



# Mersea Cadet Week 2019

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> July - Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> Aug



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## Outside Fleets – Sailing Instructions

*The Organizing Authority is the Mersea Cadet Week Committee, a joint committee appointed to run the event on behalf of the Dabchicks Sailing Club and the West Mersea Yacht Club.*

### 1. RULES

- 1.1. Racing will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing 2017-2020*. Current class rules, the Notice of Race and these Sailing Instructions together with any subsequent amendments to these Sailing Instructions.
- 1.2. Competitors should note this event will be conducted in accordance with the RYA Racing Charter and that they will be required to undertake to sail in compliance with the Charter, located in the RYA rule book (*Racing Rules of Sailing 2017-2020*), or at: <http://www.rya.org.uk/racing/Pages/RacingCharter.aspx>
- 1.3. Attention is drawn to RRS 3 which came into force on 1/1/2017. Competitors, support persons, parents and guardians should be aware that they are now all bound by the racing rules. Each competitor and boat owner should be aware they may be penalized if they fail to ensure their support persons comply with the rules.
- 1.4. The relevant rules and byelaws of Dabchicks Sailing Club and West Mersea Yacht Club will apply.

### 2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the event Notice Board located at the West Mersea Yacht Club.

### 3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1. Any changes to the Sailing Instructions will be posted on the Official Notice Board and signalled to competitors by the displaying of code flag L ashore for at least two hours before the advertised start time of the race where it comes into effect.

### 4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed on the West Mersea Yacht Club main mast.
- 4.2. When flag "AP" is displayed ashore (with two sound signals; one sound signal when lowered) '1 minute', in 'Race Signals' is replaced with 'not less than 45 minutes'. This is in addition to the meaning of AP in RRS Race Signals.

### 5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

#### Racing Programme

- 5.1. Racing is scheduled to take place for the outside fleets on all or any of the mornings and afternoons of Monday to Friday.
- 5.2. Special events may take place on Friday afternoon.
- 5.3. Competitors must be prepared to race at the allocated times in 5.4 below unless otherwise informed by the Race Committee.

#### Number of Races

- 5.4. There will be no restriction on the number of races on each day. Races may be sailed back to back.

#### Scheduled Times of the Warning Signal

Times of Class Warning Signals	Slow Handicap	Medium Handicap	Fast Handicap
<b>Morning</b>	09:55 – 1 <sup>st</sup> signal	As soon as possible after the previous start	As soon as possible after the previous start

Organised jointly by Dabchicks Sailing Club & West Mersea Yacht Club – Coast Road, West Mersea

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Afternoon	14:25 – 1 <sup>st</sup> signal	As soon as possible after the previous start	As soon as possible after the previous start

- 5.5. When a further race will be started 'back to back' a large orange flag will be displayed together with the relevant class flags (no sound signal) to alert competitors that a race or sequence of starts will begin soon. This flag will be removed with one sound signal one minute before a warning signal is displayed.

### 6. CLASS FLAGS

Class	Slow Handicap & RS FevaXL class	Laser 4.7	Fast Handicap
<b>Flag</b>	A	B	Z

- 6.1. The fleets will be divided as follows:

Slow Handicap	PY number <b>1208 and Above and RS FevaXL class</b>
Laser 4.7	Laser 4.7
Fast Handicap	PY number <b>1207 and Below</b>

The PY numbers above are guidelines. The organisers retain the authority to adjust these based on the entries.

### 7. RACING AREA

- 7.1. The racing area may be in the region of the West Mersea Quarters and Nass Bank. Competitors are reminded that the race area may be a considerable distance from the launching site and that sufficient time must be allowed to get to the start area, taking into account adverse tide and winds. There is no intention to delay starts for late arrivals.

### 8. THE COURSES

- 8.1. The diagram(s) in Appendix A show the courses, the order in which marks are to be passed and the side on which each mark is to be left.
- 8.2. The number of rounds (sausages) to be sailed will be displayed on the Committee Boat on a number board at the starting signal for each class. A round commences for all classes at their respective leeward mark. For Slow Handicap fleets a round commences when they arrive at buoy 3 for the first time. A round is then an upwind leg to buoy 2 and a downwind leg to buoy 3. When the displayed number of rounds is completed the boats will pass buoy 3 (leaving it on the port hand side) and sail to the finish. For Fast Handicap and Medium Handicap a round commences when they arrive to round buoy 4 for the first time. A round is then an upwind leg to buoy 1 (medium handicap) or buoy 5 (fast handicap) followed by a downwind leg to buoy 4. When the displayed number of rounds is completed the Medium Handicap boats will sail to the finish rounding buoys 1, 2 & 3 to port, and the Fast Handicap boats will sail to the finish rounding buoys 5, 2 & 3 to port.

