

# Merlin Rocket National Championships Lyme Regis 18 - 24 August 2018

**Organising Authority: Lyme Regis Sailing Club Ltd (LRSC)  
in conjunction with the Merlin Rocket Owners' Association (MROA)**

## NOTICE OF RACE

### 1. RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* and the RYA Racing Charter.
- 1.2 Any amendment to this Notice of Race will be posted on the Merlin Rocket National Championships website; <http://merlinrocketchamps.com/> no later than 1 Aug 2018.
- 1.3 The Exoneration Penalty and the Advisory Hearing and RYA Arbitration of the RYA Rules Disputes procedures shall apply (for information on the procedures, go to [www.rya.org.uk/go/rulesdisputes](http://www.rya.org.uk/go/rulesdisputes)). The outcome of an RYA Arbitration can be referred to a protest committee, but an arbitration cannot be reopened or appealed.

### 2. ADVERTISING

- 2.1 Advertising shall comply with WS Regulation 20 and the Merlin Rocket Class Rules.
- 2.2 Boats may be required to display event supplied competitor advertising as per the Class Rule C.4.1.
- 2.3 The area of mainsail below the bottom batten shall be reserved for advertising by the event sponsor.

### 3. ELIGIBILITY & ENTRY

- 3.1 The regatta is open to boats of the Merlin Rocket class with a valid measurement certificate, and whose helm is a current member of the MROA at the time of the regatta.
- 3.2 The maximum entry is limited to 80 boats.
- 3.3 Eligible boats may enter by submitting a completed entry form and paying the appropriate entry fee via the Championship pages on / links from the MROA website.
- 3.4 Entry will close on 1 May 2018. Later entries may be accepted subject to payment of an additional fee.
- 3.5 Helms and crews under 18 years of age during the event shall submit signed Parent/Guardian Declarations at the time of entry.

### 4. ENTRY FEES

|   |      |
|---|------|
| Entry fees per boat (entries received and paid by 1 May 2018)                           | £240 |
| Entry fees per boat (entries received and paid after 1 May 2018 but before 1 July 2018) | £270 |
| Entry fees per boat (entries received and paid after 1 July 2018)                       | £300 |

Entry Discounts (deduct from fees above): - only one category/entry:

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Helm 25 years or under (on 1 <sup>st</sup> day of racing)                    | £50 |
| Older boats (3571 and below)   | £50 |
| First time helms (not competed at a Merlin Nationals as helm or crew before) | £50 |

## 5. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

| <i>Day:</i> | <i>Date:</i> | <i>Warning Signal</i>  | <i>Event:</i>   |
|-------------|--------------|------------------------|---|
|             |              | <b>Not Before:</b>     |   |
| 1           | Sat 18 Aug   | 10:00 – 17:00<br>19.30 | Measurement checks and registration.<br>Racing and safety briefing in LRSC Clubhouse. |
| 2           | Sun 19 Aug   | 09:00 – 11.30<br>12.55 | Registration<br>Race 1 – <b>Founders Trophy</b>                                       |
| 3           | Mon 20 Aug   | 12.55<br>back to back  | Race 2 – <b>Beechers Cup</b><br>Race 3 – <b>Clyde Quaich</b>                          |
| 4           | Tues 21 Aug  | 12.55<br>back to back  | Race 4 – <b>West Country Trophy</b><br>Crews' Race                                    |
| 5           | Wed 22 Aug   | 12.55<br>back to back  | Race 5 – <b>Howard Trophy</b><br>Race 6 – <b>Winter Trophy</b>                        |
| 6           | Thu 23 Aug   | 12.55                  | Race 7 - <b>Ranelagh Trophy</b>   |
| 7           | Fri 24 Aug   | 10.55<br>back to back  | Race 8 – <b>Top Hat Trophy</b><br>Race 9 – <b>Silent World Trophy</b>                 |

No warning signal will be made after 14:00 on Friday 24 August 2018 unless fewer than three races have been completed in the series.

## 6. REGISTRATION

Registration will take place at the Registration Desk in Lyme Regis Clubhouse at the times prescribed in NoR 5 'Schedule of Events'.

