



British Dragon Association
Medway Dragon Fleet
East Coast Dragon Championship
21st September – 23rd September 2024
MEDWAY YACHT CLUB
www.medwayyachtclub.com

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SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The notation '[DP]' in a rule in the Sailing Instructions (SIs) means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the Protest Committee, be less than disqualification.

1. Rules: The Championship will be governed by:

1.1. The Rules as set out in the Notice of Race for the BDA Eastern Championships 2024.

1.2. In the event of a conflict in these Rules, RRS 63.7 applies except that the bylaws and directions of the Peel Ports shall at all times take precedent. This changes RRS 63.7.

1.3. RRS changes: RRS Race Signals, RRS 35, RRS 44.1, RRS 63.7, RRS 66, A4, A5 and A10.

2. Changes to Sailing Instructions: Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted before 0830 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 1830 on the day before it will take effect.

3. Communication with Competitors:

3.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located in the entrance lobby of the Medway Yacht Club. Notices may also be published via the event Whatsapp Group. A link to any such group will be on the online noticeboard.

3.2. The Race Office will be situated in the Library at the Medway Yacht Club.

3.3. All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communicating on channel 72, 37A and 16.

3.4. On the water, advisory VHF communication from the Race Committee may be available on channel 72.

- 3.5.** [DP] Whilst racing, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make a voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is unavailable to all boats.
- 4. Code of Conduct:** [DP]
- 4.1.** [DP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.
- 4.2.** [DP] N/A.
- 5. Signals Made Ashore:**
- 5.1.** Signals made ashore will be displayed from MYC Race Hut flagpole which is situated upriver of the clubhouse..
- 5.2.** When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 60 minutes' in the Race Signals AP. This changes RRS Race Signals AP.
- 6. Schedule of Races:**
- 6.1.** Saturday 21st September: Warning signal for the first race of the day will not be before 10:55.
- 6.2.** On all other days the warning signal for the first race of the day will not be before 9:55.
- 6.3.** To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, the orange starting line flag will be displayed with one sound at least five minutes before a warning signal is made.
- 6.4.** No warning signal will be displayed after 14:00 on Monday 23rd September.
- 6.5.** The daily maximum number of races will be 4 on Saturday 21st September, 4 on Sunday 22nd September, and 2 on Monday 23rd September. The maximum number of races will be 6 in total.
- 7. Class Flags:** Class flag will be ICF "D".
- 8. Racing Areas:** Racing will be on the River Medway (Imray chart Y18 River Medway and Approaches) between buoys 12 and 27.
- 9. The Course:**
- 9.1.** Appendix One provides a diagram of each of the set of courses which may be sailed, at the discretion of the Race Committee. The course to be sailed will be displayed on the committee vessel no later than the warning signal.
- 9.2.** One lap of Course A is: 1P, 1aP, 2P, start/finish line.
- 9.3.** One lap of Course B is: 1P, 1aP, 4s/4p, start/finish line
- 9.4.** The number of laps of the course to be sailed will be displayed on the committee vessel no later than the warning signal.
- 10. Marks:**
- 10.1** Racing marks will be orange or white inflatable buoys.
- 10.2** Marks may display sponsors names and logos.
- 11. Obstructions:**
- 11.1.** Boats will not sail on the shore side of Folly Beacon, Darnet Beacon, Bee Ness Jetty and its outlying dolphins nor cross Bishop's Marsh which lies between Darnet Ness and Bishop Ness.
- 11.2.** Competitors are reminded that they are sailing on a commercial river and such ships or other large vessels have right of way. Boats shall not obstruct the fairway.
- 11.3.** From time to time deep draught vessels may pass through the racing area. These vessels may be preceded by a patrol boat flying flag ICF 9 and in addition a Naval Numeral Zero flag. No boat may pass between this patrol boat and the vessel. Any competitor who contravenes this instruction or causes any perceived danger to the navigation of the vessel may be subject to protest by the Race committee and liable to be scored DNE.
- 12. The Start:**
- 12.1.** Races will be started using RRS 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal.
- 12.2.** The starting line will be between a staff or mast displaying an orange flag on the race committee vessel and either the course side of an inflatable buoy or a staff/mast displaying an orange flag on an outer distance boat/rib.
- 12.3.** Boats, marks or other items attached to the race committee vessel for the duration of the starting sequence are deemed to be part of the committee vessel and are not temporary attachments.
- 12.4.** If any part of a boat's hull is on the course side of the starting line at her starting signal and she is identified, the race committee may attempt to hail her sail number using the designated VHF channel. Failure to hail her

number, failure of her to hear such a hail, or the order in which boats are hailed will not be grounds for a request for redress; this changes RRS 62.1(a).

