

# NOTICE of RACE



*National Merlin-Rocket Owners' Association*

## National Championships

Looe Sailing Club, Cornwall

17<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> August, 2008



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

### 1. Organising Authority

The Organising Authority is Looe Sailing Club (LSC), Buller St., East Looe, Cornwall, PL13 2EZ, on behalf of the National Merlin-Rocket Owners' Association (MROA).

### 2. Racing

The racing shall be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the prescriptions of the Royal Yachting Association (RYA), the Merlin-Rocket Class Rules, and the Sailing Instructions of the event.

### 3. Category

The Merlin-Rocket National Championships shall be a Category A event.

### 4. Entries

- a) Entries are invited from helmsmen & helmswomen who are members of the MROA and whose boats hold valid measurement certificates.
- b) Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the organisers at an increased fee up to, and including, the 17<sup>th</sup> August 2008. There is an 80 boat limit.
- c) Entries to be made on the Entry Form, mailed with the Merlin-Rocket magazine, or downloadable from [www.bestchampsever.com](http://www.bestchampsever.com). Copies will also be available from the Beachmaster's hut on the Looe seafront between 1000 and 1800 on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> August 2008. Entry forms will also be available between 0900 and 1000 on Sunday the 17<sup>th</sup> August 2008 **by prior arrangement with the organisers only**. Entries will be allocated in order of receipt.
- d) The entry fee is £160, however entries received prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> of July 2008 are subject to a discount of £30, resulting in a fee of **£130**.
- e) The entry fee is £160, however entries received prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> of July 2008 from helmsmen or helmswomen whom are under the age of 21, or whom are fulltime students in their first degree on the 17<sup>th</sup> of August 2008, are subject to a discount of £100, resulting in a fee of **£60**.
- f) Each boat will be sailed by the same helmsman/helmswoman and crew throughout the series. Approval for a change of crew must be sought from the race committee who will grant permission only in exceptional circumstances. Such a crew change may prejudice the award of prizes or trophies.

- g)** Should the entry list be full prior to the event, competitors may be added to the waiting list by submitting a completed entry form. The competitors will be contacted to obtain payment in chronological order of receipt of the form when, and if, spaces become available.

## **5. Disclaimer of Liability and Conditions of Entry**

- a)** A boat is entirely responsible for her own safety, whether afloat or ashore, and nothing, whether in the Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions or anywhere else, reduces this responsibility.
- b)** It is for the boat to decide whether she is fit to sail in the conditions in which she will find herself. By launching or going to sea, the boat confirms that she is fit for those conditions and her crew is competent to sail and compete in them.
- c)** The boat is required to hold adequate insurance and in particular to hold insurance against third party claims in the sum of at least £2,000,000
- d)** Nothing done by the organisers can reduce the responsibility of the boat nor will it make the organisers responsible for any loss, damage, death or personal injury, however it may have occurred, as a result of the boat taking part in the racing. The organisers encompass everyone helping to run the race and the event, and include the organising authority, class association, sponsors, the race committee, patrol boats and beachmasters.
- e)** The provision of patrol boats does not relieve the boat of her responsibilities.
- f)** Inspection of a boat by the race committee does not reduce the responsibilities of the boat set out in this section.

## **6. Registration**

- a)** Registration will take place at the Regatta Office in the Dinghy Park at LSC between 1000 and 1800 on Saturday the 16<sup>th</sup> and, **by prior arrangement**, on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> August between 0900 and 1000. Valid measurement certificates shall be presented for inspection.
- b)** All boats must be presented for weighing and scrutineering to the Class Measurers at Looe Sailing Club on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> August between 1000 and 1800 and, **by prior arrangement**, on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> August between 0900 and 1000. Boats must be presented with all running rigging removed other than adjustment tackles for shrouds, lower shrouds, kicking strap, and jib halyard, and the hull as dry as possible. Other measurement checks will also be made. The measurers will not accept unmeasured sails or equipment at scrutineering.
- c)** Please note that boats shall not be reweighed at scrutineering by the class measurers following removal of correctors, either in whole or in part. It is the duty of the competitor to ensure that this has been completed in accordance with the MROA/RYA procedure prior to the event and that the measurement certificate has been amended and approved.
- d)** Class measurers will be measuring un-measured sails between 1000 and 1800 on Saturday the 16<sup>th</sup> of August 2008 in the Looe SC clubhouse on Buller Street.