### 9. MARKS

- 9.1. Shape and design of marks  
Marks 1, 2, 3, and 4 will be Orange Pillars  
Mark 5 will be an Orange Tetrahedron  
Any letters or numbers on any mark have no significance
- 9.2. Marks 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 are all rounding marks.

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- 9.3. New marks as provided in 12.1 shall be of the same or similar colour and shape.
- 9.4. The starting and finishing marks will be:  
Start mark will be a round buoy  
Finish mark will be a round buoy
- 9.5. A race Committee Boat signaling a change of a leg of the course is a mark as provided in 12 below.
- 10. AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS**
- 10.1. All moored yachts and motor vessels are designated as obstructions.
- 11. THE START**
- 11.1. Races will be started by using RRS 26. With the warning signal 5 minutes before the start. Multiple classes sharing a starting line may be started in any order.
- 11.2. The starting line will be between the main mast on the Committee Boat flying an orange flag and the mark at the 'pin-end' of the line (the port end as you look at the weather mark).
- 11.3. Boats whose preparatory signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area and of all boats whose preparatory signal has been made.
- 11.4. A boat starting later than 4 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start. This changes RRS A4 and A5.
- 12. CHANGE OF COURSE AFTER THE START**
- 12.1. To change the next leg of the course the race committee will move the original mark (or the finishing line) to a new position.
- 13. THE FINISH**
- 13.1. The finish line will be between the main mast on the Committee Boat flying a blue flag and the nearby mark described in Sailing Instruction 9.4. A boat that has finished shall then pass completely through the finishing line, and no part of her shall thereafter again cross the finishing line from either direction until all competitors have finished. This changes RRS 28.1. A boat that infringes this Sailing Instruction may be scored Did Not Finish (DNF) in the race she has just finished; this changes RRS 63.1.
- 14. SHORTENED COURSE**
- 14.1. For courses that are shortened when the Committee Boat is in its normal position and flying flag "S" alongside the class flag, competitors shall complete the round equal to the leading boat then proceed to the normal finish line. Where multi classes are racing using the outer loop on a trapezoid course then these classes will be advised of shorten course by having a rescue boat positioned at their leeward mark flying code flag "S" and making repeated sound signals. Competitors then shall complete the round equal to the leading boat and proceed to the normal finish line. This changes RRS 32.2.
- 15. TIME LIMITS**
- 15.1. The time limit for all classes will be 1 hour.
- 15.2. Boats failing to finish within 20 minutes after the first boat finishes or within the time limit, whichever is later will be scored Did Not Finish. This changes rule RRS 35 A4 and A5.
- 16. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**
- 16.1. Protest forms are available from the Race Office at West Mersea Yacht Club. A boat intending to protest or to request redress shall hail her intention to the Race Committee on the finishing line as soon as possible after finishing and shall have the hail acknowledged. This changes RRS 61.1. The protest should be delivered to the Race Office within the time limit.

