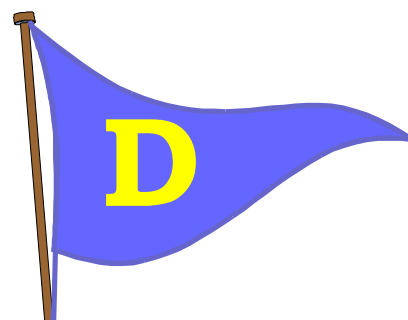
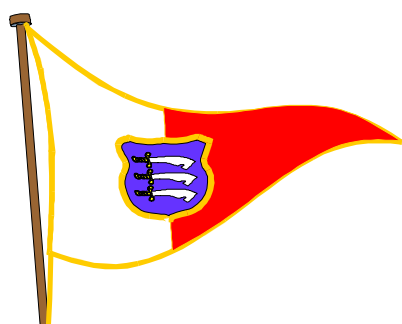


WEST MERSEA YACHT CLUB

&

DABCHICKS SAILING CLUB



SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

2020

Covid Amendments are shown in red

SPONSORED BY





1. RULES

- 1.1. The races will be governed by the rules as defined in Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
- 1.2. Rules 44.3 (scoring penalty) shall not apply.
- 1.3. Automatic mechanical and wind vane devices for steering are prohibited.
- 1.4. Separate Appendices accompany these instructions relating to West Mersea White Sail series, WMYC Ladies Regatta, WMYC Centenary Regatta, WMYC Autumn Trophy and Finola Cup Races, DSC Friday Series, DSC commodores Regatta, **Races organized under Covid 19 conditions.**

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1. **Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located On the West Mersea YC website**

3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1. Any changes to sailing instructions will be posted before 0900 on the day it will take effect except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect
- 3.2. Oral changes to sailing instructions may be made from the Committee Boat using VHF Channel 77 call sign 'Molliette' or 'Centenary'. When oral changes have been issued, the Committee Boat will display Code Flag L over Flag O.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1. Signals made ashore will be flown from the yardarm in front of WMYC.

5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 5.1. Races are scheduled in accordance with the 2020 WMYC and DSC Sailing Programmes.
- 5.2. Unless amendment notices or an appendix to these Sailing Instructions is applicable, the scheduled start times for all races will be as published in the 2020 sailing programme.
- 5.3. To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, the orange starting line flag will be displayed with one sound signal at least five minutes before a warning signal is made.
- 5.4. In any fleet, the minimum number of yachts required for a race to be started is two. This changes RRS 90.3(a).
- 5.5. When the OOD has abandoned or postponed a race and it cannot be sailed on its original day the Sailing Committee may convene a meeting to decide what action to take. They will take into account the individual circumstances and the knock-on effect on any of the race series.

6. CLASS FLAGS

- 6.1. The following Class Flags will be used: -

6.1.1. IRC Keelboats	Numeral Pennant 1
6.1.2. White Sail	Numeral Pennant 4
6.1.3. LH Fleet	Numeral Pennant 5
6.1.4. IRC Sportsboats	Numeral Pennant 6

- 6.2. Class flags shall be flown from the backstay by all competitors

- 6.3. Correct legible sail numbers shall be worn on at least the mainsail of all competing yachts

7. Racing Areas

- 7.1. The Race area is the Blackwater and Colne estuaries
- 7.2. The locations of the Racing marks may be found using the WMYC and DSC course chart which is produced annually.



8. COURSES

- 8.1. Unless amendments or alternative sailing instructions are given, courses will be taken from the 2020 WMYC and DSC combined Course Chart. The number of the course to be sailed will be that displayed on the rail of the Committee Boat at the Fleet warning signal. The course number may be removed after the Start Signal and replaced with the course for any following fleet. If the number of the course displayed on the Committee Boat is followed by X2, this denotes that 2 laps of that course should be sailed, X3 denotes that 3 laps of that course should be sailed, etc.
- 8.2. If course number 77 is displayed then the OOD will broadcast the course to be sailed on VHF Channel 77, call sign 'Molliette' or 'Centenary'. The broadcast will be issued at least 15 minutes before the start of each race effected and may be displayed on a blackboard on the committee boat.

9. MARKS

- 9.1. The racing marks are yellow can shaped buoys that may additionally have a black flag. They are identified by their sponsor name and or their number.
- 9.2. Their approximate positions are shown on the Course Chart
- 9.3. If a mark is damaged or missing it may be replaced temporarily by a mark of a different appearance.
- 9.4. All other race marks shown on the Course Chart are charted navigation marks.
- 9.5. A Dan buoy will be orange with an orange flag.
- 9.6. Laid marks shall be inflatables of any shape or colour.

