



MERLIN ROCKET ALLEN INLAND CHAMPIONSHIPS

8th/9th June 2024

Organising Authority: Bristol Corinthian YC (BCYC) in conjunction with the Merlin Rocket Owners' Association (MROA)

NOTICE OF RACE (NOR)

Any amendment to this NOR will be posted on the MROA website; <http://www.merlinrocket.co.uk> no later than 18th May 2024.

1. RULES.

- 1.1. The Championships shall be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)* and the RYA Racing Charter.
- 1.2. RRS Appendix P shall apply as changed by the Sailing Instructions.
- 1.3. RRS 40.1 will apply at all times when afloat.
- 1.4. Where there is a conflict between the Class Rules, this Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions, the Sailing Instructions will take precedence, followed by the Notice of Race. This changes RRS 63.7.

2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS (SI).

- 2.1. Sailing Instructions (SI) will be available on the MROA website no later than 1st June 2024.
- 2.2. At the discretion of the Organising Authority, SI may be released earlier on the MROA website.

3. COMMUNICATION

- 3.1 The official notice board is located in the BCYC clubhouse on the right-hand side of the entrance corridor.
- 3.2 [DP] Except in an emergency, a boat that is racing shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communications that are not available to all boats.

4. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY.

- 4.1. The Championships are open to boats of the Merlin Rocket (MR) Class.
- 4.2. The helm must be a current member of the MROA.
- 4.3. Online entry will be available on the MROA website and will constitute registration.
- 4.4. Eligible boats may enter by submitting a completed entry form and paying the appropriate entry fee online.
- 4.5. Online entry will close at 23.59 on 7th June 2024.
- 4.6. On the day entry will not be available

4.7. Helms and crews under 18 years of age during the event shall submit signed Parent/Guardian Declarations at the time of entry.

4.8. Entry Fee

4.8.1. Entries received on or before 31st May 2024 - **£60**

4.8.2. Entries received on or after 1st June 2024 - **£75**

4.9. Refunds.

4.9.1. A boat that withdraws their entry on or before 1st June 2024 will receive a refund of their entry fee less a £10 admin fee.

4.9.2. A boat that withdraws their entry on or after 2nd June 2024 will not receive a refund.

4.9.3. If the event is cancelled before 00:00 on Saturday 8th June 2024 and not rescheduled all competitors shall receive a full refund.

4.9.4. If the event is cancelled or postponed after 00:00 on Saturday 8th June competitors will not receive a refund.

4.9.5. If 4.9.4 applies all entries shall receive an entry into any rescheduled event. Full terms of entry to the new event will be in the new NOR.

5. CREW LIMITATIONS.

5.1. Substitution of the person named as helm on the entry form will not be allowed.

5.2. Permission to substitute the person named as crew on the entry form will only be granted for reasons of injury, illness, serious unforeseen personal circumstances or pre-arranged crew substitutions approved by the Organising Authority at or before registration.

5.3. Any request for substitution of crew or request for substitution of equipment must be made in writing and submitted to the race committee or the BCYC reception desk if it is manned.

5.4. Substituted equipment may be required to pass an equipment check.

6. ADVERTISING.

6.1. Advertising shall comply with World Sailing Regulation 20 and the Merlin Rocket (MR) Class Rules.

6.2. Boats may be required to display event supplied competitor advertising as per the Class Rule C.4.1.

6.3. The area of mainsail below the bottom batten shall be reserved for advertising by the event sponsor.

7. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS.

7.1. No warning signal will be made before 11:55 on Saturday 8th June.

7.2. The race schedule will be posted in the sailing instructions.

7.3. No warning signal will be made after 14:25 on Sunday 9th June.

7.4. Race length will be approx 35 minutes.

7.5. 9 Races are scheduled for the event.

8. EQUIPMENT INSPECTION.

- 8.1. All MR entered for the Championships must hold a valid Measurement Certificate at Registration.
- 8.2. All MR entered for the Championships may be subject to spot measurement checks may at any time during the event.
- 8.3. The measuring authority referred to in RRS 64.3(b) will be the Royal Yachting Association.
- 8.4. The fact that the Organising Authority and/or Class Association conducts inspections of a boat does not reduce the responsibilities of each competitor set out in this NOR.

9. VENUE.

Racing will take place on Cheddar Reservoir at Bristol Corinthian Yacht Club.
<https://www.bcy.org.uk/The%20Club/how-to-find-us-1>

10. COURSES.

- 10.1. The courses to be sailed will be triangle/Sausage or reversed, trapezoid or may make use of club marks.
- 10.2. Starts will be made using a line start in accordance with RRS 30.
- 10.3. The finish line will be described in the Sailing Instructions.

