

Open Regatta and Merlin Rocket Silver Tiller

19th and 20th July 2025

Mumbles Yacht Club, Swansea

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

1.1. The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028*, prescriptions of the RYA, the rules of the Merlin Rocket Owners Association, the Notice of Race and these Sailing Instructions.

2. COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

2.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located online at https://mumblesyachtclub.co.uk/index.php/official-notice-board/.

2.2. There is an event page at https://mumblesyachtclub.co.uk/index.php/2025/07/10/myc-regatta-merlins-silver-tiller/ which holds links to the official notice board and the race documents.

2.3. Notices to competitors and other updates may also be repeated on the event WhatsApp Group. Should this information differ from the Official Notice Board online (see SI 2.1) then the Official Notice Board takes precedence.

2.4. Use the link below to join the event WhatsApp group will be provided at registration. Failure to receive WhatsApp messages shall not be grounds for redress and changes RRS62.1(a) https://chat.whatsapp.com/BPDlzuPqPd46TmwV3HhaN8

2.5. The race office is located on the left-hand side of the foyer in Mumbles Yacht Club.

2.6. Briefings will be held on the first floor of the Clubhouse at 1030 on the first day of racing.

2.7. While racing, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

2.8. Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted no later than an hour before the start of the first race of the day, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

3. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

3.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagpole on the roof of Mumbles Yacht Club.

3.2. When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 45 minutes' in Race Signals AP.

4. SCHEDULE OF RACES

4.1. A total of 6 races (three races each day) will be scheduled.

4.2. Racing will follow the schedule below.

Day	Start Time	Warning Signal	Number of races	High Water
Saturday 19th July	1200hrs	1155hrs	3	1320hrs 7.30m
Sunday 20th July	1100hrs	1055hrs	3	1432hrs 7.68m

4.3. One extra race per day may be sailed, provided that not more than one race ahead of schedule and the change is made according to SI 2.1.

4.4. 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 one minutes before a warning signal is made.

4.5. On the last scheduled day of racing no warning signal will be made after 1430hrs unless by General Recall.

5. CLASS FLAGS

5.1. The class flag for the Merlin Rockets will be International Code Flag O.

5.2. The class flag for the Catamaran fleet will be International Code Flag T.

5.3. The class flag for the Dinghy fleet will be International Code Flag D.

5.4. The class flag for combing the Catamaran and Dinghy fleet will be Code Flag M.

6. RACING AREA

6.1. The racing area is within the confines of Swansea Bay, shown in Addendum B.

7. COURSES

7.1. The diagrams in SI Addendum 1 show the courses including the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.

7.2. Courses will be described at the briefing.

7.3. It is intended that:

1. The Catamaran fleet will sail Course 2 (Windward – Leeward).
2. The Merlin Rocket fleet will sail Course 1 (Sausage, Triangle, Sausage).
3. The Dinghy fleet will sail Course 1 (Triangle).

7.4. The course may be shortened and if so, the following will apply:

A boat flying Flag F at a mark and making repeated sound signals, means 'after rounding this mark, boats should proceed directly to the finish line'. If flown at a leeward gate means 'after passing through the gate,

proceed direct to the finish line.' This changes RRS 32.1 and 32.2. Flag 'S' may also be flown from the Committee Boat and/or the mark rounding boat.

8. MARKS

8.1. Marks 1, 2, 3 will be orange cylindrical marks.

8.2. New marks, as provided in SI 12, are orange cylindrical marks with a white band around.

9. OBSTRUCTIONS

9.1. The following object is designated as an obstruction:

9.2. Mumbles Pier

10. THE START

10.1. The start line will be between a staff flying an orange flag on a race committee boat at the starboard end and the starting mark at the port end.

10.2. The starting mark will be a thin yellow pin mark.

10.3. 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.

11. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

11.1. To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will lay a new mark (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.

12. THE FINISH

12.1. The finishing line will be between a staff flying a blue flag on a race committee boat and the finishing mark.

12.2. The finishing mark will be a thin yellow pin mark.

12.3. The race committee may award a finishing place to a boat by pointing Flag W at her with a sound. The signalled boat shall be deemed to have finished, and the score awarded shall be the position she occupied at the time of the signal. If two or more overlapped boats are signalled, they shall be scored as if they were tied. This changes RRS 28.1 and A3.

