**Sandhopper National Championships**

**6th & 7th September 2025**

**Notice of Race (NOR)**

**1. Rules**

**1.1** Racing will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028 (RRS), the Class Rules of the Sandhopper Class British Association (including the Equipment Rule of Sailing 2025-2028 (“the ERS”) where referred to), the Event Sailing Instructions (ESI) and this Notice of Race (NOR). In the event of conflict between this NOR and the ESI, the ESI will prevail.

**1.2** The Prescriptions of the Royal Yachting Association will apply.

**1.3** The Class Rules of the Sandhopper Class are on the Class Association website (www.sandhopper.org.uk).

**2. Advertising**

**2.1.** Any decals provided by the Organising Authority must be displayed as provided in ISAF Regulation 20.

**3. Eligibility and Entry**

**3.1.** At least one crew member must be a Full Member of the Sandhopper Class British Association, and all crew members must be at least Associate Members.

**3.2.** Entry shall be made by completing the on-line entry form before 08.45 on 6th September. The entry fee is £30.00.

**4. Registration**

**4.1** All helms and crews must register at the Event. Registration will be on the first floor of the clubhouse on Saturday 6th September from 07:30 to 08:45.

**4.2** Six races are scheduled of which two constitute a series.

**4.3** The warning signal on Saturday 6th September will not be earlier than 09:55 and on Sunday 7th September is currently intended to be at 10.25.

**4.4** It is likely that all races during a day will be held back-to-back without time to go ashore in between races.

**4.5** Not more than four races will be sailed in one day.

**4.6** No warning signal will be made after 16.00 on the last day of the regatta.

**4.7** A competitor briefing will be held in the clubhouse at 08:45 on Saturday 6th September.

**5. Measurement**

**5.1.** A valid measurement certificate for the boat shall be produced at registration.

**5.2.** Where a valid measurement certificate is not produced, RRS 78.2 is amended as follows:

 **5.2.1.** A statement shall be signed by the competitor.

 **5.2.2.** A certificate shall be either submitted to the Race Organising Committee not later than 10:00 hrs on the last day of the event or it is confirmed by the British Sandhopper Class Association that one exists.

**6. Sailing Instructions**

**6.1.** Limited copies of the Event Sailing Instructions (ESI) will be available at registration. Sailing Instructions will also be displayed on the Sandhopper Notice Board.

**7. Venue**

**7.1.** Sailing will be held in the Thames Estuary to the south-west of the Clubhouse.

**8. Courses**

**8.1.** The courses to be sailed will be windward/leeward.

**9. Prizes**

**9.1.** Prizes will be awarded for at least the top 3 boats competing.

**10. 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 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, 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 and other officials and volunteers by the event 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, can be practically provided in the circumstances;

**11. Inspection**

**11.1** The fact that the race committee conducts inspections of a boat does not reduce the responsibilities of each competitor set out in this Notice of Race.

**12. Insurance**

**12.1.** Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £3,000,000 (three million pounds).

**13. Media Rights, Cameras and Electronic Equipment**

By participating in an event of the Sandhopper National Championships the competitors automatically grant to the Organising Authority, and their sponsors, the right in perpetuity to make, use and show, from time to time at their discretion, any motion pictures and live, taped or filmed television and other reproductions of the athlete during the period of the competition without compensation.

Support boats may be required to carry cameras, sound equipment and positioning equipment as specified by the Organising Authority.

**14. TBYC Variations**

**14.1** Competitors shall comply with the rules of Thorpe Bay Yacht Club whilst on site. A personal flotation device must be worn at all times by all crews while afloat. Neither a wetsuit or drysuit constitutes a personal flotation device.

**14.2** A Sandhopper Class Dinner will be held on the evening of Saturday 6th September. Everyone is welcome

**15. Further Information**

**15.1** Further information can be found at:

 TBYC website: www.tbyc.org

 TBYC telephone: 01702 587563

 TBYC Class Captain, Clara Hunter: 07775 994266