

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS: PURSUIT 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 these provisions 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

- 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.

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 intended schedule for the event is as provided in the Notice of Race. This schedule and any changes to it will be posted on the official notice board.

7. CLASS FLAGS

- 7.1 The warning signal will be flag H (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 and Race Signals)

- 12.2.1 The race is a pursuit race with classes starting according to allocated start numbers. The start numbers allocated to each class will be displayed on the website from 1800 on Friday 5th September.
- 12.2.2 After the first starting signal, a board showing the number 1 will be displayed on the Race Box. The number displayed will be changed at one-minute intervals, to 2, 3 and so on. Note that numbers greater than 9 will be shown with the first digit above the second digit: see Appendix A.
- 12.2.3 The starting signal for classes with a start number of 0 shall be the removal of flag H. The starting signal for each other class shall be the REMOVAL of the number advertised as the start number for the class. This will, if possible, be accompanied by a sound signal.
- 12.2.4 Except for classes with a start number of 0, the preparatory signal for a class shall be the starting signal 2 minutes before the start of the relevant class. Competitors are reminded that a boat is not racing until her preparatory signal, and that if reasonably possible, a boat not racing shall not interfere with a boat that is racing (RRS 23.1).

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 A general recall will be signalled in accordance with RRS 29.2 except that flag First Substitute will only be displayed for 30 seconds and will be removed without a sound signal. Classes subject to a general recall shall start on the start number two greater than their advertised number or two greater than their previous start number if they have previously been subject to a general recall. This changes RRS 29.2 and Race Signals.

- 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). This rule does not apply if the race is subject to a general recall.
- 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.
- 14. THE FINISH**
- 14.1 The finish line will be the Race Box start/finish line or a line established under SI 14.3.
- 14.2 The finish time will be approximately 60 minutes after the first start and will be indicated by displaying flag S from the Race Box or from a committee vessel with two sound signals.
- 14.3 After the finish time the Race Committee may deploy a finish line from a race committee boat displaying flag W and moving back down the course; this finish line being an imaginary line projecting from both sides of the boat perpendicular to the banks of the river.
- 14.4 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 Boats that have not finished within 30 minutes of the finish time may be scored as Did Not Finish. This period may be extended at the discretion of the Race Committee. This changes RRS 35.
- 16. HEARING REQUESTS**
- 16.1 The Race Office shall be informed of the intention to protest not later than 30 minutes after the last boat finishes.
- 16.2 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.
- 16.3 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.
- 16.4 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.
- 17. SCORING**
- 17.1 Boats will be scored in the order in which each first crosses a finishing line as defined in SI 14 with boats sailing further taking higher places.

18. SAFETY REGULATIONS

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

18.3 PRIZES

- 18.4 Prizes will be awarded as set out in the Notice of Race.



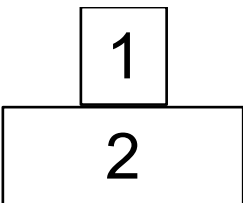


19. RISK STATEMENT

- 19.1 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.

20. INSURANCE

- 20.1 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: Visual signals

Meaning	Signal	Description
Warning signal		Painted board displayed on the front of the race box
Example start number: 3 minutes		Painted board displayed on the front of the race box
Example start number: 12 minutes		Painted boards displayed on the front of the race box
Last lap: mark A replaces mark B		Flag C flown from staff on the front of the race box
Moving finish line		Flag W flown from committee vessel

Appendix B: Course and general arrangement of marks

Course

All laps except the last lap:

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

Last lap:

- Leave mark A to port
- Leave mark C to port
- Finish at the race box finish line



The last lap will be indicated by displaying flag C from a staff on the race box.

