



*Mersea Week 2023  
Competitor Briefing  
Supported by our Partners  
and  
Hosted by Dabchicks  
Sailing Club and West  
Mersea Yacht Club*



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Welcome

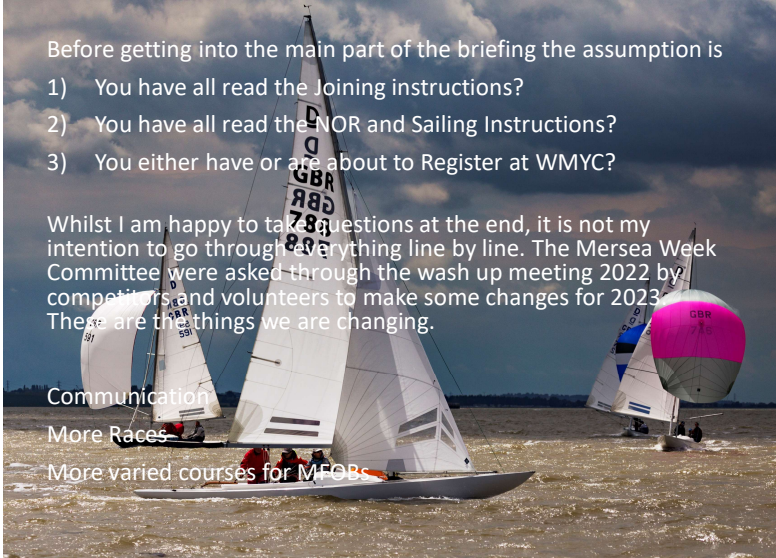
Key event personnel

Event Chair	Alan Jones
Race Office	Fran French
Safety Officer	Ian Edgar
Course Race Officer (Keelboats)	Brian Bolton
Course Race Officer (Dinghy/MFOBs)	Paul Jackson



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Before getting into the main part of the briefing the assumption is

- 1) You have all read the Joining instructions?
- 2) You have all read the NOR and Sailing Instructions?
- 3) You either have or are about to Register at WMYC?




Whilst I am happy to take questions at the end, it is not my intention to go through everything line by line. The Mersea Week Committee were asked through the wash up meeting 2022 by competitors and volunteers to make some changes for 2023. These are the things we are changing.

Communication

More Races

More varied courses for MFOBs


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Starting with communication with the competitors


It has become usual to use on line systems to facilitate events, enabling competitors use their own personal devices to do everything from entry to results to protest hearings. For this Mersea week we will use four systems;

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Entry</li> <li>• Race management functions</li> <li>• Tally and comms to competitors</li> <li>• Scoring</li> </ul>	<p>Through the</p> <p>Through</p> <p>Through</p> <p>Through</p>	<p>Mersea Week Website</p> <p>RacingRulesofsailing.org</p> <p>Whatsapp groups</p> <p>Sailwave</p>
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- [Official Notice Board](#)
- [File a Protest](#)
- [Submit Question for Jury](#)
- [Submit Equipment Substitution Request](#)
- [Submit Scoring Inquiry](#)
- [Submit Penalty Report](#)
- [Protest Hearing Schedule](#)
- [Protest Decisions](#)
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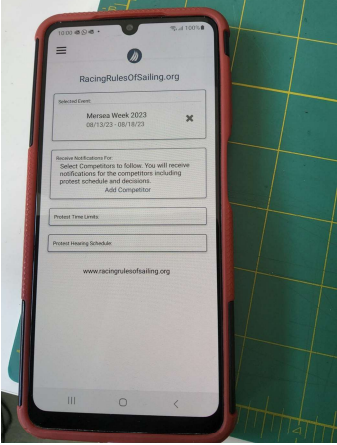







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- Helms will have received a copy of the joining instructions via email
- Go to [www.racingrulesofsailing.com](http://www.racingrulesofsailing.com) or use the QR code
- Download the app
- Click Add event
- Scroll down
- Select Mersea Week
- Add competitor (that is you)
- Around this room and at registration you will find a notice with the details on.

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Three Horizontal Bars, Top left.

