2017 will be available on the MYC website, at the MYC office and in the Race Hut.

8 PENALTY SYSTEM

The standard RRS 2017-2020 shall apply to all races, excluding Single and Double Handed races where RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty. This change for the Single and Double Handed Races only, is made upon safety grounds.

9 SCORING

9.1 Where races are defined as a Series in the attached Cruiser Class NoR Schedule, the Low Point System of Appendix A will be used.

9.2 One race is required to be completed to constitute a series

9.3 When fewer than four races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.

9.4 When four or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

9.5 The "Club Series" adjustment to the NHC Handicap will be applied during the series after the first race, which shall use the NHC Base number.

10 RADIO COMMUNICATION

10.1 MYC Cruiser Class Minimum Equipment List (MEL) 2017 stipulates that all boats carry a VHF and the Race committee may broadcast course information by VHF. Where racing is conducted from the Club Line, communication will be on VHF Channel M/37 with the call sign "Upnor Line".



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Where racing is conducted by a committee boat, communication will be on Channel 72 with call sign "Offshore One".

11 PRIZES

Prizes for each race or series of races will be shown in the attached Cruiser Class NoR Schedule 2017.

12 RISK STATEMENT

Rule 4 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a 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 their other property whether afloat or ashore;
- (c) They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the 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 venue or event and to attend any safety briefing held for the event.

13 INSURANCE

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.

14 FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please contact MYC by telephone on 01634 718399, by email at office@medwayyachtclub.com or see the MYC website at www.medwayyachtclub.com

MYC Sailing Committee January 2017