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- 16.2. Competitors are requested NOT to lodge a formal protest unless there has been serious personal injury or damage to a boat. The preference is for competitors to follow the RYA Advisory Process,
- 16.3. For each class, the protest time limit is 45 minutes after the last boat of that fleet arrives ashore from the final race held on that day.
- 16.4. Notices will be posted within 15 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties to a hearing or named as witnesses. It shall be the responsibility of competitors to check the notice board for such notices.
- 16.5. On the last day of racing a competitor's request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered:
- 16.5.1. Within the protest time limit if the party requesting reopening was informed of the protest committee's decision on the previous day;
- 16.5.2. No later than half an hour after the party requesting reopening was informed of the protest committee's decision on that day. This changes RRS 66.
- 17. Exoneration Penalty**
- 17.1. A boat that may have broken a rule of part 2, or rule 31 or 42, may after finishing the race concerned and before the start of any related protest hearing, notify the race committee that she accepts a 20% scoring penalty as stated in rule 44.3(c), (except that the minimum penalty is two places if that does not result in a score worse than DNF). This penalty does not reverse an OCS score, a disqualification under rule 30.3 or a penalty under Appendix P. It is not available for a breach of rule 2 or of class rules or for gross misconduct under rule 69. Nor is it available to a boat that caused injury or serious damage, or gained a significant advantage by her breach: in these circumstances her penalty is to retire.
- 17.2. When an Exoneration Penalty is accepted,
- 17.2.1. Neither the boat nor a protest committee may then revoke or remove the penalty.
- 17.2.2. The boat shall not be penalised further in a protest hearing when a protest committee decides that it was appropriate to the facts found and the applicable rules.
- 18. SCORING SYSTEM**
- 18.1. The Low Points scoring system of RRS Appendix A will apply, as follows:  
1st place = 1 points  
2nd place = 2 points  
3rd place = 3 points  
Etc.
- Series/event tie  
If, after discard, two or more boats have the same points total the tie will be broken in accordance with RRS Appendix A8.1. If a tie still exists then the tie will be broken in accordance with RRS Appendix A8.2.
- 18.2. Three races are required to constitute an event.
- 18.3. Boats will exclude their "worst" results as follows unless notified differently on the event notice board:
- |                      |                   |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| 1 - 3 races sailed   | no excluded score |
| 4 - 6 races sailed   | 1 excluded score  |
| 7 - 9 races sailed   | 2 excluded scores |
| 10 - 12 races sailed | 3 excluded scores |
- 19. SAFETY REGULATIONS**
- 19.1. Signing on and off forms will be on display at the shore control desk at WMYC.
- 19.1.1. Before going afloat for each morning or afternoon session all competitors must sign on. Failure to do so will result in disqualification without a hearing for that session.



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- 19.1.2. When signing on (for every session) the adult person responsible for your care during that day must also sign on. Failure to do this will result in disqualification without hearing for that session.
- 19.1.3. When returning ashore competitors must tally off and go immediately to the control desk and sign off. Failure to do so within 15 minutes of coming ashore will result in disqualification without hearing for that session.
- 19.2. If you do not launch after signing on, or if you retire from a race inform the person at the desk of your actions and sign off.
- 19.3. No competitor may go afloat without the permission of the Beach Master and must wear their tallies, should a competitor not be wearing the tally for that boat they will be scored DSQ for the first race of that day without a hearing. Competitors shall wear life jackets or other adequate personal buoyancy at all times when afloat, launching or recovering their boat. Flag “Y” will not be displayed. This changes RRS 40.
- 19.4. The Organisers may stop a boat launching, or require it to return ashore, if they consider the boat, its equipment, helm or crew are not adequate for the likely conditions, or for any other reason. The decision is final and there will not be grounds for redress.
- 19.5. Competitors in difficulty shall obey any instruction given by a Safety/Support boat crew.
- 19.6. All dinghies must be equipped in accordance with their class rules and have a painter of sufficient length for towing purposes. The painter shall be attached permanently to a towing point and ready to use for all boats except asymmetric rigged boats where it must be stored ready for use.
- 19.7. Identification number labels if provided at the briefing must be clearly displayed on the boats launching trolley.
- 20. REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT**
- 20.1. For the series of races comprising an event only the helm named on the entry form will be eligible. If a different helm completes a race in the same boat then they will be considered a separate entry and their results cannot be combined with another helm’s results. In two person boats, however, the registered crew for a specific event may swap with the helm as desired. Permission will only be given to change crew as long as there is no performance gain from change of crew.
- 21. EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS**
- 21.1. Measurement / Checking  
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 the race committee to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.
- 22. SUPPORT BOATS**
- 22.1. Team leaders, coaches and other support personnel including relatives of competitors shall not be in the racing area (i.e. must stay a minimum of 100m outside the course extremes and/or any boat which is racing unless rendering emergency assistance) from the time of the first preparatory signal until all boats have finished or the race committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment. The exception to this is if they are a designated safety/support boat, in which case there must be no coaching. The penalty for failing to comply with this requirement may be the disqualification of all boats associated with the support personnel who do so. A nominated coach will be designated for less experienced boats. There shall be no coaching except by the designated outside coach(es).
- 23. RUBBISH DISPOSAL**
- 23.1. Boats shall not put rubbish in the water. Rubbish may be placed aboard support and Race Committee boats.



