

# Merlin Rocket Open Meeting

Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2023

Location: Trent Valley Sailing Club, Long Eaton, Nottingham, UK

Organizing Authority: Trent Valley Sailing Club (TVSC), in co-operation with the MERLIN ROCKET Owners Association

## NOTICE OF RACE

### 1. RULES

- 1.1. Racing will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 1.2. Trent Valley Sailing Club Open Meeting Sailing Instructions will apply except as stated in any Supplementary Sailing Instructions.
- 1.3. A number of RRS are changed by the Sailing Instructions, including:
  - RRS Zone definition - The Zone around a mark is the area within two hull lengths of the boat nearer to it;
  - RRS A4 and A5 - A boat starting later than 5 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing;
  - RRS 44.1 - A boat that breaks RRS 31 (touches a mark) must re-round the mark and must stay clear of other boats whilst doing so;
  - RRS 44.1 (a) - A boat breaking a rule in RRS Part 2 and RRS 31 in the same incident must take both penalties.

### 2. ADVERTISING

- 2.1. Advertising will be restricted to Category 'C' in accordance with ISAF Advertising Code, Regulation 20.

### 3. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 3.1. The regatta is open to boats of the Merlin Rocket Class Association with a valid measurement certificate.
- 3.2. The **Merlin Rocket** Owners Association membership number for the helm may be required.
- 3.3. Eligible boats should register by completing a paper based entry form, available in the club house by 10:30 on the day of the event, and payment of the entry fee.
- 3.4. Helms and crews under 18 years of age during the event shall submit signed Parent/Guardian Declarations.

### 4. VENUE

- 4.1. The venue is Trent Valley Sailing Club.
- 4.2. If using a Sat Nav to guide you to the venue, be careful how you input the address. Use postcode *NG10 2FX* and then follow the temporary signs to the Club. Directions can be found on the Club's website – [www.trentvalleysc.org](http://www.trentvalleysc.org)

- 4.3. The sailing area is within an approximately one mile long section of the River Trent; described in addendum A of The Sailing Instructions.
- 4.4. Competitors should note that the sailing area is also a public waterway and there may be a significant number of barges and cruise boats using the river, including entering and exiting the connected River Soar, Erewash Canal and Cranfleet Cut. Such craft are to be treated as obstructions.
- 4.5. Other sailing area obstructions are defined in section 9 of The Sailing Instructions.

## **5. SCHEDULE**

- 5.1. The event registration will take place between 09:00 and 10:30 on the top floor of the clubhouse. If any visitor wishes to order lunch, they must do so during the registration period.
- 5.2. The race officer will conduct the event briefing in front of the clubhouse at 10:30.
- 5.3. The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race is 10:55.
- 5.4. All 3 races will be sailed back to back.
- 5.5. The final race will commence no later than 14:30.

## **6. FEES**

- 6.1. The entry fee for the event is £15 per helm.
- 6.2. A Roast Dinner or vegetarian/vegan alternative, with fruit salad desert will be provided at a cost of £8.50 per head.

## **7. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

- 7.1. Sailing instructions for the open will be made available in advance of the event, on the Trent Valley Website:  
<https://trentvalleysc.org/open-meeting-sailing-instructions/>  
Paper copies are available on request during registration.

## **8. THE COURSES**

- 8.1. The courses to be sailed will be at the race officer's discretion on the day.

## **9. PENALTY SYSTEM**

- 9.1. The penalties will be as per RRS 44, except as detailed in NoR section 1.4 above.

## **10. SCORING**

- 10.1. The Low Point System will apply.
- 10.2. Two races are required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 10.3. When fewer than three races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores, otherwise a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
- 10.4. Where flights are used, a race tie resolution will use the best result when 2 boats last met in the same flight.

## **11. RADIO COMMUNICATION**

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

## **12. PRIZES**

- 12.1. A trophy is awarded for first place and will remain the property of Trent Valley Sailing Club.
- 12.2. A trophy is awarded for first place classic or vintage boat, with sail number under 3555.
- 12.3. All awarded trophies must be returned prior to the same event the following year.
- 12.4. Prizes will be given for the first three places in the whole event.

### 13. RIGHTS TO USE NAMES & LIKENESSES

- 13.1. Competitors automatically grant to the organizing authority without payment the right in perpetuity to make, use and show any motion pictures, still pictures and live, taped or filmed television of or relating to the event.

### 14. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 14.1. Competitors participate in the event entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3, 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 event.

### 15. INSURANCE

- 15.1. Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £3 million per event or the equivalent.

### FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS TO VISITORS (not part of the NoR)

- The fenced car park can be accessed easiest across a cattle grid closest to the boat shed.
- Be on the lookout for any **farm livestock** and make sure they don't enter the sailing club grounds if nearby.
- Hot drinks and snacks will be available from 9:00.
- There are 2 launch ramps you can choose to launch your boats from. One is located river-side at the front and to the left of the launch platform, and another one canal-side between the stewards' house and the boatshed.
- We recommend that all helms launch their boats from the side ramp near the boat shed. While the slipway at the front of the clubhouse is still in operation, we apologise that it is not up to a suitable standard for the open meeting as there are exposed areas of concrete close to the ramp.
- Further information can be found on the club website at [www.trentvalleysc.org](http://www.trentvalleysc.org).
- Contact: (Merlin Rocket Class Representative) Guy Browne:  
[guy.browne3619@hotmail.com](mailto:guy.browne3619@hotmail.com)