13. PENALTY SYSTEM

13.1. RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

14. TIME LIMITS

14.1. The Mark 1 Time Limit, Race Time Limit (see RRS 35), and the Finishing Window are shown in the table below.

Target Time	Mark 1 Time Limit	Race Time Limit	Finishing Window
40 minutes	20 minutes	90 minutes	20 minutes

14.2. If no boat has passed the first mark within the Mark 1 Time Limit, the race will be abandoned.

14.3. The Finishing Window is the time for boats to 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.

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

15. HEARING REQUESTS

15.1. The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the last boat finishes the last race of the day or the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later. The time will be posted on the official noticeboard.

15.2. Hearing request forms are available from the race office or the bar, located on the first floor of the Clubhouse.

15.3. Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the race office.

16. SCORING

16.1. Once race is required to be completed to constitute a Championship.

16.2. Scoring will be as follows:

1. When less than 4 races have been completed, a boat's score will be the total of her race scores.
2. When 4 or more races have been completed, a boat's score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

17. SAFETY REGULATIONS

17.1. A tally system will operate; each boat being allocated a tally number on the main event page.

17.2. Any boats that fail to comply with the safety/tally system will be required to make a £10 donation to the RNLI or face disqualification from the race or races concerned.

18. REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

18.1. Substitution of competitors is not allowed without prior written approval of the race committee.

19. EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

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

20. TRASH DISPOSAL

20.1. Trash may be placed aboard official vessels.

21. PRIZES

21.1. Prizes will be awarded to the first 3 positions in the Merlin Rocket class.

21.2. Prizes will be awarded to the first 3 positions in the Dinghy fleet (not including Merlin Rockets).

21.3. Prizes will be awarded for the first 3 positions in the Catamaran feet.

21.4. Prizes will be awarded for the first 3 positions in the Youth fleet.

21.5. Spot prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the Race Committee.

22. RISK STATEMENT

22.1. RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.

22.2. A boat is entirely responsible for her own safety, whether afloat or ashore, and nothing, whether in the Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions or anywhere else, reduces this responsibility.

22.3. It is for the boat to decide whether she is fit to sail in the conditions in which she will find herself. By launching, the boat confirms that she is fit for those conditions and her crew is competent to sail and compete in them.

22.4. Nothing done by the organisers can reduce the responsibility of the boat nor will it make the organisers responsible for any loss, damage, death or personal injury, however it may have occurred, as a result of the boat taking part in the racing. The organisers encompass everyone helping to run the race and the event, and include the Organising Authority, the Race Committee, the race officer, patrol boats and beach masters

