

Medway Yacht Club

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS



South East Topper Traveller at Medway Yacht Club 3rd September 2023

Organising Authority: Medway Yacht Club (MYC) on behalf of the International Topper Class Association UK London and South East Area
Venue: Medway Yacht Club Lower Upnor, Rochester, Kent ME2 4XB.
Tel. 01634 718399.

1. RULES

- 1.1 Racing will be governed by the rules as defined in “The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) and other rules as listed in the Notice of Race
- 1.2 The following racing rules are changed as follows: -
- 1.3 RRS A5.1 and A5.2 are changed – see 12.4 below
- 1.4 RRS 33 – see 13.2 below
- 1.5 RRS 35, A4 and A5 are changed – see 14 below
- 1.6 RRS 35 and Appendices A4 and A5 are changed – see 16.3 below
- 1.7 RRS 64 is changed – see 19.6 below

2.0 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board, which will be located in the club foyer or near the marquee.

3.0 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1 Any changes to these instructions will be posted on the Official Notice Board, before the warning signal for any race it affects.

4.0 CODE OF CONDUCT

- 4.1 Any participant in charge of a boat must obey the Race Committee’s instructions at all times.

5.0 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed at the race box.
- 5.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, “1 minute” is replaced with “not less than 30 minutes” in the race signal AP.

6.0 SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 6.1 Date of racing Sunday 3rd September 2023
- 6.2 A maximum of 4 races are scheduled

6.3	Race	Warning Signal	Race	Warning Signal
	1	Not before 10.55hrs	2	back-to-back with race 1
	3	As soon as possible after lunch	4	back-to-back with race 3

- 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 long sound signal at least one minute before a warning signal is made.
- 6.5 The scheduled time for the briefing is not before 1000 hrs outside in the vicinity of the marquee.

7.0 CLASS FLAGS

- 7.1 The class flag will be flag T.

8.0 RACING AREAS

- 8.1 The racing area will be between Upnor Castle and Buoy 23

9.0 COURSES

- 9.1 Details of the courses will be provided at the competitors' briefing.

10.0 MARKS

- 10.1 The marks of the course will be made up from some or all of the following:-
 - a) Orange inflatable buoys
 - b) White inflatable buoys
 - c) The Outer Distance Mark (ODM) for the start and finish will be either one of the marks described above or a yellow Buoy with a staff displaying an orange flag
 - d) Additional marks may be used as identified at the Competitors' briefing and on the Notice Board.

11.0 OBSTRUCTIONS

- 11.1 This event is held on a navigable river and ships or other large vessels have right of way. If a ship/vessel is being escorted, no boat shall sail between the guard boat displaying naval numeral "zero" and the ship/vessel it is escorting. Boats shall not obstruct the fairway. Any boat reported by an Official Boat 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 Boats 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 boat 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 boat 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.

12.0 THE START

- 12.1 Races will be started by using Rule 26 with the warning signal given 5 minutes before the starting signal (which is repeated here for assistance)

Signal	Flag & Sound	Minutes before Starting Signal
Warning	Class Flag; 1 sound	5
Preparatory	P, I, Z, U or black flag; 1 sound	4
One minute	Preparatory flag removed; 1 long sound	1
Starting	Class flag removed; 1 sound	0

- 12.2 The Race Committee Vessel will be Saxon, a blue motor yacht with a white cabin.
- 12.3 The start line will be between an orange flag on the race committee vessel and either the staff on the ODM or the course side of an ODM without a staff.
- 12.4 A boat that does not start within 5 minutes after her starting signal will be scored did not start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.

13 CHANGE OF NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 13.1 To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will move the original mark or the finishing line to a new position.
- 13.2 The race committee is not required to signal the change where the next leg of the course is changed by less than 100 degrees in angle or less than 100m in length. This changes RRS 33.

14 THE FINISH

- 14.1 The finish line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on the Committee Vessel and the ODM as described above.
- 14.2 After the first boat has sailed the course and finished, the race committee may score other boats based on their relative positions at a mark of the course or on a leg of the course.
- 14.3 When a race committee boat displays flag W with two sounds, boats still racing may be finished by this race committee boat.
- 14.4 When a boat is scored in accordance with this instruction, she shall be given score for a place after all boats that have sailed the course and finished. This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5.

15 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 15.1 No penalty system changes are made to the RRS

16 TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES

- 16.1 The target time for all races will be 40 minutes.
- 16.2 The time limit will be 60 minutes from the actual start time of each race.
- 16.3 Boats failing to finish within 15 minutes after the first boat which sails the course and finishes and which 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
- 16.4 If no boat has passed Mark 1 (the first mark) within 30 minutes of the start, the race will be abandoned.

17 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 17.1 Protest forms will be available from the Race Office. They shall be delivered within the protest time limit.
- 17.2 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. Protests will be heard in an order decided by the Protest Committee and as soon as practicable.

18. SCORING

- 18.1 See NOR 15

19 SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 19.1 Competitors shall wear adequate personal buoyancy at all times while afloat. Inflatable buoyancy vests are not permitted. RRS 40.1 applies.
- 19.2 Boats must Tally-Out before racing, by taking their TALLY BAND, from the "Tally Board" which is located as advised in the competitors' briefing and carrying it with them whilst racing. Boats not Tallying Out shall be scored "Did Not Start".
- 19.3 Boats must Tally In by returning their TALLY BAND to the "Tally Board" located as above, within 30 minutes of coming ashore. Boats not Tallying-In within this time limit shall be scored Did Not Finish.
- 19.4 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible after retiring from the race.
- 19.5 Boats wishing to sail ashore before the end of the day's racing shall not do so unless authorised by a patrol boat. The patrol vessels will instruct boats in the procedure for returning ashore.
- 19.6 Boats shall follow the instructions of the patrol vessels. Infringements will be reported to the Race Committee, which may protest the boat. Boats penalised under this instruction may

be scored DNE, or such other penalty that the Protest Committee may decide. This changes rule 64.

19.7 Outside Help: Penalties for breaches of rule 41 (Outside Help) will be at the discretion of the Protest Committee. Any outside help shall be reported to the Protest Committee on a signing sheet on the Official Notice Board before the protest time limit on the day concerned.

19.8 When a boat is capsized and the crew are trying to right the craft, assistance with this shall not be a breach of Rule 41 and shall not need a declaration so long as no advantage has been gained in the race save that the boat was righted.

20 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

20.1 Substitution of competitors is not allowed without prior written approval of the Race Committee

20.2 Substitution of damaged or lost equipment is not allowed unless authorised by the Race Committee. Requests for substitution shall be made to the committee at the first reasonable opportunity, which may be after the race.

21 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

21.1 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions.

22 PRIZES

22.1 Prizes will be awarded by Medway Yacht Club.

23 RISK

23.1 RRS 3 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 this 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 while 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 practically be 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

24 Insurance

24.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £3,000,000 per event or equivalent.

Organising Authority MYC