## 7. Racing Schedule

The times of races shall be as follows:

<b>Day</b>	<b>Race</b>	<b>Warning Signal: <i>not before</i></b>	<b>Race</b>	<b>Warning signal: <i>not before</i></b>
<b>Sunday</b>	1	1225		
<b>Monday</b>	2	1225	3	Back-to-back
<b>Tuesday</b>	4	1225		
<b>Wednesday</b>	5	1225	6	Back-to-back
<b>Thursday</b>	7	1225		
<b>Friday</b>	8	1225		Race will not start after <b>1500</b>

## 8. Sailing Instructions

- a) Sailing Instructions (SIs) will be available upon completion of scrutineering
- b) Descriptions of the courses to be sailed shall be contained within the SIs.

## 9. Scoring

Scoring shall be in accordance with the Racing Rules of Sailing Appendix A.

## 10. Prizes

Prizes will be awarded for each day's racing and for the National Championships overall. In addition there will be spot prizes awarded at the discretion of the organisers.

## 11. Trophies

Trophies will be awarded as follows:

<b>Trophy Name</b>	<b>Awarded to the:</b>
<b>Yachting World</b>	Helm of the overall winning boat
<b>City of Plymouth</b>	Crew of the overall winning boat
<b>Yachting World Founders'</b>	Winners of Race 1
<b>Beecher's Cup</b>	Winners of Race 2
<b>Bognor Barrel</b>	Winners of Race 3
<b>Clyde Quaich</b>	Winners of Race 4
<b>West Country</b>	Winners of Race 5
<b><i>To be confirmed</i></b>	Winners of Race 6
<b>Ranelagh</b>	Winners of Race 7
<b>Silent World</b>	Winners of Race 8
<b>Jack Holt Plate</b>	Winners of the personal handicap series
<b>Minima</b>	Highest placed female competitor in the same boat throughout the Championships.

<b>Aberech</b>	Highest placed helm older than 45 years, and younger than 55, on the first day of the Championships.
<b>Draycote Water Spring Series</b>	Highest placed helm older than 55 years on the first day of the Championships.
<b>Anniversary</b>	Highest placed helm aged 21 or younger on the first day of the Championships
<b>Centennial</b>	Highest placed helm and crew sailing the same boat, whose combined ages total, or exceed, 100 years on the first day of the Championships.
<b>King Cup</b>	Highest placed helm and crew sailing the same boat whose combined age is 50 years or younger on the first day of the Championships.
<b>Neil Henderson Cup</b>	Highest placed helm and crew related by birth, marriage or civil partnership sailing the same boat.
<b>Ball and Chain</b>	Highest placed non-married couple sailing in the same boat
<b>Buttercup</b>	Helm of the lowest placed boat having completed all races at the Championships
<b>Triangle Team</b>	Club which has the lowest scoring three boats at the Championships
<b>Heavyweight's</b>	The highest placed helm and crew with a combined mass exceeding 26 stones (165.5kg) in the same boat
<b>Old Boats'</b>	Highest placed boat greater than 10 years old (<3550)

## 12. Local Rules

Once again the members and committee of Looe Sailing Club look forward to welcoming the Merlin-Rocket fleet for another exciting championship.

In this, as in other years, we are sharing our boat park with local businesses and many tourists who have come to enjoy the town and beach. With this in mind we ask that you help us to make this a success on shore by observing some basic rules in the dinghy park:

- a)** All motor vehicles are banned from the seafront berthing area - (pedestrian access only).
- b)** Combination trailers and road trailers will not be allowed in the berthing area at any time.
- c)** Boats and equipment will be unloaded in the designated areas and only launching trolley boats and equipment will be permitted onto the berthing area on the seafront.
- d)** After unloading boats, cars and road trailers are to be *immediately* removed to the car park and trailer park.
- e)** Please comply with the stewards' directions at all times.
- f)** All boats will be compounded on the seafront by rope and bollards. Please maintain these areas at all times. This will provide health and safety protection to all parties.
- g)** Do not rig mainsails at any time until adjacent to the water.

- h)** When leaving the compounds ensure covers, loose equipment, spars etc are stored neatly to avoid any risk to pedestrians (maintain compounds).
- i)** Once launched, launching trolleys are to be returned to the storage areas, or, if unavailable due to tide, the compound berths.
- j)** After sailing please recover your boats to the compound with mainsails lowered where stewards will re-establish the rope and bollard enclosures.
- k)** When departing at the end of the week, please observe Rule d, established for arrival.

Space will be at a premium so to help further please keep the amount of unnecessary equipment to a minimum. If you do bring extra spars speak to the Beachmaster about storage. Please bring a suitable bag or container for those loose items such as halyards, fixings and tools.

Looe Sailing Club's ability to run future events is dependent upon your compliance with the above. It is therefore essential that you support us in enforcing these rules, and ensure the boat park is kept tidy and free from trip hazards. Thank you.

**Failure to comply with these rules may result in competitors being disqualified from the event**