



MIDLAND SAILING CLUB (MSC)

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS FOR OPEN MEETINGS 2025

Rewritten April 25 (SHW, NJ)

1. CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

- 1.1. General
 - 1.1.1. All boats must be insured against Third Party risks for a minimum of £3,000,000. Competitors will be asked for a declaration to this effect, otherwise they will not be allowed to sail. NOR 15.
- 1.2. Measurement Certificates.
 - 1.2.1. Competitors may be required to produce a valid certificate of measurement for the boat and sails and have a valid buoyancy endorsement where applicable. NOR 3.4 .
- 1.3. Personal Buoyancy
 - 1.3.1. Competitors must wear adequate personal floatation device (PFD) at all times when on the water. NOR 1.3 .
 - 1.3.2. Neither a wet-suit nor a dry-suit constitute adequate personal buoyancy. RRS 40.1 .
 - 1.3.3. Flag Y will not be flown. This changes RRS 40.2 .
- 1.4. Persons under 18
 - 1.4.1. Competitors under 18 during the event must have the MSC declaration signed by a parent or guardian. This person will be considered to be the Support Person. Attention is also drawn to the RRS Definition of *Support Person*.

2. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 2.1. Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3, Decision to Race. Attention is drawn to the Risk Statement in the NOR. 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 regatta.

3. RULES

- 3.1. The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing 2025 - 2028 (RRS).
- 3.2. RRS 45 is deleted.
- 3.3. Other Rules are changed as detailed in these Sailing Instructions.

4. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 4.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the wall underneath the clubhouse balcony which is the Official Notice Board (ONB).
- 4.2. Starting times for races will be posted on the ONB.
- 4.3. Changes to sailing instructions will be posted on the ONB.
- 4.4. There is no physical Race Office.

5. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 5.1. Any change in these sailing instructions made by the Race Committee will be displayed on the ONB at least 10 minutes before the warning signal.

6. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 6.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flag staff outside the club house.
- 6.2. When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced by 'not less than 10 minutes' in the race signal AP.

7. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 7.1. The scheduled time of the warning signal first race of the day is 11.00 am.
- 7.2. To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, the orange starting line flag may be displayed with one sound signal at least 5 minutes before the warning signal is made.
- 7.3. On the last day of the event, no warning signal will be made after 15.30. (NOR 7.6).

8. CLASS FLAGS

- 8.1. Class flags will be notified to competitors on the day.

9. THE COURSES

- 9.1. The course will be displayed on the committee boat, using the club marks numbered 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7.
- 9.2. RED or GREEN backgrounds to the course boards indicate to which side marks are to be left.
- 9.3. The sequence of the legs of the course will not be changed after the preparatory signal. This changes RRS 33.
- 9.4. The course will be terminated using the shorten course signal after or close to the scheduled race length time. This changes RRS 32.1.
- 9.5. The course may be displayed on the plan of the reservoir in or near the clubhouse. The course displayed on the committee boat will take precedence.
- 9.6. The position of a mark may be changed to make minor adjustments to the leg of the course. No signals will be used to notify this change. RRS 33 (a), (b) and (c) are deleted. This changes RRS 33.
- 9.7. Flag M will not be used. This changes RRS 34.

10. THE MARKS

- 10.1. The marks are laid clockwise around the reservoir, the one in front of the clubhouse being No. 1.
- 10.2. Mark 0 is a mobile mark and maybe positioned anywhere on the reservoir.
- 10.3. Marks are blue numbered barrels. Mark 5 may be an unnumbered red/orange buoy.
- 10.4. Temporary marks may be used at the discretion of the Race Committee.



10.5. All marks are rounding marks.

11. THE START

- 11.1. The starting procedure will be in accordance with RRS 26. (5,4,1,0)
- 11.2. The length of the starting line will be limited by marks at both ends.
- 11.3. The Starting Line will be either: -
 - 11.3.1. A line defined by a portable transit on shore to an outer distance mark.
 - 11.3.2. A line defined by the mast of the committee boat, displaying an orange flag, to an outer distance mark.
- 11.4. The outer distance mark will be a buoy displaying a yellow or orange flag.
- 11.5. The inner distance mark, if used, will be a buoy.
- 11.6. In the case of a committee boat start, any part of any boat that sails in the triangle created by the inner limit mark and the extremities of the committee boat after the first warning signal may be disqualified. The prohibited area does not rank as an obstruction when approaching the line to start.
- 11.7. RRS 30.2, 30.3 and RRS 30.4 may apply. RRS 30.1 will not be used.

12. THE FINISH

- 12.1. A race may be finished at any rounding mark of the course.
- 12.2. The committee boat will be positioned at the starboard end of the finish line.
- 12.3. The mast of the committee boat will display an orange flag.
- 12.4. The mark defining the port end of the finish line may not display a flag.
- 12.5. The race may be terminated on any leg of the course and will be signalled by the flying of Flag "S" on the committee boat, accompanied by two sound signals.
- 12.6. The finishing line shall be between the rounding mark and the mast on the committee boat displaying the orange flag
This changes RRS 32.2.

13. PENALTIES

- 13.1. Scoring penalties RRS 44.3 (a) and (b) will not apply. This changes RRS 44.

14. TIME LIMIT

- 14.1. There shall be no time limit for any race.
- 14.2. However, RRS 35 will not apply, and boats not finishing within 30 minutes of the first boat to finish will be awarded retirement points.
- 14.3. Any Declarations must be signed within 15 minutes of finishing.

15. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 15.1. RYA Protest forms are available in the clubhouse. Attention is drawn to RRS 60.3(a) .
- 15.2. Protests and requests for redress shall be delivered to the Race Officer within the appropriate time limit.
- 15.3. The Protest time limit is 20 minutes after the last boat has finished or the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later.
- 15.4. In the event of back to back racing, the protest time limit is 20 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race in the back to back series or when the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later.
- 15.5. Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses.
- 15.6. Hearings will be held in the clubhouse unless otherwise notified.
- 15.7. Notices of protests by a Committee will be posted on the ONB to inform boats under RRS 60.2(a)(2).

16. SCORING

- 16.1. The RRS low point system shall apply.
- 16.2. Retirements and non-starters will be awarded points equal to the number of entries in the regatta.
- 16.3. Disqualifications will be awarded points equal to the number of entries plus 1.
- 16.4. The MSC series score may be modified by the relevant Class Association rules.
- 16.5. Races sailed to be counted

No. of races sailed	No. of races to count
3	2
2	2
1	1

17. GROUP SYSTEM

- 17.1. If the group system is used, competitors will be notified at the time of the briefing and an appendix to sailing instructions will be issued.

18. REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

- 18.1. Substitution of competitors shall not be allowed without the prior written approval of the race committee.

19. RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

- 19.1. Competitors shall not make or receive radio communications, including mobile phones. NOR 11.

20. TRASH DISPOSAL

- 20.1. Edgbaston Reservoir is a designated Local Nature Reserve. Attention is drawn to RRS 47.
- 20.2. The principles of RRS 47 are extended to the management of trash whilst anywhere on the premises of the club, waterfront and car parks. [DP]. This changes RRS 47.