

# NOTICE OF EVENT

## The Marconi Cruiser Open Races 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> June 2016

### 1.0 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

The Marconi Cruiser Open Race will be run on the following dates:

4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> June 2016

### 2.0 RULES

2.1 General The series will be governed by the rules as defined by The racing Rules of Sailing 2013-2016, the RYA prescriptions thereto, this Notice of Event and Sailing Instructions. The 2014 IRC Rules, Parts A, B and C shall apply to all boats competing in the IRC class of the Series, except that 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.

2.2 Advertising shall be as permitted

### 3.0 ELIGIBILITY

3.1. The Series is open to any mono-hull cruiser or sports boats owned or chartered by a member of any RYA affiliated yacht or sailing club.

3.2. Entering Boats must be entered in the race by contacting the organisers at least 24 hours before coming to the line for their first race and must have onboard the completed safety declaration form that can then be handed to the organisers prior to racing.

### 4.0 CLASSES

The Series will be competed for in the following classes:

- IRC
- Local Handicap (BCOSS numbers will be used)

### 5.0 SCORING

5.1 The two races will be run and scored as individual races.

5.2 Those Marconi boats that are participating in the Spring Regatta will use these two races as leg 4 and 5 in the series.

### 6.0 TROPHIES & PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded to winning boats as follows:

- IRC:
- Local Handicap:
- 3 x boat teams with joint scoring from the Colne YC race on 21<sup>st</sup> May and Marconi race on 4<sup>th</sup> June

# SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

## 1. RULES

1.1 Events will be sailed under the Rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing 2013-16 (RRS), the RYA prescriptions thereto, the Notice of Event, these Sailing Instructions, together with any subsequent amendments to these Sailing Instructions. For all events sailed under IRC, the IRC Rules 2014, Parts A, B and C shall apply, except that 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.

1.2 RRS52 Manual Power shall not apply. The use of stored power is permissible for hoisting and trimming sails and adjusting backstays, but not for the use of autohelms at any time whilst participating.

1.3 Participating yachts may display sail numbers. In the absence of displaying sail numbers a yacht must display either a number or its name on both port and starboard quarters permanently attached to the yacht for the duration of the event. This changes RRS rule 77. 1.3

## 2 NOTICES TO PARTICIPANTS

2.1 Notices to participants will be posted on the Marconi-SC website. [www.marconi-sc.org](http://www.marconi-sc.org)

## 3 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

3.1 Written changes will be posted on the Marconi website. When changes are issued within the 48 hour period immediately prior to the start of the event, they will be communicated by VHF radio using Channel 77.

## 4 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

4.1 The event warning signal will be 5 minutes before the first start. All starts will be at 1200hrs

4.2 Unless an amendment notice to these Sailing Instructions applies, there will be one start. All classes will sail the same course.

4.3 In any class, the minimum number of yachts required for an event to be started is two.

4.4 Results will be published separately for all yachts that have an IRC handicap.

4.5 All yachts will be given a LH handicap by the Marconi handicapping committee and results published.

## 5 CLASS FLAGS

5.1 The following Class Flags will be used :

- IRC Fleet - Numeral Pennant 5
- LH Fleet - Numeral Pennant 5

5.2 Class flags should be flown from the backstay.

## 6 RADIO COMMUNICATION

6.1 For reasons of clarification, the transmission or receiving of information at any time before, during or after the event concerning Sailing Instructions, matters affecting the management of the event, or all or part of the course to be sailed shall not be grounds for protest under RRS Rule 41 (Outside Help) nor grounds for redress under RRS Rule 62.

6.2 Since information regarding the event may be broadcast on VHF channel 77, competitors are strongly advised to monitor that channel before and during the race.

## 7 COURSES

7.1 Unless amendments or alternative sailing instructions are given, courses will be selected from the course card and will be sailed in the area between North Doubles, Mayland Spit and WMYC No12 buoys,

7.2 The courses may comprise of legs between marks and where they pass through the starting line the course can easily be shortened should the Race Officer decide that the prevailing conditions require this.

7.3 In extreme conditions the Race Officer may choose to set a short course that keeps the fleet within sheltered waters.

7.4 The Race Officer will broadcast the course to be sailed on VHF channel 77. Approximately 15 minutes before the start.

## 8 MARKS

8.1 The course sailed will use the marks as described in the Marconi-SC Chartlet.

8.2 The Mersea racing marks are laid and maintained by the Joint Mersea Yacht Clubs and the Marconi fleet are pleased to be permitted to use them.

## 9 THE START

9.1 The starting sequence will be in accordance with Rule 26 of the 2013-16 Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS). The following starting sequence will therefore be used.

