

# MUSTO



# the Larks

## MUSTO Lark UK National Championship

30<sup>th</sup> May – 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2021

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**Commodore:** Stuart Robertson

**Principal Race Officer:** Martin Hough

**Organising Authority:** The Organising Authority is Rock Sailing & Water Ski Club, in conjunction with the Lark Class Owners Association.

**Briefing:** The briefing will be available on-line from 28 May latest on the Event Noticeboard at <https://nationals.larkclass.org/>. There will be a Q&A session with the Race Officer at 1800 on the Quay at the Sailing Club on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> May.

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## Sailing Instructions

**The notation '[DP]' in a rule in the SI means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.**

### 1 Rules

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 2021 –2024 and the Equipment Rules of Sailing to the extent that they apply.
- 1.2 Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board at the Sailing Club.

### 2 Changes to Sailing Instructions

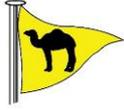
Any changes to sailing instructions will be posted at least 60 minutes before the advertised start time or actual start time, whichever is the later.

### 3 Signals Made Ashore

- 3.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flagstaff of the Sailing Club.
- 3.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes' in the race signal AP. This changes RRS Race Signals AP.

### 4 Schedule of Races

- 4.1 Dates of racing: from Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> May to Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2021 inclusive. It is intended to schedule 2–3 races per day with a combination of shorter (target length approximately 30 minutes), medium (target length approximately 50 minutes), and longer races (target length approximately 70 minutes).
- 4.2 Number of races: the scheduled time of the warning signal for the races are as shown below; this schedule is a guide only to when long, medium, or short races are to be sailed. The Race Committee reserve the right to change the format of race duration at its discretion. Failure to adhere to the intended race duration for a particular race is not grounds for redress under RRS 62.



Date	Race	Warning signal	Tide times (BST) in Padstow
Sun 30 <sup>th</sup> May	Points Races 1 (long) & 2 (short)	08.30 and asap after Race 1	HW—09.01
Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> June	Points Races 3 (medium), 4 (medium) & 5 (short)	08.45 and asap after Race 3 (and 4)	HW— 09.50
Tue 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	Points Races 6 (medium) & 7 (medium); & crews' race(short)	09.30 and asap after Race 6 (and 7)	HW— 10.44
Wed 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Points Races 8 (long) & 9 (long)	10.30 and asap after Race 8	HW—11.44
Wed.3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Prize giving	17.00 or earlier if racing allows	

- 4.3 Up to one race may be sailed ahead of schedule if tides/conditions allow, subject to no more than 3 races being sailed on any one day. No more than 2 races will be sailed on the last day. Any changes to the sailing programme will be posted by 20.00 on the preceding day.
- 4.4 To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, an orange flag will be displayed with a series of 5 horn sounds 5 minutes before a warning signal is made and will remain during the starting sequence.
- 4.5 On the last scheduled day of racing, no warning signal will be made after 13.00.

## 5 Class Flag

The class flag will be Flag L, when displayed together with an Orange flag. If Flag L is displayed from the Committee Boat without an orange flag displayed, the usual instruction of 'follow me' applies as per Race Signals. This changes RRS Race Signals.

## 6 Racing Area

The Race Area will be in the Camel Estuary and/or Padstow Bay depending on weather conditions.

## 7 The Courses

- 7.1 The diagrams in Appendix A show the courses, including the approximate angles between legs, the order in which marks are to be passed and the side on which each mark is to be left.
- 7.2 No later than the warning signal, or if a gate start is being used 5 minutes before the warning signal, the race committee signal vessel will display the race duration as a letter on a board ('long' = L, 'medium' = M or 'short' = S), the course to be sailed and the number of laps. A lap is completed each time Mark 3 is rounded.
- 7.3 No later than the warning signal the committee boat may display the approximate compass bearing of the first leg.

