

UKOPRA - THUNDERCAT RACING INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP



THE STRAND MINEHEAD

Warren Rd, Minehead TA24 5SH

Set-up Friday 30TH July 2021

Racing – Sat 31st July & Sun 1st Aug 2021

Break-down – Sunday 1st August

EVENT RACE INSTRUCTIONS

ThunderCat Racing is Organised by

M2M Racing Club Ltd:

Unit 7, Universal Marina

Crableck Lane, Sarisbury Green, Hampshire, SO31 7ZN

Tel: 07795 618701 fionapascoe6@gmail.co.uk

Insured by Pulse Insurance Ltd

Approved by UKOPRA

(United Kingdom Powerboat Racers Association)

In Association with:

mineheadbid

**Somerset West
and Taunton**



EVENT COMMUNICATIONS

Danielle Strawford:	07721 694135	dstrawford@hotmail.com
Fiona Pascoe:	07795 618701	fionapascoe6@gmail.com
Shirley Nellthorpe:	07803 353342	shirley.nellthorpe@gmail.com
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Georgie Andrews	07920 784229	g.andrews@somersetwestandtaunton.gov.uk

RISK STATEMENT

Powerboat Racing is by its nature a dangerous sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk. However, I understand that having good knowledge of the rules and ensuring that my equipment is in good working order will help to minimise risks. By participating in or becoming involved with Powerboat Racing organised by UKOPRA (United Kingdom Offshore Powerboat Racers Association) affiliated clubs either as a participant, team member or otherwise individuals agree and acknowledge that:

- i. they are aware of the inherent risk involved in the sport and accept responsibility for exposing themselves to such inherent risk, including risks to their person, their property, drowning, hypothermia, collision injuries, burns and other physical injuries as well as possible death.
- ii. they have satisfied themselves that they have the necessary skill and knowledge to take part in the event and deal with the conditions that may arise during a race.
- iii. they will not participate in the event whilst under the undue influence of alcohol, drugs or whilst otherwise unfit to participate.
- iv. they are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their property whether afloat or ashore and that the management of their boat including insurance is solely their responsibility.
- v. scrutineering does not constitute a condition survey of the boat and it is solely their responsibility to decide whether to start or to continue in any powerboat race.
- vi. ensuring the efficiency and suitability of the helmets and racing vests worn is solely their responsibility.
- vii. the provision of a race management team, patrol boats and other volunteers by the event organisers does not relieve them of their responsibilities.
- viii. the provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance particularly in extreme weather conditions as can be practically provided in the circumstances.
- ix. to be bound by the conditions of the Race Entry Form, Racing Instructions / Advance Programmes, and the General Competition Rules of the UKOPRA Circuit Offshore and ThunderCat Racing (M2M) rules.
- x. they will accept the decisions of the organising committee and officials nominated by the organising committee.
- xi. they understand that it is their responsibility to ensure that the event has suitable insurance cover in place before participating and it is also their responsibility to ensure that they familiarise themselves with event Risk Assessments & Race Instructions / Advance Programmes and bulletins before participating.
- xii. the team and their crew will read and understand the Race Instructions, and will conduct themselves in a dignified manner representing the sport and community.
- xiii. COVID RISK ASSESSMENT - RULES AND GUIDELINES. Ensure that all team members read, understand and abide.

INDEMNITY

Participants in the event will be required to sign-on to the event to save harmless and keep indemnified:

- (a) The owners of the premises at which the event is held;
- (b) The organising club, the sponsors and UKOPRA and their respective officials, servants, and agents; and,
- (c) The other boat owners, drivers, passengers, or mechanics engaged in the meeting (together with the "Indemnified Parties") AGAINST all actions, claims, costs, expenses and demands in respect of loss of or damage to the property of or personal injury sustained to the Indemnified Parties to the extent caused by the participants, their crew, their boat, their mechanics, support team, representatives, or agents.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Persons under the age of 18 must have written authority signed by either Parent or Guardian.

1. EVENT APPROVAL

This event has been approved by UKOPRA. Insured by Pulse Insurance Ltd. All local authorities' approvals are gained prior to the event.