10. Areas that are obstructions

- 10.1. There is an exclusion zone at approximately 51° 45.00N 000° 56.00E. The zone is clearly delineated by yellow marker buoys. No competitor may enter this zone at any time; any competitor identified in breach of this instruction will be disqualified without a hearing. This amends RRS 63.

11. THE START

- 11.1 Races will be started using rule 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal

The starting line will be either;

- 11.1.1. One of the clubs starting lines- defined as a line between the main mast of the Committee Boat moored to the Committee Boat mooring buoy (approximately 200m to the south west of the Nass Beacon) and the OLM displayed on a board on the Committee Boat.
- 11.1.2. If the board displays 'S' then Outer Limit Mark 'S' - (yellow buoy with a Black flag) will be the OLM.

If the board displays 'E' then Outer Limit Mark 'E' - (yellow buoy with a Red flag) will be the OLM.

If the board displays 'W' then Outer Limit Mark 'W' (yellow buoy with a Green flag) will be the OLM

Or:

A Committee Boat Line – defined as a line between the main mast of the Committee Boat moored adjacent to a chosen mark or dan buoy.

Or:

A transit between the pole with a black flag on the Middle Ouse, and the Flagstaff on the WMYC lawn. When this line is to used will be defined in the appropriate appendix to the Sailing Instructions.

The starting countdown sequence may be broadcast on VHF channel 77, call sign 'Molliette' or 'Centenary'. This broadcast will be advisory only; competitors should refer to the start signals.

Or:

A gate start as described in Appendix two of the combined Sailing Instructions



Or:

Rule 26 will be changed as follows

Minutes before starting signal	Visual signal	Sound signal	Means
5	None	Three short	Warning signal
4	None	Two short	Preparatory signal
1	None	One long	One minute
0	None	One	Starting signal
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Times shall be taken from the sound signals. • Races will be started as if the 'U' visual signal had been displayed at the preparatory signal. 			

Which start line to be used shall be decided by the OOD and as well as the committee boat board, this information will also be transmitted on VHF channel 77 using the call sign 'Molliette' or 'Centenary', a minimum of 15 minutes before the start of the race.

12. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

To change a leg of a course the race committee will lay a new mark and signal in accordance with RRS 33 except the old mark may not be removed.

Minor mark moves (up to Approximately 200m) may be made without signalling a change. This changes RRS 33.

13. THE FINISH

The finishing line will be between the main mast of the Committee Boat moored to the Committee Boat mooring buoy and the Outer Limit Mark 'S' (Black Flag) to the South of the Committee Boat mooring buoy.

OR

The finishing line will be between the Committee boat mast flying an orange flag and a danbuoy flying an orange flag

OR

A transit between the pole with a black flag on the Middle Ouse, and the Flagstaff on the WMYC lawn

14. TIME LIMITS

14.1.

Event	Time Limit for First boat to finish	Time limit for the rest of Fleet to finish after the First boat	First Mark Target Time
Multi Race day	1.5 hours	30 mins	30 mins
Single Race days	2.5 hours	90 mins	1 hours

14.2 The time limit for the first boat in each class to finish will be as described in SI 14.1. Any Boat failing to finish, inside the time limit for the rest of the Fleet to finish after the first boat finished in her class, (SI 14.1) shall be scored TLE. This changes RRS 35, A4, A5 and A11.



15. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

A boat which wishes to lodge a protest shall verbally inform the OOD aboard the Committee Boat as soon as possible after finishing or retiring.

Protests shall be lodged By email to the wmycsailing@gmail.com by 18.00hrs on the day of the race, or within one hour of finishing, whichever is earlier.

Protest hearings will be organised through a Zoom platform at a future date which will be emailed to the competitors

16. SCORING AND PENALTIES

16.1 Points

16.1.1.1. A boat disqualified (DSQ) or a boat which did not finish (DNF), shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats that come to the starting area for that race. This changes Appendix A4.2.

16.1.1.2. A boat that does not come to the starting area (DNC) shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats entered in the series. This changes Appendix A4.2.

16.1.1.3. Boats scored TLE will be scored points equal to the number of boats which sail the course and finish plus two points, without a hearing. This changes Appendix A4.1, A4.2 and A5.

16.2. OODs who normally race will receive their average points for the races in which they have competed during that series, or third position whichever is lowest, for any race missed in that series while serving as OOD, calculated at the end of the series. See DSC Friday Series Appendix for separate rule relating to that series.

