

MEDWAY YACHT CLUB

2025 WEDNESDAY EVENING SERIES

First Series 28 May, 4, 11, 18, 25 June – Second Series 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 July

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS FOR KEEL BOATS -SI



1. RULES

- 1.1 The racing will be governed by The RYA Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-28 (RRS).
- 1.2 The Prescriptions of the RYA will apply.
- 1.3 The following documentation shall apply:
 - i. The RYA Racing Charter ii. The Notice of Race (NOR) . The Bye Laws and Directives of the Local Port Authority iv. The MYC Minimum Equipment List (MEL) 2024 and rating rules

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS & CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the “MYC Wednesday Series – Keel Boats 2025 WhatsApp Group” referred to in these SI’s as the “WhatsApp Group”. Entrants will be added to this group upon entry.
- 2.2 Changes to Sailing Instructions will be posted on the “WhatsApp Group”.
- 2.3 Changes to the racing schedule will be posted on the “WhatsApp Group” before 18:00 on the day of the race affected.

3. SCHEDULE OF RACES & CLASSES

- 3.1 Dates of racing: First Series 28 May, 4, 11, 18, 25 June – Second Series 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 July
- 3.2 The entries may be divided by the organising authority between one design keelboat fleets and cruiser classes depending on the number of entries.
- 3.3 There will be one evening race each Wednesday evening with the first warning signal at 18:55.
- 3.4 Boats will fly the numeral pennant of their class from the backstay or equivalent rigging while racing if there is more than one class.

4. COURSES

- 4.1 The race area is the River Medway.
- 4.2 The course to be sailed will be notified via the “WhatsApp Group” no later than the warning signal. The Race Committee may also broadcast course and other race management information by VHF, on Channel 37. The Race Committee recommends all boats carry out a radio check before the warning signal of each race.
- 4.3 Marks are listed in the appendix.
- 4.4 All marks are passing marks unless specifically identified as a rounding mark.

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5. THE START

- 5.1 The start will be on the Upnor Line in front of the Medway Yacht Club.
- 5.2 Boats shall signal their intention to race by notifying the number of crew on the "WhatsApp Group" prior to the warning signal.
- 5.3 The first warning signal will be at 18:55 provided the start of racing is not postponed.
- 5.4 The postponement flag will be flown from the Upnor Line race box if the start of racing is postponed.
- 5.5 Any changes will be broadcast by the Race Committee via the "WhatsApp Group" and may be by VHF channel 37 before the warning signal of the first start.
- 5.6 Races will be started using RRS 26 (5,4,1,0, mins).
- 5.7 Boats not racing (as defined by RRS) shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence of other classes.
- 5.8 In the event of an individual recall, the sail number of the boat or boats judged OCS may be transmitted by the Race Committee on VHF channel 37 or via the "WhatsApp Group" at least one minute after the start. Failure to receive such a message shall not constitute grounds for redress. This changes RRS 29.1.

6. OBSTRUCTIONS

- 6.1 This series is held on a navigable river and large vessels have right of way. International regulations and local bylaws shall apply to ships or vessels using jetties, piers, berths, moorings etc.
- 6.3 Boats shall not sail between Folly Beacon and Hoo Island; nor between Darnet Beacon and Darnet Ness.
- 6.4 Vessels on moorings or at anchor are deemed to be obstructions for the purposes of RRS. Any reasonable means of propulsion including the use of an engine, may be used by a boat to get clear of a moored or anchored vessel, provided the use of the engine or other means of propulsion ceases as soon as the boat is clear, and she does not gain a significant advantage in the race.
- 6.5 If a boat or its crew makes contact with a moored or anchored boat, she shall declare details of the contact when signing off at the end of the race and accept a 20% Scoring Penalty pursuant to RRS 44.3(c). If a boat causes injury or serious damage, her penalty shall be to retire. A boat deemed to have contravened this instruction will be subject to protest and liable to be scored DNE. A mooring or anchor line or chain or an object accidentally attached to a moored or anchored vessel is not part of it.
- 6.6 Boats shall not sail over span lines on fore and aft moorings.

7. FINISHING

- 7.1 Boat retirements must be notified to the Race Committee via the "WhatsApp Group" at the earliest opportunity.
- 7.2 The finish may be the Upnor Line in front of the MYC or at a mark in the Appendix to the Sailing Instructions.
- 7.3 If boats are requested to self-finish at a mark, they should record the time, preferably with a mobile phone photo, that their bows cross an imaginary line from the mark at right angles to an imaginary line from the most recent turning point of the course.