## 7. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 7.1 Sailing Instructions (SIs) will be available at registration.
- 7.2 At the discretion of the Organising Authority, Sailing Instructions may be released earlier on the MROA Championships website.

## 8. MEASUREMENTS

- 8.1 All boats will be subject to pre-event measurement checks at the times prescribed in NoR 5 'Schedule of Events'.
- 8.2 Additional measurement checks may be carried out at any time during the event.
- 8.3 The measuring authority referred to in rule 64.3(b) will be the Royal Yachting Association.

## 9. VENUE

Racing will take place in Lyme Bay (centre of course approximately 50°42.500N / 2°54.300W).

## 10. COURSES

- 10.1 The courses to be sailed will be a mixture of Sausage - Triangle and Triangle-Sausage courses. Example course are at Appendix 1.
- 10.2 The target time for race duration will be;
  - (a) 100 – 120 minutes for the leaders of the Ranelagh Trophy race (if run on a 1-race day)
  - (b) 90 minutes for the leaders (1-race days)
  - (c) 60 minutes for the leaders (2-race days)
  - (d) 50 minutes for the leaders (if 3-race day required).
- 10.3 Starts will be made using a line start.
- 10.4 The finish line will normally be at the leeward end of the course, but at the end of the last race of the day, the course is likely to be shortened to finish at the windward mark in offshore wind directions.

## 11. SCORING

11.1 The Scoring System is as follows:

- (a) Three races are required to be completed to constitute a series.
- (b) When fewer than five races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- (c) When five or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
- (d) When nine races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her two worst scores.

11.2 The Crews' Race, if sailed, will not form part of the scoring series.

## 12. COACH & SUPPORT BOATS

12.1 Support boats shall register at the race office at the time prescribed in NoR 5 and shall be responsible for payment of their launching fees direct to the Harbourmaster.

12.2 Support boats shall be conspicuously identified and shall remain clear of racing, as specified in the Sailing Instructions, unless specifically directed by the RO.

12.3 All support boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of receiving radio communications from the Race Committee on channel 37 (M1).

## 13. BERTHING

Boats shall be berthed on their launching trollies and trailers in their assigned places in the boat park.

## 14. SUBSTITUTION OF CREW AND EQUIPMENT

- 14.1 Substitution of the person named as helm on the entry form will not be allowed
- 14.2 Permission to substitute the person named as crew on the entry form will only be granted for reasons of injury, illness, serious unforeseen personal circumstances or pre-arranged crew substitutions approved by the Organising Authority at or before registration.
- 14.3 Requests for substitutions shall be made at the first reasonable opportunity and shall be confirmed in writing before the end of the protest time limit on the first day the substitution comes into effect.
- 14.4 Substituted equipment may be required to pass an equipment check.
- 14.5 'Request for Substitution of Crew' and 'Request for Substitution of Equipment' forms will be available at the Race Office and shall be delivered there.

## 15. 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 communications not available to all boats.

## 16. PRIZES

Prizes will be given as follows:

### **Overall trophies:**

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| Yachting World Trophy   | The helm of the overall winning boat                               |
| City of Plymouth Trophy | The winning crew sailing the same boat throughout the Championship |

### **Daily Trophies**

As detailed in Section 5. Champagne will be awarded to the first 21 boats in the Ranelagh Trophy race