<b>Signal</b>	<b>Flag and Sound</b>	<b>Minutes before starting signal</b>
Warning	Pennant No5 hoist & one sound signal	5
Preparatory Code Flag "P" (or other appropriate signal detailed in Rule 26)	Flag "P" hoist & one sound signal	4
1 Minute Preparatory	flag down & one long sound signal	1
Start	Start Class Flag down & one sound signal	0

9.2 The countdown sequence will be broadcast on VHF channel 77. This broadcast will be advisory only; competitors should refer to the start signals.

9.3 The Start Line will be the Marconi-SC line, or a line between the main mast of the Committee Vessel and a designated buoy, should the Race Officer decide to use a committee boat start. Competitors shall cross the line in the direction indicated by the Committee Vessel through their broadcast of the course to be sailed.

9.4 The Committee Vessel may lay an inner distance mark and if laid, boats may not pass between this mark and the Committee Vessel at any time before, during or after racing.

9.5 When the Race Officer is ready to commence her pre start preparations she will transmit on VHF channel 77, approximately 30 minutes before the start of the race.

9.6 When the start is by Committee Vessel, competitors will pass close to the vessels transom travelling in a direction from South to North. On doing so the competitor boats, displaying their class flag and sail number or name, will hail to the committee vessel, the yachts name and number of persons on board. The committee vessel will repeat the information which must be acknowledge as being correct, by the participating yacht.

9.7 When the Marconi-SC line is used for the start, competitors will call the Race Officer on VHF channel 77, giving their yacht's name, sail number and number of persons on board. The Race Officer will repeat the information which must be acknowledged as being correct, by the participating yacht.

9.8 Competitors shall start in the direction of the first mark of the designated course.

**10. LATE TO THE START** (This changes rules 41, Outside Help and 42, Propulsion).

10.1 A yacht starting late shall inform the race committee of the intention to race but any yacht coming to the start area later than 15 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS). (Additional criteria with regard to RRS 4)

10.2. If a yacht is late starting, she may use her engine or be towed after her preparatory signal to reach the starting area provided that she:

10.2.1. stops her engine or drops her tow as appropriate, and then makes a 360 degree turn before crossing the start line and;

10.2.2. does not start until at least 5 minutes after her starting signal and;

10.2.3. reports this to the Committee Vessel on the VHF channel 77

**11. KEDGED AT THE START AND UNABLE TO SAIL ACROSS THE LINE TO START** (This changes rules 41, Outside Help and 42, Propulsion).

11.1 If a yacht is kedged at the start and finds itself unable to sail across the line to start, she may use her engine, or be towed, after her starting signal to any position on the pre start side of the line provided that she complies with sailing instructions 10.1 through 10.2.3

**12 CHANGE OF COURSE AFTER THE START**

12.1 The Race Officer may shorten a course or abandon a race.

12.2 When shortening a course the Committee Vessel will move station to take up a position at a rounding mark and will display flag S. The new finishing line will be the line between the mark and the main mast of the Committee Vessel. Where the Race Officer is using the Marconi-SC line the course may be shortened on passing through the line.

**13 CHANGING THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE** RRS rule 33 is changed to:

13.1 The Race Officer will not change the next leg of the course.

**14 A MISSING MARK** RRS rule 34 is changed to:

14.1 When a mark is found to be missing by the participating boat leading the fleet the boat will report this to the Race Officer on VHF channel 77.

14.2 On confirmation that a mark is missing, the Race Officer may abandon the race

**15 THE FINISH**

15.1 The Finishing Line

15.1.1 When 12.2 is not actioned, the Finish line will be the Marconi-SC line, or as instructed on VHF Channel 77 by the committee vessel.

15.1.2 On finishing boats will keep clear of the line at all times.

15.1.3 On finishing those boats returning to home ports shall remain clear of boats still participating.

15.2 Committee Boat Off Station

15.2.1 When finishing, in the event of the Committee Boat not being on station, boats shall pass

through the designated line of the event and record their own time. The timepiece used shall be synchronised with GPS or Radio Clock time and reported to the Race Officer immediately using VHF Channel 77.

#### 16 TIME LIMITS RRS 35 is changed to:

16.1 The time limit is three hours. Any boat finishing within this time limit shall make the race valid. All boats completing the course after the three hour time limit will be scored.

16.2 The Committee Vessel may move off station from the finishing line at any time. In this situation sailing instruction 15.2.1 will apply.

16.3 Any participating boat retiring must notify the Committee Vessel by VHF Channel 77 and receive acknowledgement from the Committee Vessel. Where the Committee Vessel is out of range, the retiring boat must notify another participating boat who will relay the message to the Committee Vessel.

