

Locks SC Sailing Instructions (SIs)

(Version Jan 2024)

1. Racing at Locks SC (LSC)

Shall be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing 2021 - 2024 (RRS) published by World Sailing, and by the Rules and Bye Laws of the Locks SC.

2. Notices to Competitors

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official Notice Board located inside the main entrance to the Locks SC.

3. Changes to Sailing Instructions

- 3.1 Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted before 09:00 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 20:00 on the day before it will take effect.
- 3.2 The WhatsApp group, "Locks Sailors", is an official way to inform of any changes in Sailing Instructions, e.g., cancellation of race by OOD due to conditions.

4. Schedule of Races

- 4.1 Racing is as scheduled in the Locks SC Racing Calendar.
- 4.2 When more than one race will be held on the same day, the warning signal for the succeeding race will be made five minutes after the last finisher of the preceding race, or as soon as practical.

5. Signals Made Ashore

- 5.1 Signals Made Ashore will be displayed at:
 - High Water race – Locks SC Club Mast
 - Low Water race – ECA Club Mast.
- 5.2 Committee Boat starts may be arranged as noted on the course posted. Signals may be posted on the committee boat in addition to Signals Made Ashore

6. The Courses and Marks

- 6.1 Course(s) to be sailed will be indicated on the Club Notice board half an hour before the scheduled start time.
- 6.2 Windy Corner consists of 2 buoys (i.e., a windy corner buoy and a 'spreader' buoy) and both buoys should be rounded in the direction indicated in 6.1
- 6.3 Where Windy Corner is the first mark of a course it will be rounded as indicated. In all further requirements to round Windy Corner, Line Buoy is to be substituted.
- 6.4 All boats must pass between the outer distance mark and the inner distance post at the start of a race, and when entering or leaving the Eastney Lake on any leg of a round.

7. The Start Line

- 7.1 The starting marks will be:
 - a) High Water Start Line is an extension of the transit of two fixed triangles, one on Mercer Bridge and one on a pole in front of the Sailing Club. All boats must start between the inner distance pole and the outer distance mark.
 - b) Low Water start line is from the ECA club start line.
 - c) A Committee boat start line will be between the mast of the Committee boat and a dropped buoy, as defined in the course instructions.

8. The Start & Fleets

- 8.1 Two boats per fleet must be signed-on and start to constitute a valid race.
- 8.2 Races will be started using the following signals. Times shall be taken from the visual signals; the absence of a sound signal shall be disregarded.
 - a) Warning will be with a class flag or flags and sound signal at 5 minutes before the start gun.
 - b) Flag P will be flown with a warning sound signal at 4 minutes before the start.
 - c) Flag P will be removed with a sound warning at 1 minute before the start.
 - d) Starting will be by sound signal and the removal of the Warning/Class Flag.
- 8.3 The Fast Fleet is for classes with PY 1025 and below. The Class Flag is Q – Yellow
- 8.4 The Medium Fleet is for classes with PY 1026 and above. The class Flag is B - Red

9. The Finish Line

- 9.1 High Water finish line is an extension of the transit of the two fixed triangles, one on Mercer Bridge and one on the pole in front of the Sailing Club. All boats must finish between the inner distance pole and the outer distance mark.
- 9.2 Low water finish line is the ECA club mast line.

10. Shortened Courses

- 10.1 If Flag "S" is hoisted the course will end at the next crossing of the finishing line by the leading boat. Two sound signals may be made to draw attention to shortened course signals.
- 10.2 The race may also be finished at any time by a Committee Boat or other vessel flying Flag "S" at the course mark nearest to it or any Committee Boat Line.

11. Recalls

- 11.1 Individual recalls will be in accordance with Rule 29.1 of the RRS. The Race Committee may also hail the sail numbers of any premature starters.
- 11.2 General Recalls will be in accordance with Rule 29.2 of the RRS.

12. Penalty System

- 12.1 No race finish declaration is required.
- 12.2 Boats retiring must inform the Race Officer immediately on coming ashore.

13. Time Limits

- 13.1 Time Limit will be three hours for the leading boat and one hour after the leading boat's finishing time for the remainder of the competitors. If no boat has passed mark one within one hour of the start signal the race will be abandoned.
- 13.2 Where two races or more are sailed on the same day then the time limit will be one hour for the leading boat and twenty minutes after the leading boat's finishing time for the remainder of the competitors, unless amended by the Officer of the Day

14. Protests and Requests for Redress

- 14.1 Protest forms are available at the LSC clubhouse and shall be delivered there for attention of the Sailing Secretary within one hour of the last competitor finishing the last race of the day. The same time limit applies to requests for redress.

