



OPEN MEETING SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

RULES

- 1 Racing shall be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing 2021-24 and by the prescriptions of the Royal Yachting Association (RYA). The rules of the relevant Class Associations shall also apply.

SAFETY

- 2 The safety of a boat and its entire management including insurance shall be the sole responsibility of the owner/person in charge, who must ensure that the boat and crew are adequate to face the conditions that may arise in the course of a race.
- 3 Neither these Sailing Instructions nor any inspection of the boat limits or reduces the absolute responsibility of the owner/person in charge for the crew, the boat and its management, including compliance with Environment Agency by-laws relating to navigation on the River Thames.
- 4 Sailors are reminded of the following Fundamental Rule in the Racing Rules of Sailing:
 - Rule 3 - “The responsibility for a boat’s decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone”.
- 5 Buoyancy aids are compulsory for ALL competitors.
- 6 Boats shall be equipped with a paddle and a painter of at least 2m.
- 7 Competitors are strongly urged to fully rig their boats before launching to enable a swift departure from jetties.

PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 8 Hearing request forms are available from the Race Box or can be downloaded from the RYA website at: RYA Standard Forms.
- 9 For each class, the protest time limit is 30 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day or the Race Officer signals no more racing today, whichever is later.
- 10 Protests and requests for redress may be delivered to the Race Officer or emailed to sailingsec@minimayc.co.uk.
- 11 Competitors may be informed verbally or electronically of the time and place of any hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses.

NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 12 Notices to competitors will be posted on the Sailing Notice Board located on the ground floor of the Clubhouse and on the Minima YC website.

CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 13 The Race Officer will advise sailors of any changes to the Sailing Instructions.



SIGNALS

14 Signals may be displayed from the Race Box or Club launch by way of flags and cards.

15 Class cards used will be as follows:

Class	Alphanumeric	Flag
Thames A Rater	A	
Merlin Rocket	O	
Enterprise	E	
Solo	Numeral One	
Laser	L	
General Handicap	H	
All Classes	G	
Mass Handicap	Z	

COURSES

16 The courses may be displayed from the Race Box and will show:

- The order in which the marks are to be passed, using letter boards.
- The side on which each mark is to be passed, indicated by the background colour of the letter boards, **Red** for Port or **Green** for Starboard.
- The number of laps of the course, using number boards.
- In the event of the word SPECIAL being displayed, the course will be displayed on the official notice board or a chalk board.



MARKS

- 17 Marks **A, B, C, D, E** and **S** may be orange or red buoys with white letters. The approximate position of Marks will be as laid out in Appendices A and B.

START AND FINISH LINES

- 18 The Club Start/Finish Line is between the two triangular white transit marks above the Race Box to a white line on the Middlesex bank.
- 19 If it is decided to set an 'ad hoc' Start/Finish Line, this may be a line from the bank or a club launch to a mark opposite.

THE START

- 20 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the area around the Start Line.

THE FINISH

- 21 Boats shall keep clear of the area around the Finish Line once they have finished to allow clear water for finishing boats and a clear view for Race Officers. When back-to-back races are running, they shall not sail across the line except for accessing the Club jetties, until all boats have finished or their next race Start Sequence has begun.

TIME LIMITS

- 22 The Time Limit for series races shall be 30 minutes after the first finisher.
- 23 The Time Limit for Long Distance races shall be 60 minutes after the first finisher.

HANDICAPS

- 24 RYA Portsmouth Yardsticks shall be applied for Handicap Class.

SCORING

- 25 The low points scoring system shall apply.

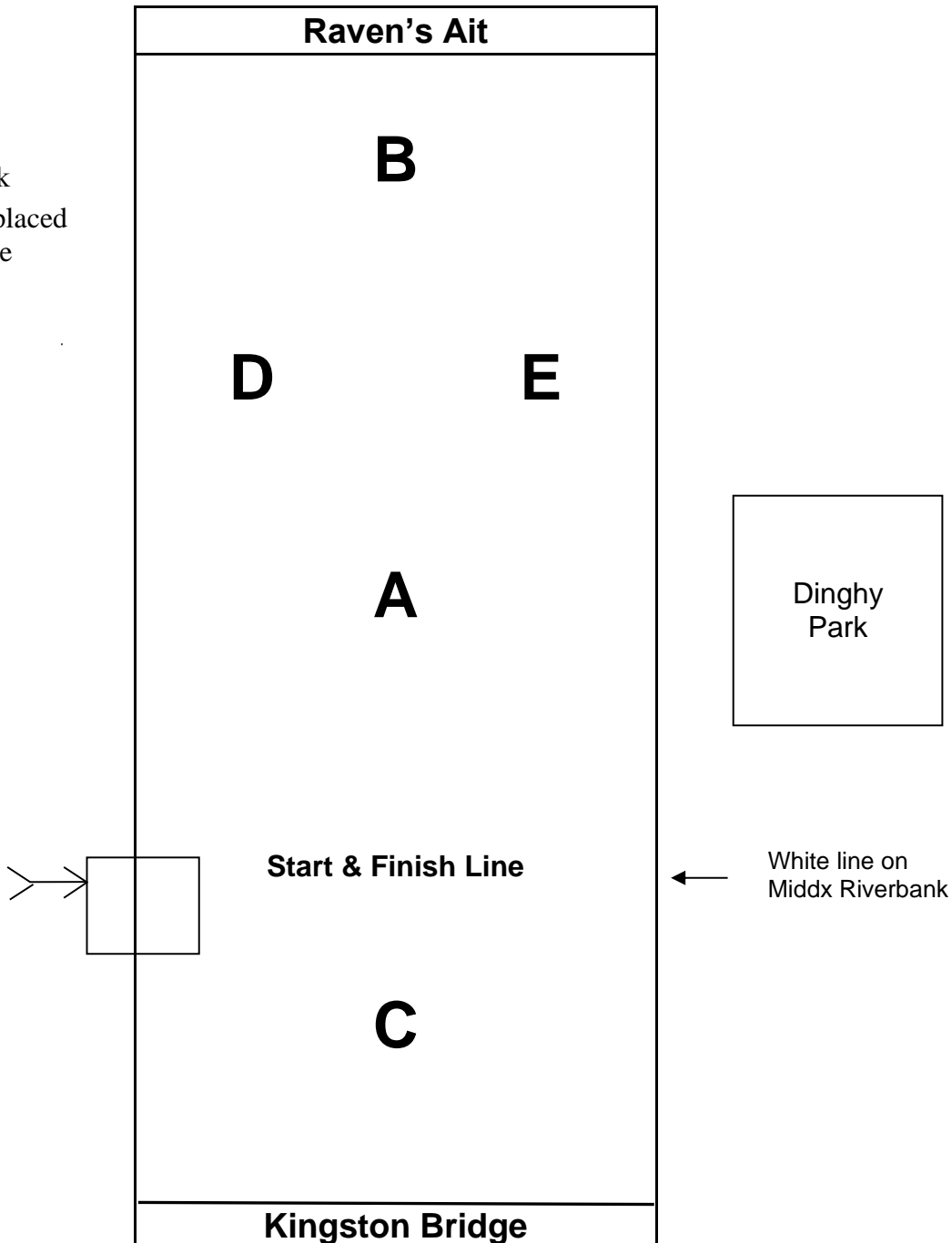
REPLACEMENT OF HELM OR CREW

- 26 Substitution of competitors shall not be allowed without prior approval of the Race Officer.



Appendix A – Series Races: The layout of marks

S mark
may be placed
anywhere





Appendix B - Long Distance Races

Surrey Riverbank

