



Merlin Rocket Open Meeting and Silver Tiller

11 - 12-May-2019
Starcross Yacht Club, Exeter, Devon

Sailing Instructions

1. Rules

The event will be governed by the rules as defined in the *The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)*, subsequent amendments thereto, the Notice of Race and these Sailing Instructions. In the event of there being any conflict between the aforementioned, these sailing instructions will take precedence at all times.

2. Notices to Competitors

Before the event, notices will be posted on the event website (<http://www.starcrossyc.org.uk/openmeeting>). During the event, notices to competitors will be posted on the official noticeboard in the club house.

3. Changes to Sailing Instructions

Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted at least 30 minutes before the advertised start time of the race or races concerned, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 20:00 on the day before it will take effect.

Changes in the Sailing Instructions will be signalled by displaying Flag L from the flagpole adjacent to the race box.

4. Signals made Ashore

Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flag pole adjacent to the race box. When AP is displayed ashore "1 minute" is replaced with "not less than 15 minutes". This changes the meaning of AP in the RRS Race Signals.

5. Race Schedule

The competitor briefing will take place at 10:30 on 11-May-2019.

The race schedule will be as follows:

Saturday	Race 1	11:00	
	Race 2		back to back
Sunday	Race 3		back to back
	Race 4	11:30	
	Race 5		back to back

The event will be scored according to Appendix A, Low Point System. At least one race must be sailed to constitute a series.

Class flags will be notified at the competitor briefing.

6. Racing Area/Courses

Racing will take place in the Exe Estuary in the vicinity of the club.

The courses for the event will be as shown in Appendix A. Wind direction, tidal state and other circumstances may mean that the course needs to be amended. Further detail will be provided at the competitor briefing.

The number of rounds will be displayed on the Committee Boat, or by some other method that will be notified at the competitor briefing.

Navigation buoys shall rank as an obstruction. Safety boats and Committee Boats, when not displaying definitive start or finish flags, shall similarly rank as obstructions.

Competitors not sailing the correct course will be scored DSQ for that race without a hearing.

7. Marks

See Appendix A. Further details will be provided at the competitor briefing.

8. The Start

The races will normally be started from a committee boat using RRS 26 (i.e. a 5,4,1 minute start sequence). If the race is started from the shorebased race box the club line will be used with a 6,3 minute start sequence - further information will be provided at the competitor briefing if this becomes necessary.

The start line will be defined in the course details provided at the competitor briefing.

Boats whose preparatory signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races.

A boat starting later than 4 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes rules A4 and A5.

9. Changing Course

To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will move the original mark (or the finishing line) to a new position. If the change is significant it will be signalled before the leading boat has begun the new leg, although the mark may not yet be in its new position. Any mark to be rounded after rounding the moved mark may be relocated without further signalling to maintain course configuration.

10. The Finish

The finish line will be defined in the course details provided at the competitor briefing.

11. Penalties

Rule 44.1 (two turn penalty) shall apply.

12. Time Limits and Target Times

The time limit shall be 75 minutes for the first boat to finish. If one boat finishes within that limit then the time limit will be amended to 20 minutes after the finishing time of the first boat. Boats failing to finish within the amended time limit shall be scored in their observed positions on the course. This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5. Boats finished in this way will be advised of the fact by a safety boat and should stop racing thereafter.

If no boat has passed the first mark within 20 minutes the race will be abandoned.

13. Protests and Requests for Redress

Protest forms are available at the race office, located next to the club house. Protests and requests for redress shall be delivered there within 40 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day.

Notices will be posted and/or announcements made no later than 20 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses and the time/location of the hearing.

14. Scoring

The Low Point System of Appendix A will be used for scoring with tie resolution based on Appendix A8.1 (best scores) and then Appendix A8.2 (last race scores).

At least one race must be sailed to constitute a series. If 3 races are completed one race can be discarded.

15. Safety/Environment Regulations

Competitors shall comply with safety procedures described at the event briefing.

A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible.

Boats shall not discard rubbish in the water.

16. Replacement of Crew or Equipment

Substitution of competitors will not be allowed without prior written approval of the race committee.

17. Support Boats

Team leaders, coaches and other support personnel shall stay outside areas where boats are racing from the time of the preparatory signal for the first class to start until all boats have finished or retired or the race committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment.

18. 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.

19. Equipment and Measurement Checks

No measurement checks will be undertaken at the event. Competitors will be required to sign a declaration that their boat complies with all class rules and where applicable has a current measurement certificate.

RRS 77 (sail numbers) shall not apply to spinnakers.

20. Advertising

Advertising is permitted. Competitors may be required to display advertising supplied by the organizing authority.

21. Prizes

The prize giving will take place in the club house as soon as possible after the final race.

Prizes will be awarded as follows: **first three overall, silver fleet, bronze fleet, first Starcross boat**

22. Disclaimer of Liability

Competitors participate in the event entirely at their own risk. See rule 4, Decision to Race. The organising authority will not accept any liability for material damage of personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, or after the event.

23. Insurance

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £3,000,000. Competitors will be required to sign a declaration to this effect.

Appendix A - Course Details

Courses will be determined on the day and notified at the competitor briefing.

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