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- 24. PRIZES**  
Prizes will be awarded based on one of the methods described below and as indicated in the table.
- Method 1**  
The results gained based on achieving the best points score amongst all three handicap fleets as if they were competing as one single group.
- Method 2**  
The results gained based on achieving the best points score within a single fleet.
- Method 3**  
The results gained based on single class racing.
- 24.2. Prizes and awards
- |                                     |                   |                                    |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| Slow Handicap                       | Slow Handicap Cup | Method 2                           |
| Medium Handicap                     | Sheffield Trophy  | Method 2                           |
| Fast Handicap                       | Class 1 Trophy    | Method 2                           |
| 1st Double-handed                   |                   | Method 1                           |
| 1st Single-handed                   | Handicap Cup      | Method 1                           |
| 1st Overall (outside)               | Viking Trophy     | see note below                     |
| Most improved (outside)             | Dan Child Trophy  | Method 1                           |
| Menagerie Fast Class                |                   | Method 2                           |
| Menagerie Medium Class              |                   | Method 2                           |
| Menagerie Slow Class                |                   | Method 2                           |
| Laser Class                         | Laser Cup         | Method 3                           |
| Topper Class                        | Goblet            | Method 3                           |
| Tera class                          |                   | Method 3                           |
| RS Feva Class                       |                   | Method 3                           |
| Topaz Class                         |                   | Method 3                           |
| Arthur Sainty Trophy for seamanship |                   | Discretion of Organising Authority |
- Class prizes will only be awarded when there are 5 or more entrants to that class.
- 24.3. The Viking Trophy (first overall) will be competed for in one of two ways:
- 24.3.1. Race-off (preferred method): the points winner of each of Fast, Medium and Slow Handicap and Optimist Gold will take part in a race-off in suitable one-design boats (e.g. sonata or SB3).
- 24.3.2. Best fleet points score of the winner of each of the four fleets (Optimist Gold, slow, med, fast).
- 25. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**
- 25.1. Rule 4 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states: “The responsibility for a boats decision to participate in a race or to continue is hers alone.” Where the competitor is a minor this remains with their parent or guardian.
- 25.2. Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:
- 25.2.1. They are aware of the inherent element of risk involved in the sport and accept responsibility for the exposure of themselves, their crew and their boat to such inherent risk whilst taking part in the event.
- 25.2.2. They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore.
- 25.2.3. They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions.
- 25.2.4. Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate.
- 25.2.5. The provision of a race management team, patrol boats, and other officials and volunteers by the event organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibility.



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- 25.2.6. The provision of a patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances.
26. **INSURANCE**  
Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £2 million per event or the equivalent.
- 23.0 **RYA Racing Charter**
- 23.1 The Mersea Cadet Week committee adopts the RYA Racing Charter (as contained in these Sailing Instructions) and expects all involved in Mersea Cadet Week 2015 to abide by it.
- 23.2 Unacceptable behaviour will not be tolerated. As regards Competitors, the RYA encourages the use of RRS Rule 69 'Allegations of Gross Misconduct' to penalise and deter unacceptable behaviour both on and off the water and so the Mersea Cadet Week committee will not hesitate to convene a Protest Committee to enquire into reports of any such behaviour.
- 23.3 Any such Protest Committee will be fully empowered to take any action under Rule 69 that it may see fit. Competitors are reminded that any penalty that may be imposed by a Protest Committee under Rule 69 must be reported immediately to the RYA, who are then empowered to take any further action that it may deem appropriate, including suspending a competitor's eligibility from any race held under its jurisdiction, either for a specified period or permanently.
- 23.4 As regards reports of unacceptable behaviour by non-competitors and others to whom the application of RRS Rule 69 may not be possible, any such allegation will be investigated by the Mersea Cadet Week committee, who are empowered to take any action that it may deem appropriate, including (but not limited to):-
- Disbarring a competitor or any other person from participation in the current Mersea Cadet Week for a period of time which includes both races and events.
  - Disbarring a competitor or any other person from any further participation in any races or events of the current Mersea Cadet Week.
  - Refusal of any entry for any further Mersea Cadet Weeks.
  - Attention is drawn to RRS 3 introduced into force on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2017
- 23.5 Any such action that may be taken by the Mersea Cadet Week committee will be reported immediately to any Yacht or Sailing Club of which the penalised person may be a member. In the event of any such person being a member of DSC or WMYC the relevant Club Committees will investigate the matter and may apply further sanctions as may be provided for under the relevant Club Rules.



