



East Cowes Sailing Club

THURSDAY EVENINGS 2024

NOTICE OF RACE

1. RULES

- 1.1. The Organising Authority shall be East Cowes Sailing Club.
- 1.2. The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing, 2021-2024.
- 1.3. No national prescriptions will apply.
- 1.4. The Byelaws/General Directions for the Port of Southampton, Portsmouth Harbour and Cowes Harbour will apply.
- 1.5. Racing Rule 26 will be changed as follows: "Races shall be started by using sound signals. Sound signals may be broadcast on VHF radio in accordance with timings given in Racing Rule 26. Flags will not be used to start races. - Flag signals will be replaced by radio broadcast information and/or instructions".
- 1.6. Rule A5.3 will apply, changing rule A5.2. Rule A5.3 is amended such that "a boat that did not come to the starting area shall be scored points for the finishing place three more than the number of boats competing in the race."
- 1.7. There shall be one discard per Series when 5 races have been sailed.

2. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 2.1. The race is open to all Cowes-based keelboats between 5.5m and 14m length overall and with a PY handicap not greater than 1300.
- 2.2. Handicaps based on the Portsmouth Yardstick will be applied based on information in the submitted Race Entry form. In the interests of fair racing ECSC reserves the right to adjust handicaps based on a boat's performance as agreed by the Race Committee.

- 2.3. Eligible boats may enter by completing and submitting the ECSC Racing Entry and Covid Compliance Statement form available for download from the ECSC website, and paying the entry fee as detailed in Paragraph 4 below.
- 2.4. Competitors are required to have completed the entry form, together with a handicap form prior to competing, or after any notifiable changes to a boat's configuration.
- 2.5. With the exception of "All In" races, boats will be divided into three classes:
 - 2.5.1. Class 1: Spinnaker
 - 2.5.2. Class 2: Non-Spinnaker
- 2.6. Classes may be added, divided or removed at the discretion of the organisers.
- 2.7. Any One Design fleet with more than 5 regular entrants may request an individual start for subsequent series'.
- 2.8. The following items of safety equipment must, as a minimum, be carried by all competing boats:
 - 2.8.1. A VHF radio capable of communicating on VHF channel M1 (37A)
 - 2.8.2. An anchor suitable for the size of vessel and a minimum of 20 metres of warp.
 - 2.8.3. A personal floatation aid for each person on board.
 - 2.8.4. A life buoy or other man overboard recovery device.
 - 2.8.5. Navigation lights appropriate to the size of the vessel.

3. FEES

- 3.1. Race fees shall be £6. Alternatively, an entry may be made for £45 for all ECSC races; that is, all Thursday Night Series, Weekend Races and the Sunday Brunch Series.
- 3.2. Late entries (those submitted later than one week before the start of the race) shall only be considered at the discretion of the organisers.

4. SCHEDULE

- 4.1. The scheduled time of the first warning signal will be 18:30. Starts will be at five minute intervals, as detailed in the Sailing Instructions.

4.2. All-In Races:
11th April
29th August

4.3. Spring Series:
18th April
25th April
2nd May
9th May
16th May
23rd May

4.4. Mid-Summer Series:
30th May
6th June
13th June
20th June
27th June
4th July

4.5. Late Summer Series:
11th July
18th July
25th July
8th August
15th August
22nd August

5. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

5.1. The Sailing Instructions will be available on the East Cowes Sailing Club website not later than one week prior to the series.

6. VENUE

6.1. The race will take place in the Central Solent from a starting line in the vicinity of The Shrape, opposite the East Cowes Sailing Club Race Box on the East Cowes Esplanade.

7. COMMUNICATION

7.1. All boats shall carry an operational marine VHF radio equipped with Channels 16, 12, 37A, 69 and 72.

7.2. Race information may be passed on the ECSC Sailing WhatsApp Group. To join this group either indicate on the Race Entry Form or send an email request including a mobile phone number to: sailing@eastcowessc.co.uk.

- 7.3. Skippers must inform the Race Box of the number of people on board (POB) via WhatsApp prior to race.

8. SCORING

- 8.1. Results will be compiled using the Halsail on-line scoring system and may be viewed via the East Cowes Sailing Club website.

9. PRIZES

- 9.1. Prizes will be awarded for 1st place and runner up in each class, for each Series and each "All In" race.
- 9.2. Prizes will be awarded at the ECSC Annual Prize Giving.

10. RISK STATEMENT

- 10.1. 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, a patrol boat if available, and other officials and volunteers by the event organizer 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 safety briefing held for the event;

11. INSURANCE

11.1. All yachts must carry insurance protection for third party and passenger liability of not less than £3,000,000.

12. PRIVACY STATEMENT

12.1. ECSC will always comply with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) when dealing with your personal data. Further details on the GDPR can be found at the website for the Information Commissioner (www.ico.gov.uk). For the purposes of the GDPR, ECSC will be the “controller” of all personal data we hold about you.