

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS: JUNIOR RACE

Kingston 2025 River Cultures Festival – Sailing

Saturday 6th September 2025

1. RULES

- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing.
- 1.2 [DP] The rules of each Class Association shall apply where relevant, however in the case of a breach of a Class Association rule that does not affect safety the Committee may impose a penalty less than disqualification, or no penalty.
- 1.3 All competitors shall comply with the provisions of The Thames Navigation Licensing and General Byelaws 1993 (the 'Thames Byelaws'), however the provisions of Part 2c: *Navigation - steering sailing and speed* shall not apply between competitors.
- 1.4 Rule 40.1 (personal flotation devices) applies at all times when afloat.
- 1.5 The notation '[DP]' in a rule means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.

2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 Except where SI 2.2 applies, any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0900 on the day it will take effect.
- 2.2 Changes to a sailing instruction may be made
 - (a) on the water by a race official or officials hailing all competitors.

3. COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS AND OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the website at <https://minimayc.co.uk/kingston-2025/>.
- 3.2 [DP] While racing, 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.
- 3.3 A race official or patrol boat crew may provide verbal assistance to a competitor: this changes RRS 41(c) and (d).

4. CODE OF CONDUCT

- 4.1 [DP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.

5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the Race Box.

6. SCHEDULE

- 6.1 The race shall consist of two flights.
- 6.2 All boats except Toppers shall start in Flight 1.
- 6.3 Toppers shall start in Flight 2.

6.4 The warning signal for Flight 1 will not be given before 1625.

7. CLASS FLAGS

7.1 The warning signal for Flight 1 will be flag Z and for Flight 2 will be flag T (see appendix A).

8. RACING AREA

8.1 The racing area is on the Thames between Kingston Bridge and Raven's Ait.

9. COURSE

9.1 The course is shown in Appendix B.

10. MARKS

10.1 Marks are orange buoys with white letters. The approximate position of the marks is indicated in Appendix B.

11. OBSTRUCTIONS

11.1 A vessel, other than a competitor vessel, that is a stand-on vessel according to the provisions of the Thames Byelaws is an obstruction.

11.2 A patrol boat in close attendance to a boat or a competitor in difficulty is deemed to be an obstruction surrounded by navigable water.

12. THE START

12.1 Races will be started using RRS 26 amended as below.

12.2 Starting procedure (changes RRS 26)

12.2.1 The start signal for Flight 1 will be the warning signal for Flight 2

12.2.2 The warning signal for Flight 2 will be 3 minutes before the start of Flight 2.

12.2.3 The class flag (flag T) for Flight 2 shall be raised shortly after the warning signal without a sound.

12.3 The starting line

12.3.1 The starting line will be between a red line below the race box and a white line on the opposite bank. This line is indicated by transit marks above the race box.

12.4 Recalls (changes RRS 29.1, 29.2 and Race Signals)

12.4.1 An individual recall will be signalled in accordance with RRS 29.1 except that flag X will be flown for no longer than 30 seconds. This changes RRS 29.1.

12.4.2 There will not be a general recall. This changes RRS 29.2.

12.4.3 [NP] If any part of a boat's hull is on the course side of the starting line at her starting signal and she is identified, the race committee will attempt to hail her sail number. Failure to hail her number, failure of her to hear such a hail, or the order in which boats are hailed will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

12.5 A boat starting later than 5 minutes after the last starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, A4, A5.1 and A5.2.

13. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 13.1 To change the next leg of the course, the race committee may move the original mark to a new position or lay a new mark. A mark may be moved up to 25 metres without a signal.

14. THE FINISH

- 14.1 The finish line will be the Race Box start/finish line.
- 14.2 Boats may be finished when crossing the line in the opposite direction to that in which they started.
- 14.3 The race committee shall signal the finish by displaying flag S with two sounds before the leading boat crosses the finish line.
- 14.4 Any boat that is still racing but, in the opinion of the Race Committee, is unlikely to finish within 15 minutes of the leading boat in her Flight may be given a finishing position (a 'whisky finish') based upon her position in the fleet at the time as observed by the Race Committee. When the whisky finish is applied, the boats affected will be notified by hail from the Race Box or a race committee vessel. This changes RRS 35.
- 14.5 Boats shall keep clear of the area around the finishing line once they have finished to allow clear water for finishing boats and a clear view for Race Officers.

15. TIME LIMITS

- 15.1 If SI 14.4 is not applied, boats failing to finish within 15 minutes of the leading boat in her Flight shall be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, A5.1, A5.2 and A10.

15.2 HEARING REQUESTS

- 15.3 The Race Office shall be informed of the intention to protest not later than 30 minutes after the last boat finishes.
- 15.4 Protests and requests for redress shall be submitted to the Race Office on official protest forms (available from the Race Office) not later than 30 minutes after notification of the intention to protest.
- 15.5 Protests and requests for redress will be heard: firstly, any that involve boats that may affect the prize giving; and secondly any remaining in approximately the order of receipt as soon as possible on the day of the race or the following day. The time and place of the hearing will be notified to parties to the protest by the Race Office.
- 15.6 A party to a hearing may request a reopening no later than 10 minutes after being informed of the decision. This changes RRS 66.2.

16. SCORING

- 16.1 Boats will be scored according to their time for the race adjusted by Portsmouth Yardstick.
- 16.2 Portsmouth Numbers for each class will be displayed on the website from 1800 on Friday 5th September.
- 16.3 The time for the race for a boat that is subject to a whiskey finish under SI 14.4 shall be calculated *pro rata* to the distance she has sailed, except that if this time is less than the time for the race for any boat in her class that sailed a greater distance then an adjustment shall be made to provide a fair result.

17. SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 17.1 Boats shall be equipped with a paddle, or be otherwise capable of manual propulsion, and a painter of at least 2m.
- 17.2 A boat which starts the race but does not intend to finish shall notify a race official.

17.3 PRIZES

- 17.4 Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.

18. RISK STATEMENT

- 18.1 RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.

19. INSURANCE

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

Appendix A: Signals

Meaning	Signal	Description
Warning signal for Flight 1 5 minutes to the start	 Z displayed with one sound	Painted board depicting flag Z displayed on the front of the race box
Preparatory signal for Flight 1 4 minutes to the start	 P displayed with one sound	Painted board depicting flag P displayed on the front of the race box
One minute signal for Flight 1	 P removed with one long sound	
Start signal for Flight 1 Warning signal for Flight 2 3 minutes to the start	 Z removed with one sound	
Class flag for Flight 2 This will be displayed shortly after the warning signal for Flight 2	 T displayed without a sound	Painted board depicting flag T displayed on the front of the race box
Preparatory signal for Flight 2 2 minutes to the start	 P displayed with one sound	Painted board depicting flag P displayed on the front of the race box
One minute signal for Flight 2	 P removed with one long sound	
Start signal for Flight 2	 T removed with one sound	
Finish line	 Displayed with two sounds	Flag S flown from a staff on the front of the race box

Appendix B: Course and general arrangement of marks

Course

- Start at the race box start line
- Leave mark A to port
- Leave mark C to port

