



THAMES SAILING CLUB
Portsmouth Road, Surbiton, Surrey, KT6 4HH
MINIMA YACHT CLUB
48A High St, Kingston upon Thames KT1 1HN



MERLIN ROCKET OPEN – DE MAY VINTAGE & THAMES SERIES
TSC - SATURDAY 2nd May 2026 & MYC - SUNDAY 3rd MAY 2026

NOTICE OF RACE

ORGANISING AUTHORITY:

Thames Sailing Club, Portsmouth Road, Surbiton, Surrey, KT6 4HH, & Minima Yacht Club, 48A High St, Kingston upon Thames KT1 1HN (In conjunction with the Class Association),

www.thamessailingclub.co.uk

<https://minimayc.co.uk>

1 Rules

- 1.1 Racing will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 2025-2028, including the prescriptions of the RYA, the rules of the Merlin Rocket Class and the Sailing Instructions of Thames Sailing Club and Minima Yacht Club.

2 Eligibility and Entry

- 2.1 The event is open to Merlin Rocket class boats.
- 2.2 Eligible boats may enter online at <https://buytickets.at/minima/2185662> or by completing an entry form and presenting it, together with the entry fee at the race office not later than 30 minutes before the scheduled starting time of the first race.

3 Fees

- 3.1 The fees for the event are £10 per boat per day, £20 for both days.

4 Schedule

- 4.1 The briefing will be held at 1030hrs on both days.
- 4.2 The Scheduled start time for the first race will not be before 11:00 hrs.
- 4.3 The warning signals for the second and third races will be made at times to be advised on the day.

5 Sailing Instructions

- 5.1 Sailing Instructions are available on the websites of Thames Sailing Club and Minima Yacht Club and can be made available to competitors upon registration on the day of the event. Any changes to the sailing instructions will be notified at the morning briefings.

6 Courses

6.1 Details of the course(s) to be sailed will be provided on the day.

7 Scoring

7.1 The Low Points System as described in the RRS, Appendix A, will apply.

7.2 Two Races are required to constitute a series.

7.3 When 3 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

8 Prizes

8.1 Prizes shall be awarded to the winning helms and crews using the square root system from the total number of entries.

8.2 The MERLIN TROPHY (TSC) will be awarded to the overall winner of the event.

8.3 The MERLIN CHALLENGE CUP (TSC) will be awarded to highest placed Vintage boat.

8.4 ERIC ARCHER MEMORIAL TROPHY (MYC) - Thames River Trophy, overall winner.

8.4 CHINDIT TROPHY (MYC) – awarded for the De May Series winner.

9 Membership and Liability

9.1 All Competitors will be deemed to be temporary members of TSC/MYC during the event and as such shall abide by all the club's rules and bye-laws. Members of the club, their guests and visitors may use the club premises and any other facilities of the club entirely at their own risk and implicitly accept that:

- a) The club will not accept any liability for any damage to or loss of property belonging to members, their guests, or visitors to the club.
- b) The club will not accept any liability for personal injury arising out of use of the club premises or any other facilities of the club, or out of participating in any race organised by the club, whether sustained by members, their guests or visitors or caused by the said members, guests, or visitors, whether or not such damage or injury could have been attributed to, or was occasioned by the neglect, default or negligence of any of the officers, committees or servants of the club.
- c) Before inviting any guests or visitors onto the premises or to participate in events organised by the club, members will draw attention to this rule.

10 Risk Statement

10.1 Rule 3 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".

- 10.2 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:
- a) They are aware of the inherent 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;
 - b) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and other property whether afloat or ashore;
 - c) They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;
 - d) Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
 - e) The provision of a race management team, patrol boats and other officials and volunteer by the event organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
 - f) The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances.

11 Rights and Copyright

- 11.1 By participating in this event, competitors automatically grant to the organising authority, in perpetuity, to make, use and show, at their discretion, any photography, audio and video recording and other reproductions of them made at the venue or on the water from the time of their arrival at the venue, until their final departure, without compensation.

12 Data Protection

- 12.1 In order to manage the event, information provided by competitors will be held on a database. The management of personal information and images will comply with the General Data Protection Regulation.

The May Merrie Long Distance Open Race will be held on Monday 4th May at Minima Yacht Club start not before 1400. Details from MYC.