



Maylandsea Bay S. C. & Harlow (Blackwater) S. C. JOINT SAILING INSTRUCTIONS (“SIs”) 2026

(For Open Meetings, Individual SIs may be produced)

Note; Items in **Blue** MBSC specific, Items in **Brown** H(B)SC specific

1 RULES

- 1.1** Racing will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing 2025/28* (“RRS”).
- 1.2** Each boat must comply with the Class Rules and Constitution of its own class.
- 1.3** **Racing rules of Sailing will be changed as follows:**
- 1.3.1** RRS A4 and A5 are changed by SI 11.4 - a boat starting later than 4 minutes after her starting signal will be scored DNS. This may be waived at the discretion of the race officer.
- 1.3.2** RRS 32 is changed by SI 12.1 - a race may be shortened by flag R (see SIs Appendix B) denoting that boats are to round a mark of the course and return to the club **line/gate** to finish.
- 1.3.3** RRS 40.1 is changed by SI 18.1 – personal flotation devices must be worn at all times while afloat.
- 1.3.4** RRS 90.3 and A2.1 are changed by SI 17.2 - races to count in a series shall be the nearest whole number above half the number of races completed.
- 1.3.5** RRS G1.1 is changed by SI 19.3 - the race officer may permit a boat to use sails carrying a distinguishing number other than that required by RRS G1.

2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1** Notices to competitors will be posted on the notice board(s) located in the Club House(s).

3 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1** Any change to these sailing instructions will be posted half an hour before race start time on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted not less than one hour before race start time on the day it will take effect.

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1** Except for starting signals for club line starts (where **SI 11.1.2** & **SI 11.2.3** applies), signals made ashore will be displayed from the race box flagstaff.

5 SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 5.1** The schedule of races is set out in the current **MBSC** & **H(B)SC** programmes.
- 5.2** The classes to race and the order and times of starts shall be displayed on the course board.

6 CLASS FLAGS

- 6.1** **MBSC** Class flags will be:

<i>Class</i>	<i>Flag</i>	
Dinghy Handicap Long Course	Numeral Pennant 1	
Dinghy Short Course	Flag Q	
Keelboat	Flag B	

6.2 H(B)SC Class flags will be:

<i>Class</i>	<i>Flag</i>	
Dinghy Handicap Long Course	Numeral Pennant 1	
Second Start	Numeral Pennant 2	
Third Start	Numeral Pennant 3	

7 RACING AREAS

7.1 Appendix A shows the location of racing areas.

8 THE COURSES

- 8.1 The course to be sailed will be displayed on the notice board in the Club House. For joint racing courses will be transmitted by WhatsApp between the clubs.
- 8.2 The course may include navigation buoys as well as club rounding marks and contain one or more laps.
- 8.2.1 **For MBSC Starts only.** When a course requires a boat to sail from marks upstream from the MBSClub Gate (i.e. 0 and/or 1) to any mark downstream of the MBSClub Gate, or vice versa, then boats shall pass through the MBSCClub Gate, as defined in SI 9.1.
- 8.3 Races may start and/or finish at a Committee Boat.
- 8.4 When starting from the Committee Boat, the course to be sailed will be displayed on the Committee Boat before the warning signal but also may be displayed on the course board prior to start of first race.

9 MARKS OF THE COURSE

- 9.1 MBSClub Gate is an imaginary line formed by the lower tip of the orange Triangle on the MBSC Clubhouse and the upper tip of the orange Triangle at the north end of the starting area. An Outer distance mark (yellow buoy marked ODM) maybe laid close to this imaginary line near the northern triangle. If laid competitors must pass to the south of the Outer Distance Mark.
- 9.2 See Appendix A for mark/buoy identification & colours.

10 AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS

- 10.1 At very high tides it may be possible for boats to pass through gaps in Mundon Spit, however, to do so, is considered dangerous, hence any such gap shall be designated as a prohibited area.

