

DABCHICKS SAIL EAST REGATTA

24th & 25th MAY 2014

HW Mersea (BST) Sat 24th 09.06 Sun 25th 09.32

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. ORGANISING AUTHORITY

1.1 The Organising Authority is the Dabchicks Sailing Club.

2. RULES

2.1 Racing will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), IRC 2014, The Notice of Race (NOR), these Sailing Instructions (SI) and the ISAF Offshore Special Regulations.

2.2 When a boat is equipped with a powered centreplate or powered sail handling which is declared and rated under IRC, RRS 52 (Manual Power) will not apply to the use of that equipment.

2.3 Automatic, mechanical and wind vane devices for steering are prohibited.

2.4 2014 IRC Rules parts A,B & C shall apply except Rule 22.4 shall not apply.

2.5 With the permission of the IRC Rating Authority, Rule 8.2 is modified to include GBR boats holding Limited Validity IRC TCCs.

2.6 Unless otherwise stated in One Design Class Association Rules, no crew limitations will apply. However, attention is drawn to the requirement to carry sufficient safety equipment for each crew member. No race forms part of a regatta for the purposes of applying IRC Crew Limitation rules.

3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

3.1 Between 1800 on Friday 23rd May and 1600 on Sunday 25th May the Race Headquarters and Jury Room will be in Dabchicks Sailing Club, located in Coast Road, West Mersea (Tel: 01206 383786)

3.2 Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board, which will be situated at Dabchicks Sailing Club.

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagstaff at Dabchicks Sailing Club.

5. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

5.1 Changes to Sailing Instructions will be posted on the Official Notice Board at least three hours before the first start of the first race of the day, except that any change to the Schedule of Races will be posted by 1800 on the day before it takes effect.

5.2 The Race Committee may also make written or oral alterations to the Sailing Instructions without notice by displaying IC Flag 'L' at the start line before the preparatory signal of the first start of the race effected. Changes may be numbered in sequence and numeral pennants displayed with the 'L' flag to identify the most recent changes. It is the responsibility of competitors to acquaint themselves with the change(s) before starting.

6. SCHEDULE OF RACES

6.1 Races shall be started as follows starting at five minute intervals. Classes may be combined or split for starting.

6.2 The intended start times for races One and Three are as follows:- Class Three – 10.00, Class Two – 10.05, Class One – 10.10.

6.3 Race Two will start as soon as practicable after Race One. Start order and time differentials will be as for Races One and Three.

6.4 Where more than one race is held on the same day, the warning signal for each succeeding race will be made as soon as practicable. To alert competitors that another race or sequence of races will begin soon, the postponement signal may be displayed before a warning signal is made.

6.5 On the last day of the regatta the first warning signal for the last sequence of races will be no later than 1.00 pm.

7. CLASS FLAGS

<i>Class</i>	<i>IRC TCC</i>	<i>Class Flag</i>
One	0.986 and above	Numeral Pennant One
Two	0.911 – 0.985	Numeral Pennant Two
Three	0.750 – 0.910	Numeral Pennant Three

7.2 Class division flags must be flown when racing from the backstay (or nearest equivalent).

8. RACING AREA

8.1 Races will be held in the River Blackwater Estuary.

9. COURSES

9.1 Courses will comprise either round the cans type courses and/or windward/leeward courses as shown in the attached course diagram.

9.2 If IC Flag 'R' is displayed by the Committee Vessel the course to be sailed will be displayed by numbers or letters on a white board or boards from the Committee Vessel. Marks are to be rounded or passed in the sequence their code is displayed. The direction

of rounding or passing marks will be shown by the colour of the numbers or letters displayed – thus 12 in Red indicates that number 12 race mark should be left to Port, and THT in Green indicates that Thirslet buoy should be left to Starboard.

- 9.3 If IC Flag ‘W’ is displayed from the committee vessel the course to be sailed will be a windward/ leeward course as shown in the attached course diagram, Appendix One. No later than the warning signal the Committee Vessel will display the approximate compass bearing to Mark 1.
- 9.4 The number of laps to be sailed will be displayed by the Committee Vessel no later than the warning signal.
- 9.5 Boats with extreme drafts (over 8 feet) should note that they may experience some difficulties sailing the course at certain states of the tide and should bear this in mind when considering whether to race or not. Racing will not be postponed or re-scheduled to take account of boats with extreme drafts which cannot reasonably complete a course using all the marks described in these sailing instructions at any state of the tide.