12.5. 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 the 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 and remove the original mark as soon as practicable.

13.2. When in a subsequent change, a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.

14. The Finish: The finishing line will be a line between a staff or mast displaying a blue flag on the race committee vessel and either the course side of an inflatable buoy or a staff/mast displaying a blue flag on an outer distance boat/rib.

15. Penalty System:

15.1. RRS 44.1 applies except a boat may take a One-Turn penalty when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 in an incident while racing. This changes RRS 44.1.

15.2. The Scoring Penalty in RRS 44.3 shall not be available.

15.3. The Post-Race Penalty and Appendix T will be available. The Post-Race Penalty will be 30% of the number of boats (rounding 0.5 upwards) entered.

16. Time Limits:

16.1. The target time for the first boat to finish each race is 60 minutes.

16.2. The time limit to reach mark 1 (the Mark 1 Time Limit) will be 30 minutes. If no boat has passed mark 1 within the Mark 1 Time Limit, the race will be abandoned.

16.3. The race time limit is 90 minutes.

16.4. The Finishing Window is a period of 20 minutes for boats to sail the course and finish after the first boat sails the course and finishes. Boats failing to finish within the Finishing Window, and not subsequently retiring, penalized or given redress, will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) without a hearing. A boat scored TLE shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the points scored by the last boat that finished within the Finishing Window. This changes RRS 35, A5.1, A5.2 and A10.

16.5. Failure to meet the Target Time will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

17. Hearing Requests and Requests for Redress:

17.1. Hearing Request forms are available from the Regatta Office.

17.2. Hearing Request Forms shall be delivered there within the appropriate time.

17.3. The Hearing Request time is 60 minutes after the last boat reaches her mooring or the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is the later.

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

17.5. Hearing Requests will be held in the library (Regatta Office) at the time stated on the notice.

17.6. A schedule of hearings will be displayed on the official notice board 90 minutes after the last boat reaches her mooring or the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later.

17.7. Further hearings may be added to the schedule.

17.8. Notices of Hearing Requests by the race committee or the Hearing Request committee will be posted to inform boats under RRS 61.1(b).

17.9. On the last day of the Regatta a request for re-opening a hearing shall be delivered within the Hearing Request time limit when the party requesting the re-opening was informed of the decision on the previous day and no later than 30 minutes after the party requesting re-opening was informed of the decision on the last day. This changes RRS 66.

18. Scoring: See NOR 15

19. Safety: [DP] Boats retiring shall notify the Race Committee at the first opportunity by VHF or notifying an Official Vessel

20. Official Vessels: Official boats will be marked by displaying 'ICF' Numeral 9.

21. Prizes: See NOR 24.

22. Replacement of Crew or Equipment:

22.1. [DP] Substitution of competitors is not allowed without prior written approval of the Race Committee.

22.2. [DP] Substitution of damaged or lost equipment is not allowed unless authorized in writing by the race committee. Requests for substitution shall be made to the committee at the first reasonable opportunity, which may be after the race.

23. Berthing:

23.1. [DP] Boats shall be kept on their assigned moorings during the event

24. Haul out Restrictions:

24.1. [DP] Boats shall not be hauled out during the event except with and according to the terms of prior written permission of the race committee.

24.2. [DP] Boats shall not be cleaned below the waterline by any means during the event between 0900 on Saturday 21st September 2024 and the end of the event.

