

1 ORGANISING AUTHORITY

- a. The organising authority is the Solo Offshore Racing Club Limited (SORC).
- b. Official notice board and website <http://www.soloFASTNET.co.uk>
- c. The Race Committee (RC) comprises:

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| Rob Craigie (Race Director) | robcc51@gmail.com | +44 7775 706626 |
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| Nigel Colley | nigel.deqcolley@gmail.com | +44 7860 895 736 |
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| Ian Hoddle | ianhoddle@btinternet.com | +44 7785 363596 |
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- d. Other contact details, including the Race Officer, will be provided in the Sailing Instructions (SIs)
- e. In recognition that many of the Race organisers are also competitors, the Royal Western YC have agreed to form a protest committee should one be required.

2 COURSE AND RACE SCHEDULE

- a. Course: Cowes - Fastnet Rock – Plymouth approx. 610 Miles. The exact course details will be in the Sailing Instructions (SIs).
- b. Start: Date: 2 July 2016 Time: approx. 12:00
- c. Pre-race events, berthing, registration, race briefing, Tracker collection, Prize giving etc. will be notified in the SIs and on the web site. SIs will be published in January 2016.

3 ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- a. All competitors must be aged 18 or over on 1 June 2016.
- b. Only one person shall be on board whilst racing except as required by RRS 1.1.
- c. The race will be run under IRC and boats racing under IRC must comply with ISAF OSR Cat 2. Additional Classes may be provided subject to a minimum of 5 entries and at the Race Director's discretion.
- d. Each boat is required to have on board, while racing, a Personal Locator Beacon (PLB). It is strongly recommended that the PLB is carried at all times while on deck.

- e. The skipper is required to have substantial offshore short handed sailing experience including solo nights offshore. The race is challenging especially for a solo skipper, requiring well developed navigation skills, practiced boat handling in both strong and light conditions and familiarity with managing the effects of fatigue and limited sleep. If you are in any doubt regarding your experience you are encouraged to contact the RC for guidance.
- f. The boat is required to hold adequate insurance and in particular to hold insurance against third party claims in the sum of at least £2 million.
- g. Entry into and taking part in the race is conditional upon the skipper having made a declaration as set out in Risk Statement and Declaration for all Races as part of the online entry process. It is the sole responsibility of the skipper to ensure they read, understand and agree the declaration.
- h. Mandatory documentation includes:
 - a valid IRC rating
 - a statement of relevant sailing experience
 - a signed Risk Statement and Declaration
 - a signed declaration that the boat and skipper meets ISAF Cat 2. A check list will be provided for the skipper to complete and return to the RC
 - a completed Race and Safety Information form

4 CLASSES & CLASS FLAGS

- a. All boats shall display a SORC pennant on their backstay; this will be included as part of the race entry.
- b. If there are sufficient entries the IRC fleet may be split into 2 or more classes.
- c. With the permission of the IRC Rating Authority, IRC Rule 8.2 is modified to include boats holding Single Event Ratings. Please look at the Rating Office website to see whether it would fit your racing plans: www.rorcrating.com/ser.
- d. Boats shall obtain a valid certificate not later than 1st June 2016. No alteration in a boat's certificate will be permitted after this date, except as a result of a rating protest, or to correct rating office errors.

5 ENTRY FEES & RESERVATIONS

- a. A deposit of £100 made before 15th March 2016 reserves an entry place. The entry fee balance of £275 must be made before 1st June 2016. Any entry made after 15th March 2016 will incur a late entry fee surcharge of £100 i.e. total entry fee of £475.
- b. The entry fee includes: YB Trackers, 2 nights mooring in Plymouth, pre-race buffet and briefing, post-race dinner and prize giving, prizes, battle flag, shirt, memento
- c. Entry shall be made online via the race web site.
- d. The maximum number of entries that can be accepted is 60. This is due to logistical limitations at the start and finish.

6 RESULTS, SCORING & PRIZES

- a. For boats racing under IRC results will be based on corrected time.
- b. Results will be posted online as soon as possible.
- c. Prizes will be awarded at the after race dinner.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

7 RULES AND REGULATIONS

Racing is governed by the following:

- a. The Racing Rules of Sailing 2013-16 (RRS) and RYA prescriptions (www.rya.org.uk/racing/racingrules).
- b. From sunset to sunrise, RRS Part 2 (When Boats Meet) shall not apply and are replaced by the right of way rules of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (IRPCAS).
- c. The IRC rules Parts A, B and C (www.ircrating.org)
- d. Relevant local by-laws.
- e. The Race Committee shall protest a boat if a ship, coastguard or Port Authority makes a complaint under the IRPCAS or local by-laws. This changes RRS 60.2.
- f. The relevant ISAF Offshore Special Regulations (OSR) for 2016-2017 and Equipment Rules of Sailing for 2013-2016 (www.sailing.org/documents).
- g. The RYA Racing Charter (www.rya.org.uk/racing/charter).
- h. The Exoneration Penalty, Advisory Hearing and Arbitration procedures of the RYA Rules Dispute Procedure (www.rya.org.uk/racing/raceofficials/Pages/RulesDisputesProcess.aspx) will be available.

8 CHANGES TO RULES

- a. Changes to the rules are described as appropriate within this document. Additional changes are listed below. The Sailing Instructions (SIs) may change other rules.
- b. RRS 55 (Trash Disposal) is changed by adding the following sentence to the rule: 'However, discarding rubber or wool bands when setting a sail is permitted'.
- c. RRS 63.1 is changed as described in Sections 10b), 12c), 15b) and c), and Appendix 1. A boat penalised without a hearing is entitled to one upon request.

- d. If there is conflict between the SIs and the NoR, the SIs will prevail. This changes RRS 63.7.
- e. RRS 77 does not apply. Each boat shall display a sail number or numbers as given on the entry form.