10. MARKS

- 10.1 Club racing marks will normally be yellow buoys with black flag topmarks, apart from navigation buoys or a vessel despatched by the Committee Boat flying IC flag ‘M’. Marks may not display numbers.
- 10.2 The code for the club racing marks which may be used will be shown by the following code number or letters. The given positions of these marks may not be exact; they are provided for guidance only and should not therefore be used for navigation purposes.

2014 Mersea Race Marks Waypoints

<i>Race Mark</i>	<i>Lat.</i>	<i>Long.</i>
1	51-45-82N	00-56-25E
2	51-45-21N	00-56-62E
3	51-45-13N	00-52-90E
5	51-44-92N	00-53-93E
6	51-45-74N	00-58-96E
10	51-44-82N	00-59-41E
12	51-44-45N	00-53-00E
14	51-45-45N	00-53-91E
17	51-45-21N	00-55-11E
18	51-45-60N	00-57-62E
MG	51-45-61N	00-55-45E
OLM E	51-45-68N	00-54-99E
OLM S	51-45-58N	00-54-75E
OLM W	51-45-70N	00-54-44E

- 10.3 The code for the charted navigation Buoys which may be used will be shown by the following code letters.

BH = Bench Head	IBH = Inner Bench Head	CB = Colne Bar
EA = Eagle	NE = North Eagle	K = Knoll

10.4 An additional mark, **T**, may be laid which will be a yellow inflatable buoy. If mark T is used, the approximate bearing to it from the Committee Vessel will be displayed on the Committee Vessel.

10.5 If a windward/leeward course is indicated, Marks 1,4S & 4P be yellow inflatable buoys, the finish line limit mark will be an orange tetrahedron inflatable buoy.

11. THE START

11.1 Races will be started in accordance with RRS 26, with the warning signal given 5 minutes before the starting signal.

11.2 The start line for races other than windward/leeward races will be either:

a) Flag F Start Line – When the committee boat flies IC flag ‘F’ the start line will be between a mast displaying an orange flag on the committee boat and an orange tetrahedron inflatable buoy.

b) Board E Start Line – When the committee boat displays a board showing letter ‘E’, the start line will be between the mainmast of the committee boat (moored approximately 200m to the south west of the Nass Beacon) and Outer Limit Mark East (a yellow buoy with a **RED** flag topmark, lying approximately south east of the committee boat).

c) Board S Start Line – When the committee boat displays a board showing letter ‘S’, the start line will be between the mainmast of the committee boat (moored approximately 200m to the south east of the Nass Beacon) and Outer Limit Mark South (a yellow buoy with **BLACK** flag topmark, lying approximately south of the committee boat).

11.3 Competitors shall start in the direction of the first mark of the designated course.

11.4 a) If laid the inner limit mark will be a small orange spherical buoy.

b) If an inner limit mark is in use/laid, at no time shall boats pass between the committee boat and the inner limit mark. The zone between the committee boat and the inner limit mark is not an obstruction.

11.5 Boats shall identify themselves to the race committee before the first race each day.

11.6 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area.

11.7 The race committee may broadcast on VHF Channel 77 details of recalls including the sail numbers of boats affected, and may broadcast that a boat has returned correctly. This does not change the responsibility of a boat to start correctly, and failure to broadcast or errors in broadcasts will not be grounds for redress. *This affects RRS 62 Redress*

11.8 A boat starting later than four minutes after her starting signal will be scored DNS. *This changes RRS A4.1.*

11.9 Details of the intended location of the start line may be broadcast on VHF Channel 77 prior to the first warning signal.

11.10 In the event of a general recall, the warning signal for the re-start will be made one minute after the first substitute is removed. Starts for any succeeding class shall follow the new start.

12. CHANGE OF POSITION OF THE NEXT MARK

12.1 If a windward/leeward course has been set, then to change the position of the next mark, the race committee will move the original mark (or the finish line) to a new position. The change will be signalled before the leading boat has begun the leg, although the mark may not yet be in position. Further marks may also be moved without further signalling to maintain the course configuration.

12.2 A change of course will be signalled by IC flag 'C' with repetitive sound signals. The direction of the change will be indicated by the display of either a red or green flag. No signal will be made to indicate a change of length of the leg. *This changes RRS 33(b).*

13. THE FINISH

13.1 The finishing line for races other than windward/leeward races, will be a line between a staff or mast displaying a blue flag on the committee boat, and the outer limit mark used at the start of that race, and approached from the direction of the last mark of the course. There will be no inner limit mark for the finish of any race.

14. TIME LIMIT

14.1 The time limit for any race started under flag R shall be three hours. For a Windward/Leeward course the time limit will be two hours.