25. Equipment and Measurement Checks:

25.1. A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules, notice of race and sailing instructions.

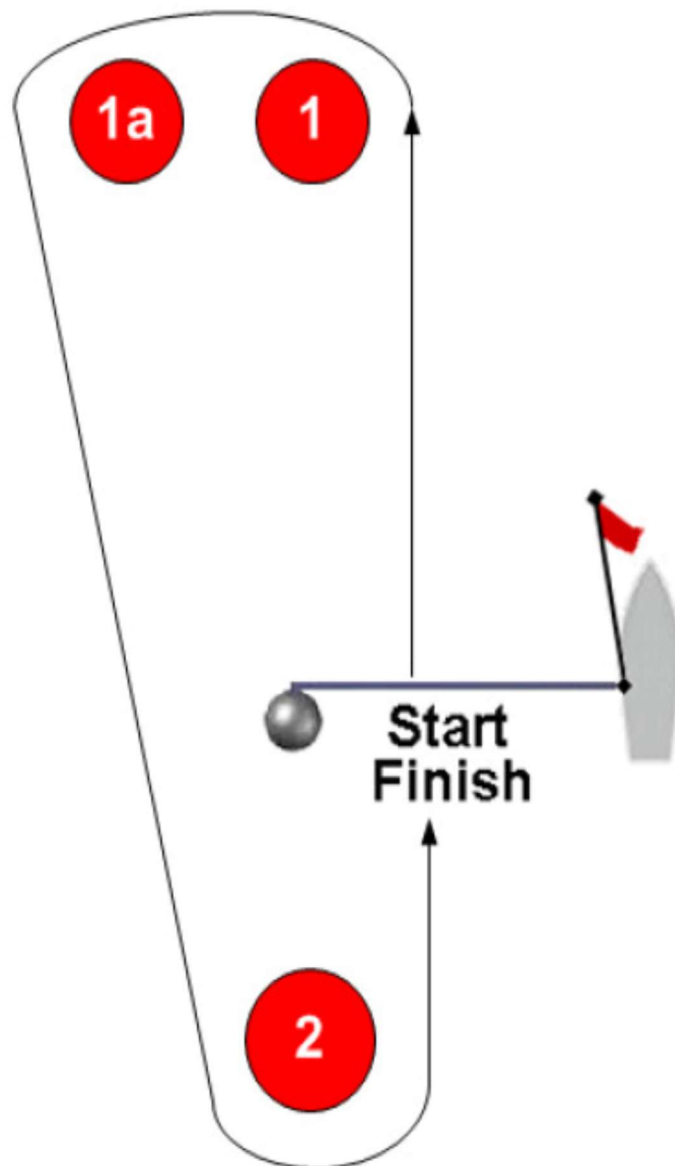
26. Risk statement: Rule 3 of the RRS states “The Responsibility for a boat’s decision to participate in a race or continue racing is hers alone.” Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor agrees 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 organizer 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.

27. Insurance: Each participating boat shall ensure that their boat is adequately insured against all third-party claims. The sum insured must be at least £3,000,000.

Appendix A

A	Course: WINDWARD / LEEWARD
Signal	Mark Rounding Order
A1	Start – 1p – 1ap – 2p – Finish
A2	Start – 1p – 1ap – 2p – S/F – 1p – 1ap – 2p – Finish
A3	Start – 1p – 1ap – 2p – S/F – 1p – 1ap – 2p – S/F – 1p – 1ap – 2p – Finish
A4	Start – 1p – 1ap – 2p – S/F – 1p – 1ap – 2p – S/F – 1p – 1ap – 2p – S/F – 1p – 1ap – 2p – Finish



B	Course: WINDWARD / LEEWARD
Signal	Mark Rounding Order
B1	Start – 1p – 1ap – 2s/2p – Finish
B2	Start – 1p – 1ap – 2s/2p – S/F – 1p – 1ap – 2s/2p – Finish
B3	Start – 1p – 1ap – 2s/2p – S/F – 1p – 1ap – 2s/2p – S/F – 1p – 1ap – 2s/2p – Finish
B4	Start – 1p – 1ap – 2s/2p – S/F – 1p – 1ap – 2s/2p – S/F – 1p – 1ap – 2s/2p – S/F – 1p – 1ap – 2s/2p – Finish



C	Course: WINDWARD / LEEWARD
Signal	Mark Rounding Order
C2	Start – 1p – 1ap – 2s/2p – S/F – 1p – 1ap – 2p – Finish
C3	Start – 1p – 1ap – 2s/2p – S/F – 1p – 1ap – 2s/2p – S/F – 1p – 1ap – 2p – Finish
C4	Start – 1p – 1ap – 2s/2p – S/F – 1p – 1ap – 2s/2p – S/F – 1p – 1ap – 2s/2p – S/F – 1p – 1ap – 2p – Finish