Access to

- [Official Notice Board](#)
- [File a Protest](#)
- [Submit Question for Jury](#)
- [Submit Equipment Substitution Request](#)
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Please Note. A copy of the results will be placed on the ONB each day



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**Delta Flag and Tally**

About 15 minutes before the Delta Flag is displayed, (more later) a WhatsApp goes out on the Tally WhatsApp stating Tally is open. Competitors can then Tally using your phone and have time to put the phone in a locker or safe location. If you do not have a suitable phone we have upstairs in the DSC Race box a tally PC.

The only required information is

**Sail number**

**Persons on Board**

**OUT** (the word)

Approximately 15 minutes after Tally opens, "Delta flag" will be displayed on the WMYC mainmast. This tells everyone that the safety fleet is active, we are hoping to race and please head for the course area.

When you get back. Maximum 10 minutes after you arrive back on your mooring or ashore you should Tally in on the WhatsApp.

The only required information is

**Sail number**

**Persons on Board**




**IN** (the word)

Failure to complete this in the ten minutes incurs a scoring penalty of 5 points added to the net score for the week for each offence. See the sailing instructions 19.2. **There will be a workstation in the Race Box at DSC**

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Scratch Sheet Dinghies and MFOBs								
Not Sorted								
Tally out	POB	Spotted CV	Sail Number	Class	Helm Name	Medical Flag	Left course	Tally In
			1054	RS 800	James Lewis			
			780	RS 700	Oliver Essex			
			989	RS 700	James Sparks			
			761	RS 700	Thomas Dutton			
			GBR 320/336	International Canoe	Robert Stebbing			
			1426	RS 400	Dan Woodcock			
			657	RS 400	Ned Mumford			
			347	RS 300	William Powell			
			506	RS 500	Richard Green			
			44300	420	Harry Bowman			
			50	ILCA 7	Jane Payne			
			126039	ILCA 7	Muiris Capon-Telford			
			213641	ILCA 7	Sam Grout			
			7795	Wayfarer	Garry Wren			
			23049	Enterprise	Brian Cumming			
			5540	Solo	Keith Stubbs			
			5378	Solo	Brian Lamb			
			5270	Solo	Viv Fox			
			4928	Solo	David Royce			
			187482	ILCA 6	Libby Watkins			
			212224	ILCA 6	Alex Canham			
			206584	ILCA 6	Nick Law			
			180839	ILCA 6	Alex Thomson			
			218612	ILCA 6	Poppy Lowe			
			108	Comet Duo	David Willey			

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Keeping you informed during the day

- 1) The WMYC flagpole
- 2) The Official Notice board
- 3) The Competitor Information WhatsApp is used by the Race team to communicate with the competitors, giving them new information during the day. It is used to communicate intentions and is not the ONB. It is especially used when we have postponements due to weather conditions. It should not be used for any other discussions.



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Mersea Week 2023 has invoked Appendix T of the Racing Rules to encourage rules compliance, we have also changed RRS 44.2 to One Turn for all infringements at the time of the incident.

- Quickest and safest resolution therefore is to do your turn if you think you have infringed!!!!