11 THE START

11.1 MBSC Club Line Starts:

11.1.1 The start line is the MBSClub Gate as defined in SI 9.1.

11.1.2 Club line starting lights are displayed at the top of the race box window. Facing, left to right; Green light, (when used), indicates 10 min. to warning signal. (GOW get on water)

First White Light Warning signal

Second White Light 4min.

Third White Light 1min.

All lights extinguish START

If a second start is to follow on, lights 4, 5 & 6 will be used as above sequence (4 will light up as 1,2, & 3 are extinguish).

Minutes before starting signal	Visual signal	Sound signal	Means
5	The 5 minute Warning light - will illuminate	1 Hoot	Warning signal
4	The 4 minute light - will illuminate (4&5 min. illuminated)	1 Hoot	Preparatory signal
1	The 1 minute light - will illuminate (1,4&5 min. illuminated)	1 Long Hoot	One minute
0	All the above Lights extinguished	1 Hoot	Starting signal

11.1.3 Individual recall: Is signalled with 1 Hoot (*Inc. start hoot, 2 in total*) and a Yellow flashing light to the left-hand side in the race box window. The Yellow flashing light being extinguished when the premature starter returns to the prestart side of the start line

11.1.4 A General Recall: Is signalled with 2 Hoots (*Inc. start hoot, 3 in total*) and Blue & Yellow flashing lights on the Left-hand side in the race box window.

11.1.5 Postponement (indefinite) This will be displayed as Red & Blue flashing lights mounted (above balcony on the right looking from the water). When postponement light has been extinguished suitable time is required for boats to launch (suggest 10mins.) If boats are already on the water only 1 min. is required. Race officer judgment

11.1.6 Sandhopper/Keelboat Auto Start will be indicated by a Green Light displayed 40 minutes prior to the warning signal, the starting sequence will then be the same as an individual start.

11.1.7 All other signals will be made with flags flown from the race box flagstaff.

11.2. H(B)SC Club Line Starts

11.2.1 The H(B)SC starting line is an extension of an imaginary line between the race box flagstaff and the orange post on the foreshore. The outer limit of the line is marked by 'Jetty' mark per (see SIs Appendix A), which may or may not be in line with the starting line.

11.2.2 If Class Flags are to be used instead of Lights, that will be indicated on the course board.

11.2.3 Starting Sequence

Starting Lights will be displayed from the race box balcony

Minutes before starting signal	Visual signal	Sound signal	Means
5	The 5 minute light - will illuminate	1 Hoot	Warning signal
4	The 4 minute light - will illuminate (4&5 min. illuminated)	1 Hoot	Preparatory signal
1	The 1 minute light - will illuminate (1,4&5 min. illuminated)	1 Long Hoot	One minute
0	All the above Lights extinguished	1 Hoot	Starting signal

11.2.4 Individual recall: Is signalled with 1 Hoot (*Inc. start hoot, 2 in total*) and an AMBER light The amber light being extinguished when the premature starter returns to the pre start side of the start line.

11.2.5 A General Recall: Is signalled with 2 Hoots (*Inc. start hoot, 3 in total*) and a BLUE light on the right hand light box.

11.2.6 All subsequent start sequences will commence a minimum of 1 minute after the previous start.

11.2.7 Postponements will be indicated by RED light displayed from the race box balcony.

11.2.8 All other signals will be made with flags flown from the race box flagstaff.

11.3 Committee Boat Starts

11.3.1 The Committee Boat start / finish lines are imaginary lines formed by an orange flag on the Committee Boat and a club rounding mark or temporary buoy. Unless stated differently on course board.

11.3.2 An inner distance mark may be laid adjacent to the Committee Boat. No boat shall pass between such inner mark and the Committee Boat.

11.3.3 The Committee Boat signalling will be (see SIs Appendix B):

Minutes before starting signal	Visual signal	Sound signal	Means
5	Class flag	One Hoot	Warning signal
4	Flag P or I or U or Black	One Hoot	Preparatory signal
1	Flag P or I or U or Black Removed	One long Hoot	One minute
0	Class flag removed	One Hoot	Starting signal

11.4 A boat starting later than 4 minutes after her starting signal will be scored DNS. This changes rule RRS A4 and A5. This may be waived at the discretion of the race officer.

