

MEDWAY REGATTA
27th & 28th June 2026
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Name of event: Medway Regatta – 2026
Inclusive dates: Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th June 2026
Format: A Series of 4 Races over 2 days
Organising authority: The Sailing Committee of the Wilsonian Sailing Club (WSC), Main Rd,
Hoo, Kent ME3 9HF
Venue: Wilsonian Sailing Club, Hoo, Rochester, Kent. ME3 9HF

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1 RULES

- 1.1.** This event will be governed by the rules as defined in the current **Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)**, and the prescriptions of the RYA will apply. Appendix T will apply, and RRS 40.1 (requirements for the wearing of buoyancy aids) will apply.
- 1.2.** Competitors shall complete the online entry form via Wilsonian Sailing Club's website and pay the necessary fee to be eligible to race.
- 1.3. General Recall.** When a Class has a General Recall the First Substitute will be displayed, **for** 4 minutes only. **No** later than one minute, before any later starting signal, it will be removed without any further sound signal. The start of the recalled Fleet will be postponed until five minutes after the last valid Fleet start in the sequence ("end of queue"). If more than one Fleet in the sequence **is** recalled, then the recalled Fleets will start in their original sequence. **This changes Rule 29.2.**
- 1.4.** Boats shall be sailed using their own class sail number, unless prior consent has been obtained from the organising authority.
- 1.5.** This event is held on a navigable river and ships or other large vessels have right of way. If a ship/vessel is being escorted, no competitor shall sail between the guard boat displaying a naval numeral "zero" and the ship/vessel it is escorting. Any competitor passing between the guard boat and the escorted ship/vessel or otherwise impeding the ship **SHALL** be disqualified without a hearing.
- 1.6.** All entrants will be issued with adhesive boat identification numbers (Bow numbers), which shall be attached as described in 18.4 (illustrative photographs will be displayed on the Official Notice Board).
- 1.7.** A boat shall take one turn penalty when racing. **This Changes RRS 44.1.**
- 1.8.** The notation "(NP)" in these Sailing Instructions means that a boat may not protest another boat for any breach of that Sailing Instruction. **This changes RRS 60.1.**

2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1.** Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board, located on the landward side of the WSC race box, at the top of the downstream slipway.

3 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

3.1. Any change(s) to these instructions will be posted on the Official Notice Board, **no later than one hour** before the warning signal for any race that it affects.

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

4.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed at the WSC race box.

4.2. Flag boards, corresponding to the equivalent flag, may be displayed at the race box in lieu of, or in addition to, customary flags.

4.3. Flag A with two sound signals (one when lowered) means “No boat shall go afloat until this signal is lowered. The first warning signal will be made not less than 20 minutes after flag A is lowered”.

5 SCHEDULE OF SERIES

5.1. Race schedule - first warning signal:

Race	Day	Date	First Warning Signal
1	Saturday	27/06/26	10.55
2	Saturday	27/06/26	13.55
3	Sunday	28/06/26	10.25
4	Sunday	28/06/26	13.25

6 FLEETS, FLEET FLAGS AND STARTING ORDER

6.1. The schedule of fleets, their corresponding fleet flags/boards and intended start sequence are as follows at 5-minute intervals:

Fleet Handicap	Class Flag	Intended Start Number
Fast handicap	ICS K	1
RS Vareo	Class Flag	2
Medium handicap	ICS T	3
Slow handicap	ICS F	4
Junior	ICS V	5

7 RACING AREAS

7.1. The chart in Attachment 1 shows the race area.

8 COURSES

8.1. The course to be sailed is allocated by number(s), which refer to the Medway Regatta Course Sheet, Attachment 2; the course number(s) for each Fleet and race will be displayed on the Official Notice Board 30 minutes before the warning signal for each race.

