



**Marconi Sailing Club**  
**Dart 15 & Shearwater Summer TT**  
**20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> April 2024**  
**Sailing Instructions**



**1. RULES**

- 1.1. The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing 2021 - 2024*.
- 1.2. Entrants and authorised guests are temporary members of Marconi Sailing Club during the period of the event and shall comply with Club Rules and Bylaws. Failure to observe these may result in exclusion from the club premises.
- 1.3. The RYA Exoneration Penalty and Arbitration will be available.

**2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

- 2.1. Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted not less than 45 minutes before the start of any race affected.

**3. COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS**

- 3.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board in the clubhouse lounge.
- 3.2. From the first warning signal until the end of the last race of the day, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

**4. CODE OF CONDUCT**

- 4.1. [DP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.

**5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

- 5.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed at the main mast at the east end of the clubhouse

**6. SCHEDULE OF RACES**

- 6.1. On Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April, the first warning signal is scheduled for 11.27. Races 2 & 3 will be sailed back to back after race 1.  
On Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April, the first warning signal is scheduled for 09:57. Races 5 & 6 will be sailed back to back after race 4. Race 6 is scheduled to be the Long Distance Race.
- 6.2. At the discretion of the race committee, races may be moved between Saturday and Sunday to maximise the opportunity to complete all races in the event. This includes when and whether to hold the Long Distance Race. However, racing on either day will not start earlier than the times specified above
- 6.3. No warning signal will be made after 15.00 on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April.
- 6.4. There will be a briefing at 10:00am on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April in the Clubhouse Lounge

**7. CLASS FLAGS**

- 7.1 The Dart 15 class flag will be Flag D.  
The Shearwater class flag will Flag F.

**1. RACE AREA**

- 1.1. The race area will be the Blackwater Estuary.

**2. COURSE**

- 2.1. The diagram in Attachment A shows the course, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left. This applies to all races except the Long Distance Race.
- 2.2. The number of laps to be sailed will be displayed on the committee boat.
- 2.3. The course of the Long Distance Race will be advised at the Competitor Briefing.

**3. MARKS**

- 3.1. See Attachment A.

**4. [DP] AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS**

- 4.1. The following areas are designated as obstructions:

- 4.2. A safety boat in close attendance to a craft or competitor in difficulty is an obstruction and a prohibited area. Boats must not sail between the safety boat and the craft or competitor in difficulty.
- 4.3. All boats shall avoid sailing through the Marconi Sailing Club moorings.

**5. THE START**

- 5.1. The Orange flag will be raised on the committee boat with short sound signals at least 1 minute before the warning flag of the first class in a sequence and will remain flying until the end of that start sequence.
- 5.2. The order of starts will be as follows: Shearwater fleet; Dart 15 fleet. In the event of a General Recall, the order of starts will remain the same.
- 5.3. There will be a gap of at least 1 minute between the start of one fleet and the warning flag of the next.
- 5.4. Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for the other fleet.
- 5.5. Races will be started using RRS 26 with the warning signal made 3 minutes before the starting signal, i.e., 3, 2, 1, GO.
- 5.6. The starting line is between the mast displaying an orange flag on the signal vessel at the starboard end and the on course side of the starting mark of the port-end. The Starting Mark is a “pencil” buoy with a yellow sleeve.
- 5.7. A boat that does not start within four minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.

**6. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE**

- 6.1. To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will move the original mark or the finishing line to a new position.

**7. THE FINISH**

- 7.1. The finishing line is the same as the start line.
- 7.2. The race committee may give a finishing place to any boat as follows:  
When a race committee vessel displays flag W with two sounds, boats that have not yet finished may be given a finishing place anywhere on the race course, at a nearby mark or not. Those boats shall then return to the start area without completing any remaining legs of the lap.  
When a boat finishes in accordance with this instruction, she shall be awarded a finishing place matching her race position in that race. This changes RRS A5.
- 7.3. Each race will be approximately 45-55 minutes duration, 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. The results 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.

