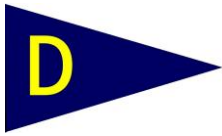


MERSEA WEEK 2023

HOSTED BY DABCHICKS SAILING CLUB AND WEST
MERSEA YACHT CLUB



NOTICE OF RACE
MERSEA WEEK 2023
13TH – 18TH AUGUST



For more information visit www.merseaweek.com

MERSEA WEEK 2023

All Classes

Notice of Race

Sunday 13th to Friday 18th August 2023

Organising Authority

The races are organised jointly by West Mersea Yacht Club and Dabchicks Sailing Club known as the Joint Organising Authority.

The Joint Organising Authority has appointed the Mersea Week Committee as the Race Committee for the event (RRS 89.2 (c)).

The notation '[NP]' in a rule means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a)

1 RULES

- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined by The Racing Rules of Sailing and the 2023 IRC Rules Parts A, B and C if racing in the IRC Class
- 1.2 All documents including any amendments, pertaining to this event are available at booking.
- 1.3 RRS Appendix T, Arbitration, will apply.
- 1.4 Rule 40.1 shall apply at all times on the water for dinghy classes
- 1.5 Protocols relating to Covid 19 may be published at any time and will state if they have a status of a rule. [DP, NP]
- 1.6 In the case of conflict between the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions, SIs will take precedence. This changes rule 63.7

2 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

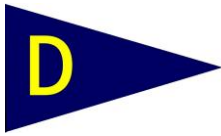
- 2.1 The Sailing Instructions will be published on the Official Notice Board after 5th August 2023

3 COMMUNICATION

- 3.1 The Official Notice Board is located at [\[ONB\]](#). Notices posted on the notice boards in the long room are advisory only.
- 3.2 While racing except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communications that is not available to all boats. [DP, NP]
- 3.3 On the water, the Race Committee may make courtesy broadcasts on VHF channels and/or WhatsApp Groups. Details of both will be given in the Sailing Instructions. Failure to broadcast information or broadcasting incorrect information will not be grounds for redress.

4 ELIGIBILITY

- 4.1 The event is open to all boats of the following classes:-
 - 4.1.1 **IRC Class**
 - A keelboat with a valid 2023 IRC rating.
 - This Class will race under IRC. A boat racing in this fleet must be in possession of a valid 2023 IRC certificate. A copy of the certificate must be lodged with the Sailing Secretariat of



WMYC or the Mersea Week Committee. Competitors must immediately advise any alteration of the TCF during the week to Mersea Week Committee.

- Owners of all yachts sailing under IRC one-design certificates are reminded that, under IRC rules 13.7 and 22.4.1, they are required to comply with their respective class rules.
- IRC Rule 22.4.2 will not apply. There will be no limitations on crew number or weight except as required for boats rated as one-designs, which shall comply with IRC Rule 22.4.1.

4.1.2 **Local Handicap Cruisers**

- The handicaps used will be those issued by the Joint Handicap Committee.

4.1.3 **White Sail Cruisers**

- White Sail Fleet is intended to appeal to boats which are family cruisers crewed by friends and family with fewer than a full crew. The white sail fleet shall not use spinnakers or similar specific downwind sails. White Sail fleets shall use Local handicaps plus twenty points for no spinnakers.

4.1.4 **Classic and Gaff Rigged Yachts**

- The Mersea Week definition of a Classic Yacht for the purposes of this event, this should be a Mono-Hull yacht of a 'Classic Yacht' style and constructed of any material either (a) built before 1975 or (b) built after 1975 but which in the opinion of the Committee has the style and appearance of a 'Classic Yacht'. The Committee reserves the right to refuse any entry for the Classic Yacht event which in their opinion fails to comply with the spirit of a 'Classic Yacht'. Such entries may race in other appropriate classes.

4.1.5 **National Sonata Class**

- This class will race as a one design class and in accordance with the current National Sonata Class rules.

4.1.6 **Smacks**

- The handicaps used will be those issued by the local Smacks Handicap Committee.

4.1.7 **Dinghies and Catamarans**

- The dinghy class is open to boats of any recognized monohull dinghy class with a current Portsmouth Yardstick Number of 1450 to 925
- The performance class is open to boats of any recognised dinghy class with a current Portsmouth yardstick number of 926 or less and small catamarans.
- The handicaps used will be the RYA Portsmouth Yardstick System (Dinghy Classes), PY look alike of SCHRS (small catamaran classes)

4.1.8 **Mersea Fisherman's Open Boats**

- This Class will also be governed by the Class Rules and safety regulations of the Mersea Fisherman's Open Boat Association. For details please contact: - Oliver Grogan
Oli@stitchesandsteel.com
- The handicaps used will be those issued by the Mersea Fisherman's Open Boat Association

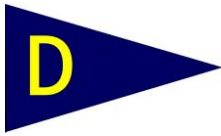
4.2 The Class divisions, if any, of all classes will be at the sole discretion of the Mersea Week Committee.

