



**MEDWAY YACHT CLUB
NATIONAL SONATA
SONATA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP 2012
23rd – 27th July 2012**

1. ORGANISING AUTHORITY

- 1.1 The Organising Authority for the championship is Medway Yacht Club (MYC) in liaison with and on behalf of the National Sonata Class.

2. RACE AREA

- 2.1 Races will be sailed in the reaches and creeks of the River Medway and of the Thames estuary. Event start and finishing lines will be from committee boats.

3. RULES

- 3.1 The Regatta will be governed by:
The Class Rules of the National Sonata Class.
The Bylaws of Medway Ports (available from Medway Ports, Sheerness Docks, Sheerness, Kent ME12 1RS)
The ISAF Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 2009-2012 and RYA Prescriptions
This Notice of Race (NOR) and
The Sailing Instructions (SI) and any amendments thereto.
- 3.2 Changes to the RRS will be notified in the SI.

4. ADVERTISING

- 4.1 Advertising will be Category C in accordance with ISAF Regulation 20.
4.2 Competitors may be required to display sponsors' logos.
4.3 Competitors shall not display any advertising which, in the opinion of the race committee, is in conflict with the event sponsors.

5. ELIGIBILITY

- 5.1 The Regatta is open to any National Sonata in possession of a current RYA National Sonata measurement certificate.
5.2 At least one owner must be a current member of the National Sonata Association.
5.3 A boat shall sail with a minimum of three and a maximum of five crew including helm. No crew member may be substituted without prior written approval of the race committee. The same number of crew shall sail throughout the championship.
5.4 All competitors will be required to produce a valid Class Membership Certificate, RYA Sonata Measurement Certificate on registration.

6. ENTRY & FEES

- 6.1 Fees for entries received prior to 1st May 2012 are £70
6.2 Fees for entries received on the 1st May 2012 or after are £95
6.3 If all crew are under 25 years old on the first day of the regatta then they are eligible for a student fee of £50
6.4 All entries (including students) received on 1st of July 2012 or after may be charged a further £25 late entry penalty.
6.5 No fees are chargeable for provision of regatta moorings.
6.6 No fees are chargeable for MYC travelling crane launching and retrieving which has been paid for by sponsor Craftinsure.
6.7 Entries will be accepted with an entry form and payment sent to Medway Yacht Club c/o 3 Herying Close, Halling, Nr Rochester, Kent, ME2 1NE

7. SCHEDULE

- 7.1 Registration will commence in the regatta office at 1000 hours on Sunday 22nd July 2012. The office will also be open at subsequent times as set out in the Notes for Competitors.
7.2 A competitors briefing by the Race Officer will take place at 0800 hours on Monday 23rd July 2012.
7.3 Eleven Races are scheduled for the event
7.4 First race each day will not start before 1000 hours.
7.5 No race shall start after 1600 hours.
7.6 Racing on Friday will finish before 1500 hours.
7.7 Race Officer, for reasons such as weather conditions, shipping hazards or other safety issues, may vary the regatta programme of races

8. MEASUREMENT & SAFETY

- 8.1 All sails to be used must be registered and must have been certified by an official measurer.
8.2 Scrutineering will be going on through out the week.
8.3 The Organisers may inspect any boat and / or her equipment before or after racing.
8.4 All competitors will be required to sign off on coming ashore each day.
8.5 In addition to that specified in the class rules, the following must be carried whilst racing: A marine VHF radio, two hand held red or orange flares, ten metres of warp suitable for towing which is not part of the running rigging.
8.6 Boats may be inspected by a representative of the race committee for safety equipment at any time before or after racing in the event.

9. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 9.1 Sailing Instructions will be available from the office at MYC from 30th June 2012.
9.2 A copy of the SI will be published on the Sonata Nationals website (www.sonatanationals.org.uk).

10. COURSES

- 10.1 Courses will be set within the river Medway and Thames Estuary.

11. RADIO COMMUNICATION

- 11.1 All boats shall carry an operational VHF radio capable of receiving course announcements and other information. VHF channel 72 and call signs will be announced in the Sailing Instructions.

12. SCORING

- 12.1 The low point system of RRS A4 will be used.
- 12.2 5 Races must be completed to constitute the Championship series.

13. HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS

- 13.1 Boats shall not be hauled out during the period from 1800hrs on Sunday 22nd July 2012 until the conclusion of the regatta except with and according to the terms of prior written permission of the Race Committee.
- 13.2 Underwater breathing apparatus and plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used around competing boats between the preparatory signal of the first race and the end of the regatta.

14. RESULTS, PRIZES AND SOCIAL

- 14.1 Results will be published as soon as possible after the finish of each race.
- 14.2 Prizes and trophies will be awarded each day at MYC each evening and overall at the Prize Giving at MYC on Friday 27th July 2012. A programme of social events and catering arrangements will be provided.
- 14.3 Details of accommodation will be provided.

15. DATA PROTECTION

- 15.1 By participating a competitor automatically grants the Organising Authority and the event sponsors, the right in perpetuity, to make, use and show still and motion pictures taken during the period of the event without compensation. The organising Authority will not release personal contact details of competitors to third parties or to the internet.

16. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 16.1 The attention of all competitors is drawn to RRS Fundamental Rule 4, 'Decision to Race'
- 16.2 A boat is entirely responsible for its own safety whether afloat or ashore, and nothing, whether in the Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions or anywhere else reduces this responsibility.
- 16.3 It is for the boat to decide whether it is fit to sail in the conditions it finds itself. By launching or going to sea the boat confirms that it is fit for those conditions and that its crew is competent to sail and compete in them.

- 16.4 The boat is responsible to ensure that it is equipped and seaworthy so as to be able to face extremes of weather; that there is crew sufficient in number, experience and fitness to withstand such weather and that the safety equipment is properly maintained, stowed and in date and that the crew know how to use it.
- 16.5 Nothing done by the Organisers can reduce the responsibility of the boat nor will it make the Organisers responsible for any loss, damage, death or personal injury; however it may have occurred, as a result of the boat taking part in the racing.
- 16.6 The Organisers encompass everyone helping to run the race and the event, and include the Organising Authority, the race committee, the race officer, patrol boats and beach-masters.
- 16.7 The provision of patrol boats does not relieve the boat of its responsibilities.
- 16.8 The fact that the race committee conducts inspections of a boat does not reduce the responsibilities of the boat set out in this section.

17. INSURANCE

- 17.1 Each participating boat is required to hold insurance cover and in particular to hold adequate insurance against third party claims.

18. CONTACTS FOR THE REGATTA

Medway Yacht Club (Office)

Lower Upnor

ROCHESTER ME2 4XB

Tel: 01634 718399

www.sonatanationals.org.uk

info@sonatanationals.org.uk