

The RIVER CRUISER Class

Affiliated to the Norfolk & Suffolk Boating Association



6th March 2019

Dear RCC members,

At our AGM in November 2018 there was some discussion about the display of Registration Marks and in certain cases concerns were voiced about formal correspondence received by yacht owners. The committee have been endeavouring to clarify the situation. At that time, the class captain Mels Farrar wrote to the Broads Authority seeking assurances.

As a class, we welcomed representatives from the B.A. and the NSBA at our January committee meeting, where we were able to discuss this situation in more detail. Since then a small group of the main committee have met with the B.A. on two occasions during February. For both parties this has been rewarding, with constructive dialogue resulting in clarification that benefits both the RCC membership and the officers of the B.A.

As a result of our meetings, the B.A. have decided to clarify their guidance on the display of registration marks for private sailing cruisers to remove the ambiguity that has led to the possible misinterpretation of the rules.

Below, you will see an excerpt from the updated B.A. display of registration marks document, which is the result of our engagement with the B.A. - we are very grateful to have had this opportunity, and also have developed some suggestions of our own for RCC owners.

These bullet points complement the B.A. requirements, and if followed ensure that your vessel meets the requirements to display Registration Marks, and at all times be identifiable.

Broads Authority - display of registration marks document

<p>6. PRIVATE sailing cruisers, all sizes</p> <p>Note: All sailing vessels may display marks on a board beneath bowsprit, visible both sides.</p>	<p>[50mm] on both sides of vessel near bow and on stern but:</p> <p>Vessels of a class designed specifically and exclusively for use on the Broads will not be required to display their registration marks on the stern provided the vessel is clearly marked on the stern with its registered name. Registration marks must be displayed both sides of vessel near the bow.</p> <p>Vessels with a long counter stern which are unable to display either registration marks or the registered name on the stern must display registration marks both sides of vessel near the bow.</p>
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River Cruiser Class - 'best practice'

In addition to Section 6, Broads Authority 'Display of Registration Marks' guidance we recommend that our membership ensure;

1. All yachts should have their registration numbers displayed on their bows, or on a board mounted below the bowsprit.
2. As a class, all R.C.C. registered yachts should display their name on their transom, excluding yachts with long, low counter sterns or those with canoe sterns.

3. Whenever the name of your yacht is obscured, such as when motoring - we strongly recommend that owners either display Registration Marks which are visible from astern, **or** display their Registration Marks on the Outboard cowling, so that a vessel may be readily identified.
4. All R.C.C. members should keep both the class **and** the Broads Authority apprised of changes in ownership (inc. contact details) as soon as possible.

If you need a duplicate set of Registration Mark stickers, these are available, directly from the Broads Authority.

As a committee, we hope that this resolves any queries or concerns that you have had regarding the display of Registration Marks. Also, we appreciate your support in following the B.A. requirements and our own suggestions on this matter.

Best regards

James Dugdale

RCC Captain.

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