### **Special Trophies**

Jack Holt Plate Winner of the Silver fleet

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Maurice Cockerill Trophy            | Winner of the Bronze fleet  |
| Old Boats Prize                     | First Boat registered before 1 <sup>st</sup> Jan 2000 (3571 and below)  |
| Abererch Trophy                     | First helm over the age of 45 and under the age of 55 on the first day of the Championship                                  |
| Draycote Water Spring Series Trophy | First helm over the age of 55 on the first day of the Championship  |
| Anniversary Trophy                  | First helm under the age of 21 on the first day of the event.   |
| Minima Trophy                       | First lady sailing in the same boat throughout the Championship   |
| Neil Henderson Cup                  | First helm and crew related by birth or marriage sailing in the same boat throughout the Championship                       |
| Triangle Team Trophy                | Club scoring the lowest total points with their best three boats sailed by the same three helms throughout the Championship |
| Buttercup Trophy                    | Lowest placed boat overall having completed all qualifying races in the series (i.e. all races sailed)                      |
| Heavyweight Prize                   | First helm and crew with a combined weight of over 26 stones (165 kg) sailing in the same boat throughout the Championship  |
| Ball and Chain Trophy               | First boat sailed by a couple not married or related by birth   |
| Centennial Trophy                   | First boat with aggregate age of helm and crew over 100   |
| King Cup                            | First boat with aggregate age of helm and crew under 50   |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Lady Helm           | First lady helming the same boat throughout the championship  |
| <b>Glassware</b>                    |   |
|                                     | First 15 boats in the overall classification  |
|                                     | First 3 boats in the Silver Fleet   |
|                                     | First 3 boats in the Bronze Fleet   |

## 17. RISK STATEMENT

Rule 4 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”.

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

- i) 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;
- ii) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;
- iii) They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;
- iv) Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
- v) 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;
- vi) The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances;
- vii) 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 event and to attend any safety briefing held for the event.
- viii) Their boat is adequately insured, with cover of at least £5 million or the equivalent per event against third party claims.

## **18. INSPECTIONS**

The fact that the race committee and/or Class Association conducts inspections of a boat does not reduce the responsibilities of each competitor set out in this Notice of Race.

## **19. RIGHT TO USE NAMES AND LIKENESS**

By participating in these championships, a competitor automatically grants to the organising authority and its sponsors the right in perpetuity to make, use and show, from time to time at their discretion, any motion pictures and live, taped or filmed television and other reproductions of him or her during the period of the competition, without compensation.

## **20. FURTHER INFORMATION**

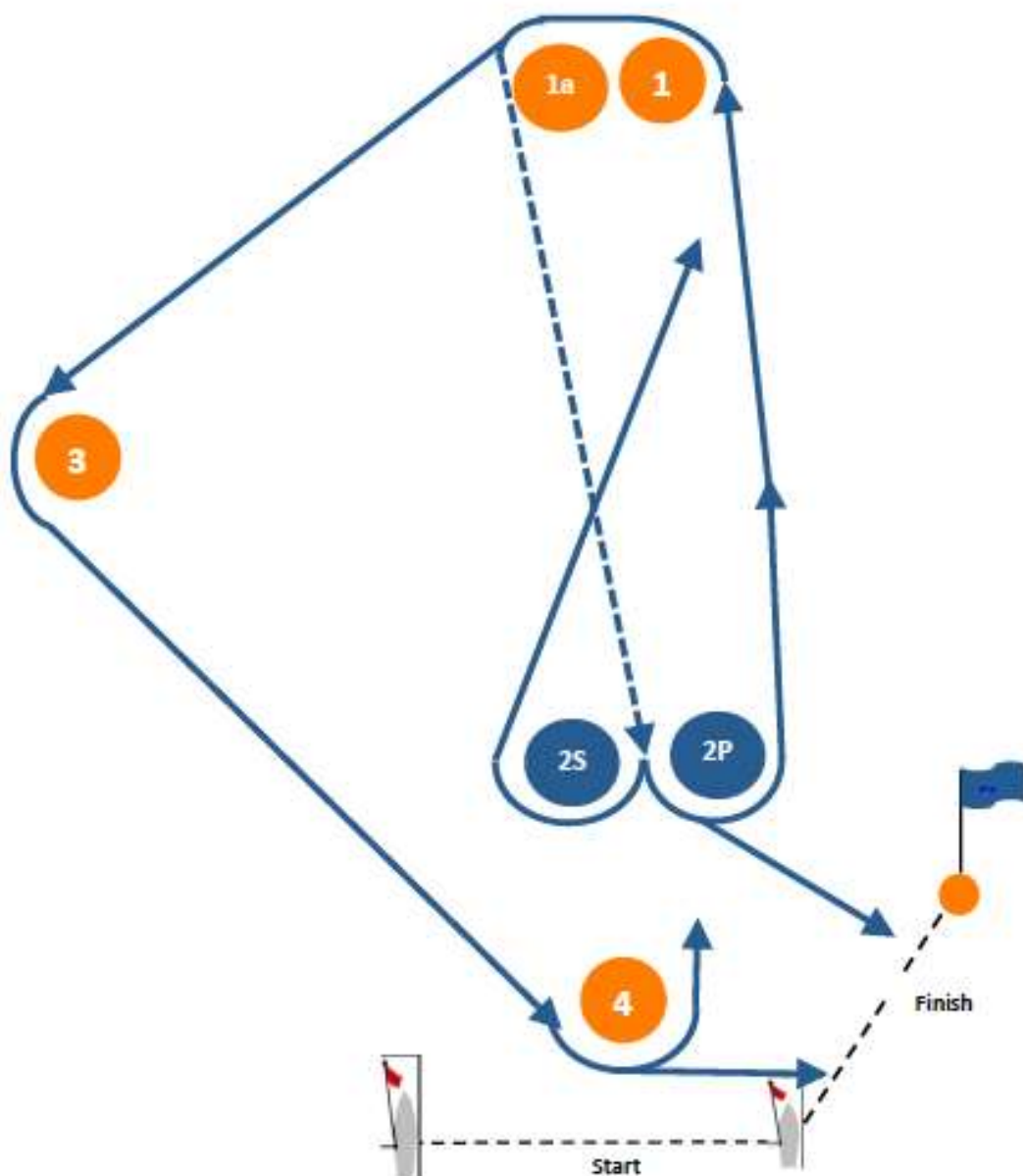
Championship website: <http://merlinrocketchamps.com/>

