



THE **50th**
BLOODY
MARY
SATURDAY 10TH JANUARY, 2026

ONLINE ENTRY ONLY CLOSING
MIDNIGHT THURSDAY 8TH JANUARY



NOTICE OF RACE
The 50th Bloody Mary
6th leg of the 2025/2026 Seldén SailJuice Winter Series

Queen Mary Sailing Club
Queen Mary Reservoir
Ashford Road
Ashford
Middlesex TW15 1UA

THE 50th BLOODY MARY PURSUIT RACE

at Queen Mary Sailing Club,
Ashford, TW15 1UA
on Saturday 10th January 2026

NOTICE OF RACE

The Organising Authority is Queen Mary Sailing Club (QMSC).

The notation '[NP]' in a rule of the notice of race (NoR) means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1.

The notation "[DP]" in a rule means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification in accordance with RRS 64.

1.0 RULES

- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing 2025 - 2028*.
- 1.2 The bye-laws of QMSC, 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 The following regulations change RRS 60.5(b) and A5.1:
 - i. Bye-law 14 – Parking: Boats associated with cars parked on the upper (clubhouse) level during a race (with the exception of cars displaying a valid disabled parking permit) will be disqualified from that race without a hearing;
 - ii. A full body wetsuit or drysuit appropriate to the conditions shall be worn by all competitors at all times when afloat. Failure to comply with this regulation will result in disqualification without a hearing;
 - iii. RRS 40.1 is 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.
- 1.4 The event is a single pursuit race at which the following rule changes apply:

Boats are not required to be afloat and off moorings at the preparatory signal. This changes Rule 45;

Classes start according to start numbers allocated to each class. This changes Rule 26. Provisional start numbers are shown in Appendix 1.
- 1.5 For the purposes of Thames A Rater class rule E4(a), Queen Mary Reservoir is not 'open water' and consequently spinnakers shall not be carried.

2.0 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The Sailing Instructions will be available to view at <https://www.queenmary.org.uk/racing/bloody-mary> by no later than midnight on Saturday 3rd January 2026.

3.0 COMMUNICATIONS

- 3.1 If, due to adverse weather conditions or for any other reason, a decision to cancel is taken prior to the day of the event, a cancellation notice will be published on the Club's website no later than 16.00 on the day before the event is due to take place.
- 3.2 [DP] While racing a boat shall neither make radio transmissions nor receive radio communications not available to all boats unless allowed by written permission given before the entry deadline for a confirmed medical reason. This restriction also applies to mobile telephone communications.

4.0 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1 The race is open to monohull centreboard dinghies (except foiling boats defined as a boat fitted with hydrofoils designed or intended to raise the entire hull of the boat above the surface of the water) that have, or would have if none currently allocated, a PY number equal to or lower than that of the International Topper (1369) but not lower than that of the International 49er (697). The Thames A Rater is included within this definition.

- 4.2 The race is also open to the following keelboats:

(a) QMSC classes (Int. 2.4 m, Int. Flying Fifteen, K6, Stratos Keel and Yeoman/Kinsman) that are either owned by a QMSC member or will be helmed in the race by a disabled member of a recognised Sailability Group.

(b) K1s.

Such entries must be at QMSC and ready to be launched not later than 10:00 on the day of the race;

- 4.3 All official start numbers, including start numbers for any additional boat classes allocated by the Race Committee, will be posted on the official notice board on the day of the race.
- 4.4 Boats shall carry a tracking device as provided by the Race Committee.
- 4.5 There is an entry limit of 350 boats. Entries will be online only via <https://www.queenmary.org.uk/racing/bloody-mary/>. An entry that includes a junior helm and/or crew (under 18 years of age on the day of the race) must complete and submit the signed [parental or guardian declaration form](#). Entries will close at midnight on Thursday 8th January 2026 or when the entry limit is reached, whichever is earlier.
- 4.6 Owners / persons-in-charge who have entered in accordance with 4.5 above, will be permitted to replace the boat that they have included in their entry form with another boat in the same or another class, subject to 4.1 and 4.2 above, by completing a 'change of boat' form available from the Race Office, and lodging it at the entry desk before 11:00 on the day of the race, with any additional fee, if applicable. If necessary, the 'change of boat' form shall provide any information about a crew member that was not included in the original entry form.

5.0 FEES

Entry fees must be paid at the time of entry and are as follows:

Single hander	£48
Double-hander	£58

QMSC members shall be entitled to a discount of £18 on the above fees.

