

LSC Cruiser Sailing Instructions and Notice of Race

Applicable during Covid – 19 pandemic

General

These sailing instructions are applicable to cruiser racing at Lilliput Sailing Club during the Covid – 19 pandemic. Entry to Races run by Lilliput Sailing Club during this time will only be open to members of LSC, and other individuals by specific invitation. The races will generally take place on Friday evenings, and Sundays, when tide and weather permit. These races are being held for the fun and enjoyment of all participants and to allow a measure of distanced socialising between the crews of competing yachts. Aggressive manoeuvres and tactics are inappropriate for these events, and will not be tolerated. Any skipper perceived as behaving in such a way will be prevented from entering future races. **The overriding priority of all entrants must be the safety of themselves and their yachts, both in terms of avoiding collisions and preventing the spread of Coronavirus.** Any person exhibiting symptoms of Covid 19, or who suspects that they may be at high risk of infection, through contact or particular vulnerability are specifically requested not to sail.

1. Racing may take place both inside and outside Poole Harbour.
2. Yachts may be crewed by people living in multiple households provided the RYA guidelines of 31/07/20 can be complied with. These can be summarised as follows: Maintain at least 1m separation where possible, but make sure the reductions in separation are fleeting, not face to face and do not total more than 15mins.
3. Skippers must register any non-members as guests by emailing signin@lilliputsc.org.uk, providing name and contact number, or in the book on the shelf inside the Clubhouse yard door.
4. Where a competitor is planning to sail single handed they are advised to check with their insurers, prior to the race, as they may not be covered when racing single handed. LSC does not accept any liability for any loss or damage to yachts, third parties, or individuals, in the event of any kind of accident occurring during a race.
5. One competitor will, by prior agreement, act as Race officer. For in harbour races the nominated Race officer **MUST** contact Poole Harbour Control and advise them of the planned activity including approximate timings and proposed course. The RO should also ask for information on any commercial shipping movements, which should be passed on to the other competitors.
6. Competitors interested in joining in any proposed race should contact John Guess (07900 325532) or Alex Clapperton (07736 875072) for inclusion in the **LSC COVID Cruiser Racing** WhatsApp group.
7. Racing will not take place if the wind is gusting beyond F6. The decision on whether racing will go ahead or not will be taken no less than 2 hours before the proposed start time. This decision will be posted on the **LSC COVID Cruiser Racing** WhatsApp group.
8. Competitors shall wear personal flotation devices when single-handed or with novice crew and when transferring between shore to yacht except briefly while changing or adjusting personal clothing or equipment.
9. An autohelm or tiller pilot may be used when single handed.
10. All competitors should ensure they have an accurate time clock that is capable of receiving, or being synchronised to, GPS time.
11. Races will be on a handicap basis, in a single fleet, using the Poole Harbour Handicap System (PHHS).
12. Race communications will be on VHF Channel 37A (M1 or P1 on some radios).
13. All yachts must carry all equipment to be self-sufficient as required. The means of hand washing and sanitising on board should be adequate for everyone.

14. In Line with government guidelines crews from different boats must maintain social distancing. This is especially relevant during times of dinghy/tender launch and recovery.

Starts

15. Prior to the start the nominated Race Officer will broadcast the course, and confirm start time on VHF Ch37A. If possible the course will also be published on the WhatsApp group.
16. The nominated race officer will endeavour to provide sound signals in accordance with the normal 5, 4, 1, go sequence. However, irrespective of the sound signals, the race will be deemed to start at the designated time given by GPS.
17. An “honesty” rule will be in place as to whether competitors are OCS at the time of the start. Any competitor deeming themselves OCS at the time of the race start shall **NOT** go back and re-start, but will continue with the race and accept a 5% time penalty on their elapsed time. This removes the need for competitors to return back through the fleet.
18. Starts for in harbour races will normally be in the North Channel between NC10 buoy and the **mooring buoy** of LSC mooring No. 8, currently being occupied by **Mr Mackay**, a white with blue stripe Mirage 2700. If the nominated Race Officer deems the North Channel unsuitable for the start, either due to conditions or number of competitors, then an alternative start line in the main channel between number 23 and 24 buoys will be used.
19. For races taking place in the bay, the start procedure will be a gate start, where the designated race officer will act as the gate boat. The start would normally be at Vinyl Solutions unless otherwise stated.

Finish

20. For races within the harbour the finish line would normally be in the North Channel on a line between NC10 and the **buoy** of Mooring No. 8 (currently occupied by Mr Mackay). Any changes to this finish line will be announced by the nominated Race Officer prior to the first boat finishing.
21. For races in the bay the finish line will be when passing a designated mark.
22. The first yacht to finish should take their own time (GPS time) then, if possible and safe to do so, wait near the finish to take the time of other competitors.
23. Competitors should record their own finish time (GPS time) and post this on the **LSC COVID Cruiser Racing** WhatsApp group at the earliest convenient opportunity. The Nominated Race Officer will then collate finish times and in due course publish the race results.

Race dates and times.

Day	Date	High Water	Proposed start time - Event
Friday	3 rd July	20:52	19:00
Sunday	12 th July	15:57	16:30 – Three Island Pot
Friday	17 th July	21:02	19:00
Sunday	19 th July	09:00	11:00 – Single Handed Race
Friday	31 st July	20:58	19:00
Friday	14 th August	19:26	19:00
Sunday	23 rd August	13:03	11:00 – Eric Brook Trophy
Friday	28 th August	19:00	19:00
Saturday	5 th September	11:43	11:00 – Christchurch Challenge/TBA?
Friday	11 th September	17:14	18:30
Saturday	10 th October	16:11	18:00 – Twilight Race

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