**8. PENALTY SYSTEM**

- 8.1. RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.
- 8.2. Boats that fail to pass through the upwind gate (see Attachment A) will not be disqualified but will be credited only with the number of laps they have sailed correctly.

**9. TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES**

- 9.1. The Mark 1 Time Limit, Race Time Limit (see RRS 35) and Target Time are shown in the table below.

Mark 1 Limit	Race Time Limit	Target Time
20 minutes	75 minutes	45 minutes

- 9.2. If no boat has passed the first mark within the Mark 1 Time Limit, the race will be abandoned.
- 9.3. Failure to meet the Target Time will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

**10. HEARING REQUESTS**

- 10.1. The protest time limit is 45 minutes after the last boat finishes the last race of the day or the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later.
- 10.2. Hearing request forms are available from Race Reception.
- 10.3. Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses and the location of the hearings. Alternatively hearings may be held remotely may be after the event, the parties involved will be advised by email of the arrangements.
- 10.4. Notices of protests by the race committee or protest committee will be posted to inform boats under Rule 61.1(b).

- 10.5. RYA Arbitration: The exoneration Penalty and the RYA Arbitration of the RYA Rules Disputes Procedures will be available. Decisions from RYA Arbitration can be referred to a protest committee but cannot be reopened or appealed.

## **11. SCORING**

- 11.1. The scoring system is APPENDIX A. Additionally, scoring as set out in clause A5.3 will apply.
- 11.2. In the event that the Long Distance Race is held, this will be scored separately. The other races will constitute the series for scoring purposes.
- 11.3. One race is required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 11.4. When fewer than four races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her races scores.
- 11.5. When four or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race score, excluding her worst score.

## **12. SAFETY REGULATIONS**

- 12.1. A safety tally system will be in operation. The tally board will be located at the entrance to the hard. Competitors will be allocated a tally band number at the Competitors Briefing.
- 12.2. [DP] All competitors should individually "sign on" before racing by collecting the relevant tally band.
- 12.3. [DP] All competitors should individually "sign off" as soon as they come ashore by replacing their tally band on the board.
- 12.4. [DP] A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible. Promptly after returning to shore, the boat shall notify the race office and no later than 30 minutes after the last boat finishes that race (or the last race before going ashore if races are sailed back-to-back).
- 12.5. Boats wishing to sail ashore before the end of the day's racing shall make every attempt to inform an official boat before leaving the racing area.

## **13. REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT**

- 13.1. Unless otherwise specified in class rules, for the series of races comprising this event only the helm named on the entry form will be eligible.
- 13.2. Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed unless authorized in writing by the Race Committee. Requests for substitution shall be made to the committee at the first reasonable opportunity, which may be after the race.

## **14. EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS**

- 14.1. A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the relevant class rules, notice of race and sailing instructions.
- 14.2. [DP] When instructed by a race official on the water, a boat shall proceed to a designated area for inspection.

## **15. TRASH DISPOSAL**

- 15.1. Sailors must bring any rubbish ashore and place it in an appropriate bin.

## **16. PRIZES**

- 16.1. Prizes will be advised at the event.

## **17. RISK STATEMENT**

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.'