6.0 ADVERTISING

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

7.0 SCHEDULE

- 7.1 The briefing will be available to view in advance at <https://www.queenmary.org.uk/racing/bloody-mary>, and will be shown in the QMSC clubhouse as a video recording on a continuous loop from the start of registration at 08:30.
- 7.2 The scheduled time of the warning signal is 11:55.
- 7.3 The finishing signal, indicating the start of the 30-minute finishing period, will be made 155 minutes after the warning signal.

8.0 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 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 and information produced for the venue or event and to attend any competitors' briefing held for the event.

Inspections

The fact that race officials may conduct inspections of a boat does not reduce the responsibilities of each competitor set out in this Notice of Race.

9.0 INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured at all times, including when racing, with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £3 million per incident.

10.0 PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded as follows:

- (i) To the ten highest-placed finishers;
- (ii) One to the 1st boat in each dinghy or keelboat class with 8 or more entries;
- (iii) One to the 1st boat helmed by a disabled person;
- (iv) One to the 1st lady helm;
- (v) One to the 1st junior helm (under 18 years of age on the day of the race);
- (vi) One to the 1st grand master helm (over 60 years of age on the day of the race);
- (vii) One to the 1st boat helmed by a Queen Mary Sailing Club member.

11.0 MEMBERSHIP AND LIABILITY

- 11.1 All visiting competitors will be deemed to be temporary members of Queen Mary Sailing Club during the event and as such shall abide by all the Club's rules and bye-laws.
- 11.2 All Users (as defined in the Club's bye-laws) use the Club premises and any other facilities of the Club entirely at their own risk and by doing so accept that:
 - a) The Club will not accept any liability for any damage to or loss of property belonging to any User;
 - b) 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.

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.

12.0 LOCAL REGULATIONS

- 12.1 Buoyancy: Each boat shall be fully equipped with sufficient buoyancy to enable it to float and to support its crew if capsized or holed.
- 12.2 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/> /. Boats are required to have been clean and dry for 2 days prior to arrival and to be washed and dried before returning to other venues.

APPENDIX 1: 2026 BLOODY MARY PROVISIONAL START NUMBERS

Boat Class	Start No
Topper	00
Fusion Pro Spinnaker	10
RS Feva	10
RS Feva XL	14
2.4mR	15
ILCA 4 / Laser 4.7	17
Yachting World Dayboat	17
Byte	18
Comet	18
Bosun	19
Miracle	19
Firefly	20
RS Neo	21
RS Venture Connect	21
British Moth	22
Lightning 368	22
Streaker	23
Byte CII	24
Enterprise	24
Europe	24
ILCA 6 / Laser Radial	24
GP14	25
RS Aero 5	25
Solo	25
Yeoman	25
Graduate	26
RS Quest	26
RS Vision	26
OK	28
Snipe	28

Boat Class	Start No
RS Aero 6	29
Solution	29
2000	30
Comet Trio MK 1	30
Laser Bahia	30
Topaz Argo	30
Laser 3000	31
RS Vareo	31
Topaz Xenon	31
420	32
Devoti D-Zero Blue	32
Laser Vago XD	32
Supernova	32
Blaze Fire	33
Lark	33
National 12	33
RS Aero 7	33
Devoti D-Zero Black	34
K1	34
Albacore	35
Finn	35
RS200	35
Blaze	36
Devoti D-Zero	36
Hadron H2	36
Buzz	37
Laser EPS	37
Scorpion	37
Flying Fifteen	38
RS Aero 9	38

Boat Class	Start No
Melges 15	41
Merlin Rocket	42
RS300	42
470	43
International Moth - no foils	43
RS100	43
Cherub - 1997 Class Rules	44
Contender	44
Devoti D-One	44
RS500	44
Fireball	45
National 18C	45
RS400	46
Vortex	46
4000	48
Osprey	48
RS600	49
K6	50
Cherub	51
National 18	51
505	52
29er	52
Flying Dutchman	52
Norfolk Punt Hardchine	53
B14	56
Thames A Rater (no Spi)	56
International Canoe	57
RS700	57
Norfolk Punt	58
Musto Skiff	59

Wayfarer	28
ILCA 7 / Laser	29
Laser Stratos	29
Laser II	29

Tasar	38
V3000	40
Phantom	41
Blaze Halo	41

RS800	62
International 14	68
49er	74

NOTE: Each start number equals the time in minutes after the first starting signal (00).
 A boat's starting signal is when her start number is displayed on the committee boat.