12 SHORTENING THE COURSE

12.1 At club line

12.1.1 MBSC Shorten course will be indicated by BLUE flashing lights (above balcony on right looking from water).

12.1.2 H(B)SC Shorten course will be indicated by BLUE & WHITE single lights displayed from the race box balcony.

12.2 At a mark of the course

12.2.1 Shortening a course by displaying flag S (see SIs Appendix B) in accordance with RRS 32.2,

12.2.2 As an alternative to shortening a course by displaying flag S in accordance with RRS 32.2, a race may be shortened by flying code flag R adjacent to a mark of the course, denoting that boats are to round that mark of the course and return to the club line/gate to finish. This changes RRS 32.2.

13 THE FINISH

13.1 MBSC Club finish line is the MBSClub Gate as defined in SI 9.1.

13.2 H(B)SC Club finish line is an imaginary line between the Race Box flagstaff and the 'Jetty' mark.

13.3 Committee Boat finish line is as described in SI 11.3.1.

13.4 If the race committee is absent when a boat finishes, she should report her finishing time, and her position in relation to nearby boats, to the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

14 PENALTY SYSTEM

14.1 The Scoring Penalty, RRS 44.3, will not apply.

15 TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES

A time limit of two hours after the published high water time is set. Boats not finishing within the two-hour limit will be scored as DNF. This may be waived at the discretion of the race officer.

16 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 16.1** Protest shall be written on forms available from the race office. Protests shall be delivered there **within 30 minutes of the last boat coming ashore**. The protest time limit may be extended at the race committee's discretion.
- 16.2** Protests will be heard in the Club House of the race administrator, in the approximate order of receipt as soon as possible after the end of the days racing.

17 SCORING

- 17.1** Scoring will be in accordance with RRS 90.3, A2 (amended by SI 17.2) A4: Low Point System and A5.3 (A5.3 - DNS,OCS,DNF,RET,DSQ,NSC = 1 point more than number of boats that came to the starting area **in that race ----- DNC = 1 point more than the number of boats entered in the series**).
- 17.2** Races to count in a series shall be the nearest whole number above half the number of races completed. This changes RRS 90.3, A2.1
- 17.3** **In the event of a series tie between 2 or more boats RRS A8.1 & A8.2 applies.**
(No. of - 1st, 2nd, 3rd Etc. until broken, if this still remains a tie, position in last race counts).
- 17.4** Those on duty, eg race officer, safety boat can claim (ODD) average points for the races concerned. The ODD must notify the race officer – this can be done via WhatsApp.

18 SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 18.1** Each member of the crew must wear a personal floatation devices, minimum standard level 50 (EN393 or ISO 12402-5) at all times when afloat. Flag Y will not be flown.
- 18.2** Competitors should transmit in advance of the race their boat class, number, helm and crew name to the race officer. Retiring boats must notify race officer as soon as practicable but no more than 20 minutes after the race has ended. This can be transmitted by WhatsApp.
- 18.3** **Keelboats** must carry a fully working outboard motor, along with sufficient fuel. A competitor who does not comply with this Rule in relation to any race shall be disqualified from that race. A radio (Channel P4) must be carried for use in cases of emergency

19 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

- 19.1** Substitution of competitors is allowed without prior approval, but please inform the race committee.
- 19.2** Substitution of boats / equipment is allowed without prior approval, but please inform the race committee.
- 19.3** **Distinguishing Numbers**
Under exceptional circumstances the race officer may permit a boat to use sails carrying a distinguishing number other than that required by RRS G.

20 RADIO COMMUNICATION

- 20.1** Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.

21 PRIZES

- 21.1** Prizes will be given at the annual Prize Giving(s); in some circumstances prizes maybe given out on the day (and will be notified on WhatsApp).

