

BARTLEY SAILING CLUB

MERLIN ROCKETS INLANDS SAILING INSTRUCTIONS 10/12/2023

1.0 Rules

The event will be governed by the "Rules" as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*, the appropriate class rules and these sailing instructions.

Bartley Sailing Club has adopted *the R.Y.A Racing Charter*.

2.0 Notices to Competitors

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located outside the OOD hut.

3.0 Changes to Sailing Instructions

Any changes to the sailing instructions will be posted on the notice board outside the OOD hut at least 10 minutes prior to the start of a race.

4.0 Signals

Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagpole adjacent to the OOD hut. Signals made afloat will be from a committee boat.

5.0 Schedule of Races

There will be up to 5 races. The start for the first race will be at 10.30, other race times will follow back-to-back unless advised otherwise.

There will be a briefing around 10am.

6.0 Signing On and Entering

Competitors must have entered prior to racing and entries are being looked after by the Merlin Rocket Class Association.

It should be noted that it is solely the competitor's responsibility to decide to race or not in the prevailing conditions.

All boats shall be insured for a minimum 3rd party value of £3m.

7.0 Class Flags

The class flag will be code flag O (yellow and red triangles).

8.0 Course

The course will be displayed on the Committee boat or the notice board at the OOD hut at least 5 minutes before the start of the race. Please note that all marks are to be rounded in the required direction unless they are a start, finish, or gate mark in which case they shall be passed on the required side.

The marks to be used will include any from, the normal club marks 1 to 8, the normal club marks A, B and C along the middle of the lake, any temporary marks laid for the purpose. At the OOD's discretion a gate mark may be laid in the vicinity of the race box. If this is the case this mark will form a gate on every lap.

There are lines of very small marks to the far side of club marks 3,C,and 2, also to the shore side of a line between marks 3 and 5. These identify lines of Barley Bales and constitute an obstruction.

9.0 The Start

Races will be started by using rule 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal.

If there is a General Recall, the sequence will recommence approximately 1 minute after the General Recall flag is lowered.

The starting line will be between 2 marks.

If a committee boat start a limit mark may be laid adjacent to the committee boat. Limit marks are marks of the course. No boat shall pass between the limit mark and any part of the vessel it guards after the preparatory signal.

We will identify the committee boat for a start by an orange flag that will be hoisted approximately 1 minute prior to the warning signal.

- 9.4** In the event of an infringement under a U flag, or a Black Flag start competitors will be informed verbally by either the committee boat or a member of the race team in a patrol boat. This will be deemed to be sufficient and changes rule 30.4.

10 The Finish

- 10.1** A shore-based finish line will be between the flagstaff flying the S Flag and a mark of the course or a temporary mark laid for this purpose.

- 10.2** Finishing at a mark. When flag S is flown from the mast of a committee boat not under way, the race will finish between the mast of that committee boat and the nearby rounding mark, or between 2 marks.

- 10.3** Any competitor retiring from a race should inform the OD at the earliest opportunity.

11.0 Time Limits

Boats failing to finish within 10 minutes of the winning boat may be finished under the W flag and be scored a position as they are on the water. This changes rules 35 and A4.1.

12.0 Protests and Requests for Redress

Any boat wishing to lodge a protest/ request a hearing shall inform the OOD following the end of the race to which it applies and prior to the start of the next race verbally.

Hearing request / Protest forms are available at the OOD hut. Completed forms shall be delivered there and handed to a race official within 30 minutes of the last boat finishing the race.

In the event that it is deemed to be applicable Bartley Sailing Club will use the arbitration process in preference to a full hearing.

13.0 Scoring

The low point scoring system of Appendix A will apply.

If five races are sailed a competitors best 4 results will count, if fewer races are sailed all will count towards the overall result.

14.0

Safety Regulations

Adequate personal buoyancy shall be worn by all people once on the water side of the club water gate. Sailors must wear personal buoyancy of at least 50n whilst afloat.

Wetsuits and Drysuits do not constitute adequate buoyancy.

In the event that the OOD needs to abandon the race and clear the water this will be signaled by 3 long sound signals. Boats will then return to the shore as soon as practically possible.

15.0

Disclaimer of Liability

Competitors participate in the event entirely at their own risk. The organising 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.

16.0

Publicity / Reporting

It is envisaged that a report will be made of the event and published online. Photographs / video may be taken of the event for these purposes and used by Bartley Sailing Club and the Merlin Rocket Class Association accordingly. Nobody apart from the above shall publish pictures without the permission of either of the above authorities.