9 SAFETY

- a. The start may be postponed and/or the start line moved if the Race Committee considers that this is advisable in the prevailing or forecast meteorological conditions. No decision taken by the Committee will in any way whatsoever affect or reduce the responsibility of individual skippers to decide whether to race or continue racing.
- b. The organisers may involve the authorities and emergency contact if they have concerns for the safety of any competitor. Competitors are encouraged to contact the Race Committee if their track is likely to give cause for concern
- c. Race Committee strongly recommends the wearing of life jacket and harness at all times. Therefore, the RO will not fly flag Y (RRS 40).
- d. No anchor shall protrude over the bow while racing.
- e. Boats are encouraged to use engines to avoid safety threatening situations; however, 11 ENGINES AND POWER below still applies.
- f. AIS transponders are required to be transmitting for the duration of the race.

10 NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS

- a. Each boat must have a working mobile phone on board and inform the Race Committee of the mobile number before starting.
- b. Sailing Instructions will be issued by email and may be posted on the race web site.
- c. Until 1200 on the day before the race start amendments to SIs will be distributed by email and may also be posted on the race website. If a competitor will not have access to their email, it is their sole responsibility to inform the RO, which will do its best to communicate by other means.
- d. Amendments made thereafter may be sent by SMS and will be broadcast on VHF before the start. Competitors will be given as much notice as is practicable.

11 ENGINES & POWER

- a. Sail handling must be performed by the manpower of the skipper alone.
- b. Amending RRS 52, all types of self-steering devices are permitted.
- c. Amending RRS 42, any means of propulsion employed other than the force of the wind must be recorded in the boat's log and declared to the RO. If any advantage is gained, the RO may impose whatever penalty it regards as appropriate, changing RRS 63.1.

- d. If a boat arrives in the start area after her preparatory signal under engine or tow, she must not start until at least 5 minutes after her start signal and at least 5 minutes after stopping her engine or dropping her tow. A boat that arrives in the starting area after completion of her start sequence may start by passing within 100m of the position announced.
Competitors shall declare engine use and late starting to the RO within 1 h of starting.

12 OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE

- a. No physical contact may be made with other vessels at sea except as allowed by RRS 1.1 (Helping Those in Danger), RRS 41 (Outside Help), and b) below.
- b. During a leg, a boat may put in anywhere and moor for any purpose. She may motor or be towed provided that the total result of such motoring or towing can be shown not to have advanced the boat and any such incident is recorded in the boat's log and declared to the RO. This changes RRS 45.
- c. RRS 41(c) is replaced by the following:

Help in the form of information which is freely available to all boats, which shall include navigational, weather, tide or current information from any source which is available to all boats whether or not by payment of a fee or subscription, but shall not include any information gathered or the subject of interpretation by, or any advice received from, any source not on board the boat and which is specific to the boat and her situation.

By way of example and interpretation, downloading charts, weather and/or tidal GRIB files from subscription services, or having such information passed to the boat in its pure form, is permitted but receiving messages or information which is the result of interpretation as it applies to the boat is not permitted.

13 DECLARATION, RETIREMENT AND REPORTING

- a. After finishing, competitors shall text their finish time, boat name and sail number to the Race Officer (RO) within two hours of finishing. By sending this text, a boat is declaring that she completed the race in accordance with the rules.
- b. The Race Committee will have access to YB Tracking and AIS data. Times observed by the RO shall have precedence over those declared by competitors.
- c. In the exceptional event that a boat is unable to complete the text declaration as described above, she may declare to the RO using other means. This declaration shall be considered valid if the RO indicates its acceptance.
- d. When retiring, the boat shall inform the RO as soon as possible using any means. The message shall include the time, the boat name, sail number, the fact that she is retiring, and her intentions regarding onward passage. This final item is for information only and no inference of responsibility for monitoring the boat's onward passage shall be assumed.

14 YELLOW BRICK TRACKING

- a. Each competitor is required to carry an activated and fully functioning tracker. This will be provided to each boat by the Race Committee.
- b. The tracked positions may be used as evidence by the Race Committee (RC) to:
 - confirm a boat's finishing time
 - confirm a boat completed the course correctly.
- c. The RC may use any data at its disposal to protest a boat. This includes tracker and AIS data. The Protest Committee can award whatever penalty it sees fit including disqualification from the race

15 PROTESTS, PENALTIES AND REDRESS

- a. Intention to protest and any penalty taken during the race shall be declared in the finishing text.
- b. The RC may give time allowances to boats that have temporarily suspended racing to give aid to another vessel or similar circumstances. This changes RRS 63.1.
- c. Starting errors: RRS 29.1 does not apply and RRS Appendix A4.2 is amended.
 - On Course Side: if any part of a boat's hull, crew or equipment is on the course side of the starting line at her starting signal and she does not return completely to the pre-start side of the line, she will not be scored OCS but will be penalised by adding at least 10 minutes to her elapsed time plus a further 5 minutes for every whole minute early.
 - Late to starting area: see Section 10c.
- d. The protest time limit is four hours after finishing.
- e. Amending RRS 61.3, protests may be submitted to the RO by any written means including SMS and this shall constitute delivery to the race office.
- f. Penalties are at the discretion of the protest committee and may be less than disqualification. The protest committee will refer to RYA guidance on discretionary penalties in assessing penalties.

16 APPLICABLE LAW

- a. These rules and conditions shall be interpreted in accordance with the laws of England and Wales. The courts of England and Wales and of no other country shall be the jurisdiction for resolution of all actions with regard to these rules and conditions and as to the conduct and organisation of the all matters relating to the races organised.
- b. Application for entry will be deemed to constitute consent to the holding of relevant personal data for the purpose of the Data Protection Act 1998.