9 MARKS

9.1. The marks of the course will be made up from some or all of the following:

- A) Fixed position navigation buoys: Green coloured odd numbered, Red coloured even numbered, Hoo Creek Buoys No. 1(Green) & 2(Red) and South Yantlet Creek No.4 (Red & White Safe Water) buoy.
- B) Fixed position racing marks identifiable as "MYA1", "MYC4" and "Autumn" (all orange/yellow).
- C) Club Buoys orange or yellow coloured numbered 1, 2, 3 and mark boats displaying flag "M".
- D) Additional marks as identified on the course board may be used.

10 AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS

10.1. Folly Point and Darnett Fort beacons are obstructions, and illustrative photographs will be displayed on the Official Notice Board. Folly Point shall be passed to the South, and Darnett Fort beacon shall be passed to the North.

11 THE START

- 11.1. Races will be started using RRS 26 with the warning signal given 5 minutes before the starting signal of each race.
- 11.2. **Other than when a Committee boat is to be used** the starting line will be the Wilsonian Sailing Club line, which is an extension of an imaginary line through the two white posts with triangular top marks, one of which is behind and one in front of the Race Box (see Attachment 1). **An Outer Distance Mark (ODM) may be used and if it is,** it may not be positioned on and should not be considered part of the aforementioned "imaginary line". The line length is limited by the ODM which must be passed to the North – that is between ODM and Race Box. The starting line may be used in either an upstream or downstream direction depending on the course set for each race.
- 11.3. When a committee boat start or start/finish is to be used, an orange flag will be displayed at the race box. The start/finish line will be between the mast of the committee boat displaying an orange flag and the nearby pin-end mark. The location of the committee boat start/finish lines, along with a description of the pin-end mark, will be described along with the rest of the course on the Official Notice Board.
- 11.4. **Boats whose preparatory signal has not been made SHALL keep clear of the starting area and of all boats whose preparatory signal has been made.**
- 11.5. A boat starting later than 4 minutes after her starting signal will be recorded as Did Not Start. **This changes RRS A4 and A5.**

12 THE FINISH

12.1. The finish line description and use is as the starting line, stated in Sailing Instruction 11.2 and 11.3 above.

13 TARGET TIME

13.1. The race target time is 2 hours.

14 RYA PORTSMOUTH YARDSTICK

14.1. The current RYA Portsmouth Yardstick **handicap** system will be used.

15 SHORTENED COURSES

15.1. When a course is being shortened to the starting/finishing line and to indicate the Fleet(s) is/are being finished in a downstream direction, a Red flag board will be displayed with flag S. This is only applicable to courses with a mark positioned upstream of the start/finish line.

15.2. When flags S and C are displayed at a rounding mark the shortened course shall be between the rounding mark and the boat displaying the 2 flags directly back via the main channel to finish at the Wilsonian Sailing Club line. No boat shall pass through Hoo Creek.

15.3. When a course is shortened at a rounding mark, the race management boat will display flag 'S' with two sounds, and the finish line will be between the said mark and a staff displaying flag 'S' on the race management boat.

16 PROTESTS

16.1. Protest forms are available at the Race Office and completed forms shall be delivered there within 45 minutes of the last boat's finish time in that race, unless the Protest Committee sees good reason to extend this time limit. Last boat's finishing times will be displayed on the Official Notice Board.

16.2. Protests will be heard in an order decided by the Protest Committee which shall be displayed on the Official Notice Board and heard as soon as practicable.

17 SCORING

17.1. Race results will be calculated using each boat's corrected time **based on Sailing Instruction 14 above.**

17.2. When 3 or fewer races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.

17.3. When 4 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

18 SAFETY REGULATIONS

18.1. A safety system will be in operation.

18.1.1. Tallies comprise numbered rubber wristbands, which will be allocated at registration. Tallies shall always be worn visibly over clothing on the right wrist/arm by sailors while afloat.

18.1.2. Competitors shall individually check out before racing by personally collecting their tally.

18.1.3. Competitors shall individually check in immediately on returning to shore by personally going to the tally control point to return their tally. This must be done no later than 10 minutes after the last boat has come ashore.