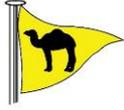
## 8 Marks

- 8.1 Marks 1, 2 and 3 will be large, orange inflatable buoys. The replacement mark will be a yellow spherical buoy.
- 8.2 For a line start, the port end mark will be an orange buoy or a buoy with a yellow flag. The starboard end mark is a race committee vessel.
- 8.3 The finishing line will be between an orange buoy (or a buoy with a yellow flag) at the port end and a race committee vessel at the starboard end.



## 9 The Start

- 9.1 Races will be started by using RRS 26 with either a gate start or a line start.
- 9.2 Gate Start: Flag G displayed from the Committee Boat (CB) indicates a Gate start will be used.
- a. The location for the gate start will be from the starting buoy located off the bow of the CB.
  - b. At least 5 minutes before the warning signal the CB will display, on a board, the length of time in minutes the gate will be open.
  - c. Pathfinder: the Pathfinder and reserve Pathfinder will normally be the 10th (tenth) and 11th (eleventh) boats respectively in the final finishing order of the preceding race. However, no boat shall be Pathfinder for more than one completed race of the Championship. In the event of a previous Pathfinder finishing in 10th place in subsequent race(s), the highest placed competitors finishing in 11th or higher places who have not previously been Pathfinders will be nominated as Pathfinder and reserve Pathfinder respectively. If 2 or more races with gate starts are being sailed on one day, the Pathfinder's sail number for the additional races will be displayed on the committee boat prior to the warning signal.
  - d. The sail numbers of the Pathfinder and reserve Pathfinder will be posted on the Official Notice Board and will be displayed on the CB. They shall both report to the CB 5 minutes before the warning signal. In exceptional circumstances the Race Officer (RO) may appoint a boat at sea to act as Pathfinder or reserve Pathfinder. A Pathfinder or reserve Pathfinder that fails to report will be scored did not start. This changes RRS A4 and A5.
  - e. The Gate Boat, Starting Buoy and Pathfinder are starting marks.
  - f. Any boat touching a starting mark will be disqualified without a hearing. This changes RRS 31, 44.2, 63.1 and A5.
  - g. Any boat, having not already started correctly, which is on the port side of the gate boat while the gate is opening, or which returns from the port side of the starting line will be disqualified without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1 and A5.
  - h. After the preparatory signal a boat which makes contact with, interferes with or impedes the Pathfinder, Gate Boat or the Guard Boat, or which passes or tries to pass close ahead or between any of these boats or that causes another boat to interfere in these ways, will be disqualified without a hearing from that race and any subsequent restart of that race. This changes RRS 36, 63.1 and A5.
  - i. Two minutes before the starting signal the Pathfinder shall come within hail of the gate boat which will be in the vicinity of the Starting Buoy and place themselves under the direction of the RO. Approximately 15 seconds before the starting signal the Pathfinder will commence a close hauled port tack course at maximum speed from the vicinity of the Starting Buoy. The Gate Boat, displaying Flag G, will follow closely astern.
  - j. The starting line will be between the Starting Buoy and the Gate Boat for all boats except the Pathfinder.
  - k. At, or after the starting signal boats may start. Boats starting before the starting signal will be disqualified from that start without a hearing. This changes RRS 29.1, 63.1 and A5.
  - l. The Pathfinder will maintain her close hauled course until such time as she is released by the RO, which will be either after all boats have passed astern of the Gate Boat or the length of time indicated in SI 9.2(b), whichever is the sooner. She will be released by hail from the Gate Boat and her role as Pathfinder ceases immediately. She may then tack or hold her course. After releasing the Pathfinder, the Gate Boat will hold her course until the length of time indicated in SI 9.2(b). A sound signal will be made when the gate is fully open.



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- m. The gate boat will then stop her engines and drift for one minute, or longer, at the discretion of the RO. To close the gate a further sound signal will be made and flag G removed. No boat shall start after the gate is closed.

### 9.3 Line start:

- a. The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Committee Boat at the starboard end and the course side of the Starting Buoy at the port end.
- b. A boat starting later than 5 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A4 and A5.