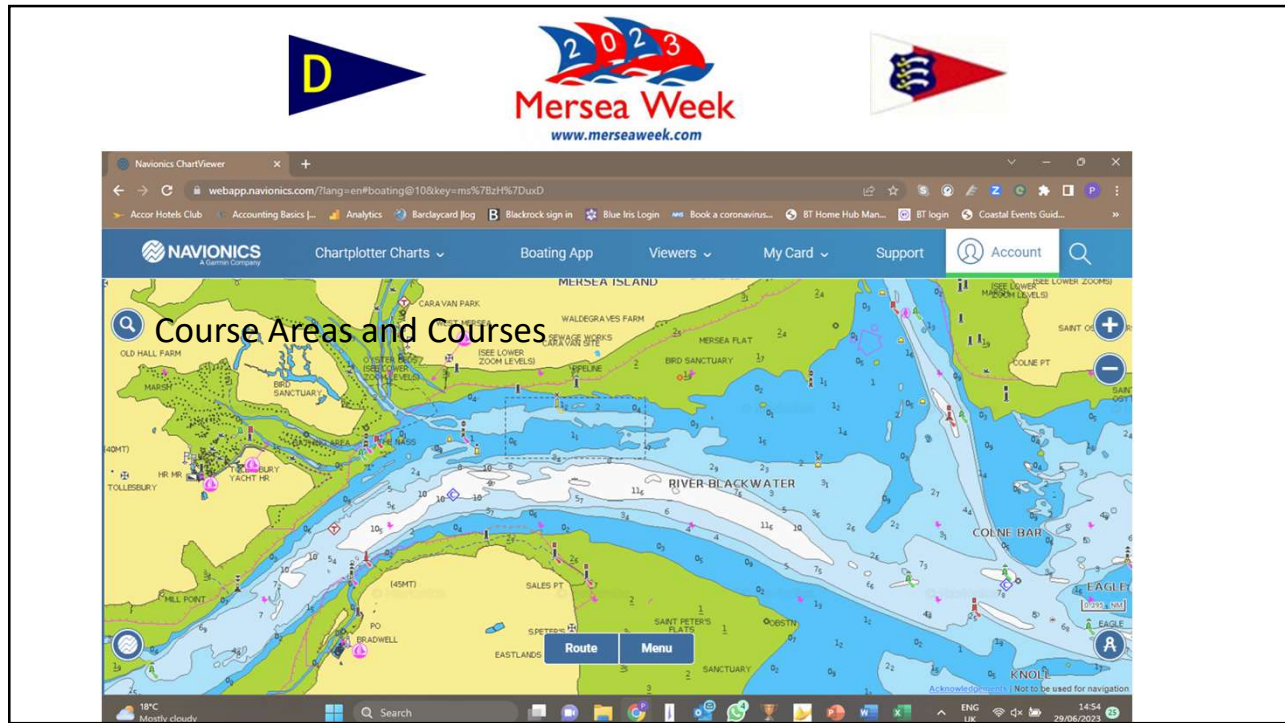
After the race finishes and before the protest time limit (90 mins) you might think you were in the wrong. So complete a penalty report form on the App. You will then receive a 30% scoring penalty (quite harsh)

The race score for a boat that takes a Scoring Penalty shall be the score she would have received without that penalty, made worse by the number of places stated in the sailing instructions. However, she shall not be scored worse than Did Not Finish.

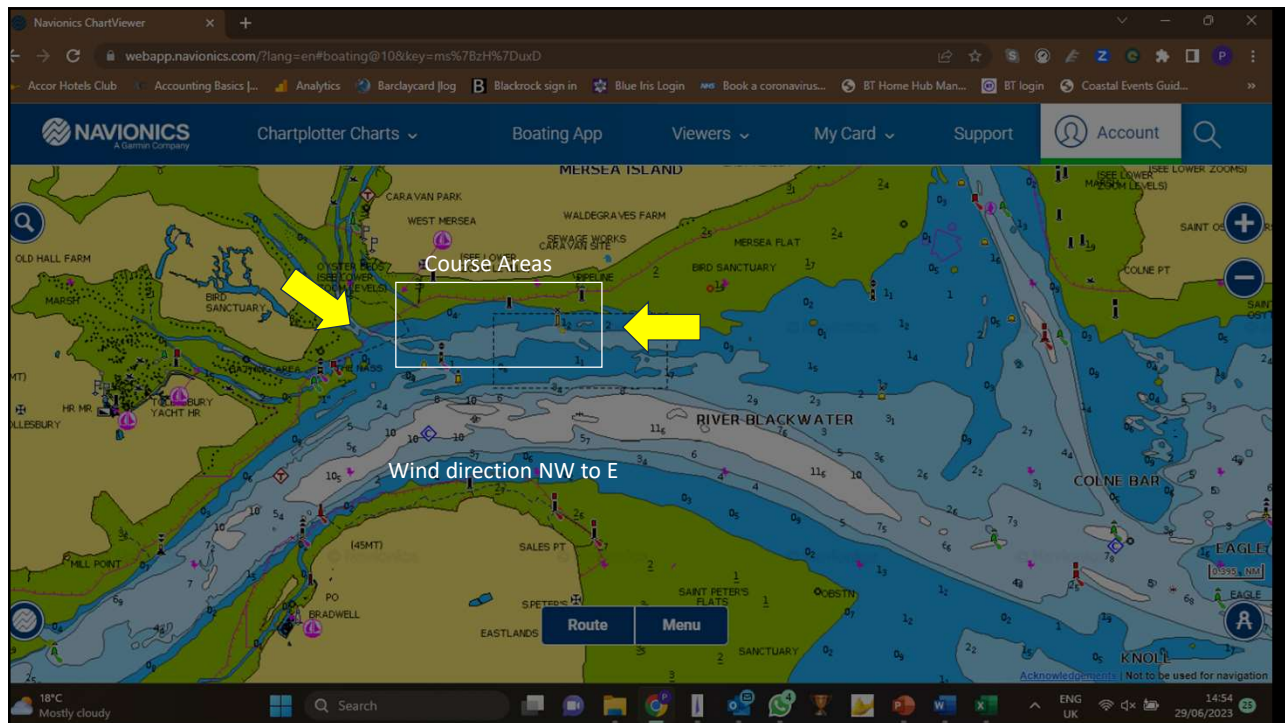
When the sailing instructions do not state the number of places, the number shall be the whole number (rounding 0.5 upward) nearest to **percentage** of the number of boats of that fleet that entered and who came to the starting area. The scores of other boats shall not be changed; therefore, two boats may receive the same score. However, the penalty shall not cause the boat's score to be worse than the score for Did Not Finish.