2. RACE AND LICENCE STATUS

Class: UKOPRA Circuit Offshore (ThunderCat Racing)
Race Status: ThunderCat Racing International Championship
Licence Status: 2021 UKOPRA Circuit Offshore International Licence

3. COMPETITORS RESPONSIBILITY

Competitors must read the Risk Statement and Indemnity at the front of these race instructions as well as the safety information at the back. By signing the race entry form and the UKOPRA / M2M Racing Club official signing on form at the event all competitors are bound by the rules contained in UKOPRA and M2M Racing (ThunderCat) rules. It is the competitor's sole responsibility to decide whether to start or continue in a race once passed scrutineering. All competitors must read and fully understand the rules relating to start procedures, overtaking rules, flag procedures and emergency assistance procedures.

4. ORGANISING COMMITTEE AND RACE OFFICIALS

EVENT ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Fiona Pascoe, Shirley Nellthorpe, Danielle Strawford, Carl Cooper

RACE COMMITTEE

The race committee consists of the Officer of the Day, Safety Officer, Chief Scrutineer, Chief Lap counter, Medical Officer, and the Race Secretary.

RACE OFFICIALS

Officer of the Day OOD	Fiona Pascoe
Assistant OOD	Jackie Baker, Gina Dunn TBC
Safety Officer /DOOD	Danielle Strawford
Water Rescue Officer	Ben Granata, Head of K38 Safety Team
Race Secretary	Shirley Nellthorpe
Administration	Morgan Cox
Chief Scrutineers	Geoff Purves and Glenn Baker TBC
Scrutineer	Kevin Jones and Phil Hillier, Clive Lewis (Trainee)
Chief Marshal	David Drew
Marshal	Morgan Cox

Chief Time Lap Counter	Andrea Drew
Lap Counter	Jane Froud, Rebecca Flowers
Medic Team	Enhanced Care Services
Medical Officer	Mr David Connor
First response on-water safety	K38 water safety team (Ben Granata)
TC Safety Water Marshals	Phil Hillier

EVENT STAFF

Event Director	Fiona Pascoe
Site Marshalls	TBA
Official Photographer	Mike Powell
Media - Film	Nicholas David Lean (Oceanstorm Films)
Onsite Security -	TBC
Commentator	Anton Roberts

RACE JURY

Chairman	Phil Hillier
Jury	TBA
Note taker	Shirley Nellthorpe

5. THUNDERCAT TIMETABLE

FRIDAY 30th July 2021	FROM	UNTIL
Set-up	10.00	
Teams arriving	13.00 onwards	
Course to be laid/Training if required	15.00	
Saturday 31st July 2021	FROM	UNTIL
Drivers Arrive From	07.00	
Race Administration Open / Signing in	08.00 onwards	
Move boats to wet pits/Beach	07.30	
Scrutineering	08.00 on beach	
Course to be finalised/laid	09.00	

Safety Briefing	08.30	
<i>Safety/ Medic familiarisation</i>	09.00	
Drivers Briefing	09.40	
Official Practice	10.30	
Leave boats on beach if weather permitting	advise at D.B	
Racing & Final	11.30	15.00 approx.
Provisional Result	Approx. 15 mins	
Sunday 5th August 2018	FROM	UNTIL
Drivers Arrive From	07.30	
Race Administration Open	07.30	
Signing In	08.00	
Scrutineering	08.00 on beach	
Safety Briefing/Medical Familiarisation	08.30	
Finalise Course	09.30	
Drivers Briefing (on beach)	10.15	
Official Practice	11.30	11.50
Racing and Final	12.00	15.30 approx.
Podium/Awards for the Weekend	Approx. 15 mins	

TIDE TIMES			
FRIDAY 30TH JULY	High Tide 11.27 (27.6ft)	Low Tide 16.36 (9.5ft)	High Tide: 22.18 (30.8ft)
SATURDAY 31ST JULY	High Tide 12.13 (26.6ft)	Low Tide 17.57 (12.1ft)	
SUNDAY 1ST AUG	High Tide 13.07 (25.6ft)	Low Tide 18.52 (13.1ft)	

6. RULES & REGULATIONS

The race/s will be run under current rules as stated in the UKOPRA and M2M Racing Club rules together with these Race Instructions and any other instructions issued before or at Drivers' Briefings or in Race Bulletins. The ThunderCat class rules supersede the general rules for clarification and stop contradictions.

The Organisers reserve the right to change these Instructions at any time for safety reasons, provided that any change will be in accordance with the current rules. Any changes will be notified to competitors in a Race Bulletin and, if possible, announced at Drivers' Briefing.

