



## SAILING INSTRUCTIONS PART B

### Additional Sailing Instructions

Applicable to Competitors in Smack, Cruiser & Keelboat Classes, Events 1-8 only

#### B1 SAFETY

Before starting and after finishing; boats in the Smack, Cruiser & Keelboat classes should keep clear of boats that may still be racing including those in the Dinghy and MFOB fleets.

#### B2 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flag mast on the lawn in front of the West Mersea Yacht Club.

#### B3 COMMUNICATION

The Committee Boat for the Smack, Cruiser & Keelboat events will have the call sign "Mollette" on **VHF Channel 77**. Competitors are strongly advised to monitor **VHF Channel 77**, particularly before and during the start of each race.

#### B4 CLASSES AND START TIMES

Competitors are reminded to check the low water times each day to ensure that they can arrive at the start line in reasonable time for their start.

Event No	Class	Start Time	Warning Signal
1	Smacks	11.00	A
2	IRC Sportsboats	11:10	B
3	IRC Cruisers	11:20	C
4	Classic Yachts & Gaffers (Group A)	11:30	D
5	White Sail (NHC)	11:40	E
6	Sonata One Design	11:50	F
7	Cruisers Local Handicap	12:00	G
8	Classic Yachts & Gaffers (Group B)	12.10	H

#### B5 START AND FINISH LINE

The line is between the main mast of the Committee Boat moored to the Committee Boat mooring buoy, approximately 200m to the SW of the Nass Beacon, and the Southern Outer Limit Mark (OLM). The OLM is a yellow buoy with an orange flag, moored approximately 150 metres to the South of the Committee Boat.

An inner limit mark for both starting and finishing will be laid to the south of the Committee Boat; approximately on the start line. This will be an orange cylindrical inflatable buoy – it **must** be left on the same side as the nearby Committee Boat.

When starting, or finishing in an Easterly direction a boat shall leave the OLM to Starboard and the Committee Boat **and** inner limit mark to Port.

When starting, or finishing in a Westerly direction a boat shall leave the OLM to Port and the Committee Boat **and** inner limit mark to Starboard.

A boat shall not sail between the inner limit mark and the committee boat at any time after her warning signal has been made. The penalty for a breach of this rule is disqualification. However, a competitor may be exonerated from such a breach by completing a two-turns penalty as provided in RRS 44.2. This changes RRS 44.1

#### B6 RECALLS

**INDIVIDUAL** - In the event of an individual recall Code Flag 'X' will be displayed and one sound signal made in accordance with RRS 29.1. The race committee may, using the specified VHF radio channel, give the sail numbers or names of yachts affected. They may also give the information that those yachts have returned correctly. This does not change the responsibility of each yacht to start correctly and failure to broadcast the information will not be grounds for redress (RRS 62 is amended thereby). Failure to return and start correctly will result in being scored OCS.

**GENERAL** - In the event of a general recall two sound signals will be made and 'First Substitute' flag will be displayed in accordance with RRS 29.2. The warning signal for a new start for the recalled class shall be made one minute after the 'First Substitute' is removed (accompanied by one sound signal) and the start for any subsequent classes shall follow the new start.

## **B7 COURSES**

The course to be sailed will be identified by a Letter and a Number displayed on boards hung as near as possible from the South side of the Committee Boat. **The letter and number refers to the Mersea Week courses printed on the Course Card included in the Competitors' packs** and will be displayed as soon as possible for the class concerned, but in any case, the number displayed at the preparatory signal is the course for that class. RRS 27.1 is amended thereby. The number of the course may also be broadcast on VHF 77.

## **B8 CHANGE OF COURSE**

RRS 33 is changed. Should a Race Committee boat, positioned at a turning mark, display code flag C and make continuous sound signals, then the course has been changed as follows: -

Round the mark at which a Committee boat displaying code flag C is positioned as required by the course being sailed, then: -

- a) if the original finishing direction was Westerly; leave MG Buoy to port, then proceed to the finish line and finish in a Westerly direction; or;
- b) if the original finishing direction was Easterly; leave No.14 Buoy to starboard, then proceed to the finish line and finish in an Easterly direction.

## **B9 TIME LIMIT**

A time limit of Four (4) hours will apply to all classes. Any boat finishing within this time limit will make the race valid. Any boat failing to finish within a further 60 minutes or by 1730 each day, whichever is earlier, will be scored TLE (Time Limit Exceeded). This changes rules 35, A4.1, A5 and A11.

## **B10 HANDICAPS**

**IRC CLASSES** - boats must be in possession of a valid 2019 IRC Certificate; a copy of which must be lodged with the Sailing Secretariat of WMYC or the Mersea Week Committee.

**WHITE SAIL CLASS** – This class will sail under the RYA NHC progressive handicap system and in accordance with the RYA/NHC rules.

- All entrants that have already competed in White Sail racing at West Mersea in 2018 or 2019 will start from their current NHC handicap number.
- All other entrants will start from the relevant NHC base handicap.

**LOCAL HANDICAP CLASS** - will be taken from the 2019 Mersea Joint Handicap Committee listings, added to/modified at the discretion of the Handicap Committee for individual boats at any time during Mersea Week.

**CLASSIC YACHTS & GAFFERS** - will sail under Local Handicaps. These may be added to/modified for individual boats at any time during Mersea Week at the discretion of the Joint Handicap Committee.

The Committee will allocate the split between Group A and Group B classes. Handicaps will be allocated by the Handicap Committee based on information available.

**SMACKS** - will sail under Local Smack Handicaps.

## **B11 SAIL NUMBERS**

Entries will be accepted from competitors who neither register nor display a distinctive sail number. This changes RRS 77 & Appendix G.

However, competitors are warned that failure to display a sail number could result in their not being identified and possibly scored incorrectly. This will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.

Smack owners are reminded that the sail number carried on the gunwale is often obscured when the vessel is heeled.

## **B12 SMACK PRIZES**

Where separate prizes are presented for Smack Fast and Slow fleets, the winners of each group will be calculated by reference to the overall results for this class.

## **B13 WHITE SAIL CLASS PRIZES**

Where separate prizes are presented for White Sail Class A and B fleets the winners of each group will be calculated by reference to the overall results for this class.