## 10 Changing the Next Leg of the Course

To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will lay a new mark (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.

## 11 The Finish

- 11.1 The finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue and the Finishing Buoy described in SI 8.2 and as shown in Appendix A.
- 11.2 The Course may be shortened as the lead boat is approaching Mark 3.
- 11.3 After the first boat has finished, the RC may record other boats as deemed to have finished before they cross the finish line to save time whether or not they were expected to complete the course within the time limit or time limit extensions. A RC boat displaying Flag W will make a sound signal and verbally hail the boat that they have been recorded as deemed to have finished. When a boat finishes in accordance with this instruction she shall be given a finishing place after all boats which had previously finished and in the sequential order in the direction from the finish line. If further races are to be run that day, she shall proceed immediately to the starting area. This changes RRS 28, 32.1, 32.2, 35 and Appendix A. This action will be at the discretion of the RO and this decision shall be final and shall not be grounds for redress under RRS 62.1a.

## 12 Time Limits and Target Times

- 12.1 The target times and time limits are as follows:

Race duration	Target time	Time limit	Mark 1 time limit
'Short'	30 minutes	60 minutes	30 minutes
'Medium'	50 minutes	90 minutes	"
'Long'	70 minutes	120 minutes	"

If no boat has passed Mark 1 within the Mark 1 time limit the race will be abandoned. Failure to meet the target time shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

- 12.2 The RO shall keep the finish line open for 30 minutes after the first boat finishes or until the time limit is reached, whichever is later.

## 13 Disputes, Protests and Requests for Redress

- 13.1 Protest forms are available at the Sailing Club. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit.
- 13.2 The protest time limit is 30 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day and come ashore from racing.
- 13.3 Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. It shall be the responsibility of competitors to



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check the notice board for such notices, obtain their copy of the protest form and make sure that they and their witnesses attend the hearing.

- 13.4 Notices of protests by the race committee, technical committee or protest committee will be posted to inform boats under RRS 61.1(b).
- 13.5 A competitor's request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the party requesting reopening was informed of the Protest Committee's decision on that day. This changes RRS 66.
- 13.6 On the last scheduled day of racing a request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered either
  - a. within the protest time limit if the requesting party was informed of the decision on the previous day;
  - b. no later than 30 minutes after the requesting party was informed of the decision on that day. This changes RRS 66.

### 14 Scoring System

- 14.1 Two races are required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 14.2 Discards
  - a. When fewer than 4 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
  - b. When from 4 to 8 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
  - c. When 9 have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her two worst scores.

### 15 Safety Regulations

- 15.1 Rule 40.1 applies at all times while afloat. Personal flotation devices of all crew members shall be worn at all times whilst afloat, except briefly while changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment.
- 15.2 Signing on and off.
  - a. All competitors who have entered the regatta will be deemed as signed on for each race.
  - b. Competitors shall sign off immediately on returning to shore after racing, by signing the appropriate sheet in the crew room at the Sailing Club.
  - c. Boats whose crews fail to comply may accept an alternative penalty by making a donation of £10 to the local Rock RNLI Inshore Rescue Service. Otherwise the penalty will be 5 points added to the boat's series score without a hearing for each infringement. A list of boats that have infringed will be posted on the official notice board before the protest time limit. This changes rule 63.1.
  - d. A boat that retires from a race shall notify an official boat as soon as possible and shall not return to shore without the express permission of that official boat. [DP]

### 16 Substitution of Crew and Equipment

Substitution of competitors will not be allowed without prior written approval of the Race Committee. Permission to substitute a registered helm or crew will only be granted for reasons of injury, illness, serious unforeseen personal circumstances, or prearranged crew substitutions approved by the LCOA at or before registration.

### 17 Equipment and Measurement Checks

A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the Class rules and SIs.