16.4 Participating boats retiring, or completing the course after the Committee Vessel has left station will report to the [Race Officer](#) on VHF Channel 77.

#### 17 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

17.1 A boat that wishes to lodge a protest shall verbally inform the Race Officer as soon as possible after finishing or retiring and no later than 6pm of the evening of the race.

#### 18 SERIES POINTS

18.1 The two races will be run and scored as individual races.

18.2 Those Marconi boats that are participating in the Spring Regatta will use these two races as leg 4 and 5 in the series.

#### 19 PRIZES

19.1 Prizes will be awarded to winning boats as follows:

- IRC:
- Local Handicap:
- 3 x boat teams with joint scoring from the Colne YC race on 21<sup>st</sup> May and Marconi race on 4<sup>th</sup> June

19.2 The prizes will be presented at the prize giving social event held at the Marconi-SC on the evening of 4<sup>th</sup> June 2106

#### 20 SAFETY REGULATIONS

20.1 A boat that retires from an event shall notify the Race Officer as soon as possible and comply with sailing instruction 16.3

20.2 Before participating in the event, the boat owners shall complete the online registration form and declare that they agree to comply with the safety equipment requirements for the event. **WITHOUT EXCEPTION, FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THIS REQUIREMENT WILL RESULT IN BOATS BEING SCORED D.N.C.**

##### 20.3 Safety Equipment

20.3.1 A participating boat will be so designed, equipped and laid out that it provides adequate protection, stability and self righting moment to safely sail in the waters in which the Marconi-SC Open Autumn Series events take place. If you are unsure of your vessels safety capability in these sailing areas owners and skippers will check the recommended requirements on the ISAF website.

20.3.2 A participating vessel will be identifiable by exhibiting sail numbers and /or will display a number or its name on its quarters

### 20.3.3 All boats shall carry all the following safety equipment:

- One cockpit mounted manual bilge pump (with secured handle)
- Marine Compass
- Fire extinguisher
- Ability to drop sails and motor to port unassisted in strong winds
- Two red flares & 2 orange smoke
- First Aid kit
- Charts and navigation equipment
- VHF radio capable of receiving and transmitting on UK marine channels
- Heaving line 15 - 25m (50–75ft)
- Lead line or Echo sounder
- Accessible life buoy or life sling
- Foghorn
- A stout bucket with lanyard Min 9 litre (2 gals)
- Anchor 2m chain and min 10m warp
- Lifejackets for all crew
- Equipment suitable for cutting the vessels standing rigging
- All equipment and fittings securely fastened, accessible, serviced, in date and suitable.

### The following items are recommended items:

- Safety harnesses and tethers (one for each crew member)
- Drouge fitted to life buoy
- Storm jib
- Dan buoy
- Cockpit knife

20.3.4 The safety equipment list represents a minimum, and is not the basis of any definitive safety at sea recommendation of the event organisers Marconi Sailing Club.

20.4 Marconi-SC reserve the right to board any boat before or after the event to check safety equipment. A boat found not to comply may be disqualified from the event.

## 21. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

21.1 Individual persons participate in the Marconi-SC Open Autumn Cruiser Racing Series do so entirely at their own risk. See ISAF Racing Rule 4, Decision to Race. The organising authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the event.

21.2 The Event Organisers shall not be liable for any loss, damage, death or personal injury howsoever caused to the owner/competitor, his skipper or crew as a result of their taking part in the event or events. Moreover every participant in the event warrants the suitability of his boat for the event or events. 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. It is for boats to decide whether it is fit to sail in the conditions in which it will find 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.

21.3 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 event. The organisers encompass everyone helping to run the event and the series, and include but is not restricted to the Organising Authority, the Event Committee, the Event Officers, Trot boats, Support Boats, Beach-masters

21.4 The provision of support boats does not relieve the competing boat or its skipper of their

responsibilities.

21.5 The owner or owner's representative of all boats is responsible to ensure that the vessel competing is equipped and seaworthy so as to be able to face extremes of weather; that there is a 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.

21.6 IT IS ALSO STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THAT THE OWNER, SKIPPER OR OWNER'S REPRESENTATIVE OF ALL BOATS SHALL REQUIRE EVERY PERSON ON BOARD TO WEAR A LIFEJACKET IN APPROPRIATE CONDITIONS.

## 22. INSURANCE

22.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £2,000,000 per event or the equivalent.

## 23. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

23.1 The Marconi-SC organising authority thank:

- The West Mersea Joint sailing clubs for laying the racing marks used within the Blackwater estuary.
- The ISAF and the RYA for providing exemplar event management documents.
- Club members acting as Race Officers, Scorers, Social Event Organisers e.t.c.
- The participating crews and boat owners.
- Our Sponsors.