- Should one of the boats protest inside the protest time limit and there be no penalty report from either boat an arbitration meeting will be opened. A boat accepting a Post Race Penalty after an arbitration hearing shall be penalised 40%. (Really harsh)
- Should nobody agree after arbitration then a full protest hearing can be called which is likely to mean one or both boats could be DSQ.
- **So Quickest and safest resolution therefore is to do your turn if you think you have infringed!!!!**

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**Course Options**

Triangular course start finish middle of beat

**T**

Mark Rounding Order (TFL= Through Finish line)

**T**

Start - 1(P) - 2(P) - 3(P) - TFL - 1(P) - 3(P) - TFL - 1(P) - 2(P) - 3(P) - TFL - 1(P) - 3(P) - Finish

Windward/Leeward Course

L	Course: Windward/Leeward with reaching finish
Signal	Mark Rounding Order
L2	Start-1(P)-2S/2P-1(P)-2(P)-Finish
L3	Start-1(P)-2S/2P-1(P)-2S/2P-1(P)-2(P)-Finish
L4	Start-1(P)-2S/2P-1(P)-2S/2P-1(P)-2(P)-2S/2P-1(P)-2(P)-Finish

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Marks 1,2,2s,2p,3 will be orange tetrahedron buoys.

Mark 1 for Performance Dinghies and Dinghy Fast Handicap classes will be a yellow cylinder buoy.

Start and Finish Pin will be an Orange Dan buoy

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# Racing

The Start Boat is:  
Centenary



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- The scores will be calculated on an average lap time basis where the result of each race will be calculated on the number of laps sailed against elapsed time for each boat.
- One triangle or one sausage is a lap, therefore triangle followed by a sausage is 2 laps. Round the Cans is one lap.
- Boats that fail to pass through the upwind gate on each circuit will not be disqualified but will be credited only with the number of laps they have sailed correctly.
- Race duration is intended to be the target time for that class, at the discretion of the race committee. When a race is to finish, the Race Committee will signal a shortened course in accordance with RRS 32.2. All boats racing on that course will finish the next time they pass through the gate/finishing line. The first boat to be finished may not necessarily be the leading boat.



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**Intended Races per day**  
Please note that this can change due to weather and other factors and competitors should keep a regular check on the ONB

Races	13/8/23	14/8/23	15/8/23	17/8/23	18/8/23
Dinghy Slow Handicap	1	2	1	2	1
Dinghy Medium Handicap	1	2	1	2	1
Dinghy fast Handicap	1	2	1	2	1
Dinghy Performance	1	2	1	2	1
MFOB	1	2	1	2	1

Intended schedule for all fleets is seven increased from five in 2022

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Fleets	Class Flag	Intended Start sequence. (May change)
Dinghy Fast Handicap		May start in any order
Dinghy Medium Handicap		May start in any order
Dinghy Slow Handicap		May start in any order
Performance Dinghies		May start in any order
MFOB All		May start in any order

To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, the orange starting line flag will be displayed with one sound at least five minutes before the first warning signal is made.

Each day succeeding races will be started as soon as practicable after the finish of the previous race

On the last scheduled day of racing, no warning signal will be made after 1500

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## Current Schedule,




RRS3 The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue *racing* is hers alone.