Any infringement of the Rules or of the Race Instructions, or instructions issued at Drivers' Briefings or in race Bulletins may lead to disqualification or other penalties being applied by the organising club. Organisers have the right to refuse any boat which they consider unsuitable and/or which does not conform to the requirements of the present Rules. The Organisers may cancel or postpone the event or a race at any time in the event of COVID, bad weather, equipment failure or otherwise. The entry fee is not refundable.

7. RACE ADMINISTRATION AND REGISTRATION

On arrival at the race site, crew members must report immediately to Race Administration, which is situated in the ThunderCat tent – see diagram. Race Administration contact details during the event is: Shirley Nellthorpe (see front page). All crew members sign the M2M Racing Club sign-in indemnity form. Crews must have joined M2M Racing Club and bought a UKOPRA license online prior to the event, if not, will not be allowed to race, unless with prior consent from the OOD.

8. PIT AREAS, PARKING & SPECIAL CONDITIONS

Dry Pits: Trailer / boat to be kept on the beach during the day. Trailers will be in the car park bays.



CAR PARKING

- Parking charges apply for vehicles not in the Dry Pits – only the team tow vehicle is allowed into the designated area.

WE TAKE NO RESPONSIBILITY OF YOUR VEHICLES AND TICKETS OCCURRED – YOU NEED TO PAY THEM IF YOU GET THEM!

Wet Pits: On the beach by the water's edge.

9. REFUELLING FACILITIES:

Boats must come fuelled and enough tanks to swap over, no decanting. Refuelling is ONLY permitted in the designated Fuel Pit Area - Competitors are reminded that no transfer of fuel is permitted in the pit areas or launching areas. Smoking is prohibited in dry pits. These rules must be adhered to at all times, offenders will be penalised.

- ALL BOATS / TRAILERS TO BE PUT IN BEACH COMPOUND. SECURITY WILL BE ON DUTY FRIDAY AND SATURDAY NIGHT. All boats stay on the beach till 16.30 Sunday afternoon.
- All boats arriving on Saturday morning must be on the beach by 08.00.

10. PRE-RACE SCRUTINEERING

Pre-race scrutineering will take place in accordance with Class specific rules. A logbook must be shown to the scrutineer each time scrutineering takes place.

11. LAUNCHING

Launching is the boat crew's responsibility and should not be undertaken before scrutineering, unless otherwise stated. All scrutineering can take place on the beach and reduce risk of traffic hazard with the general public. All class specific rules governing launching and recovery apply at all times. Please ensure that your boats are laid out as required by the scrutineers, if your team is ready to be checked!

12. OFFICIAL PRACTICE ARRANGEMENTS

It is a rule requirement for crews to complete a minimum number of laps of the race circuit prior to racing. Full details will be given at Drivers Briefing.

13. DRIVERS BRIEFING

Mandatory Drivers Briefing will take place in the: THUNDERCAT TENT under COVID regulations; this will be explained when signing in at the ThunderCat administration tent. Signing-in for Drivers Briefing will commence 15 minutes before the Briefing and if you have ordered you will receive your brunch roll. All crew for each race boat must sign into the briefing by the start time and attend the entire briefing. A roll call may be held. Penalty for absence may be disqualification from starting the race or other penalties as defined in Class Rules or by the race organisers. Breathalyser and/or Drug tests may be given – All heads of department will be tested in the morning of events. The start of drivers briefing marks the end of the eligibility protest period and the Jury members will be introduced.

14. NOISE AND SPEED RESTRICTIONS

Competitors must obey all local regulations and Bye Laws relating to excessive speed and noise. All competitors are requested to refrain from starting their engines unless absolutely necessary before proceeding to the race or official practice sessions. Failure to observe local regulations will result in penalties being applied.

15. START PROCEDURES

This race will use a beach start for the M shape course – the course may vary in shape. Full details of the starting procedure will be given at Drivers Briefing however all class specific starts are explained in the UKOPRA/M2M Racing Club rules 2021.

16. COURSE DETAILS

The schematic drawing of the course in these Race Instructions is provided for competitors' assistance and should not be used as a chart for navigational purposes.



17. COURSE MARKS & RACE INFO

COURSE MARKS: A full description of each course mark, the start run, and laps, finish line, muster area and any Exclusion Zones will be given at driver's briefing.