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- 7.4 Race finish times taken by boat owners must be reported not later than 5 minutes after finishing using the “WhatsApp Group” if they are requested to do so.
- 7.5 The Race Committee may broadcast its intention to abandon the race or shorten course by requesting boats via the “WhatsApp Group” and/or by VHF channel 37 to finish at a mark in the Appendix or by leaving out specific marks. Failure to do both shall be no cause for redress. This changes RRS 32. Shortening course pursuant to this instruction shall not be grounds for redress.

8. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 8.1 Any protest and or right for redress shall be notified to the Race Officer within 30 minutes of the last boat to finish the last race of the day.
- 8.2 Any protest or right for redress shall be discussed between the two or more boats affected and if agreement cannot be reached the Race Officer shall be asked to adjudicate.
- 8.3 The decision of the Race Officer shall be made within 24hrs of racing and shall be final.
- 8.4 If the Race Officer cannot adjudicate for any reason, then such protest or right to redress shall be referred to a Flag Officer whose decision will then become final.
- 8.5 These rules replace RRS 2025-28 rules 60 – 64
- 8.6 If a boat has decided to take a Penalty at the time of an incident where she might have broken one or more rules of Part 2 of the RRS 2025-28 she shall be required to take One-turn only (360 degrees). This is an amendment to Rule 44.1

9. RESULTS AND SCORING

- 9.1 The provisional results for each race will be calculated as soon as possible after the last boat finishes and are planned to be available in the MYC club house and the “WhatsApp Group”. The provisional results will also be uploaded to the Club Results page. The “WhatsApp Group” will be advised as soon as they have been uploaded.
- 9.2 A boat that does not come to the start a race shall score for that race one more than the number of boats in the class entered in the series. A boat that came to the start of a race but did not finish for some reason will score one more than the number of boats in the class that finish that race. This changes RRS A5.

10. EQUIPMENT

- 10.1 Boats wishing to use a sail that does not bear the boat’s registration number, and which must not duplicate the number of another boat racing, must obtain prior approval from the Race Committee.
- 10.2 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time, before or after a race, by a Race Committee member to ensure compliance with any relevant class rules, sailing instructions or applicable MYC Minimum Equipment List 2025.
- 10.3 Boats may use electrically or hydraulically powered winches to adjust standing and running rigging. This changes RRS 52.

11. 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.”

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

- 11.1 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,
- 11.2 They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore and that they are familiar with procedures for the recovery of persons overboard.
- 11.3 They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions,
- 11.4 Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate,
- 11.5 The provision of a race management team, patrol boats if any, and other officials and volunteers by the organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities,
- 11.6 They are responsible for ensuring that their boat is equipped and seaworthy to face extremes of weather; that there is a crew sufficient in experience and fitness to withstand such weather; and that the safety equipment is properly maintained, stowed and in date and is familiar to the crew.

12. INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £3,000,000 per incident or the equivalent.

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Appendix MYC RACING MARKS

Designation	Name	Description	Approximate Position	Number in List
34		R. Can	51:23.14N 0:30.86E	1
32		R. Can	51:24.66N 0:32.15E	2
31		G. Conical	51:24.56N 0:33.05E	3
30A		R. Can	51:24.48N 0:33.00E	4
30		R. Can	51:24.08N 0:33.45E	5
29		G. Conical	51:24.00N 0:33.75E	6
28		R. Can	51:23.88N 0:34.08E	7
27		G. Conical	51:23.91N 0:34.71E	8
26		R. Can	51:23.84N 0:34.76E	9
25	Folly	G. Conical	51:24.09N 0:35.25E	10
24		R. Can	51:24.04N 0:35.37E	11
23	Darnet	G. Conical	51:24.60N 0:35.66E	12
MYA 1		Y. Barrel	51:24.66N 0:35.79E	13
22		R. Can	51:24.51N 0:36.09E	14
20		R. Can	51:24.52N 0:36.92E	15
19		G. Conical	51:24.63N 0:36.91E	16
Autumn		Y. Barrel	51:24.71N 0:36.91E	17
18		R. Can	51:24.48N 0:37.90E	18
17		G. Conical	51:24.60N 0:37.90E	19
MYC 4		Y. Barrel	51:24.76N 0:37.93E	20
16	Bishop	R. Can	51:24.71N 0:38.78E	21

Please note that the positions listed are approximate and should be checked against an up-to-date large-scale chart.
Misprints of positions or descriptions shall not be grounds for redress.

MYC April 2025.