

Larkoni Open – 5th and 6th May 2019 Sailing Instructions

The notation '[DP]' next to a rule in the SI means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.

RULES AND CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

- 1.1. The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* and the rules of the Lark Association, except as any of these are changed by these Sailing Instructions.
- 1.2. Entrants and authorised guests are temporary members of Marconi 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. Competitors intending to participate must enter on the forms provided and pay the appropriate entry fee.
- 1.4. Competitors will be required to wear adequate personal buoyancy at all times whilst afloat – except briefly while changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment. Wet suits and dry suits are not personal flotation devices. This changes Rule 40 and the preamble to Part 4.
- 1.5. Competitors participate entirely at their own risk. See RRS 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. The organisers encompass everyone helping to run the race, and include the race committee, the race officer, support boats and beach masters. The provision of support boats does not relieve a boat of her responsibilities.
- 1.6. A boat shall not race with an incorrect sail number unless she has notified the Race Committee at registration.

NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board[s] located in Race Reception.

CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

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

2. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 2.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagpole adjacent to the Clubhouse.
- 2.2. When flag AP is displayed ashore '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes' in the race signal AP.

3. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 3.1. Racing will take place alongside club racing, with a dedicated start for the Lark fleet – this start will take place at the end of the club sequence;
- 3.2. Class flags – for information the class flags used for club racing will be;

Class	Flag
Fast handicap	Red
Medium Handicap	Green
Slow handicap	Yellow
Lark Class start	Int. Code Flag L

3.3. Dates, Number of Races and Scheduled Start times

For information, Marconi Bank Holiday Series start times are also shown below;

Fleet	Morning 1	Morning 2	Afternoon	Class Flag
FAST Handicap	11:00 (fixed)	12:00 (guide)	14:00	Red
MEDIUM Handicap	11:08 (fixed)	12:08 (guide)	14:08	Green
SLOW Handicap	11:16 (fixed)	12:16 (guide)	14:16	Yellow
LARK	11:24 (fixed)	12:24 (guide)	14:24	Int. Code Flag L

- 3.4. Competitors intending to race must enter by signing on, on the forms provided, not more than one hour before the scheduled start of their race, and not later than their five minute warning signal. Competitors who do not sign on in accordance with this instruction shall not rank as a starter. In the event of back to back races, competitors must sign on for all races to be sailed back to back not later than their 5 minute warning signal for the first race.

4. RACE BOX START

- 4.1. RRS Rule 26 will apply. Races will be started as follows. At 5 minutes before the start the warning (class) flag will be displayed with one sound, at 4 minutes before the start the preparatory flag will be displayed with one sound, at 1 minute the preparatory flag will be removed and at the start the warning (class) flag will be removed with one sound. After 3 minutes break the next sequence shall begin.

<i>Minutes before starting signal</i>	<i>Visual Signal</i>	<i>Sound Signal</i>	<i>Means</i>
5	Class Flag	One	Warning Signal
4	Preparatory Flag	One	Preparatory Signal
1	Preparatory Flag Removed	One Long	One Minute
0	Class Flag Removed	One	Starting Signal

- 4.2. The start line for mono-hull craft (with exceptions below) is a continuation of the line between the light mast and the triangle mounted on a pole in front of the bridge deck. When starting, boats must sail a course which passes between the mark D (inner distance mark) and mark A (outer distance mark).
- 4.3. Boats whose preparatory signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area.
- 4.4. A boat shall not start later than ten minutes after her starting signal. (The short course handicap fleet may be shown some discretion in this area.)
- 4.5. Starting Penalties, RRS Rule 30 shall not apply.
- 4.6. Any boat which is OCS (On Course Side of line) at the time of the start by more than 25 metres (approximately), (5 or 6 boat lengths), will be disregarded in terms of individual recall signals (Rule 12.1). Those boats that subsequently fail to cross the line and then start correctly will be recorded as DNS (Did Not Start).