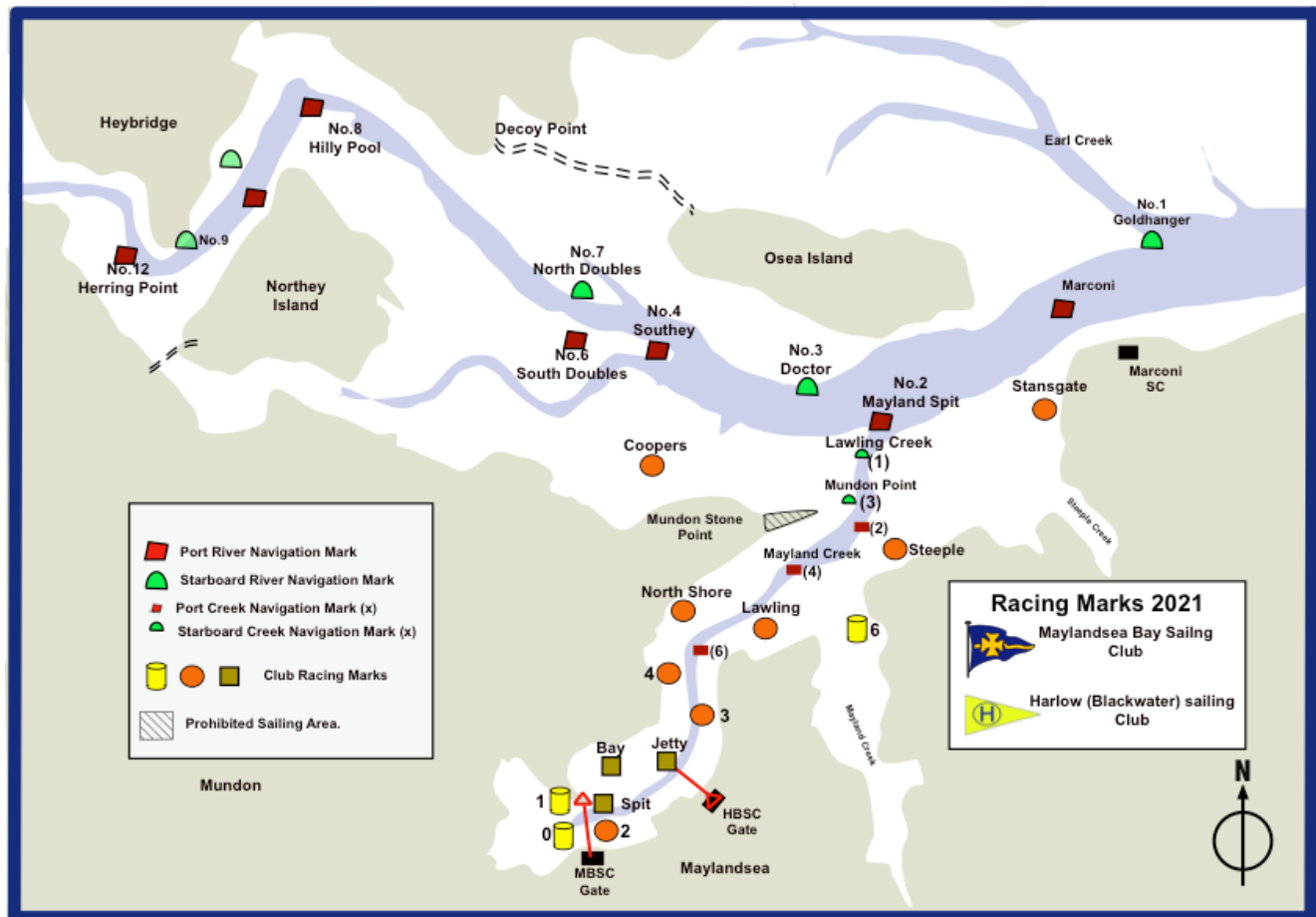
22 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 22.1** Competitors participate in the racing entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3 Decision to Race and RRS 4 Acceptance of the Rules. The race administrators will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the racing.

23 INSURANCE

- 23.1** Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £3,000,000 per incident or the equivalent.

Appendix A – Marks of the Course



Appendix B – Flags and Pennants