18.2. At the time of checking-in all boats must declare their status on the declaration form located with the "Safety Boards" e.g. completed the race, "Did Not Start", "Did Not Finish" or "Retired After Finishing" as applicable.

18.3. The penalty for failing to check out and/or check in as instructed above will be three points added to the boat's series score for the first offence and five points added to the

boat's series score for each subsequent offence. The penalty is non-excludable.

This changes Rule A5.

- 18.4.** All boats will have a Boat Identification Number (Bow Number), which shall correspond with the boat's Entry Number and helm's and crew's Safety Tally Number. Each boat will be issued with two Bow Numbers at registration. These Bow Numbers shall be placed as high as possible on the hull each side of the bow forward of the mast and NOT on the deck (example photos are displayed on the official notice board). Boats may be protested by the race committee, from any race during which its Bow Number is not correctly displayed if the Race Committee feels that not enough care was exercised in fixing panels/numbers or prompt action was not taken to replace numbers.
This changes Rule 63. (NP)

19 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

- 19.1.** A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions.

20 OFFICIAL BOATS

- 20.1.** It is intended that craft engaged upon race management will display international code flag numeral "*nine*". There will be no grounds for redress if this is not adhered to.

21 RADIO COMMUNICATION

- 21.1.** Except in an emergency a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction includes cellular telephones.

22 PRIZES

- 22.1.** There will be a prize giving at the Wilsonian Sailing Club on Sunday 28th June, as soon as practicable after completion of the race results.

- 22.2.** Prizes will be awarded as follows:

- A Trophy for Fleet Winners
- Keepsake Trophy for pre-determined number of Fleet Positions
- Prizes for the winner of each class of boat fielding 6 or more entries with results extracted separately but having competed in the appropriate handicap fleet

23 RISK STATEMENT

- 23.1. Rule 3** of the RRS states "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or continue racing is hers alone."

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 element of risk involved in the sport and accept responsibility for the exposure of themselves, their crew and their boat to such inherent risk while taking part in the event;
- B) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their 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, compliant with class regulations 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 volunteers by the Organising Authority 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 practically be provided in the circumstances

24 SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

24.1. For minimum safety each boat shall be required to carry no less than 10 metres of tow line.

25 INSURANCE

25.1. Each participating boat shall be insured with adequate valid third-party liability insurance.

26 RYA RACING CHARTER

26.1. Competitors should note that the Wilsonian SC implements the RYA Racing Charter and that they will be required to undertake to sail in compliance with the Charter, which can be found at the front of the RYA current rule book (Racing Rules for Sailing 2025-2028) or at <https://www.rya.org.uk/racing/rules/rya-racing-charter/>.

