

# NATIONAL SONATA CLASS ASSOCIATION NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

*sponsored by Kingfisher Lager*

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> July - Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2001**

**Medway Yacht Club  
Lower Upnor, near Rochester, Kent**

## SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

### 1 RULES

1.1 The regatta will be governed by

- (a) *The Racing Rules of Sailing 2001-2004*;
- (b) the prescriptions of the RYA;
- (c) the rules of Medway Yacht Club;
- (d) the Bylaws of Medway Ports Authority;
- (e) the rules of the National Sonata Class;
- (f) the notice of race, except where changed by these sailing instructions;
- (g) these sailing instructions, including changes made in compliance with instructions 2 and 3.

1.2 A boat shall not discharge trash in the water. Trash may be deposited in rubbish bins ashore only.

### 2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official noticeboards located in the entrance to the Clubhouse and outside the changing rooms. They may also be posted in the window of the Library.

### 3 CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

3.1 Any change to the sailing instructions, will be posted before 0900 on the day it will take effect.

3.2 Any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

### 4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed at the mast in front of the Race Box at Medway Yacht Club.

4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes' in Race Signals, AP.

4.3 When flag Y is displayed ashore, rule 40 applies at all times while afloat. This changes the Part 4 preamble.

### 5 SCHEDULE OF RACES

5.1 Racing is scheduled as follows:

Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> July	Races 1 & 2	Short courses, in-river
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> July	Races 3 & 4	Short courses, in-river
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> August	Race 5	Longer-distance race
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> August	Races 6 & 7	Short courses, in-river
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> August	Race 8	Middle-distance race

5.2 The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race on each racing day is 1100.

5.4 On the last day of the regatta there will be no warning signal made after 1500.

### 6 CLASS FLAGS

The class flag is flag F.

## **7 RACING AREAS**

Racing will take place in the River Medway. The longer-distance race may extend into the Thames Estuary. The starting area may be downriver of Buoy No. 16. Competitors should ensure that they allow themselves sufficient time to reach the racing area.

## **8 THE COURSES**

- 8.1** Courses shall be sailed leaving Folly Beacon to port and Darnet Beacon to starboard sailing down river and Darnet Beacon to port and Folly Beacon to starboard sailing up river.
- 8.2** Any MYC sketch plans showing marks shall not be used for navigation. Several marks are positioned in or close to shallow water and care should be taken when navigating in the vicinity of such marks at low water, for example the following buoys: Medway No. 16, Stangate Spit, Leigh, Spile.
- 8.3** The diagrams in Attachment 1 show the courses for short course races, including the course signals, the approximate angles between legs, the order in which marks are to be passed and the side on which each mark is to be left.
- 8.4** The courses to be sailed for the longer-distance race and the middle-distance race will be selected from the list in Attachment 2.
- 8.5** No later than the warning signal, the committee boat will display the letter or number of the course to be sailed.
- 8.6** No later than the warning signal, the committee boat may display the approximate compass bearing from the boat to Mark 1.

## **9 MARKS**

- 9.1** The marks will be a combination of laid marks which will be cylindrical inflatable buoys and navigation marks.
- 9.2** New marks, as provided in instruction 11.1, will be cylindrical inflatable marks with a black band.
- 9.3** The starting and finishing marks will be the committee boat at the starboard end and a buoy at the port end.
- 9.4** An official MYC boat signalling a change of course is a mark as provided in instruction 1.3

## **10 THE START**

- 10.1** Races will be started by using rule 26 with the warning signal given 5 minutes before the starting signal.
- 10.2** The starting line will be between a flaghoist displaying an orange flag on the committee boat and the port-end starting mark.
- 10.3** An inner distance mark may be laid at the starboard end of the line, not necessarily on the line.
- 10.4** A boat starting later than 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start. This changes rule A4.1

## **11 CHANGE OF THE POSITION OF THE NEXT MARK**

- 11.1** To change the position of the next mark, the race committee will lay a new mark (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. The change will be signalled before the leading boat has begun the new leg, although the new mark may not yet be in position. Any mark to be rounded after rounding the new mark may be relocated without further signalling to maintain the course configuration.
- 11.2** Rule 33 is changed so that, instead of displaying a compass bearing, the race committee will display a green flag if the direction is changed to starboard and a red flag if the direction is changed to port.
- 11.3** Boats shall pass between the official MYC boat signalling the change of course and the nearby mark, leaving the mark to port and the committee boat to starboard. This changes rule 28.1.

## **12 THE FINISH**

**12.1** The finishing line will be between a flag hoist displaying an orange flag on the committee boat and a nearby finishing mark.

### **13 PENALTY SYSTEM**

**13.1** A boat which has taken a penalty or retired under rule 31.2 or 44.1 shall complete an acknowledgement form at the race office within the protest time limit.

**13.2** As provided in rule 67, the protest committee may, without a hearing, penalise a boat that has broken rule 42.

### **14 TIME LIMIT**

**14.1** For Races 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7, boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish. This changes rules 35 and A4.1.

**14.2** For Races 5 and 8, boats failing to finish within 1 hour after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish. This changes rules 35 and A4.1.

