BESC REGATTA

SATURDAY 23RD MAY – SUNDAY 24TH MAY 2026

ISLAND SAILING CLUB

THE ORGANISING AUTHORITY IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE BESC.

NOTICE OF RACE

High Water Portsmouth: Saturday 0430 4.1m 1720 4.1m Sunday 0540 3.9m 1820 4.1m

All times in this document are BST

1. RULES

1.1 Racing will be governed by the 'rules' as defined in the current Racing Rules of Sailing (2025-2028), including the RYA prescriptions.

1.2 Parts A, B and C of the IRC rules shall apply where appropriate.

1.3 World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations for Category 4 will apply.

1.4 If there is a conflict between rules or regulations, other than RRS, the Sailing instructions will prevail. This changes rule 63.5 (C) (2).

1.5 The protest committee may impose suitable penalties other than disqualification for violations of non-Part 2 rules. This changes rule 64.

1.6 Competitors will be expected to comply with any current rules/guidance in force at the time of the event in line with Government and RYA restrictions.

1.7 Anchors shall not be carried on deck such that they protrude forward of the bow. Outboard engines must be stored inboard when racing.

1.8 Chartered or hired boats shall not be able to seek redress in the event of gear or equipment failure.

2. ADVERTISING

2.1 Boats may advertise in accordance with Class Rules and World Sailing Regulation 20, except that no advertising relating to tobacco products is permitted.

3. ELIGIBILITY and ENTRY

3.1 All boats entering the **BESC Bowl** and **Deputy Governor's Cup Race** shall be in possession of a valid IRC Rating Certificate.

3.2 All boats entering the **Sutton Thirtle Cup Cruiser Race** must not hold a valid IRC rating. Boats which are found to have been issued with an IRC rating will be transferred into the IRC Class. Boats shall have a fixed keel with a minimum of four fixed berths and be in living mode. Entrants will be allocated a handicap by the Joint Banks Handicap Committee based on the information provided.

3.3 All boats entering the **Commodore's Cup, Cowes Cup and Jonny Simpson Trophy** for the Pursuit Race will be issued with their individual start times.

3.4 Eligible boats may enter by completing the entry form and paying the required entry fee.

3.5 By entering, all competitors become temporary members of the Island Sailing Club for the duration of the regatta.

3.6 All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of transmitting on channels 12, 16, 37A (M1) and 69.

4. FEES

4.1 The entry fee for the event is £75.00 per boat.

4.2 Completed entry Forms shall be returned to the BESC Regatta Secretary andrewcortis@hotmail.com, by 1800 on **Friday 8th May**

4.3 Late entries will be accepted up to midnight **Wednesday 20st May** with an additional £40 fee.

5 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

5.1 The Warning Signal for the first race each day will be at 10.20, with a start at 10.30. The Warning Signal for the second race each day will be at least 15 minutes after the last boat has finished the first race of the day.

5.2 Four races are scheduled for the event. It is the intention of the OA to run the races as shown in 5.1 above. However, in the event of an adverse weather forecast or other factors affecting racing, the OA reserve the right to reschedule races earlier or later during the event.

5.3 There will be a briefing for competitors at 0830 in the Cowes Yacht Haven on Saturday 23rd May.

All boats are expected to send at least one representative.

6 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

6.1 The sailing instructions will be emailed to each competitor on or after Friday 15th May and will be available on the ISC website from the same time.

7 RACING AREA and COURSES

7.1 The racing area will be in the Central Solent starting and finishing on the Island Sailing Club shoreline.

7.2 The race committee may set courses that do not permit boats to sail rhumb lines courses between marks, particularly over the central Solent Bramble Bank. This shall not be grounds for redress.

7.3 Navigational Safety - Racing will take place near active shipping channels. The race committee would like to call special attention to the preamble to RRS Part 2 concerning the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, and the current ABP. Southampton Byelaws No.11 concerning a moving prohibited zone around vessels of 150m length or more. Boats are reminded to keep a good look out for all commercial traffic and recognize that large vessels have very limited manoeuvrability, particular in the shipping channel east of Norris Bay.

7.4 Boats racing shall use all reasonable endeavours to avoid contact with navigation buoys, whether marks of the course or not. In case of contact, whether or not leading to damage to the buoy, the circumstances of the incident and details of any damage must be reported to the race committee within the protest time limit. If the navigation buoy has been damaged the race committee will advise the Chairman of the SCRA. The race committee may also protest the boat.

8 PENALTY SYSTEM

8.1 The penalty for breaking a rule of Part 2 shall be a One Turn Penalty (one tack and one gybe in the same direction) except that for infringements occurring within the zone as defined in the current RRS the penalty shall be a Two Turns Penalty (two tacks and two gybes in the same direction). This changes rules 44.1 and 44.2.

9 SCORING

9.1 The Low Point System of Appendix A will apply, except that there will be no discard.

10 HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS

10.1 All boats shall be afloat before 0800 on Saturday 23rd May and shall not be hauled out during the event except with and according to the terms of prior written permission of the race committee.

11 RADIO COMMUNICATION

11.1 The race committee may use the radio to advise competitors of race information. The VHF channel to be used will be advised in the Sailing Instructions.

11.2 Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction applies to all communication devices.

12 PRIZES

12.1 All cups and trophies will be awarded during the Prizegiving Dinner on Sunday 24th May at the Island sailing Club.

13 RISK STATEMENT

13.1 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 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 while taking part;
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, umpires and other officials and volunteers by the organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
f) they are responsible for ensuring that their boat is equipped and seaworthy so as to be able to face extremes of weather; that there is a crew sufficient in number, experience and fitness to withstand such weather and that the safety equipment is properly maintained, stowed and in date and is familiar to the crew.

13.2 The organizing authority is not responsible for the seaworthiness of a boat whose entry is accepted or the sufficiency or adequacy of its equipment. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury, or death sustained in conjunction with, prior to, during or after the regatta.

14 INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £3 million per incident or the equivalent.

15 FURTHER INFORMATION

15.1 For further information, please contact the organising authority:

ISC Sailing Manager: Ben Ferris

Email: ben@islandsc.org.uk

Telephone: +44 1983 249431

BESC Regatta Secretary: Andrew Cortis

Email: andrewcortis@hotmail.com

Telephone: +447983740634

RYA CHARTER

Competitors should note that Island Sailing Club events implement the RYA Racing Charter and that they will be required to sail in compliance with the Charter, which can be found at the front of the RYA rule book (*Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028)* or at **rya.org.uk/racing/rules/racing-charter**

INFORMATION FOR COMPETITORS

This information does not form part of the formal Notice of Race.

1. A BBQ will be held on Saturday evening 23rd May at the Island Sailing Club.
2. Prize Giving Dinner will be held after racing on Sunday 24th May at the Island Sailing Club.
3. It is the intention of the race committee to allow a break for lunch each day, weather and conditions permitting. Timing of the break and restart will be advised by VHF radio.