5. RECALLS

- 5.1. Individual Recalls will be signalled by leaving the class flag at the dip accompanied by one sound signal. The flag shall be so displayed until all such boats are completely on the pre-start side of the starting line, but not later than two minutes after the starting signal or one minute before any later starting signal, whichever is the later. This changes RRS Rule 29.1.
- 5.2. A General Recall will be signaled in accordance with RRS Rule 29.2. If other classes are due to start after the recalled start then they shall proceed as scheduled. i.e. the recalled fleet will start after all other fleets. The recalled fleet's warning signal will be one minute after the last scheduled start. This changes the start procedure to RRS 29.2.

6. RACE BOX FINISH

- 6.1. The finish line for mono-hull craft is a continuation of the line between the light mast and the triangle mounted on a pole in front of the bridge deck. When finishing, boats must sail a course which passes between the mark D (inner distance mark) and mark A (outer distance mark).
- 6.2. When the race signal S is displayed with a class flag at the race-box, boats of that class shall continue round the course, and finish when they next cross the finish line as defined in 13.1 and 13.2. If the race signal S is displayed with no class flag, all classes shall finish as defined above.
- 6.3. When race signal S is displayed from a support craft, the race will end when the leading boat crosses a line between the support craft displaying the flag S and the nearest mark of the course.

7. TIME LIMIT

- 7.1. The time limit for points series races will be two hours from the start. Any boats not finishing within 30 minutes, after the first boat finishes, or within the time limit, whichever is later, will be scored "Did Not Finish" DNF. This changes RRS Rule 35.

8. DECLARATION (Signing Off)

- 8.1. All competitors must sign the Declaration (signing off) Form after each race, within half an hour of the last boat finishing in their race. Competitors failing to sign off will be disqualified. Competitors retiring must declare this on the form, otherwise they will be disqualified. In the event of back to back races, competitors must sign off for all races that were sailed back to back within half an hour of the last boat finishing the last of their races.

9. CLASS FLAGS

- 9.1. The class flag will be International Code Flag L

10. RACING AREA, COURSE and MARKS

- 10.1. The racing area will be displayed on the official notice board.
- 10.2. The course will be displayed in Race reception
- 10.3. Marks of the course will be described on the official notice board in race reception.

11. AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS

- 11.1. A safety boat in close attendance to a craft or competitor in difficulty is an obstruction.

12. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 12.1. Boats observed by the Race Committee which fail to start or finish correctly or to sail the course as set and thus fail to comply with Rule 28 may be disqualified without protest. This changes rule 63.1

13. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 13.1. Intention to protest shall be notified to the Race Committee at the Committee/Finish boat immediately after finishing.
- 13.2. The protest time limit is 45 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day or the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is the later. The Race Committee may extend this in exceptional circumstances. The same time limit applies to requests for redress. This changes Rule 62.2.
- 13.3. Notices will be posted on the official notice board no later than 30 minutes after 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 Training Room in the ground floor of the club house.
- 13.4. Notices of protests by the race committee will be posted to inform boats under Rule 61.1(b).

13.5. 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. See the Official Notice board for details.

14. SCORING

14.1. The scoring system will be the Low Point System of Appendix A.

14.2. One race is required to be completed to constitute a series.

When fewer than four races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her races scores. 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.

15. EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

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

16. SAFETY REGULATIONS

16.1. Competitors shall sign on and off for each race individually on the sheet provided in the race reception. In the event of 2 or more races being sailed "back to back", competitors shall sign on for all races before sailing and sign off afterwards. Retirements must also sign off in the appropriate declaration box. Signing off must be completed within 30 minutes of returning to shore.

16.2. A boat that retires from a race shall notify a support boat crew as soon as possible.

16.3. Failure to sign the declaration sheet within the time limit or failure to sign in the correct column may result in disqualification. [DP]

17. PRIZES

17.1. Prizes awarded depending on the size of the entry.

18. RADIO COMMUNICATION

18.1. Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile phones.

19. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY - RISK STATEMENT

Rule 4 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or continue racing is hers alone." Sailing is by 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 to themselves, their crew, their boat to such inherent risk whilst taking part;
- (b) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their 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 organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
- (f) The provision of a patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances
- (g) Their boat is adequately insured, with cover of at least £3,000,000 against third party claims
- (h) 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