

CHANGES TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE MOCRA RATING RULE IN 2006

From January 2006 the RORC Rating Office (based in Lymington) will be issuing rating certificates on behalf of MOCRA. Rest assured however, that MOCRA retains sovereignty over the rule. The Rating Office are professionals who issue ratings for boats under the IRC, IRM, Swan 45, Mumm 30 and Sportsboat rules.

So what will this mean to those racing under the MOCRA Rating Rule?

- A fully professional service issuing Rating Certificates.
- Professional administration of the ratings.
- Access to a wealth of technical expertise to help with development of the rule.
- Increased credibility of the rule and ratings issued under it.
- Reduced workload for the rating and racing secretaries.
- Expansion in the use of the rule both domestically and internationally.
- Access to a RORC Measurer, load cells etc.

From the competitor's viewpoint what will change?

Obviously, applications for ratings and any queries will go to the Rating Office. Overall responsibility for the MOCRA Rule will lie with Mike Urwin, RO Technical Director, with day to day administration carried out by Emma Cary, Assistant Rating Secretary.

Dr Steph Merry, the IRC measurer in Hamble, should be the primary point of contact for measurement but Simon Forbes has kindly offered to continue measuring boats. Measurement of boats in other areas will be by individual arrangement through the Rating Office. Steph is no stranger to multihulls and has most recently sailed with Dick Skipworth on his F31.

Annual reminders will be issued when revalidations are due. MOCRA will transfer all of our rating data to the Rating Office to avoid boats having to be re-measured.

There will be an increased cost which means multihull racers will pay about the same as those racing monohulls. No one likes it when costs go up but the new system will give tangible benefits for competitors and the association. Indeed I have heard it argued that in the past our rating certificates have lacked credibility because they have been too cheap and that the new certificates are "reassuringly expensive". MOCRA will receive 25% of the charge for each certificate issued. In the short term this may mean that MOCRA will receive less revenue from rating certificates: however there is great potential for broader use of the rule and an increase in the number of certificates issued. The long term goal is to build the MOCRA Rating Rule into a true international rule.

In 2006 the cost of MOCRA Ratings will be as follows:

Certification Fees

Owners will be charged a fee for each issue of a certificate as follows:

New application for a previously unrated boat:	£8.20 per m LOA
Revalidation of an expired certificate:	£7.10 per m LOA
Amended certificate:	£3.10 per m LOA
Trial certificate:	£3.60 per m LOA
Re-registration (new owner for current valid certificate):	£3.85 per m LOA
Endorsement administration fee (one-off payment on original application for endorsement):	£25.00
Expedited Processing Fee (Applications received less than 5 working days before certificate issue is required):	Fee x 2
Copy certificate	£10.00

Measurement and Weighing

If using a RORC measurer, measurement will be charged to owners at £31.00 per hour.

Weighing of boats will incur a charge of £7.25 per metre LOA plus a load cell carriage charge of £20 per weighing. Any measurer's expenses will be charged extra at cost. Please note that this fee is for the services of the

measurer and load cell only. It does not include yard and/or crange charges which will be the responsibility of the owner.

All measurement and weighing fees will be invoiced to owners by the RO who will assume responsibility for payments to measurers.

What about cruisers who only want to do the Round Island Race?

Fear not, we have not ignored this issue. We have negotiated with the Island Sailing Club and found a solution. There will be a Bridgedeck Catamaran Cruiser Class which will allow boats to race without a MOCRA rating Certificate. We will allocate ratings and provide the ISC with the numbers. And the really good news is that this service will be free to MOCRA members provided they apply early. There is a lot of work involved so non members will be charged and there will be a sliding scale of fees for those who are late and therefore adding to the last minute workload. The fee scale will be in line with the ISC's timetable for entries as follows:

Members entering before Saturday 6th May will be provided with a number without charge. Non members will be charged £25 (i.e. become members). After Saturday 6th May the charge will be £35 for members and non-members alike and after Saturday 27th May the charge will be £45.

In redefining the classes for the RTI race we have tried to address another concern which has been expressed quite vociferously for several years. Some of the serious racers have been concerned at the prospect of being beaten by boats which have not supplied accurate verifiable data in their rating application. Given that we will have two types of rating in the event (proper MOCRA certificates issued by RORC and numbers issued by the ISC/MOCRA) there is no mechanism for all boats to be eligible for the overall trophy. Boats with proper rating certificates will be in the Grand Prix or MOCRA Racing Class depending on their rating and will be eligible for class and overall trophies. The Bridgedeck Catamaran Cruiser Class will be eligible for the class trophy only.

Detailed below are the relevant paragraphs from the Island sailing Club's Notice of Race for the RTI race.

5.41.4 Boats entered for the Multihull Grand Prix Class shall have a valid MOCRA rating certificate and shall include boats with a rating of 1.451 and above.

1.5 Boats entered for the MOCRA Racing Class shall have a valid MOCRA rating certificate and shall rate 1.450 and below.

1.6 Boats entered for the Bridgedeck Catamaran Cruiser Class will be allocated a rating (valid for this race only) by the Island Sailing Club through MOCRA. Boats racing in this Division will not be eligible for Multihull overall or line honours trophies.

The Executive Committee was unanimous about the change; we believe that it is in the interests of members and the future of multihull racing.

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR MOCRA RATINGS

From Jan 2006 The Royal Offshore Racing Club (RORC) will administer MOCRA ratings. All enquiries should go to Emma Cary at the RORC Rating Office, Lymington.
Tel: 01590 677030
Email: info@rorcrating.com
Web: www.rorcrating.com

Other Contacts:

Mike Urwin, RORC Technical Director
Dr Steph Merry, Measurer