14.2 Any boat finishing more than one hour after the expiration of the time limit shall be scored DNF.

15. SHORTENED COURSE

15.1 The race committee may shorten the course for any reason. *This changes RRS 32.*

15.2 If shortened courses will be shorted in accordance with RRS 32.2

16. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

16.1 Protest forms are available at the race office. Protests shall be in writing and delivered to the Race Headquarters within 90 minutes of the last finish of the last race of the day.

16.2 Details of the times of protest and redress hearings will be posted on the official notice board as soon as practicable. This is the notification required by RRS 63.2. It is the responsibility of all parties involved to acquaint themselves with the timing and arrangements for the hearing.

16.3 Other Penalties – (*affects RRS 64.1(a)*) – When the protest committee finds that a boat has broken a rule, other than a rule of RRS Part 2 or a starting rule, it may either disqualify the boat (in which case the places and scores of other boats which were below will be moved up), or impose a scoring penalty of up to 20% in accordance with RRS 44.3(c).

17. RATINGS & RATING PROTESTS

17.1 The rating in force for any race of the regatta shall be valid at 48 hours before the first start of the regatta, other than in exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the race committee.

17.2 A boat may protest another boat alleging that her rating is incorrect or that she does not comply with her class rules only if they are in the same race, and her written protest shall be accompanied by a fee of £20 which will be forfeited if the protest is dismissed or invalid. Unless the protest committee decides otherwise, no penalty will apply to any race completed before the protest is lodged. *This changes RRS 60.1(a).*

17.3 Notwithstanding the above, the race committee has discretionary powers to correct errors in ratings.

18. SCORING

18.1 The Low Point scoring system of RRS Appendix A will apply.

18.2 Boats not starting or finishing, or which thereafter retire or are disqualified, will be scored as follows (*changes RRS A4.2*):

Abbreviations per RRS A11

Score as for:

DNC & DNS

Declared entry plus one

DNF, OCS & RAF

Number of starters plus one

DSQ & DNE

Number of starters plus three

18.3 Three races are scheduled. All races completed will count for the regatta.

18.4 Scoring for the Sail East series will be in accordance with the Sail East NoR.

19. SAFETY REGULATIONS

19.1 Races are open to any monohull boat that:

- a) Meets the minimum standards of ISAF Offshore Special Regulations Category 5 Monohulls (including recommended items). In addition to category 5 equipment, competing vessels must carry a VHF transceiver capable of receiving Channel 77.
- b) Has an IRC TCC of at least 0.750

19.2 Declarations are not required.

19.3 From the moment a boat reports to the committee boat at a start, it becomes the responsibility of that boat to report without delay if not starting, not finishing or retiring. Retiring boats shall inform either the race committee (and receive an acknowledgement) or Race Headquarters.

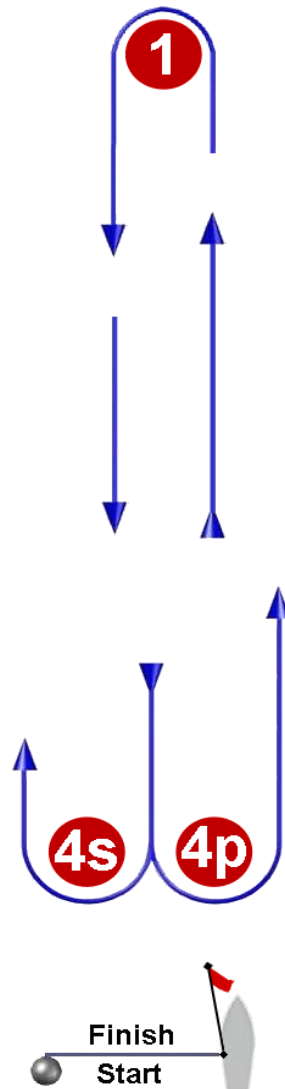
20. EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

20.1 Inspections and spot checks may be carried out, any boat failing a safety equipment check may be subject to race committee action. The inspection is limited to ensuring that the equipment required is on board, and in no way limits or reduces the complete and unlimited responsibility of the owner(s) or owner's representative under the Regulations.

21. USE OF ENGINE & MOORING

21.1 Use of engine – emergency – Use of engine for propulsion either in accordance with RRS 42.3 (f) or otherwise must be reported to the race committee promptly after the

APPENDIX 1



Course: Windward/Leeward

Signal	Marking Rounding Order
L2	Start - 1p- 4s/4p - 1p- Finish
L3	Start - 1p- 4s/4p - 1p - 4s/4p - 1p- Finish
L4	Start - 1p- 4s/4p - 1p- 4s/4p - 1p- 4s/4p - 1p
	- Finish