4.3 Local Handicap Cruisers, White sail cruisers, Classic and gaff rigged Yachts the handicaps used will be those issued by the Joint Handicap Committee.

4.4 Dinghy classes only, Helm substitution of the registered sailor is not permitted.

4.5 The closing date for entries is Noon 5th August 2023. Entries after the closing date will only be accepted at the discretion of the organising authority. Please contact:
sailing@merseaweek.org

4.6 Sailors aged under 18 on the first day of the event will need to have a Parent/Guardian Declaration form completed and signed by a parent or guardian, to confirm that the



parent/guardian understands and accepts that their sailors are entirely responsible throughout the event for themselves and their boats on land and on the water. Forms must be completed online via the event website.

- 4.7 Parents or Guardians of people under the age of eighteen must be confident in their child's ability to sail in the prevailing conditions and without support services. They should not permit their child to start or to continue to race if they are in any doubt as to their child's ability.
- 4.8 The responsible adult and competitor shall register together as shown in NOR 8.1.
- 4.9 To be considered an entry in the event, a boat shall complete all registration requirements and pay all fees

5 FEES

5.1

Classes	STD Entry fee	STD Day fee	Late Entry fee	Late day fee
All dinghy/Catamaran/MFOB classes	£85	£20	£115	£25
Cruiser and Smack classes	£115	£25	£150	£35

- 5.2 The entry fee is available for all entries up to midday 5th August 2023
- 5.3 All entries must be made online by paying the appropriate fee and completing the online entry form available on the event website <https://merseaweek.org>.
- 5.4 Should the event be cancelled, a refund of at least 80% of the entry fee will be made after transfer fees. This will be dependent on the expenditure committed to by, and at the discretion of the Organising Authority.
- 5.5 Competitor cancellation

Cancellation Date	Refund
Before 23:59 5/08/2023	Entry fee less £15
After 23:59 5/08/2023	No refund

6 CREW SUBSTITUTION

- 6.1 For Dinghy classes only. Boats shall sail with the crew declared at registration. Any change or substitution to the registered crew must have the prior approval of the race committee.

7 ADVERTISING

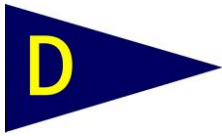
- 7.1 Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the Organising Authority [DP]

8 SCHEDULE

- 8.1 Registration (Pack Collection)

Date	Open	Close	Location
12/8/23	18:30	19:30	WMYC Longroom
13/8/23	08:00	09:30	WMYC Longroom

- 8.2 Equipment Inspection
See NOR 9.0



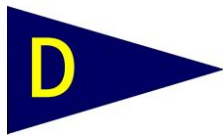
8.3 Number of Races per day scheduled.

Class	13/8/23	14/8/23	15/8/23	17/8/23	18/8/23
IRC	1	1	1	1	1
Local handicap cruiser	1	1	1	1	1
White sail cruiser	1	1	1	1	1
Classic and Gaff rigged yachts	1	1	1	1	1
National Sonata	1	1	1	1	1
Smacks	1	1	1	1	1
Dinghy Slow Handicap	2	1	1	2	1
Dinghy Medium Handicap	1	2	2	1	1
Dinghy fast Handicap	1	2	2	1	1
Dinghy Performance	2	1	1	2	1
MFOB Combined	1	1	2	2	1

16/8/23 Is not an official Mersea week event day both clubs will be putting on charity events. Please see the club websites for more details.

8.4 Prizegiving and briefings

Date	Event	Time	Location
12/8/23	Skippers briefing Dinghy/MFOB	19:00	Dabchicks sailing club
Daily	Prizegivings	19:30	Alternating clubs
18/8/23	Overall Prizegiving	19:30	WMYC



8.5 The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race each day is;

Class	13/8/23	14/8/23	15/8/23	17/8/23	18/8/23
IRC	10:55	10:55	10:55	10:55	10:55
Local handicap cruiser A	11:15	11:15	11:15	11:15	11:15
Local handicap cruiser B	11:55	11:55	11:55	11:55	11:55
White sail cruiser	11:35	11:35	11:35	11:35	11:35
Classic and Gaff rigged yachts A	11:25	11:25	11:25	11:25	11:25
Classic and Gaff rigged yachts B	12:05	12:05	12:05	12:05	12:05
National Sonata	11:45	11:45	11:45	11:45	11:45
Smacks	11:05	11:05	11:05	11:05	11:05
Dinghy Slow Handicap	11:55	12:25	12:15	12:05	11:55
Dinghy Medium Handicap	12:05	11:55	12:25	12:15	12:05
Dinghy fast Handicap	12:15	12:05	11:55	12:25	12:15
Dinghy Performance	12:25	12:15	12:05	11:55	12:25
MFOB Combined	12:35	12:35	12:35	12:35	12:35

8.6 On the last scheduled day of racing no warning signal will be made after 15:00

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

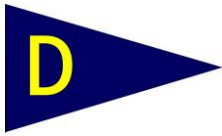
9. EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

9.1. Boats may be inspected at any time.

9.2. Competitors sailing in cruiser fleets shall, before racing, deposit a Safety Declaration (contained within the entry form and on the event website) with WMYC or the Mersea Week Committee.