**18 Advertising**

A boat may be required to display advertising and/or bow numbers chosen and supplied by the organising authority and in accordance with World Sailing advertising code 20.4.

**19 Trash Disposal**

Trash may be placed aboard support or official boats.

**20 Radio Communications**

Except in an emergency, a boat that is racing shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data transmissions that is not available to all boats. [DP]

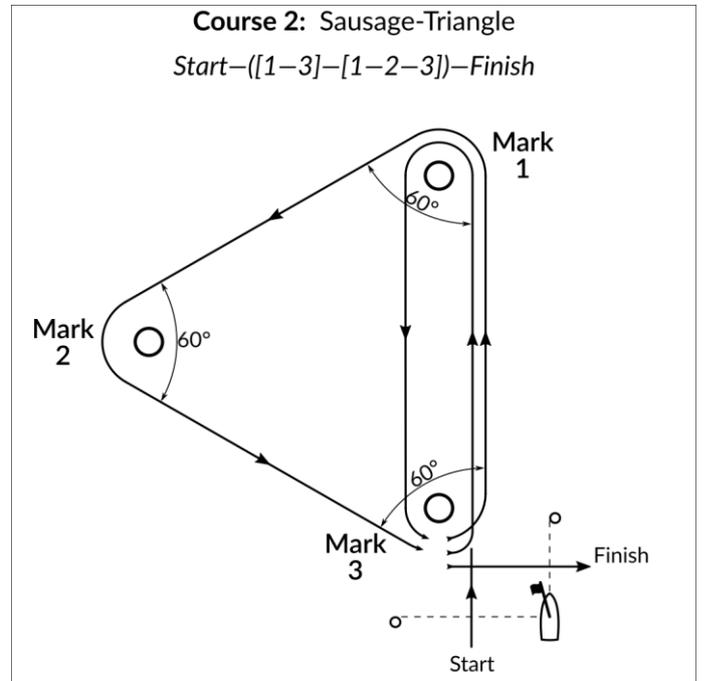
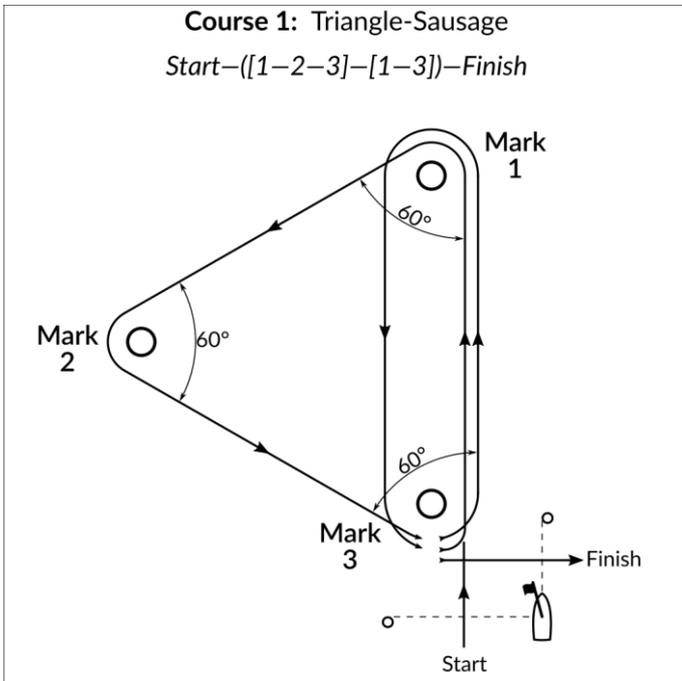
**21 Risk Statement**

- 21.1 Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3, Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage, personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.
- 21.2 Sailing by its nature is 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 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 or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;
  - d. the provision of a race committee, patrol boats and other officials and volunteers by the organising authority does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
  - e. the provision of patrol boat assistance is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances;
  - f. it is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks specific to this venue or at this event drawn to their attention in any rules and information provided for the venue or event and to attend competitors' briefing(s) held for this event;
  - g. they are responsible for ensuring that their boat is equipped and seaworthy in order to be able to face conditions that they may encounter, that their crew is sufficient in experience and fitness to withstand such weather.
  - h. All competitors must comply with the RSWSC Covid 19n Risk Assessment mitigation actions.