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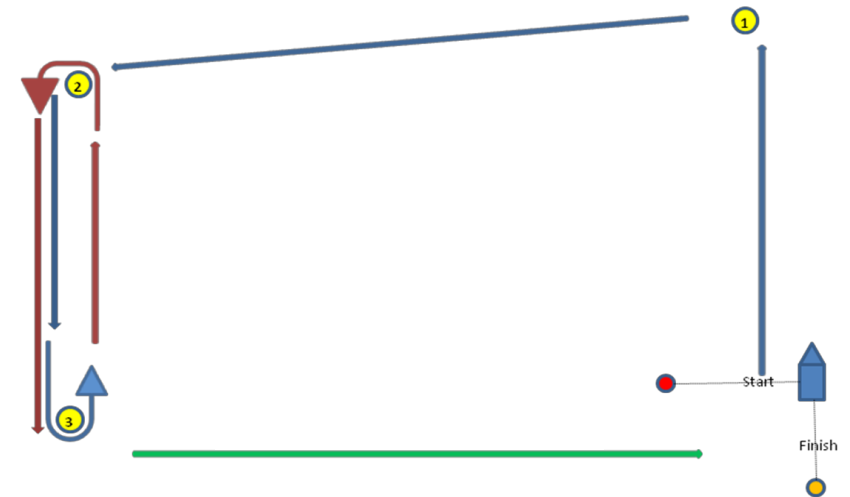


## Outside Fleets – Sailing Instructions

### APPENDIX A

### Slow Handicap

#### Outer loop Course



The number of rounds (sausages) to be sailed will be displayed on the Committee Boat on a number board at the starting signal for each class. **A round commences for all classes at their respective leeward mark.**

For Slow Handicap fleet a round commences when they arrive at buoy 3 for the first time. A round is then an upwind leg to buoy 2 and a downwind leg to buoy 3. When the displayed number of rounds is completed the boats will pass buoy 3 (leaving it on the port hand side) and sail to the finish.



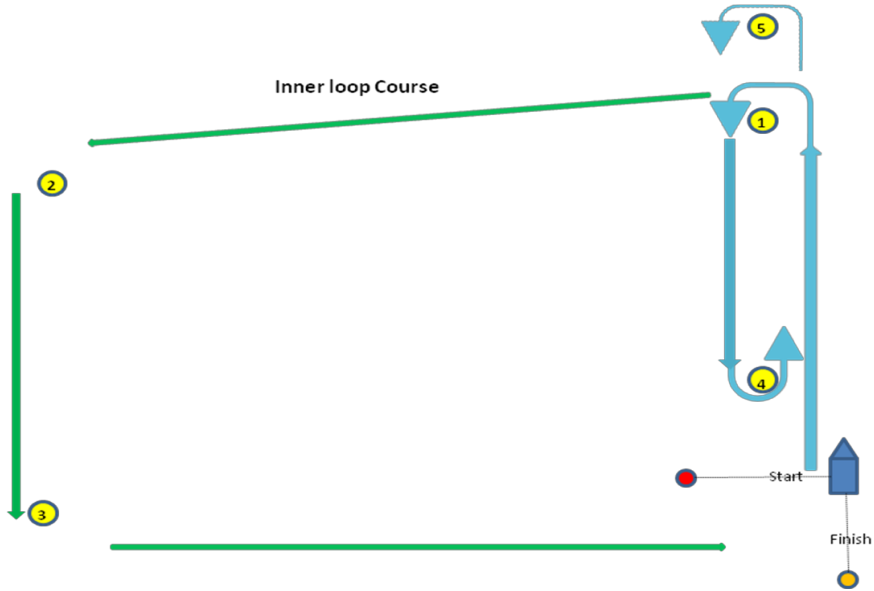
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### Fast and Medium Handicap



The number of rounds (sausages) to be sailed will be displayed on the Committee Boat on a number board at the starting signal for each class. **A round commences for all classes at their respective leeward mark.**

For Fast Handicap and Medium Handicap a round commences when they arrive to round buoy 4 for the first time. A round is then an upwind leg to buoy 1 (medium handicap) or buoy 5 (fast handicap) followed by a downwind leg to buoy 4. When the displayed number of rounds is completed the Medium Handicap boats will sail to the finish rounding buoys 1, 2 & 3 to port, and the Fast Handicap boats will sail to the finish rounding buoys 5, 2 & 3 to port.