



WEMBLEY SAILING CLUB

MERLIN ROCKET OPEN MEETING

MROA SOUTH-EAST SERIES 2023 EVENT

&

MROA VINTAGE AND CLASSIC EVENT

Sunday 19th March 2023

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

Racing will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing ("RRS") 2021 – 2024 and these Sailing Instructions.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices will be posted on the Club Notice Board and on the Wembley Sailing Club website.
<http://www.wembleysailingclub.co.uk/>

3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any changes to these Sailing Instructions may be announced at the Briefing or by Notice posted on the Notice Board at least 30 minutes before the first race.

4. SCHEDULE OF RACES

The scheduled number of races is shown in the **Notice of Race**.

5. ELIGIBILITY

The event is open to **all** boats of Merlin Rocket Class. Eligible boats may enter by completing an entry form and presenting it with the required fee, at the Race Desk.

6. CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

- i) All Entrants must be members of the RYA or an RYA affiliated club.
- ii) All boats must be insured against a third party claim, for a minimum of £3,000,000, at all times when on Welsh Harp Sailing Association premises. A declaration to this effect is a pre-condition of entry.

7. SCHEDULE

The briefing will be at 10:45am, with the first race to start as soon after 11:30am as possible. Up to three races will be sailed, back to back.

8. COURSE INSTRUCTIONS

- i) Courses will be displayed on the Committee Boat. The marks and sides to which they must be left will be indicated by numbered plates on a red (port) or green (starboard) background. The number of laps will be shown on a plate with a white background.
- ii) A change in course will be prefaced by the hoisting of Int. Code Flag C, accompanied by two sound signals.

9. THE START

- i) Races shall be started in accordance with RRS 26. Class Flags will be used.
- ii) The start line will be an imaginary line between the mast of the Committee Boat and the Outer Limit White Mark. An Inner Limit Mark may be laid and, if so, any boat passing between it and the Committee Boat will be disqualified from that and subsequent starts, if any, in that race unless she successfully protests another boat for causing the infringement.

10. RECALLS

- i) Individual Recall: for Committee Boat starts, will be signalled in accordance with RRS 29.1 by hoisting Int. Code Flag X, accompanied by one extra sound. Individual recalls for shore based starts will be signalled by the display of an orange board. Such signals will be displayed for 4 minutes or until the last boat returns, whichever is sooner but no later than four minutes after the starting signal or one minute before any later starting signal whichever is earlier.
- ii) General Recall: will be signalled in accordance with RRS 29.2.
- iii) In each case, RRS 30.1 or 30.4 may be applied on second or subsequent starts, but sail numbers of premature starters will not be displayed. This amends RRS 30.4.

11. TIME LIMIT

The Time Limit for each race will be 90 minutes. If the first boat finishes within the last 20 minutes of that time, the Time Limit will be extended for 20 minutes after the Finishing Time of the first boat. Boats not finishing within that time will be scored Did Not Finish ("DNF").

12. SHORTENING OR ABANDONING AFTER THE START

A shortened or abandoned course will be signalled in accordance with RRS 32 by flying Int. Code Flag S, accompanied by two sound signals. This signal will be made from the Committee Boat as the lead boat rounds the last mark prior to the Finish Line. Boats shall continue to round the marks of the course in the required order until the Finish Line is reached.

13. THE FINISH

The Finish Line shall be an imaginary line between the Committee Boat flying a Blue Flag and a nearby white mark, OR the nearby mark of the course.

14. SCORING SYSTEM

The Low Point scoring system in RRS Appendix A shall be used.

15. PENALTIES

Penalties will be in accordance with RRS 44.1 and 44.2

16. PROTESTS

Protests must be lodged at the Race Office within 30 minutes of the last boat finishing that race or set of races if competitors are required to stay afloat.

17. RADIO COMMUNICATION

Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.

18. PRIZES

Wembley Sailing Club Committee will award prizes as set out in item 10 of the **Notice of Race**.

19. SAFETY

- i) The safety of a boat and her entire management including insurance shall be the sole and inescapable responsibility of the person designated in charge on the Entry Form. The race organisers shall not be responsible for any loss, damage, death or personal injury howsoever caused by anybody as a result of taking part in this event.
- ii) Adequate personal buoyancy shall be worn by all competitors when afloat. Wetsuits and Dry-suits are not considered adequate personal buoyancy.
- iii) The alternate Yellow and Blue Buoys on a boom mark underwater hazards protruding from the shore and rank as obstructions to sea room.
- iv) Boats shall not pass between the Yellow Boom and the Dam, nor through the line of White Buoys at the east end of the lake. These rank as obstructions to sea room, and boats entering without good cause may be disqualified.
- v) A capsized boat, whose mast is stuck in the mud, may receive assistance from the safety boat only to bring her mast to the surface of the water without having to retire. This amends RRS 41.

20. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- i) Competitors participate in the race entirely at their own risk.
- ii) The organising authority (Wembley Sailing Club) will not accept any liability for material damage, personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with, prior to, during, or after the race.

21. POSTING OF SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

These Sailing Instructions will be posted on the Wembley Sailing Club notice board during the period of the WSC Merlin Rocket Open Meeting MROA South-East Series on Sunday 19th March 2023.