



**WINTER CHAMPIONSHIPS
KEELBOAT CUP 2026**

28th February 2026

**NOTICE OF RACE
4 RACES, 3 RACES TO COUNT**

QUEEN MARY SAILING CLUB WINTER CHAMPIONSHIPS KEELBOAT CUP 2026

Queen Mary Reservoir, Ashford Road, Ashford, Middlesex, TW15 1UA,
UK Organising Authority: Queen Mary Sailing Club

NOTICE OF RACE

1. RULES

- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 1.2 The bye-laws of Queen Mary Sailing Club, available at <https://www.queenmary.org.uk/club/club-documents> apply. NOTE: Dogs (with the exception of guide dogs) are not permitted on the Club's land.
- 1.3 Bye-law 14 – Parking: Boats associated with cars parked on the upper (clubhouse) level during a race will be disqualified from that race without a hearing. This changes RRS 60.5(b) and A5.1.
- 1.4 All visiting competitors and their guests shall be temporary members of Queen Mary Sailing Club for the duration of the event and shall abide by all Club rules and bye-laws.
- 1.5 RRS 40.1 applies, changed to read as follows: "All persons shall at all times when afloat, on the pontoons or on the sloping banks of the reservoir wear a personal flotation device appropriate to their weight. A wetsuit or drysuit does not constitute a personal flotation device." Failure to comply with RRS 40.1 as changed will result in disqualification without a hearing. This changes RRS 60.5(b) and A5.1.
- 1.6 RRS 2025-2028 Appendix T applies. In addition, the Advisory Meeting procedure in the RYA Rules Dispute Procedures will be available as detailed in the current RYA Racing Rules Guidance.

2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 The Sailing Instructions will be available no later than 09:30hrs on Friday before the event on the Club's website at <https://www.queenmary.org.uk/keelboating/keelboat-cups/>

3. COMMUNICATIONS

- 3.1 If, due to adverse weather conditions or for any other reason, a decision to cancel is taken prior to the scheduled date of a race, a cancellation notice will be published on the Club's website by 16.00 hours on the day before the race is due to take place.
- 3.2 [DP] While racing, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

4. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1 The event is open to RS21 Keelboats. All boats must be helmed by club members, temporary members or staff members. The helm and all crew members on board each RS21 must have a minimum of RYA Dinghy or Keelboat Level 2 or equivalent experience. Each boat shall carry a team of at least three and no more than five people.
- 4.2 Each boat intending to participate shall enter the series online at

by midnight on the Thursday before the event. After this time, late entries may be submitted in person at the Queen Mary race office and may be accepted at the discretion of the Race Committee.

5. FEES

5.1 Entry fees are as follows:

Visiting competitors	£50 per person
Club members (non-Keelboat)	£37.50 per person
Keelboat Club members	No fee

6. NOT USED

7. ADVERTISING

7.1 Advertising will be allowed in accordance with the Class Rules of the competing classes.

8. NOT USED

9. SCHEDULE

- 9.1 The race briefing will be at 1030hrs on the day of racing. There will be an instructor available before racing to give a basic introduction to the spinnaker system on the RS21s for teams that request it.
- 9.2 There will be up to 4 races overall.
- 9.3 The last race will not start after 15:00hrs.

Day	Race No.	Time of Warning Signal	Class
Saturday	1	11:57	RS21
	2, 3 & 4	ASAP after previous race	RS21

10. NOT USED

11. NOT USED

12. VENUE

12.1 The venue will be Queen Mary Reservoir.

13. THE COURSES

13.1 The course to be sailed will be displayed on the official notice board no later than 60 minutes before the scheduled warning signal for the race.

14. PENALTY SYSTEM

For the RS21 class the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty. This changes RRS 44.1.

15. SCORING

- 15.1 One race is required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 15.2 When fewer than four races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- 15.3 When four races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her single worst score.

16-21. NOT USED

22. RISK STATEMENT

RRS 3 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, as can be practically provided in the circumstances;
- (g) It is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks specific to this venue or this event drawn to their attention in any rules or information produced for the venue or event and attend any competitors' briefing held for the event.

23. DAMAGE AND LIABILITY

- 23.1 Each member of each team is jointly and severally responsible, and liable to Queen Mary Sailing Club, for any damage or loss to their boat unless responsibility is otherwise assigned by the Sailing Principal or his representative.
- 23.2 The liability of each team shall be limited to the sum of £800 in respect of each incident in which any damage or loss is caused.
- 23.3 In the event of an incident where a team is responsible for the payment for damage or loss of their boat, payment will be made within seven days of notice.
- 23.4 A list of the cost of various items of damage to boats, sails, gear and equipment is set out in Appendix A.

24. PRIZES

- 24.1 Prizes will be awarded to the three highest-placed boat.

25. MEMBERSHIP AND LIABILITY

- 25.1 All visiting competitors will be deemed temporary members of Queen Mary Sailing Club during the event and as such shall abide by all the Club's rules and bye-laws.
- 25.2 All Users (as defined in the Club bye-laws) use the Club premises and other facilities of the Club entirely at their own risk and by doing so accept that: the Club will not accept any liability for any damage to or loss of property belonging to any User; the Club will not accept any liability for personal injury arising out of use of the Club premises or any other facilities of the Club, or out of participation in any race organised by the Club, by whosoever sustained or caused, whether or not such damage or injury could have been attributed to, or contributed to or was occasioned by the neglect, default or negligence of any of the officers, committees, Members or servants of the Club.
- 25.3 Before inviting any guests or visitors onto the premises or to participate in events organised by the Club, Members will draw attention to this rule.

26. LOCAL RULES

- 26.1 **Buoyancy:** Each boat shall be fully equipped with sufficient buoyancy to enable it to float and to support its crew if capsized or holed.

- 26.2 **Invasive Species:** In accordance with Environment Agency guidelines and to prevent the spread of invasive species, QMSC is adhering to the CHECK CLEAN DRY principle. Details are at <https://www.queenmary.org.uk/club/environmental-impact/>. Please make sure your boat has been clean and dry for 2 days prior to your arrival and is washed and dried before returning to other venues.
For further information please contact the QMSC office on 01784 248881.

Appendix A - DAMAGE AND LIABILITY

CHARGES

The charges below are all applicable where it is obvious that damage or loss was caused due to misuse by the user

Damage - Definition - Cost

- Hull Gel coat or capping nicks £50.00
- Minor hull damage not requiring lamination £100.00
- Minor damage requiring lamination £200.00
- Major damage or new capping full cost of repair up to £800.00
- Deck Minor damage £50.00
- Major damage full cost of repair up to £500.00
- Sail damage Rips smaller than 10cm £25.00
- Rips larger than 10cm up to 40cm £50.00
- Rips larger than 40cm full cost of repair up to £500.00
- Sail write off full cost of replacement up to £800.00
- Spinnaker write off full cost of replacement up to £800.00
- Flags Loss £20.00
- Sheets Damage or loss (per sheet) £30.00
- Spinnaker pole End fitting damage (per fitting) £50.00
- Pole break £150.00
- Deck fitting Damage or loss - full cost of replacement up to £800.00
- Hatches Minor damage £50.00
- Major damage - full cost of replacement up to £800.00
- Radios Loss £150.00
- Buoyancy aids Loss £40.00
- Tiller extension Break £100.00
- Spinnaker bag replacement £150.00