### **15 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**

**15.1** Protest forms are available to the race office. Protests shall be delivered there before the protest time limit.

**15.2** The protest time limit is 2 hours after the last boat has finished the last race of the day. The same time limit applies to all protests by the race committee and protest committee and requests for redress (changes of rules 61.3 and 62.2).

**15.3** Notices will be posted within 30 minutes of the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the Library.

**15.4** Notices of protests by the race committee or protest committee will be posted to inform boats under rule 61.1(b).

**15.5** A list of boats that, under instruction 13.1, have acknowledged breaking rule 42 or that have been disqualified by the protest committee will be posted before the protest time limit.

**15.6** A list of boats that, under instruction 17.3, have been disqualified by the protest committee will be posted before the protest time limit.

**15.7** For the purpose of rule 64.3(b) the authority is the measurer appointed by the organising committee.

**15.8** Breaches of instructions 13.1, 17.1, 17.2, 18.2, 21, 22 and 23 will not be grounds for protest by a boat. This changes rule 60.1(a). Penalties for these breaches will be at the discretion of the protest committee.

**15.9** On the last day of the regatta a request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered

(a) within the protest time limit when the party requesting reopening was informed of the decision on the previous day;

(b) no later than 30 minutes after the party requesting reopening was informed of the decision on that day.

This changes rule 66.

### **16 SCORING**

The Low Point scoring system of Appendix A will apply.

### **17 SAFETY REGULATIONS**

**17.1** Boats are asked to check in with the committee boat on arrival in the starting area before the first race of the day.

**17.2** A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible.

**17.3** For in-river courses (Races 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7) commercial traffic may be escorted through the racing area by an official race support boat flying Flag D. No racing boat shall pass between the boat flying Flag D and the commercial vessel it is escorting.

**17.4** A boat which infringes 17.3 shall be scored DNE without protest.

## **18 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT**

**18.1** No substitute competitors will be allowed without prior written approval of the race committee.

**18.2** Requests for substitution of damaged or lost equipment shall be made to the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

## **19 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS**

Any boat or equipment may be checked for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions at any time. On the water, a boat can be instructed by a race committee measurer to proceed immediately to a designated area for measurement checks.

## **20 OFFICIAL BOATS**

Official boats will be marked by flying the Medway Yacht Club burgee.

## **21 SUPPORT BOATS**

Team leaders, coaches and other support personnel shall not be in the area where boats are racing from the time of the preparatory signal, or the time of the preparatory signal for the first group to start, until all boats have finished or the race committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment.

## **22 HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS**

Boats shall not be hauled out during the regatta except with and according to the terms of prior written permission of the race committee.

## **23 PLASTIC POOLS AND DIVING EQUIPMENT**

Underwater breathing apparatus, plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used around boats between the starting signal of the first race and the end of the regatta.

## **24 RADIO COMMUNICATION**

**24.1** A boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction includes cellular telephones.

**24.2** The race committee may give information about the timing of signals during the starting procedure and about boats which are OCS on VHF channel 37. Visual and sound signals supersede VHF signals at all times.

**24.3** The omission of VHF communications shall not invalidate the starting or recall procedures.

**24.5** The race committee will not respond to VHF communications from individual competitors about racing matters from the time of the warning signal until five minutes after the starting signal.

## **25 PRIZES**

**25.1** Prizes will be awarded to the first six boats for each race.

**25.2** Prizes will be awarded to the first 10 boats overall.

**25.3** Trophies will be awarded as follows:

1 <sup>st</sup> place:	Race 1	Island Sailing Club Bowl
	Race 2	Sonata Designer's Cup
	Race 3	Clyde Yacht Club Trophy
	Race 4	Haven Ports Sonata Trophy
	Race 5	Hunter Boats Sonata Trophy
	Race 6	Crouch Yacht Club Trophy ( <i>ex-Ratsey &amp; Laphorn Salver</i> )
	Race 7	Hayling Island Sailing Club Glass Bowl
	Race 8	SeaJet Trophy, presented in 2001

Overall:	1 <sup>st</sup> place	Pimms Trophy
	2 <sup>nd</sup> place	Leyland Daf Trophy
	3 <sup>rd</sup> place	Satimar Cup

Other Trophies:

David Thomas Family Trophy

Awarded to the highest placed crew of 5 (then 4, then 3, then 2) members of the same family

NSA Travellers Trophy

Boat travelled furthest to take part

Royal Burnham Yacht Club Trophy

Top helm from visiting club, not in the top three overall

Dabchicks Sailing Club Silver Salver

Top helm from host club, not in top three overall

Rock Bottom Trophy

Best grounding during the championship, or other incident

Medway Trophy, presented in 2001 by the Medway Sonata Fleet

Under 23 helm (or under 24, then under 25)

**26 DISCLAIMER**

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. Attention is drawn to rule 4, Decision to Race. The organising authority will not accept any liability for personal or material damage, injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during or after the regatta.

**27 INSURANCE**

For every participating boat a valid third-party liability insurance cover shall exist with a minimum cover of £1,000,000 per event or the equivalent.