RUTLAND CHALLENGE FOR THE JOHN MERRICKS TIGER TROPHY.

6th – 7th February 2026

NOTICE OF RACE

1. RULES

1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028

1.2 The Organising Authority will be Rutland Sailing Club.. The event is part of the Sailjuice Winter Series.

1.3 All boats will be required to sail according to their respective class rules, particularly regarding weight equalizing rules. However, under Rule 87, class rules which permit pumping, rocking and ooching in certain wind conditions and/or change penalty turns (rules 44.1 and 44.2) are suspended for the purposes of this regatta.

1.4 Competitors automatically grant the Organising Authority, event sponsors and their agents without payment the right in perpetuity to make, use and show any motion pictures, still pictures and live, taped or filmed television of, or relating to the competitors, unless otherwise advised in writing prior to the Regatta

2. ADVERTISING

2.1 There will be no restrictions on advertising.

3.ELIGIBILITY & ENTRY

3.1 The regatta is open to all centerboard and catamaran classes with a PY number of 1369 and below. Classes above this will be permitted to enter but will have to sail to PY 1369.

3.2 The regatta is also open to accepted RSC classes (eg Challenger, 2.4mr, Flying Fifteen, RS21 and K1) that are either owned by an RSC member or will be helmed in the race by a disabled member of a recognised Sailability Group, subject to prior consent from the Organising Authority

3.3 Entries by persons under 18 years old must be counter signed by their parents or guardians.

3.4 An on-line entry form is available via Sailjuice website https://sailracer.info/sailjuice-winter-series-entry-form/

3.5 ENTRIES

3.5.1. The Entry for the event will be £59.00 for Double-Handers and £49.00 for Single-Handers if entered on-line

3.5.2 Entries will continue to be accepted until the day at RSC Registration, but any entries made after midnight on Thursday will be charged a late entry fee of £5.00.

3.5.3 **Tiger Dinner** , a 2-course meal will be held on Saturday evening at £18.00. These prices are when booked online or by phoning RSC office on 01780 720292

3.5.4 Competitors are requested to enter in advance at https://sailracer.info/sailjuice-winter-series-entry-form/

3.5.5 Entries can be made on Sunday for those competing in the Pursuit race only. Cost for Pursuit race only will be £28 for double-handed and £24 for single-handed boats.

4. SCHEDULE

4.1 Registration will be in the upstairs lounge at RSC from 08:30 on Saturday.

4.2 A competitor briefing will be held at 11:00 in the upstairs wet bar or on the balcony on Saturday and 10.00am on Sunday for the pursuit race

4.3 On Saturday, there will be three scheduled general handicap races. The warning signal of the first race will not be before 12.25 hrs & races 2 & 3 will be held as soon as possible after the end of the previous race.
There will be a Pursuit race on Sunday and the first class will not start before 11:00

4.4 **The Tiger Dinner** will be held at RSC on Saturday evening from 6.30pm.

5. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

5.1 The sailing instructions will be available at registration and may also be published in advance on the event and club websites,

6. THE COURSES

6.1 Trapezoid courses will be sailed on Saturday with options at the discretion of the Race Committee.
The fleet will be split into two groups – Fast and Slow based on Great Lakes PY's.depending on number of entries
There will be separate start for each group. The Class PY's and the PY split between Fast and Slow groups will be notified to competitors on the event notice board before the briefing on Saturday.

7. SCORING

7.1 Saturday Racing will be General Handicap races on an Average Lap Basis and Great lakes PY numbers. Sunday Pursuit starts will also be based on the Great Lakes PY Numbers. A list of classes and their PY numbers will be posted on the official notice board, along with start times for the Pursuit race on Sunday.

