

Maidenhead Sailing Club Sailing Instructions for Open meetings

1 RULES

1.1 Racing will take place under the current Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the prescriptions of the RYA, these sailing instructions and the appropriate class rules.

1.2 Competitors should note that Maidenhead Sailing Club implements the RYA Racing Charter and that they will be required to undertake to sail in compliance with the Charter, which can be found at the front of the RYA rule book.

1.3 In accordance with rule 86.1(b) RRS 2017 - 2020 the following is changed as below:

1.3.1 RRS Rule 1.2 is replaced by Adequate personal flotation devices shall be worn by all crew members whilst afloat and on access piers or pontoons.

2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the Sailing Committee notice board(s) located at Maidenhead Sailing Club or at the MSC Race Hut.

3 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted 30 minutes before race start time on the day it will take effect.

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagstaff of the MSC Race Hut.

4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, "1 minute" is replaced with "not less than 15 minutes in the race signal AP."

5 SCHEDULE OF RACES

The Race Schedule will be as published on the MSC Sailing Committee Notice Board or on the MSC website (www.maidenheadsc.org.uk). The Schedule published on the Notice Board will take precedence.

6 RACE ENTRY

6.1 A written entry together with the appropriate fee (if applicable) will be required from each boat before starting the competition.

6.2 Under exceptional circumstances, the race committee may permit a boat to use sails carrying distinguishing number other than that required by RRS rule number 77. Such permission must be requested prior to use of the boat for racing.

7 COURSE

7.1 The course to be sailed will initially be displayed on the Course Board at the race hut, along with a description of the marks to be used. It may also be indicated on a board on the committee boat. The letters on the board on the committee boat are coloured red or green to indicate which side the relevant marks are to be left. A white plaque (with the word "line" on it), if displayed, indicates that the course includes a requirement to sail between the committee boat and outer distance marker at the indicated position within each lap.

Flag L will be flown on the committee boat if the course is changed from that indicated at the race hut.

Unless a number of laps are stated, the course should be sailed until the race is finished, by shortening the course.

7.2 Shortening Course. Individual fleets may be shortened by displaying Flag "S" with the Class Flag of the class that is finishing.

7.3 Change to Position of Marks During a Race. The race committee may move one or more of the course marks during a race. If possible, an official boat will indicate the new course to competitors, but no other signals will necessarily be made. This changes rule 33.

8 CLASS FLAGS

Class	Pennant	Class	Pennant	Class	Pennant
Albacore	Naval Numeral. 1	British Moth	Class Assoc Flag	Solo	Numeral 1
Laser	Class Association Flag	Optimist	"O"		

9 AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS

Any area of the lake marked by white stakes is designated as a hazard. A boat hailing for water to avoid the area must be given room to clear, however the area is not out of bounds and can be sailed over.

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10 THE START

10.1 Unless otherwise described on the Course Board, the starting line is defined as the line between the mast bearing a blue flag on the committee boat and an outer distance marker.

10.2 Inner Distance Markers. Inner distance markers (IDMs) may be laid adjacent to the Committee Boat. IDMs are marks of the course. Any boat that passes between the IDM, and any part of the Committee Boat it guards, after the preparatory signal will be disqualified. IDMs if used, are described on the Course Board on the race hut.

11 THE FINISH

The finishing line shall be defined by the course board and shall normally be a line between the Committee Boat mast bearing a blue flag and an outer distance marker.

12 PENALTY SYSTEM

As provided in rule 67, the Race Committee may, without a hearing, penalize a boat that has broken rule 42.

13 TIME LIMIT

Unless modified by the competition rules, any boat not finishing within 20 minutes of the leading boat shall be deemed to have retired. Boats which have been lapped by the leading boat will be finished on the lap they are on as they cross the line.

14 DECLARATIONS

Each competitor shall sign a declaration within 30 minutes of finishing the race to the effect that all the racing rules, the sailing instructions, and the class rules were observed in the race. A competitor who fails to do this shall be regarded as having retired.

15 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

15.1 Protest forms are available in the Race Hut. Protests shall be delivered there within the protest time limit.

15.2 For each class, the protest time limit is 30 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day. The same time limit applies to protests by the race committee and protest committee about incidents they observe in the racing area and to requests for redress. This changes rules 61.3 and 62.2.

16 SCORING

16.1 The scoring system shall be in accord with the RRS Low Point System. A boat shall be defined as having entered the series if it has entered one race.

16.2 The number of races which count towards a boats regatta or series score will be Half the total number of races completed in the regatta or series rounded up to next whole number.

17 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions. On the water, a boat can be instructed by a race committee measurer to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.

19 RADIO COMMUNICATION

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.

20 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

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

21 INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover £3,000,000 per event or the equivalent