

Leigh and Lowton Sailing Club

Junior Long Distance Team Event

Saturday 26th June 2021



FORMAT & INTENT

The cancellation of the usual 12hr junior and youth distance event at Southport for a second year due to understandable concerns over hosting such a large-scale event prompted some discussion at LLSC as to whether we could host a scaled back alternative for this year only. Our club and juniors wanted to give some continuity of sailing development within the NW juniors in spinnaker handling, learning to sail different boats and teamwork.

As a result, we have launched a one-time bridging event to give juniors an event to look forward to and train for this year, before the Southport 12hr Race continues in 2022 as per their advertised intentions. Southport SC are aware of our plans and we have kept the date the same the original Southport 12hr race as it fits with junior calendars. We will have to limit entries to manage competitors and supporters within potential COVID guidance, so we have set a maximum of 12 teams.

The intention is to run the event in GP14s only, as most participating clubs have access to GP14s and fits with the intent to encourage development of juniors in handling symmetric kites. This also simplifies it for the race committee.

We are basing the feasibility of the event on the assumption that the changes in restriction outlined in the roadmap for May 17th go ahead but are **not** assuming that June 21st complete lifting of restrictions occurs. Our working assumptions are that restrictions will include: groups of 30 max outdoors, take away food, social distancing at all times and mask wearing indoors.

Teams will be required to form a “team bubble” for the day with no more than one parent per child, and 2 coaches per team to limit total numbers on site, keeping separated from other team bubbles during the day.

As this is all subject to the roadmap, we will give a full refund of entry fees if the event is not permitted or we consider it will not be manageable or safe within the guidance at the time. Likewise, if the guidelines continue ease then we may reconsider parental attendance restrictions etc, but this will be a club decision how far we release while remaining within the government guidance.

Take-away food will be available all day from the galley. Camping overnight in the large field at the west side of the club will be permitted with access to toilets. There may be a nominal charge for camping.

The sailing instructions will be kept as straightforward as possible, with 360 turns for touching marks and 720 turns for other infringements per standard rules. Self-declaration of changeovers and penalties, arbitration hearings with a tough 10 minute penalty for any protested infringement to encourage the taking of any penalties on the water. The course will be determined by the OOD on the day and changeovers will be on the jetty provided or in the launching area, according to the team’s choice.

We must emphasise our intention is not in any way to compete with the Southport 12 hour race, but to be complementary to it for this year. This event has been launched after discussion with Southport about our plans. We hope this is received by clubs and other potential participants in the way intended and we create a fun event for all to enjoy!

Thanks.
LLSC Organising Committee.