7.2 Four races are scheduled of which one race is required to be completed to constitute a series

7.3 When three general handicap races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score from the general handicap races plus the pursuit race (i.e. the Pursuit is non-discardable). If only two or less general handicap races are sailed, all races will count

8. PRIZES

8.1 The overall winners of the event will receive the "John Merricks Tiger Trophy" together with individual prizes.

8.2 The first placed all female crew, if not the outright winners, will receive the 'John Merricks Lady Tiger Trophy'.

8.3 The highest placed helm over 60 on first day of event if not the overall winner will win the “Shere Khan Trophy”

8.4 All helms and crews finishing in the top ten will receive prizes and individual Class prizes (Minimum 6 entries in the class)

8.5 The highest placed YOUTH team (all under 19 on the first day of the event) and were not the overall event winners will win the new JMST Youth Trophy

8.6 The highest placed JUNIOR team who were all under 16 on first day of the event and were not the overall event winners will win the “John Merricks Junior Trophy”

8.7 The winners of the Sunday Pursuit race will receive the 'John Merricks Pursuit Trophy'.

8.8 The winner of the aggregate of the General handicap races (no discard) will receive “The Tony Everard Trophy”

8.9 The Sailing Club with best overall aggregate score of its members will receive the “Tiger Club Trophy” (excluding RSC)

9. **RISK STATEMENT**

Rule 3 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, as can be practically provided in the circumstances.

10. TRACKING

10.1 Competitors will be required to use trackers during both general handicap races and pursuit race

10.2 Trackers will be supplied at Registration on Saturday and rules relating to Trackers will be published in SI’s

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11. INSURANCE

11.1 The boat is required to hold adequate insurance and in particular to hold insurance against third party claims in the sum of at least £3,000,000

12. CONFLICT BETWEEN NOR AND SI’S

12.1 If there is a conflict between NOR and SI’s (and amendments), the SI’s will prevail.

13. FURTHER INFORMATION

13.1 For further information, check the event websites www.**sailjuices**eries.com ,

And Rutland Sailing Club on sailing@rutlandsailingclub.co.uk
or contact Rutland Sailing Club on 01780 720292

14. CHECK, CLEAN and DRY procedures to avoid the spread of invasive aquatic species

14.1 Visiting boats must comply with the Anglian Water byelaws recently introduced to help avoid the spread of **invasive aquatic species.** Rutland Sailing Club : Check, Clean & Dry Procedure for Visiting Boats – Appendix 1

APPENDIX 1

Check, Clean & Dry Procedure for Visiting Ribs, Dinghies & Cruisers

In order to comply with Anglian Waters' byelaws for Rutland Water all visiting boats must:

- **BEFORE ARRIVING at Rutland Sailing Club: comply with the CHECK, CLEAN & DRY procedure (see below), and**
- **BEFORE LEAVING the site: Wash your boat:** wash stations are located at the cruiser park, the main gate, and the boatswain's workshop.

The Check - Clean - Dry procedure is as follows:

- **CHECK:** Check your equipment and clothing for living organisms. Pay particular attention to areas that are damp or hard to inspect.
- **CLEAN:** Clean and wash all equipment, footwear and clothes thoroughly, use hot water where possible. If you do come across any organisms, leave them at the water body where you found them. (Cleaning & washing must be done away from Rutland Water when visiting the Club)
- **DRY:** Dry all equipment and clothing some species can live for many days in moist conditions. Make sure you don't transfer water elsewhere.

Visiting boats: Visiting boats will be randomly checked on arrival and if found to be in a condition that causes concern, will not be allowed to be brought on site. All sailors & rib drivers will be expected to sign a statement to confirm that they have Checked, Cleaned and Dried their boats before arriving at RSC. This will be normally included with the race entry form or the rib registration form that must be signed before racing starts.

Ribs: Any ribs that have flooding hulls are not allowed to be brought to the club. Engines should be flushed out with hot water before they are brought to Rutland water.

Launching Trollies/Trailers: Trollies and trailers should not be left in the water for any longer than is necessary to launch & recover the boat

Further information can be found at:

- http://www.nonnativespecies.org/checkcleandry/index.cfm