15. Handicap System

- 15.1 Races will be on Locks Personal Handicap system, which is based on the Portsmouth Tables.
- 15.2 Personal handicaps will be allocated and amended by the appointed Handicapper every three races or at his and the Sailing Secretary's discretion.
- 15.3 Personal Handicaps may be carried over to subsequent seasons.

16. Scoring

- 16.1 Place Points will be awarded according to the Low Point scoring system given in Appendix A of the RRS.
- 16.2 Appendix A, section A5.3 will apply, viz: a boat that comes to the starting area but does not start, does not sail the course, does not finish, retires or is disqualified shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats that came to the starting area, and a boat that did not come to the starting area shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats entered in the series.
- 16.3 'Coming to the starting area' shall be defined as entering into Eastney lake, further east than the isolated danger mark for the lock entrance.
- 16.4 Ties will be broken in accordance with Appendix A, Section A8 of the RRS.
- 16.5 One race is required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 16.6 The number of races comprising a series is as indicated in the published fixture card.
- 16.7 The number to discard shall be as follows for all Club Summer Race Series;

1 to 2 races completed	– no discard
3 to 4 races completed	– 1 discard
5 to 7 races completed	– 2 discards
8 to 9 races completed	– 3 discards
10 to 12 races completed	– 4 discards
- 16.8 The number to discard shall be as follows for all Club Spring & Autumn Race Series;

1 to 2 races completed	– no discard
3 to 7 races completed	– 1 discard
8 to 12 races completed	– 2 discards

17.Replacement of Crew or Equipment

- 17.1 Substitution of helm will not be allowed within a series. Change of helm within a series must be clearly indicated on sign-on and will be scored as a separate entry in that series.
- 17.2 Substitution of boat class will not be allowed within a series. Change of boat class within a series must be clearly indicated on sign-on and will be scored as a separate entry in that series. Note: See exception below for Top Gun Series, 18.4.
- 17.3 Competitors wishing to use a sail number other than that under which their boat is allocated a handicap must indicate this on the sign-on sheet and seek the approval of the Race Officer at sign-on before racing.
- 17.4 Any change of rig resulting in a change from one PY rating to another will be considered a new class entry in the series and must be clearly indicated on the sign-on sheet – scores under each rig will be totalled independently.

18.Top Gun Series

- 18.1 All High Water & Low Water Races as marked in the Calendar are eligible races for the Top Gun Series - except for:
 - Interclub races series,
 - LangstoneRace Weekend races,
 - Chris Wadham Trophy,
 - Locks Regatta,
 - Pursuit Races,
 - Adult & Junior Crew,
 - Single handed & Ladies Races
- 18.2 There must be four boats signed on for the Fast Fleet and seven boats signed on for the Medium Fleet.
- 18.3 Half of all races sailed, rounded up, will count for the overall Fleet Winner. The two trophies, Brickwood Cup and Jordan Trophy, will be alternated each year between the Fast and Medium fleets.
- 18.4 A helm will be allowed to change boat class once per season by informing the handicapper. Once a change has been made, no other changes will be allowed and no return to the previous boat class will be permitted in that season.

19. Safety Regulations

- 19.1 Registration – Boats must sign-on at the LSC Club House, completing the official Sign-on Sheet, before the first warning signal. Boats not signed on will be marked DSQ.
- 19.2 Juniors & Cadets are always required to wear a buoyancy aid during races.
- 19.3 When flag Y is displayed rule 40 always applies when afloat to all members.
- 19.4 Wet suits and dry suits are not personal flotation devices.
- 19.5 The Patrol Boat, complete with a driver and crew, must be afloat and in the area of the start before the start sequence can commence.

20. Equipment and Measurement Checks

- 20.1 All boats must comply with their class rule measurement unless the handicapper has been informed before racing.
- 20.2 All boats must comply with their class buoyancy rules and test procedures and may be inspected by the Race Officer or a Club Officer at any time.

21.Disclaimer of liability

- 21.1 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.”
- 21.2 Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore 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 whilst 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, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
 - e) The provision of a race management team, patrol boats, umpires and other officials and volunteers by the 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.

22. Insurance

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance for the crew sailing with a minimum cover of £1,000,000 per event.

This last item (22) is a Club Bye law. We never check it, but by signing on, you are confirming that your boat and insurance are in compliance with the Sailing Instructions and Race Notice.

END

Amended Jan 2024 – Gavin Cadmore Sailing Sec