22.5. The provision of patrol boats does not relieve the boat of her responsibilities.

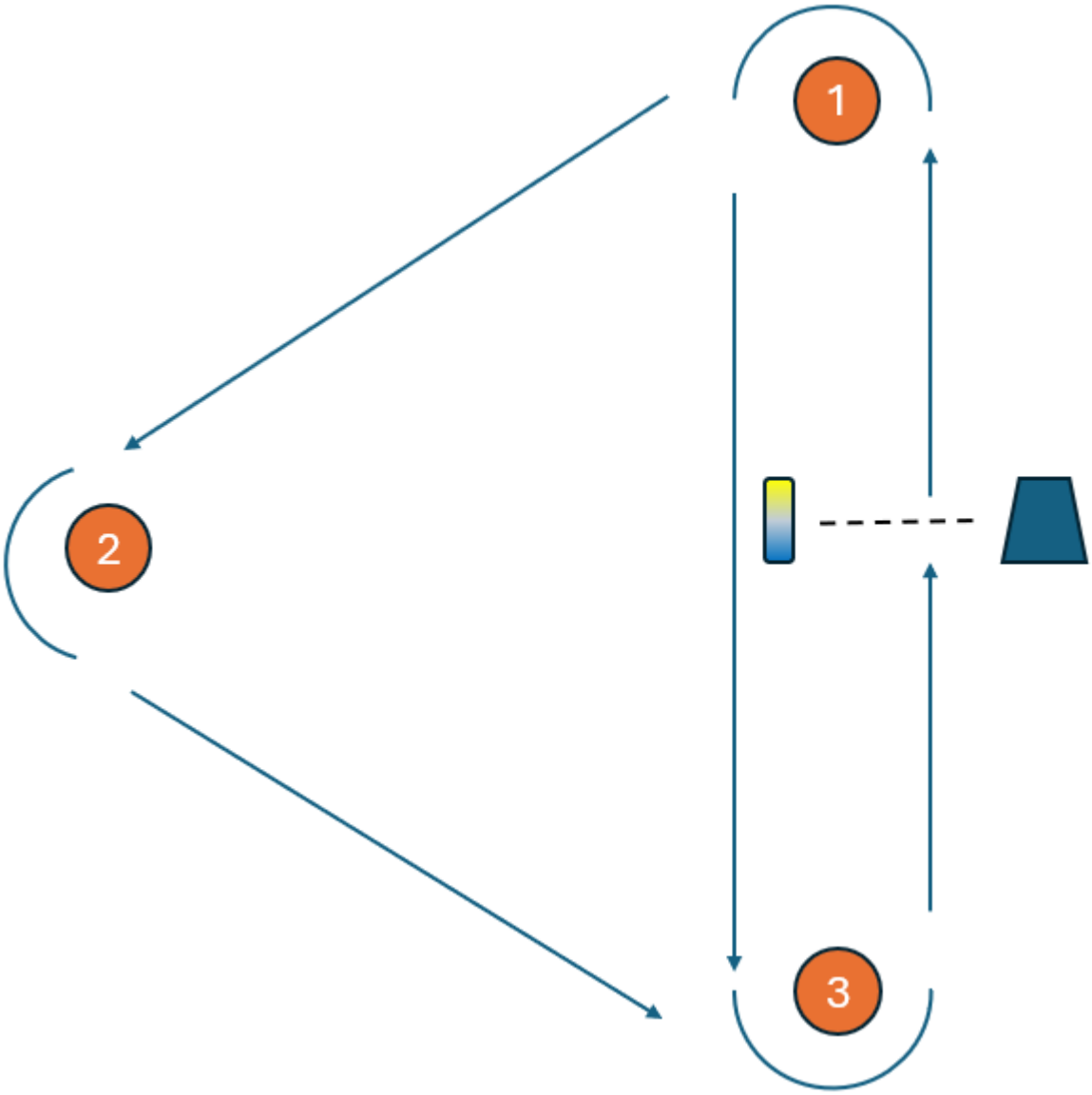
22.6. Furthermore, parents or guardians of competitors under 18 yrs will be required to take full responsibility for their dependents throughout the event and to sign the parental declaration on the entry form. The person accepting this responsibility shall be present for the duration of the Championship.

23. INSURANCE

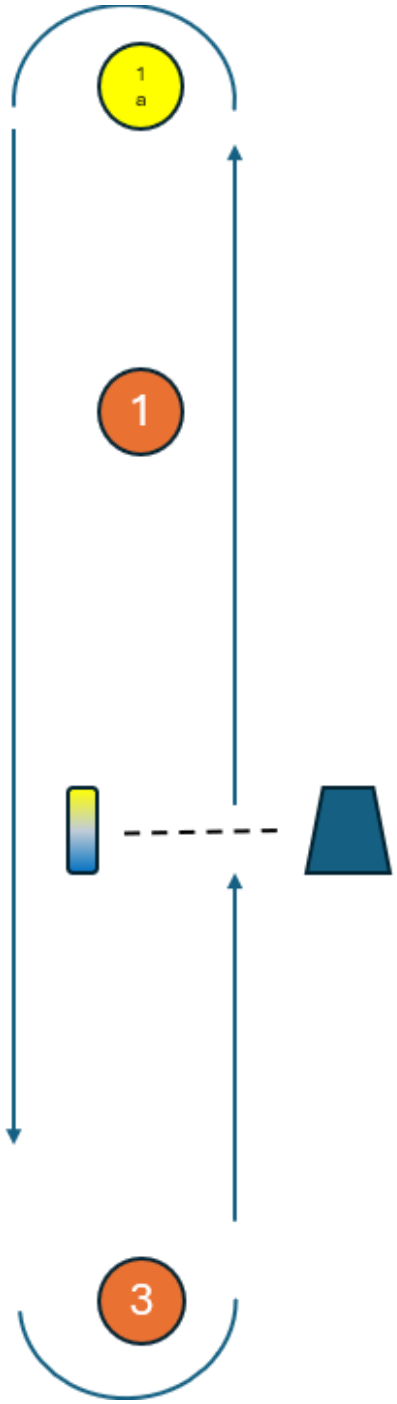
23.1. Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £2,000,000 per incident or the equivalent.