16.3. For infringements of rules other than in Parts 1 and 2 of the RRS, the Protest Committee may award a penalty less than disqualification.

16.4. Results will be published for all yachts that have an IRC 2020 rating.

16.4.1. All yachts will be given an LH handicap by the Joint Handicap Committee to enable boats that do not race on a regular basis to enter the miscellaneous races in the 2020 Programme. E.g. Ladies Regatta, Wallet cup, Ancient Mariners etc.

16.4.2. The White Sail Series is intended to appeal to boats which are less than fully crewed. Scoring for these series will be by NHC Handicap. See separate series appendices for any change.

16.4.3. WMYC Club Championship - Points will be awarded on the following basis: Spring series, Autumn series and all races in the WMYC Centenary Regatta – points will only be awarded to yachts holding a valid 2020 IRC handicap.

16.4.4. DSC Club Championship – points will be awarded based upon the overall results of yachts in the Spring series, Autumn Series under IRC and DSC Friday Series under LH.

16.5. Position in a series – In a series, each boat's score shall be the total of her race scores, excluding the number of her worst scores as specified in 16.7 below. The boat with the lowest series score wins and others shall be ranked accordingly.

16.5.1. **Ties in races and series –**

16.5.2. Boats the same corrected time in a race will be awarded equally the position as if one boat had that corrected time. Subsequent boats will be allocated positions as if tied boats ahead had been placed with different corrected times. This changes RRS Rule A7.

16.5.3. When there is a tie in a series, the tie will be broken in accordance with RRS Rule A8.

16.5.4. **Extracting results for other series -** For WMYC and DSC series within combined races, each boat will have its points calculated for the relevant event as if only boats for that particular event had been racing.

16.6 Discards allowed - The number of scores that will be excluded for each boat in a series will be determined by the number of races completed in that series in accordance with the following table. However, see the Appendices for specific race series for definite rules.



Number of Races Completed	<3	3-4	5-6	7-8	9-10	11 -12	13-14	15-16	>16
Number of Discards	None	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

See DSC Friday Series Appendices for separate rules relating to that series.

17. PRIZES

In general, prizes will be awarded in relation to the number of entries for each Race, Series, Division or Fleet as appropriate.

Up to 4 entries	1st Place only will be awarded.
5 to 8 entries	1st and 2 nd places will be awarded.
Over 8 entries	1st, 2nd and 3rd places will be awarded.

Prizes will be awarded / presented at each Club's end of season prize giving event.

Where there is more than one race on a day the trophy will be awarded based upon a boat's combined score on that day. Individual trophies for Spring & Autumn Series will be awarded based upon IRC and White Sail (NHC) handicap results.

18. SAFETY REGULATIONS

18.1 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the OOD as soon as possible.

18.2 Safety Declaration

Before competing in any race boat owners shall submit to the WMYC Secretariat a signed Safety Declaration as per the attached form APPENDIX 1. WMYC will copy these forms to DSC on a weekly basis. WITHOUT EXCEPTION, FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THIS REQUIREMENT WILL RESULT IN BOATS BEING SCORED D.N.C. This changes Rule A4.2, A5, A9.

18.3. Safety Equipment

All boats shall carry a minimum of all the following safety equipment:

Lifejackets for all crew members

Lifebuoy

EPIRB and/or Handheld VHF with charged batteries and in date

OR Coastal Flare pack - 2 Red hand held flares and 2 Orange smoke flares, all in date

Fog Horn

Echo Sounder

Fire Extinguisher

Anchor, 2m chain and a minimum of 15m cable

First Aid Kit

Marine Compass

Manual Bilge Pump permanently fitted and operated from cockpit

Stout Bucket with lanyard

VHF Radio



Bolt croppers or other effective means of cutting rigging

Suitable knife accessible from the deck effective for cutting sheets and halyards

Heaving line & Towing line

The following items are recommended:

Safety harnesses (one for each crew member)

kedge anchor and warp

storm jib

This list is not the basis of any definitive safety at sea recommendation by WMYC or DSC.

18.4 Inspections - The technical committee or their representatives of WMYC and DSC reserve the right to board any boat before or after any race to check safety equipment or class compliance. A boat found not to comply may be protested.

19. RADIO COMMUNICATION

Except in an emergency, a boat that is racing shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

Information regarding the race may be broadcast on VHF Channel 77 callsign 'Molliette' or 'Centenary', competitors are strongly advised to monitor that channel before and during the race.