9.3. All Cruisers shall carry the following safety equipment:

- Lifejackets, one per crew member
- Lifebuoy with whistle and drogue attached.
- Second means of propulsion (Inboard, Outboard, Paddle)
- Handheld or permanently installed VHF able to be operated from on deck.



- Foghorn
- Echo sounder or lead line.
- Fire Extinguisher
- Anchor and rode suitable for securing the vessel.
- First aid kit
- Marine compass
- A means to detach the rigging from the chainplate.
- Bucket and lanyard
- Waterproof flashlight.
- Suitable knife accessible from the deck effective for cutting sheets and halyards.
- Heaving and towing line.

9.4. MFOB's must comply with the specific safety requirements set out in the MFOB Sailing Instructions 2023:

Mandatory Items

- Lifejackets or buoyancy aids for all crew members
- A suitable anchor and warp
- A bucket
- Adequate buoyancy, with the aim of keeping the boat in an upright position when swamped.
- A painter 1.5 times length of boat with a float tied to the end.

10. **VENUE**

10.1. NOR Appendix one shows the Race area.

10.2. The intended racing area will be The Blackwater Estuary and its creeks.

10.3. When racing in the creeks of Mersea competitors shall keep a good lookout for all manoeuvring vessels.

11. **COURSES**

11.1. The courses to be sailed will be detailed in the Sailing Instructions

12. **PENALTY SYSTEM**

12.1. For all classes RRS 44.1 is changed so that only one turn, including one tack and one gybe, is required.

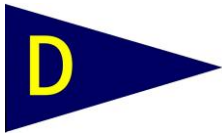
13. **SCORING**

13.1. Three races are required to be completed to constitute a series.

13.2. Dinghy and MFOB classes when sailing around the laid inflatable marks will be scored using their Portsmouth or MFOB handicap numbers to score.

13.3. When fewer than 4 races have been completed, a boat's series will be the total of her race scores.

13.4. When four (4) to seven (7) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst.



14. SUPPORT PERSON VESSEL

14.1. There are no support boats for this event, only official boats.

15. BERTHING AND LAUNCHING

- 15.1. Boats shall be kept in their assigned area of the dinghy park or mooring during the championship from the start of their event until the completion of the final race. [DP].
- 15.2. MFOB and Dinghy Fleets Tally-on/Tally-off. All skippers in these classes shall tally-on and tally-off using the appropriate WhatsApp group before and after racing each day. Details of the WhatsApp group will be set out in the Sailing Instructions for each class. [DP, NP]

16. DATA PROTECTION

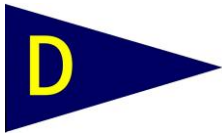
16.1. The personal information you provide to the Organising Authority will be used to facilitate your participation in the event. If you have agreed to be bound by the Racing Rules of Sailing and the other rules that govern the event (the rules), the legal basis for processing that personal information is contract. If you are not bound by the rules, the legal basis for processing that personal information is legitimate interest. Your personal information will be stored and used in accordance with the Organising Authority's privacy policy. When required by the rules, personal information may be shared with the RYA, Racingrulesofsailing.org your national authority and/or World Sailing. The results of the event and the outcome of any hearing or appeal may be published.

17. RISK STATEMENT

- 17.1. Rule 3 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone." 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:
- 17.1.1. 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.
 - 17.1.2. They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat, and their other property whether afloat or ashore.
 - 17.1.3. They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions.
 - 17.1.4. Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate.
 - 17.1.5. The provision of a race management team, patrol boats if any and other officials and volunteers by the event organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities.
 - 17.1.6. The provision of patrol boat cover if any is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can practically be provided in the circumstances.
 - 17.1.7. It is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks specific to this venue or this event drawn to their attention in any rules or information produced for the venue or event and to attend any competitor briefing held for the event.

18. INSURANCE

18.1. Each Participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £3 million per event or equivalent.



19. RIGHTS TO USE NAMES AND LIKENESS

19.1. Competitors automatically grant to the Organising Authority without payment the right in perpetuity to make, use and show any motion pictures, still pictures and live, taped or filmed television of or relating to the event.

20. PRIZES

20.1. Details of daily and overall prizes and trophies to be awarded are set out on the event website.

END OF NOTICE OF RACE

Other Information

Official Notice Board



Entry Form