Attachment 2

Medway Dinghy Regatta Course Sheet

No.	Course	Miles
1	30P, 26P, SY4P, 23S, 22P, AUTS, 20P, MYC4P, 22P, 24S, 26S, CB2P, 30S, 31P, LINE	10.0
2	30P, 25P, 23S, 22P, MYC4S, 20S, 22P, 24S, 26S, CB2P, 30S, 31P, LINE	8.8
3	30P, 25P, 22P, MYA1P, 26P, SY4P, 27S, 30S, 31P, LINE	8.0
4	30P, 25P, 23S, 27S, 23S, 27S, 30S, 31P, LINE	7.2
5	30P, 25P, 22P, MYA1P, 26S, 30S, 31P, LINE	6.1
6	30P, 25P, 23S, 27S, 30S, 31P, LINE	5.2
7	30P, 26P, 25S, CB3S, 27S, CB2P, 30S, 31P, LINE	4.6
8	30P, 28P, 27S, 26S, 30S, 31P, LINE	3.3
9	30P, 28P, CB1P, 30S, 31P, LINE	2.6
10	30P, 26P, CB1S, SY4P, 29P, CB3P, CB2P, 30S, 31P, LINE	7.8
11	30P, 26P, 29S, CB3P, CB2P, 29P, 26P, 27P, 30S, 31P, LINE	6.5
12	29P, 26P, H2S, SY4P, H1S, 20P, MYA1P, 24S, 30S, 31P, LINE	8.5
13	29P, 27P, 23S, 20P, AUTS, 18S, MYA1P, 27S, 30S, 31P, LINE	8.7
14	29P, 26P, H2S, SY4P, 23S, 22P, MYA1P, 24S, 30S, 31P, LINE	7.5
15	29P, 25P, 23S, 27S, 30P, 27P, 25P, 30S, 31P, LINE	7.5
16	29P, 26P, H2S, SY4P, H1P, 27S, 30S, 31P, LINE	6.1
17	29P, 27P, 23S, 25S, 30S, 31P, LINE	5.3
18	29P, CB2S, CB3P, 25S, 24S, 27P, 26S, 30S, 31P, LINE	4.7
19	29S, 28P, 27S, 26S, 30S, 31P, LINE	3.2
20	30P, 28P, CB2P, 30S, 31P, LINE	3.7
21	29P, CB2S, CB3S, 30S, SY4S, 29P, 27S, 30S, 31P, LINE	8.8
22	30P, CB2S, CB3S, 30S, CB2S, 29P, CB3S, 30S, 31P, LINE	8.7
23	30P, 25P, AUTP, 26P, SY4P, H1P, 27S, 30S, 31P, LINE	9.5
24	30P, 25P, 22S, MYC4S, 22P, 25S, 30S, 31P, LINE	8.4
25	30P, 25P, 23S, 22S, 26P, SY4P, H1P, 27S, 30S, 31P, LINE	8.3
26	30P, 25S, 27S, 23S, 27S, 23S, 25S, 30S, 31P, LINE	8.0
27	30P, 25P, 23S, 24P, SY4P, H1P, 27S, 30S, 31P, LINE	6.7
28	30P, 25P, 23S, 27P, 25P, 29S, 30S, 31P, LINE	6.1
29	30P, CB2S, 26P, 25S, CB3S, CB2P, 26S, 30S, 31P, LINE	4.9
30	30P, CB1S, 28S, 30S, 31P, LINE	2.5
31	30P, 27S, 26S, CB1P, 28S, 30S, 31P, LINE	3.3
32	30P, CB2S, CB3S, 29S, SY4S, 26S, 27P, 30S, 31P, LINE	7.4
33	30P, CB2S, CB3S, 29P, 30S, CB2S, CB3S, 29P, 27S, 30S, 31P, LINE	7.6
34	29P, 26P, SY4P, H1S, 18P, MYA1P, 25S, 27S, 30S, 31P, LINE	9.4
35	29P, 25P, 23S, 18P, MYC4P, 22S, MYA1P, 27S, 30S, 31P, LINE	8.7
36	29P, 26P, SY4P, H1S, 22P, MYA1P, 25P, 22P, MYA1P, 27S, 30S, 31P, LINE	8.8
37	29P, 25P, 23S, 20P, MYA1P, 27S, 29S, 27S, 30S, 31P, LINE	8.3
38	29P, 26P, SY4P, H1P, SY4P, H1P, 27S, 30S, 31P, LINE	6.5
39	29P, 25P, 23S, 20P, MYA1P, 27S, 30S, 31P, LINE	6.8
40	29P, 26P, 27S, 24P, 25P, CB3S, CB2P, 30S, 31P, LINE	4.6
41	29P, CB1S, 28S, 30S, 31P, LINE	2.5
42	29P, 26P, 27P, 28S, 30S, 31P, LINE	3.3
43	29P, 27P, SY4P, 26S, CB1P, 30S, CB3P, CB2P, 30S, 31P, LINE	7.9
44	29P, 26P, CB2P, 30S, 27S, CB3P, CB2P, 29P, 27P, 30S, 31P, LINE	7.4
50a,b etc.	SPECIAL COURSE – SEE OFFICIAL NOTICE BOARD	N/A

N.B. For avoidance of doubt S = starboard, P = port.

Key: H High tide, L Low tide, W Windy, A Any tide state, J Juniors/Slow