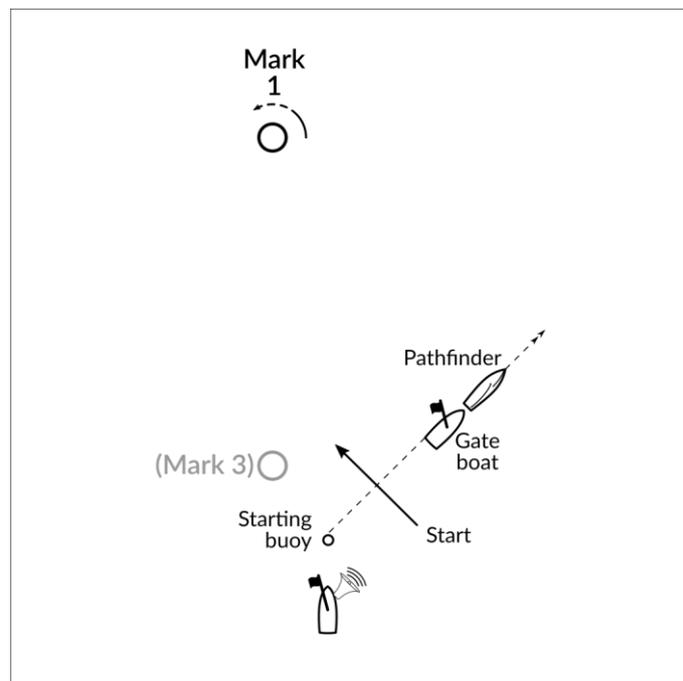


### Appendix A: Course Diagrams

#### A.1. Courses



#### A.2. Gate start





## **Appendix B: Advisory & Mediation Hearings**

### **B.1. Advisory Hearing**

B.1.1. The aim of an advisory hearing is to discuss and resolve disputes, without there being a protest, in a timely, informal and positive way. The option to request an advisory hearing belongs entirely to the aggrieved party.

B.1.2. Procedure:

- a. Aggrieved party logs request and informs other party.
- b. Each is allowed 1-2 minutes to say what happened. Parties may not call witnesses.
- c. Advisor asks questions and may call witnesses.
- d. Facts may or may not be agreed.
- e. If facts are agreed, the advisor explains which rules were broken and advises:
  - i. no protest is necessary, and if none is lodged no further action will ensue, or
  - ii. a protest may be lodged;
  - iii. if a protest is lodged, either party may exonerate themselves at any stage before the hearing by accepting the reduced exoneration penalty (n.b. if it is established that a rule was broken, a party is not obliged to retire or take a scoring penalty; there is no stigma attached to that).
- f. If facts are not agreed, they can only be established in a protest hearing.
  - i. There is no expectation that either party will proceed to a protest.
  - ii. If either decides to proceed, they must complete a protest form.
  - iii. Either party may exonerate themselves before the hearing by accepting the specified reduced penalty.

### **B.2. Mediation Hearing**

B.2.1. The aim of the mediation hearing is to resolve disputes in a way which is more convenient and less adversarial than a full protest hearing and introduce a significantly lower penalty.

B.2.2. Procedure:

- a. Aggrieved party completes protest form within the time allowed.
- b. The validity of the protest form is checked.
- c. Each is allowed 1-2 minutes to say what happened.
- d. If agreement is reached on significant facts mediator uses rule book to explain which rule has been broken and invites the party in breach of the rule to take the reduced penalty of 20% (maximum 5 places, minimum 2 places). If the penalty is accepted, the mediator invites protestor (if appropriate) to withdraw their protest.