Please note that this can change due to weather (see next slide) and other factors and competitors should keep a regular check on the ONB

**First warning signal will not be before**

Class	13/8/23	14/8/23	15/8/23	17/8/23	18/8/23
Dinghy Slow Handicap	11:55	11:55	11:55	11:55	11:55
Dinghy Medium Handicap	11:55	11:55	11:55	11:55	11:55
Dinghy fast Handicap	12:10	12:10	12:10	12:10	12:10
Dinghy Performance	12:10	12:10	12:10	12:10	12:10
MFOB	12:30	12:30	12:30	12:30	12:30




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As of 1300 hrs on 12<sup>th</sup> August we are working with this forecast. Things will change no doubt

Day	Direction	Speed (kts)	Gusts (kts)	Comments
<b>Sunday</b>	SW	12 to 16	20	Rule 3
<b>Monday</b>	S	8 to 14	18	
<b>Tuesday</b>	W backing SW	3 to 12		
<b>Thursday</b>	E	7 to 16	21	
<b>Friday</b>	NE veering E	11 to 16	20	

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At approximately 0900 we will send out a Whatsapp like this one;


**Race Committee Intentions 13/8/23**

Forecast today is 12 to 16 knots SW with gusts up to 20 knots. High Water at 1112hrs. Race committee intentions are to run 1 \* 60 minute race for all classes. Warning signals as per SI 6.2 schedule 13/8/23.




Anticipate Tally open 1030 and Delta displayed at 1045 Please remember to Tally.

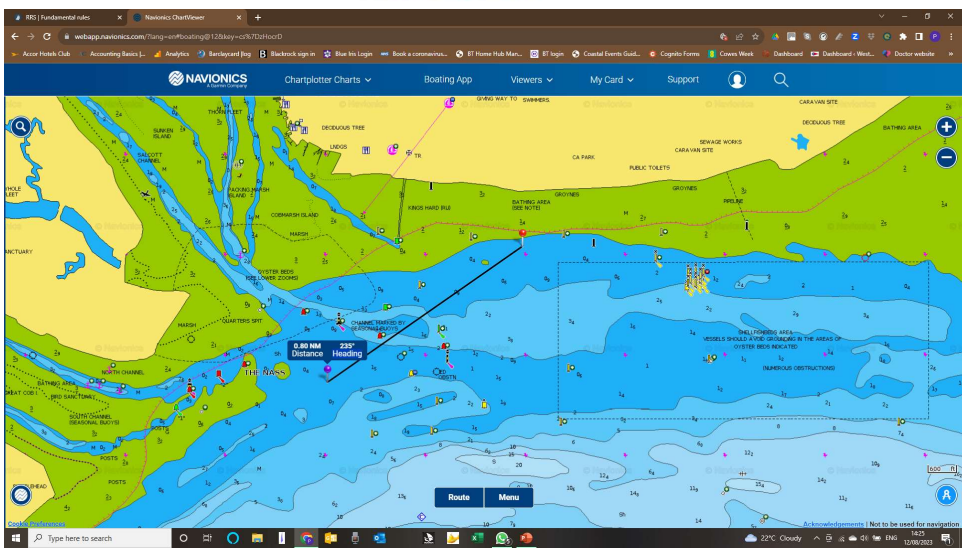
Please take note of RRS 3, when deciding to sail.

Have a great day.






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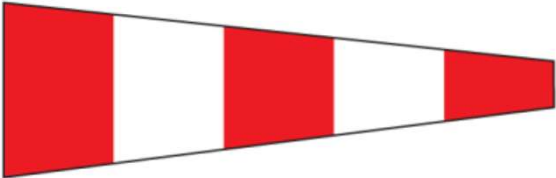




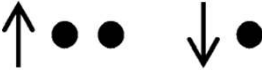


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- Postponement ashore will be done in the usual manner by the Race committee.
- If the postponement has been indefinite ashore the RC will post a WhatsApp on the competitor group 15 mins before we think we are going to remove AP.






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- Flag I, Z, preparatory signals will not be used.
- Flag P preparatory signal will be used for the first attempt of a start. The signal may be escalated if the Race committee consider that competitors are starting badly through no fault of the Race committee
  - First escalation U
  - Second escalation Black

PLEASE RESPECT THE LINE



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Finally

- Please Register
- If a fleet would like something then please one person speak to me not everyone!!
- We hope this new style for the event works for the majority, we know there are some new things included, however they were tested locally and they were appreciated by all ages.
- Have Fun
- [Competitor List MFOB's and Dinghies](#)
- Thank you and any questions?

