



Sonata National Championships

10th-14th August 2024

Notice of Race

The notation '[NP]' in a rule means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a). The Notation '[DP]' in a rule means that the penalty for a breach of the rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.

1. RULES

- 1.1 The event will be governed by the rules as defined in
The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) and RYA Prescriptions,
Class Rules of the National Sonata Class effective on 11th August 2024,
The Bylaws of Medway Ports (available from Medway Ports, Sheerness Docks, Sheerness, Kent ME12 1RS).
This Notice of Race (NOR); and The Sailing Instructions (SI) and any amendments thereto.
- 1.2 Changes to the RRS will be notified in the SI.
- 1.3 The Exoneration Penalty, the advisory hearing and RYA Arbitration of the RYA Rules Dispute Procedures may be available.

2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 The Sailing Instructions will be made available no later than 30th June 2024. The Sailing Instructions will be published on www.medwayyachtclub.com (Event Website)
- 2.2 Changes to the Sailing Instructions and Notice of Race will be published on the event website www.medwayyachtclub.com. Notices may also be published via the Event WhatsApp Group and the foyer of the Medway yacht Club (this is at the discretion of the organising committee).

3. COMMUNICATION

- 3.1 The official event website is located at: www.medwayyachtclub.com
- 3.2 Notices may also be published via the Event WhatsApp Group and the foyer of the Medway yacht Club (this is at the discretion of the organising committee).
- 3.3 [DP] All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communicating on channels. 72, 37A and 16
- 3.4 On the water, the race committee will make courtesy broadcasts to competitors on VHF radio and display boards from committee boats. The VHF radio channel will be stated in the SIs. The race committee may also choose to make courtesy broadcasts to competitors via the event WhatsApp Group.
- 3.5 [DP] 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. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1 The event is open to any National Sonata in possession of a current RYA National Sonata measurement certificate.
- 4.2 At least one owner must be a current member of the National Sonata Association.
- 4.3 All competitors will be required to produce a valid Class Membership Certificate and RYA Sonata Measurement Certificate on registration.
- 4.4 Eligible boats shall enter by completing the online race entry form. Or by submitting a completed form by email or post and by paying the required entry fee, by BACS or in person. The race entry form is available from the event website.
- 4.5 To be considered an entry in the event, a boat shall complete all entry requirements and pay all fees before Saturday 3rd August 2024
- 4.6 Late entries will be accepted at the discretion of the organising committee and may be subject to increased fees.

5. FEES

6. Entry fees for the event shall be £180.00 Prior to 1st May 2024 increasing to £200 from 00:00hrs on 1st May 2024.
- 6.1 Fees shall be paid through the online entry and payment form, BACS or in person.
- 6.2 Bookings for food and social events will be made available and fees paid through the event website.

