

NOTICE OF RACE

BJRC 2020 SPRINT SERIES

1 GENERAL

Blackwater Joint Racing Committee (BJRC) will be the Organising Authority for cruiser/keelboat racing during the 2020 Sprint Series (the Series). BJRC member clubs will run racing in the River Blackwater, largely in the waters to the east and west of Osea Island.

2 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Sailing Instructions will be issued by BJRC. Racing will take place on the dates detailed in section 9 below. The Sailing Instructions may also change racing rules.

3 RULES

Racing will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (2017-2020), RYA prescriptions, and the rules of each class or handicap system. Racing is open to members of all RYA recognised yacht and sailing clubs on the Blackwater and Colne rivers, or their guests.

One design boats, other than those sailing in Cruiser and IRC classes, shall comply with class rules applicable for 2020.

4 SERIES

The Series comprises of 5 races.

There will be one race per day for cruisers and keelboats rated under a BJRC Sprint Performance Handicap (SPH).

Race start times and dates are set out in 9 below.

Race courses will be set to anticipate 2 hours duration for the slowest boats.

5 SCORING

The best 3 races will count towards the overall Series and there will be prizes for the series

The BJRC reserves the right to allocate handicaps for the Series where appropriate and by reference to any published information.

6 ELIGIBILITY

The regatta is open to all monohull boats of the following classes or handicap divisions:

- Cruisers holding a valid BJRC LH handicap issued (by BJRC) for the 2020 season. An option applies for boats to enter by declaration of handicap with or without a spinnaker or genneker (Cruisers only).
- Boats holding a valid IRC Certificate.
- Keelboats with a Portsmouth Yardstick Handicap with asymmetric rig.
- Keelboats with a Portsmouth Yardstick Handicap with non-asymmetric rig.

7 ENTRY

Entry must be completed before a boat competes in any race

Eligible boats may enter by completing the entry form 'BJRC 2020 Sprint Series' available on the BJRC web site and returning with the appropriate entry fee.

Entries should be received one month before the start of the Series, but in any event entries will not be accepted less than one week before that entry's first race.

8 COURSES

The Races will start in the vicinity of North and South Doubles, and the finish will be in the vicinity of Southey Channel Mark..

A selection of courses will be set using existing channel and racing marks in the waters between Hilly Pool and Thirslet Spit

9 2020 SCHEDULE

Date	Race Officials (Club)	High Water at Osea	Scheduled time of Warning Signal
Saturday 23 May	Blackwater SC	14.00	13.00
Sunday 7 June	Stone SC	14.30	13.30
Sunday 2 August	MLSC	12.40	11.40
Saturday 5 September	Maylandsea Bay SC	15.20	14.20
Sunday 20 September	Marconi SC (Bart's Bash)	15.20	14.20

10 SAFETY

Cruiser and IRC Classes shall comply with safety rules in accordance with the BJRC Safety Rules forming part of the Notice of Race and the details included on the Registration Form.

PY Class shall comply with Class or Handicap Safety Rules.

All boats shall carry VHF radios and shall be capable of receiving and transmitting marine channel 77.

11 INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £5,000,000 per incident or the equivalent.

12 ENTRY FEES

The full entry fee for the Series, or part thereof, shall be £10

13 RISK STATEMENT

Rule 4 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."

Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore involves an element of risk. By taking part in this event, each participant agrees and acknowledges that:

1. 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 such events.
2. They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore.
3. They accept responsibility for any injury, loss or damage to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions.

4. They are responsible for ensuring that their boat is equipped and seaworthy so as to be able to face extreme weather; that there is a crew sufficient in number, experience and fitness to withstand such weather and that their safety equipment is properly maintained, stowed and in date and is familiar to the crew.
5. The provision of race management teams, patrol boats and other officials and volunteers by the organisers does not relieve them of their own responsibilities.
6. The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance as can be practically provided in the circumstances, particularly in extreme weather conditions. Further, in the event that any assistance is rendered to a competitor, no liability for any loss, damage or injury to the competitor, and/or the boat and its equipment is accepted either by the club or the crew of such patrol craft.
7. It is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks, regulations and/or bye-laws specific to sailing or racing on the Blackwater and Colne Rivers and their tributaries including: a. Tidal conditions, navigable waters and depths, and volumes of leisure boat traffic.
8. The Convention on the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (COLREG) 1972, applies to all these craft including racing yachts.
9. The BJRC and participating clubs strongly recommend that all sailors wear personal buoyancy whilst on the water, as failure to do so significantly increases the risks inherent in sailing. Personal buoyancy should comply with RYA Prescription to RRS 40.