Merlin Rocket class website: <http://www.merlinrocket.co.uk>

NoR Draft 2.3 – 16 Feb 2018

# COURSES

## Sausage/Triangle (ST) and Triangle/Sausage (TS)



| COURSE |  |
|--------|--|
| ST2    | Start – 1 – 1a – 2S/2P – 1 – 1a – 3 – 4 – finish                                   |
| ST3    | Start – 1 – 1a – 2S/2P – 1 – 1a – 3 – 4 – 1 – 1a – 2P – finish                     |
| ST4    | Start – 1 – 1a – 2S/2P – 1 – 1a – 3 – 4 – 1 – 1a – 2S/2P – 1 – 1a – 3 – 4 – finish |

| COURSE |   |
|--------|---|
| TS2    | Start – 1 – 1a – 3 – 4 – 1 – 1a – 2P – finish                                   |
| TS3    | Start – 1 – 1a – 3 – 4 – 1 – 1a – 2S/2P – 1 – 1a – 3 – 4 – finish               |
| TS4    | Start – 1 – 1a – 3 – 4 – 1 – 1a – 2S/2P – 1 – 1a – 3 – 4 – 1 – 1a – 2P – finish |

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR COMPETITORS**

The following is intended as information and advice for competitors. The items in this section do not form part of the Notice of Race. Additional information, further links and any amendments to the items below will be posted on the Merlin Championship website.

**Temporary honorary membership**

Lyme Regis Sailing Club Ltd. extends temporary honorary membership to all competitors, officials and their families for the duration of the regattas.

**Dinghy parking, trolleys**

Trailers must be clearly marked and parked as directed by the beach master.

Identification tags for launching trolleys will be provided at registration. Please ensure that your launching trolley is in good order.

**Accommodation**

A wide range of accommodation is available nearby. Check the local accommodation website:

[www.visit-dorset.com/tourist-information-centres/lyme-regis-tourist-information-centre-p1384963](http://www.visit-dorset.com/tourist-information-centres/lyme-regis-tourist-information-centre-p1384963)

**Social, bar and meals**

A full social programme, catering and bar facilities will be available throughout the regatta. See event web site:

[www.merlinrocketchamps.com](http://www.merlinrocketchamps.com)

Some social events will be bookable on entering.

**Deliveries**

Clearly identified parcels may be shipped to:

MR competitor - name & sail no, c/o Harbour Office, The Cobb, Lyme Regis, Dorset, DT7 3JJ, England

**Chandlery, sailmakers, boat repairs**

See event web site: [www.merlinrocketchamps.com](http://www.merlinrocketchamps.com)