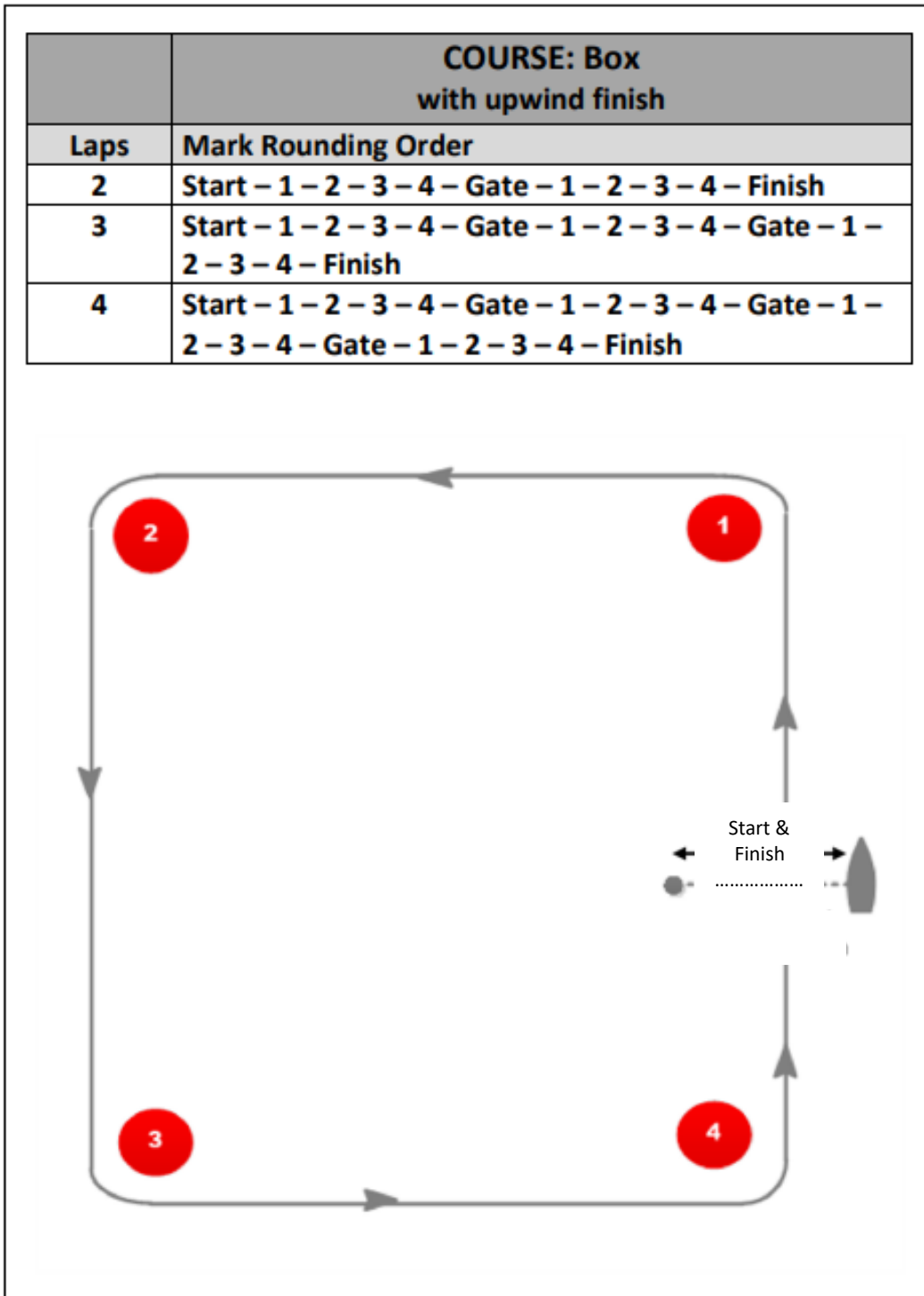
Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:

- a. 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;
- b. They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;
- c. They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;
- d. Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
- e. The provision of a race management team, patrol boats and other officials and volunteers by the event organizer does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
- f. The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances;
- g. It is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks specific to this venue or this event drawn to their attention in any rules and information produced for the venue or event and to attend any safety 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 incident or the equivalent.

**ATTACHMENT A – COURSE DIAGRAM**



**Description of Marks:**

- Mark 1: Yellow Pillar
- Mark 2: Orange Pyramid
- Mark 3: Orange Allen Pillar
- Mark 4: Orange Allen Pillar
- Start/Finish: Pencil buoy with yellow sleeve

**The course and any race marks for the Long Distance Race will be advised separately during the Competitors Briefing.**