

# MUDEFORD WEEK 2026 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

## Provisional Race Programme 2026:

### **Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> August:**

3 Races Fast and Slow Fleet (starting 5 minutes apart)

First start of the day 10.00hrs

### **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> August:**

2 Races Fast and Slow Fleet (starting 5 minutes apart)

Pursuit Race (On personal handicap basis)

First start of the day 10.00hrs

### **Thursday: 13<sup>th</sup> August:**

1 Race Fast and Slow Fleet (starting 5 minutes apart)

Personal Handicap Race 1 (starting together)

First start of the day 10.00hrs

### **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> August:**

1 Race Fast and Slow Fleet (starting 5 minutes apart)

Personal Handicap Race 2 (starting together)

First start of the day 10.30hrs

### **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> August:**

3 Races Fast and Slow Fleet (starting 5 minutes apart)

Comet Open Meeting. 3 Races starting with the Slow Fleet

First start of the day 11.00hrs

**Please note a briefing for each day will be 30 minutes before the first start and will be held at Mundeford Sailing Club**

**There will be breaks for refreshments at Mundeford Sailing Club between races on each day.**

## FUNDAMENTAL RULES

Racing will take place under the current International Racing Rules for Sailing (RRS) and these Sailing Instructions (SI). Where there is disagreement, these SIs shall take precedence.

## CONDITIONS

Each competitor shall be a member of a recognised Sailing Club.

**Before starting a race, all competitors shall have paid the required entry fee, signed on for the event and shall possess third party insurance to a minimum value of £2,000,000.**

The safety of the boat and her entire management including insurance shall be the responsibility of the owner or person in charge, who must ensure that the boat and crew are properly prepared to face the conditions that may arise in the course of the competition. Neither this SI, nor an inspection of the boat under the SI, reduces the absolute responsibility of the owner or person in charge for the crew, the boat and her management. The race organisers shall not be responsible for any loss, damage, personal injury or death, however caused, as a result of their taking part in the race or races. Moreover, every owner or person in charge warrants the suitability of the boat for the races.

The Committee reserves the right to refuse entry to Mudeford Week.

## **EQUIPMENT, CLASSES AND COMPETITION GROUPS**

Races will be on a handicap basis for monohull classes with a PN 1048 or greater and to include the Finn Class of dinghy. Categories within the fleet will be fast handicap and slow handicap. Competitors may enter either fleet at the discretion of the skipper and the approval of the race officer. There may be separate starts for the fast fleet and the slow fleets.

The slow fleet will normally complete one lap fewer than the fast fleet, and will be scored separately.

Sailors are to sail with the same boat, and sail number for a Series within Mudeford Week except in unavoidable circumstances, but may change boats and sails between Week Series and Weekend Series.

## **IDENTIFICATION**

All boats must carry a properly displayed sail number unless sailed by a Junior or novice sailor, when other identification may be accepted by the race committee.

## **PERSONAL BUOYANCY**

Competitors shall wear personal buoyancy when racing, which shall take the form of at least a waistcoat type buoyancy aid of at least 50N of buoyancy.

## **SCHEDULE OF RACES AND SCORING**

See above for planned race programme

All racing will take place within Christchurch Harbour using inflatable buoys or Club marks. Races will be scheduled as laid out in the Mudeford Week programme, but the organising committee may make changes to the time, order, number and type of racing by publishing such changes on the official notice board at least one hour before the beginning of racing for that day, accompanied by the appropriate sound and visual signals.

**Please note: The Stanpit Marsh Nature Reserve and around Blackberry Point (Horseshoe Island) at the western end of the harbour is a SSSI. There is an exclusion zone bounded by yellow buoys which is treated as a continuing obstruction.**

All boats will sail to Mudeford Sailing Club Portsmouth Yardsticks or MSC Personal Handicap numbers, where applicable.

The Fast and Slow fleets will start separately (normally 5 minutes apart) and be scored separately.

**The Weekend Series.** A series of three races on Saturday, with one discard if all three races completed. In the event of a tie the most lower places will count or, if still a tie the last of the two races scored will count.

**The Week Series.** A series of races with one discard if 4 or 5 races are completed. Two discards if 6 or more races are completed. In the event of a tie the most lower places will count or, if still a tie the last of the series races scored will count.

**The Pursuit Race.** The race will last about 40 to 45 minutes for the slowest boats. Personal Handicaps will be posted at MSC Clubhouse on the morning of the Pursuit race. For 2026, this race will be held on the Wednesday.

**The Personal Handicap Series.** A series of two races on Thursday and Friday, both races to count. In the event of a tie the last race will count. Personal Handicaps will be posted at MSC Clubhouse on the morning of the first Personal Handicap race.

**Comet Open Meeting Series.** A series of three races on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> August with no discards. In the event of a tie the most lower places will count or, if still a tie the last of the three races scored will count.

Prizegiving will be held under arrangements made by the Social Committee on the Saturday at Christchurch Sailing Club.

Prize Giving for the Comet Open Meeting will be held at MSC on Saturday afternoon approximately 45 minutes after the finish of the last race of the day.

## **COURSES**

The race officer shall set courses appropriate to the type of racing, the level of competitor and the weather on the day. In order to maintain a strong interest in the racing and in individual performance, laps and races may be set to end by the Club jetty.

## **SIGNALS AND CONDUCT OF RACING**

Racing will be conducted in accordance with RRS using the 5-minute start sequence. The Slow Fleet will normally start 5 minutes after the Fast Fleet. No boat shall start later than 4 minutes after their start.

## **PROTESTS**

This is a friendly Club event, which attracts novice as well as expert sailors: it is hoped that competitors will bear this in mind when racing. Notwithstanding this aim, a competitor intending to protest shall make every effort to inform the committee after they finish the race in question. On going ashore, they must complete a protest form provided, available the Clubhouse, and hand it to the race officer within 60 minutes of the last competitor finishing that race (or the last race in a back to back series). Protests will be heard as soon as possible and those concerned are requested to remain at the Club until the protest has been heard, or a time advised.

## **REGATTA ORGANISING COMMITTEE**

**William Lack** ([William.lack@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:William.lack@hotmail.co.uk)) (tel 0782 552 8413)

**Rowena Hope** ([rowyhope@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:rowyhope@hotmail.co.uk))

**Jane Toll.** ([janetoll10@gmail.com](mailto:janetoll10@gmail.com))

### **Mudford Sailing Club**

**Strides Yard, Fisherman's Bank, Mudford, Christchurch, BH23 3NP**

#### **Websites:**

**Mudford Sailing Club** <https://www.mudfordsc.org>

**Christchurch Sailing Club** <https://www.christchurchsailingclub.co.uk>

**Highcliffe Sailing Club** <https://www.highcliffesailing.co.uk>

**Hengistbury Head Sailing Club** <https://hhsc.uk>

**Comet Class Association** <https://www.cometsailing.org.uk>