M SHAPE – SURF COURSE:

M SHAPE RACE DISTANCE: Start lap + 6 laps' x 5 heats (per group) – Finals of start lap + 9 Laps to be run on both days.

18. FLAG SIGNALS

All flag signals are fully described in the M2M Racing Club / UKOPRA General Racing Rules and Class specific rules where differences occur. All Competitors must have a full understanding of all flag signals. If a competitor fails to acknowledge 2 flags in any one race, they may be immediately disqualified at the OOD's discretion and referred to the RYA for further disciplinary action.

19. POST-RACE DECLARATION

The **Driver and Co-Driver** must sign off at Race administration in accordance with Class specific rules. Failure to do so may result in exclusion from the results. **All** Crew Members must sign off at Race Administration before the end of the event and to collect race documentation.

20. POST-RACE SCRUTINEERING

Crew members must be available with their craft and all relevant mandatory equipment required by class rules for post-race scrutineering if required, up to one hour after the posting of the Results. One or more engines may be checked, and fuel sampling may take place.

21. PENALTIES

In addition to the penalties referred to in the rules, the following penalties will apply at this event if explained at Driver's Briefing.

22. PROTESTS

Protests should be submitted in accordance with M2M Racing Club rules. The protest fee applicable to this event is of £100.00

23. PODIUM PRESENTATIONS

Podium Presentations will take place at the Pits / beach in accordance with the timetable. Dress code for podium presentations: Team clothing will be done each day for winners of each round.

24. TROPHIES

ThunderCat Racing International UKOPRA Series Championship Medals per Round will be presented in each discipline. Medals will be awarded for 1st – 2nd – 3rd places.

25. CANCELLATION

The organisers may cancel the event at any time, in the event of COVID, bad weather, equipment failure or otherwise. The entry fee is not refundable.

26. SAFETY INFORMATION

Safety takes priority over racing at all times: All race boats MUST observe the International Rules for the Prevention of Collisions at Sea (IRPCS) when encountering any other non-racing craft.

- a) Swimmers, board sailors, private and commercial craft of all types may be encountered. Competitors are reminded to always keep a sharp look-out and to take the necessary action in accordance with the IRPCS rules.
- b) Competitors are reminded to keep a sharp look-out at all times for any marine wildlife that may be encountered in the vicinity of the racecourse and take the necessary avoiding action.
- c) Competitors are warned to remember their speed and the fact that other craft may not be fully aware or able to keep clear.
- d) Competitors are asked to bear in mind that official patrol and rescue boats have no power to insist that any craft or swimmer should keep clear of the course of the race. Advice can only be given for the safety of other craft and swimmers.
- e) International Code Flag 'A' denotes DIVERS. Competitors must give a wide clearance of at least 100 metres.
- f) The course will be patrolled by official patrol and rescue boats with official observer boats in the vicinity of certain race marks; other race marks may be observed from the shore.
- g) Any official patrol or rescue boat may wave a yellow flag to give warning of imminent danger in its vicinity. Competitors seeing this signal are to acknowledge the signal, proceed with caution, not overtake other race boats whilst in the area of the incident and keep clear of the danger area. Any competitor who ignores or abuses the yellow flag may be penalised.

27. GUIDE TO HOW TO GET TO MINEHEAD.

Further information please contact fiona@pascoe6@gmail.com

www.mineheadbay.co.uk

Website: www.visitminehead.org - This website provides accommodation details, information about Minehead and events within the area and much more.

Website: www.visit-exmoor.co.uk - This website provides information on where to stay in Minehead and also Exmoor the Coast and Quantock Hills. This website provides information on all types of graded accommodation including, Self Catering, Bed & Breakfast, Hotels, Cottages and caravans. You can also find out about events in the local area and much more.

Hidden Histories walks - six digital trails for all the family, just open in your smartphone browser, journey to the trailhead and enjoy - [Click Here](#) or key in <http://minehead.storywalks.info>

SOCIAL EVENTS - TO BE ADVISED

COVID: PLEASE BE AWARE - TWO WEEKS, PRIOR TO THE EVENT A COVID SAFETY REPORT, ACTIONS AND REGULATIONS WILL BE SENT AND POSTED ON ALL MEDIA PLATFORMS.