20. RISK STATEMENT

Rule 4 of the RRS states "The responsibility for a boats decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone"

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

They are aware of the inherent element of risk involved in the in the sport and accept responsibility for the exposure of themselves, their crew and their boat to such inherent risk while taking part in the event

They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore

They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions

Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate

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

The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances.

It is their responsibility to familiarize 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.

Competitors are responsible for ensuring that their boat 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 is familiar to the crew.

21. INSURANCE



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

22. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are most grateful to those individuals, companies and organisations listed below that have kindly sponsored our racing marks for the 2020 season.

Race Marks 2020					
1	Quest	Quest Motor Group	Black Flag	51-45.82N	00-56.25E
2	Micro Scooters	Micro Scooters Ltd	Black Flag	51-45.21N	00-56.62E
3	Tollesbury Saltings	Tollesbury Saltings Ltd	Black Flag	51-45.13N	00-52.90E
5	Paynes Turf	F E Payne & Son	Black Flag	51-44.92N	00-53.93E
6	Fiducia Wealth	Fiducia Wealth Management	Black Flag	51-45.74N	00-58.96E
10	Ellisons	Ellisons Solicitors	Black Flag	51-44.82N	00-59.41E
12	William Hackett Chains	William Hackett Chains	Black Flag	51-44.45N	00-53.00E
14	Push Energy	Push Energy	Black Flag	51-45.45N	00-53.91E
17	Miller Motor Group	Miller Motor Group Ltd	Black Flag	51-45.21N	00-55.11E
18	Waldegraves	Waldegraves Holiday Park	Black Flag	51-45.60N	00-57.62E
MG	Geoff Hunt Boatbuilding	Geoff Hunt Boatbuilding	Black Flag	51-45.61N	00-55.45E
OLM (S)	DSC	Dabchicks Sailing Club	Black Flag	51-45.58N	00-54.75E
OLM (E)	Outer Space	Space Workplace Ltd	Red Flag	51-45.68N	00-54.78E
OLM (W)	Whittle & Co	Whittle & Co Chartered Accountants	Green Flag	51-45.70N	00-54.43E
Committee Boat Mooring	EYE Marine	Eye Marine Ltd	No Flag	51-45.77N	00-54.60E



APPENDIX 1
WMYC & DSC JOINT CRUISER
SAFETY DECLARATION 2020

In accordance with the Mersea Joint Cruiser Racing Sailing Instructions, and RRS92. The technical committee shall before racing ensure that, all yachts racing have signed and submitted to WMYC Secretariat a copy of this Safety Declaration.

INSURANCE - I confirm that my yacht named / Sail Number..... has a minimum of £3 million third party insurance cover.

SAFETY EQUIPMENT - I confirm that my yacht carries all the following items of equipment: -

Lifejackets for all crew members

Lifebuoy

EPIRB and/or working handheld VHF with charged and in date batteries

OR Coastal Flare pack - 2 Red hand held flares and 2 Orange smoke flares, all in date

Fog Horn

Echo Sounder

Fire Extinguisher (in date)

Anchor, 2m chain and a minimum of 15m cable

First Aid Kit

Marine Compass

Manual Bilge Pump permanently fitted and operated from cockpit

Stout Bucket with lanyard

Bolt croppers or other effective means of cutting rigging

Suitable knife accessible from the deck effective for cutting sheets and halyards

Heaving line & Towing line

Signed _____ Owner _____ (Print Name)

Date _____

Contact Email Address _____



Appendix Two

STARTING METHOD FOR “GATE START”

1. When leaving your mooring ensure your VHF is tuned to channel 77 and make sure it can be heard by at least one of your crew.
2. The course and Start Mark will be announced on VHF Channel 77 from the Committee Boat prior to the Five Minute signal.
3. The normal start sequence of 5-4-1-Start will be used together with sound signals only from the committee boat (Gate Boat). No flags will be flown.
4. The countdown for each signal will be given over VHF Channel 77.
5. At the start signal the Gate boat will start to sail away from the Start Mark on Port tack and the ‘Gate’ will start to open. All competitors shall start between the Start Mark and the stern of the Gate Boat on Starboard tack.
6. The ‘Gate’ will only be open for 1 minute so you must start by then or you are disqualified.
7. The Gate boat can tack onto starboard after one minute or when the last starter has passed astern prior to the one-minute limit.
8. The finish line is the normal line and you should take your own finishing time when the Nass Beacon is due north of the bow of your boat, with the western outer limit to port. Also note boat ahead and boat astern with approx. times if possible.

