



**MINIMA YACHT CLUB
OPEN MEETING SAILING INSTRUCTIONS 2019**

RULES

1. Racing will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing 2017-20 and the prescriptions of the RYA.

SAFETY

2. The safety of a boat and its entire management including insurance shall be the sole responsibility of the owner/person in charge, who must ensure that the boat and crew are adequate to face the conditions that may arise in the course of a race. Neither these Sailing Instructions nor any inspection of the boat limits or reduces the absolute responsibility of the owner/person in charge for the crew, the boat and its management, including compliance with Environment Agency by-laws relating to navigation on the River Thames.

3. Members are reminded of the following Fundamental Rules in the Racing Rules of Sailing:

- Rule 1.2 "...each competitor is individually responsible for wearing a personal flotation advice adequate for the conditions".
- Rule 4 "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone".

4. Buoyancy aids are compulsory for all children under 16 and all non-swimmers. If flag Y is displayed, buoyancy aids become compulsory for all competitors and a competitor who does not wear a buoyancy aid will be subject to protest by the Race Committee.

PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

5. The Race Officer is responsible for management of racing on the day. If required, he or she may convene an ad-hoc Race Committee from club officials who are present, comprising:

- The Race Officer
- The Sailing Secretary and/or a member of the Sailing Committee
- A Flag Officer or second member of the Sailing Committee

6. The Race Committee is empowered to:

- Make a decision on whether racing should go ahead in light of weather and stream conditions
- Protest individual competitors who are observed to have broken the Rules of Sailing or sailed the wrong course, but who have not been seen to take a penalty.

7. Competitors may protest the Race Committee and/or apply for redress if they feel that they have been unfairly disadvantaged by any aspect of the race management on the day.

8. Protest forms are available from the Race box. Protests and requests for redress shall be delivered to the race officer or a member of the race committee within 30 minutes after the last boat has finished the race.

9. Competitors will be informed verbally of the time and place of any hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses.

NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

10. Notices to competitors will be posted on the Sailing Notice Board or on a blackboard located on the ground floor of the clubhouse.








CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

11. The Race Officer will advise sailors of any changes to the sailing instructions.

SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

12. Signals made ashore will be displayed from the race box by way of flags and cards.

13. Class cards used will be as follows:

Thames A Rater	A		
Merlin Rocket	O		
Enterprise	E		
Solo	One		
Topper	T		
Handicap	H		
All classes (start together)	G		

THE COURSES

14. The courses are displayed from the race box and will show:

- The order in which the marks are to be passed, using letter boards.
- The side on which each mark is to be left, indicated by the background colour of the letter boards, **Red** for Port or **Green** for Starboard.
- The length of the course, using number boards.
- In the event of the word SPECIAL being displayed, the course will be displayed on the official notice board or a chalk board.

MARKS

15. Marks **A, B, C, D, E** and **S** will be orange or red with white letters.

START AND FINISH LINES

16. The start and finish line will be a line between the two transit posts above the race box to a white mark on the Middlesex bank. If it is decided to set a start or a finish line upstream of Town End Quay to take advantage of better sailing conditions, this may be:

- a line from a club launch to the opposite river bank
- OR a line from the Surrey Bank to the Middlesex Bank
- Mark 'S' may be laid as an outer distance mark.

THE FINISH

17. The Race Officer may shorten the course from the race box, the club launch or the river bank by displaying flag 'S' plus the relevant Class flag/s and by making two sound signals.

SCORING

18. The scoring system will be as set out in the Notice of Race or as briefed by the Race Officer.

19. Prizes shall be awarded to the winning helms and crews, using the square root system for the total number of entries.