7. CREW LIMITATIONS

- 7.1 A boat shall sail with a minimum of three and a maximum of five crew including the helm.
- 7.2 Boats shall declare all crew names, contact details and emergency contact details to the race committee prior to 0830 on the first day of each crew member sailing in the event.
- 7.3 No crew member may be substituted, removed or added without prior written approval of the race committee.
- 8. ADVERTISING**
- 8.1 Advertising will be in accordance with World Sailing Regulation 20.
- 8.2 Competitors may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organizing authority.
- 8.3 Competitors shall not display any advertising which, in the opinion of the race committee, is in conflict with the event sponsors.
- 9. BERTHING AND CRANEAGE**
- 9.1 Boats shall be kept in their assigned places on the moorings and be secured in compliance with the instructions of the Race Committee.
- 9.2 A launch service will be provided for all competitors.
- 9.3 Craneage details and timings will be made available to all competitors when the schedule is finalised.
- 10. SCHEDULE**
- 10.1 Registration will start in the regatta office at 1200 hours on Saturday 10th August 2024 until 1900 hours.
- 10.2 Equipment inspection, measurement and scrutineering shall take place on Saturday 10th August 2024.
- 10.3 The Scrutineering form shall be received by the race committee by 0815 hours on the boats first day of racing.
- 10.4 A Competitors' briefing by the Race Officer will take place on the evening of Saturday 10th August 2024.
- 10.5 A maximum of Sixteen races are scheduled for the event.
- 10.6 The first day of racing shall be Sunday 11th August 2024 and final day of racing shall be Wednesday 14th August 2024
- 10.7 The warning signal for the first race of each day will not be made before 1030 hours.
- 10.8 No warning signal shall be made later than 1600 on the 11th, 12th & 13th August 2024, and racing on the 14th August 2024 no warning signals shall be made after 1500 hours.
- 10.9 A maximum of 4 races shall be started per day.
- 10.10 The Race Officer, for reasons including (inter alia) weather conditions, shipping hazards and other safety issues, may vary the regatta programme of races.
- 11. EQUIPMENT INSPECTION**
- 11.1 All boats shall produce or verify the existence of a valid measurement certificate.
- 11.2 All sails to be used must be certified by an official measurer with signature and date.
- 11.3 The Race Committee may inspect any boat and / or her equipment at any time.
- 11.4 Notwithstanding the equipment list in the class rules, the following must be carried whilst racing: a functioning marine VHF radio and ten metres of warp suitable for towing which is not part of the running rigging.
- 12. VENUE**
- 12.1 Racing will take place on the river Medway and Thames Estuary
- 12.2 Appendix A shows a plan of the intended racing areas.
- 13. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**
- 13.1 Sailing Instructions will be available from the office at MYC no later than 30th June 2023.
- 13.2 A copy of the SI will be published on the Event Website.
- 14. COURSES**
- 14.1 Courses will be set within the Reaches and Creeks of the River Medway and Thames Estuary.
- 14.2 The courses will be detailed in the sailing instructions.
- 14.3 Up to 2 races in the series may be sailed 'round-the-cans' with a special course not identified in the sailing instructions.
- 15. SCORING**
- 15.1 3 Races must be completed to constitute the Series.
- 15.2 A boat's series score will be calculated as follows:
- When fewer than four races have been completed a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
 - When four to seven races have been completed a boat's series score will be the total of her series score excluding her worst score.
 - When eight or more races have been completed a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst 2 scores.
- 16. BERTHING**
- 16.1 Boats and their equipment (including tow vehicles and trailers) shall be kept in the place assigned by the race committee.

17. HAUL-OUT AND SCRUBBING RESTRICTIONS

- 17.1 Boats shall not be hauled out during the period from 0900hrs on Sunday 11th August until the conclusion of the event except with and according to the terms of prior written permission of the Race Committee. For the avoidance of doubt, the definition of “hauling out” shall include the drying out of boats on posts, moorings, the shore or trailers.
- 17.2 Boats shall not be cleaned or scrubbed below the waterline, except for the rudder, from 0900hrs on Sunday 11th August until the conclusion of the event.

18. DATA PROTECTION

- 18.1 By participating a competitor automatically grants the Organising Authority and the event sponsors the right in perpetuity, to make, use and show still and motion pictures taken during the period of the event without compensation. The Organising Authority will not release personal contact details of competitors to third parties or to the internet.

19. INSURANCE

- 19.1 Each participating boat is required to hold insurance cover and in particular to hold adequate insurance against third party claims with a minimum cover of £3,000,000 per incident.

20. RISK STATEMENT

- 20.1 The attention of all competitors is drawn to RRS Rule 3, ‘Decision to Race’.
- 20.2 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.
- 20.3 It is for the boat to decide whether it is fit to sail in the conditions it finds 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.
- 20.4 The boat is responsible to ensure that it is equipped and seaworthy so as to be able to face extremes of weather; that there is 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.
- 20.5 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 racing.
- 20.6 The Organisers encompass everyone helping to run the race and the event, and include the Organising Authority, the race committee, the race officer, patrol boats and beach-masters.
- 20.7 The provision of patrol boats does not relieve the boat of its responsibilities.
- 20.8 The fact that the race committee conducts inspections of a boat does not reduce the responsibilities of the boat set out in this section.
- 20.9 A boat is responsible in familiarising themselves with any risks specific to this venue or this event and should draw their attention to any rules and information produced (including local bylaws and notices to mariners) for the venue or event and to attend any safety briefing held for the event.

21. RESULTS, PRIZES, SOCIAL AND OTHER INFORMATION

- 21.1 Results will be published as soon as possible after competitors have returned ashore on each day of racing.
- 21.2 Daily prizes and trophies will be awarded at MYC each evening and overall prizes on Wednesday 14th August. A programme of social events and catering arrangements will be provided on the Event Website.
- 21.3 Details of local accommodation are provided on the Event Website

22. CONTACTS FOR THE REGATTA

Sonata Nationals 2024
Medway Yacht Club (Office),
Lower Upnor,
ROCHESTER, ME2 4XB
Tel: 01634 718399
Email: Sonatas@medwayyachtclub.com

MSBA River Medway Visitor Chart.