11. SCORING.

- 11.1. The Low Point Scoring System detailed in RRS Appendix A will apply.
- 11.2. One race is required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 11.3. When fewer than 3 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores. When three to eight races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score. When nine races are completed a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst two scores. This adds to RRS Appendix A2.1.

12. SUPPORT PERSON VESSELS.

- 12.1. Competitor coach and support boats are not allowed.
- 12.2. The Organising Authority shall permit the following boats:
 - 12.2.1. A committee boat.
 - 12.2.2. BCYC Mark Laying and Patrol boats as deemed necessary for the weather conditions.
 - 12.2.3. When and if required, a lead boat.
 - 12.2.4. When and if required, a boat for on the water judging.

13. BERTHING.

- 13.1. [DP] Boats shall be berthed on their launching trollies and trailers in their assigned places in the boat park.
- 13.2. [DP] Boat trollies shall be clearly labelled at the handling end with the boat's sail number.

14. RISK STATEMENT.

- 14.1. Rule 3 of *RRS* will apply and states: “The responsibility for a boat’s decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone”.
- 14.2. 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:
- 14.2.1. 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.
- 14.2.2. They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore.
- 14.2.3. They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions.
- 14.2.4. Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate.
- 14.2.5. The provision of a race management team, safety boats and other officials and volunteers by the event organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities.
- 14.2.6. The provision of safety boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances.
- 14.2.7. It is the responsibility of competitors to familiarize themselves with any risks specific to this venue or this event drawn to their attention in any rules and information produced for the event and to attend any safety briefing held for the event.

15. RIGHT TO USE NAMES AND LIKENESS.

- 15.1. By participating in these championships, each competitor automatically grants to the Organising Authority and its sponsors the right in perpetuity to make, use and show, from time to time at their discretion, any motion pictures and live, taped or filmed television and other reproductions of him or her during the period of the competition, without compensation.
- 15.2. The use of personal data will be governed in accordance with MROA’s privacy policy, see <https://www.merlinrocket.co.uk/index.asp?cp=mroa-privacy-policy>.

16. INSURANCE

16.1 To meet eligibility for entry all boats shall be adequately insured, with cover of at least £3 million or the equivalent per event against third party claims.

17. PRIZES AND PRIZEGIVING.

- 17.1. MR Class prizes will be awarded as per the Table below.

Trophy Title	Awarded for
Golden Touch	Overall winner of the Inland Championship
S. Yorks SC	Winner of Race One
Colne Cup	Winner of Race 2

Draycote Water Salver	Winner of Race 3
Colin Pitts Memorial	Winner of Race 4
Grafham Water	Winner of Race 5
Glassware 1	First 6 boats in the overall classification
Glassware 2	Three highest placed boats in gold, silver and bronze fleets.
Tinker	First female crew sailing in the same boat throughout the championship.
TBC	First female helm
Blithfield Stick	First competitor (helm or crew) aged 65 or over on the first day of the championship
Bald Head	First competitor (helm or crew) aged 55 or over on the first day of the championship
Fossil Bowl	First helm aged 25 or under on the first day of the championship.
TBC	First crew aged 25 or under on the first day of the championship.
Maritime Plate	First Helm/Crew related by birth, marriage or civil partnership sailing in the same boat throughout the championship.
Cookham Team	The Club scoring the lowest total points with their best 3 boats sailed by the same helms throughout the championship.
Old Boats	Highest placed boat with a sail number 3603 or below.
TBC	Highest placed classic or revival boat as defined by the Organising Authority.

Table 1: MR Class Prizes for the Championships.

17.2. The Championships prizegiving will be run under the auspices of the MROA.

18. The Venue

18.1 For the safety of all there is a 10-mph speed limit around the edge of the reservoir.

18.2 **All boats and launching trolleys must be thoroughly washed before launching to prevent reservoir contamination with invasive species. A pressure washer is provided at the rear of the club.**

18.3 Overnight camping will be permitted. However, this will be limited to campervans that have their own toilet facilities as the clubhouse will be locked overnight. The vehicle registration number and number of people camping will be required to be registered in advance to fulfil BCYC's obligations to Bristol Water. Please do this via email to events@bcyc.org.uk

18.4 There will be an evening meal and bar at the club on the Saturday evening. Cost and menu TBA.

END OF NOR

Other Information.

- A. SI will be posted on the MROA and BCYC websites.
- B. Administrative instructions and local area advice will be posted on BCYC website.