Addendum A

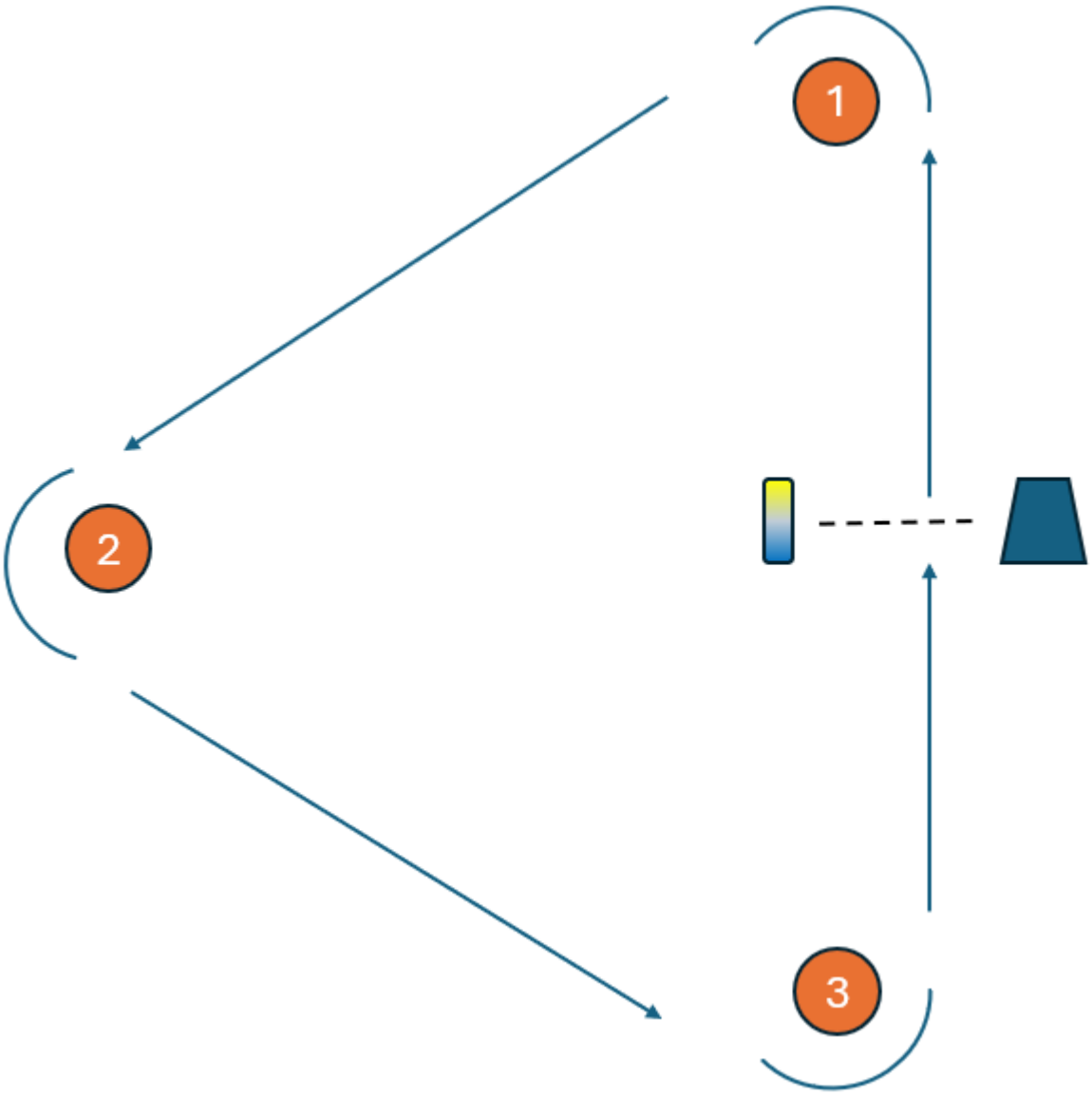
Course 1 – Sausage, Triangle, Sausage



Course 2 – Windward Leeward

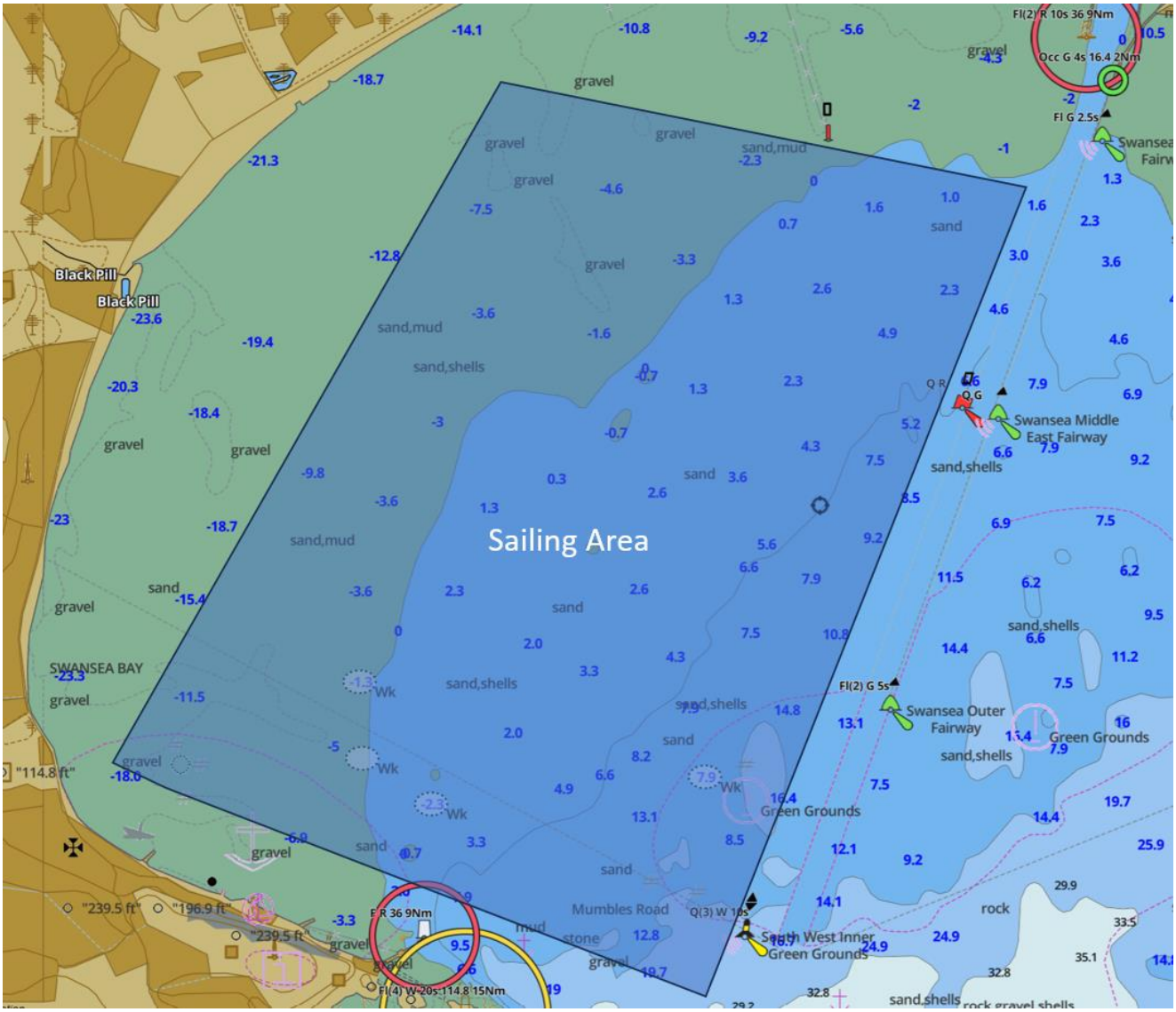


Course 3 – Triangle



Addendum B

Approximate sailing area


Sailing Area
Black Pill
Black Pill
SWANSEA BAY
Swansea Middle East Fairway
Swansea Outer Fairway
Green Grounds
Mumbles Road
South West Inner Green Grounds
Fl(2) R 10s 36 9Nm
Occ G 4s 16.4 2Nm
Fl G 2.5s
Fl(2) G 5s
Q(3) W 10s
Fl R 36 9Nm
Fl(4) W 20s 114.8 15Nm
"114.8 ft"
"239.5 ft"
"196.9 ft"
gravel
sand
sand,mud
sand,shells
rock
mud
stone
rock gravel shells