



# BUCS YACHTING COASTAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 2026

## SAILING INSTRUCTIONS (SIs)

### 13th April 2026

The Organising Authority is the British Universities Sailing Association (BUSA), on behalf of the British Universities & Colleges Sport (BUCS).

#### 1. RULES


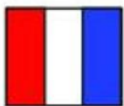



- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in [The Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-28](#), the Fairview class rules and the sail plan instructions.
- 1.2 If there is a conflict between the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions, the Sailing Instructions shall prevail. This changes RRS 63.7.
- 1.3 Sail plan instructions will be displayed on the signal vessel or other race committee vessel – see SI 3.7.
- 1.4 Notices to Mariners for the Ports of [Southampton](#), [Portsmouth](#) and [Cowes](#) apply.
- 1.5 A boat is permitted to receive outside assistance from the designated coach boat as arranged by the Organising Authority (OA). A boat is not permitted to receive help from any other outside source except for the circumstances as listed in RRS 41.
- 1.6 A boat may continue racing after using her engine to get out of or avoid danger to herself, her crew, or another boat or crew, so long as she does not gain an advantage and has taken one penalty turn.

#### 2 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted by 20:00 on the day before it will take effect.

#### 3 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Notices to competitors and signals ashore will be posted only on the online official Notice Board located on the BUSA Yachting Championship: [Online Notice Board](#). Attention will be drawn to any notices or signals using the event WhatsApp group.
- 3.2 The race office is located at Fairview Sailing, Port Hamble. Tel: 02380 457 023.
- 3.3 On the water, the race committee intends to monitor and communicate with competitors on VHF Ch 37A.
- 3.4 The following communications will be made by the race committee on VHF Ch 37A and on the event WhatsApp group: [WhatsApp Chat](#)
  - 3.4.1 Intended location of committee vessel – one hour before the scheduled warning signal.
  - 3.4.2 A provisional course to be sailed will be released by 20:00 on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April. Should this need to be amended a revised course will be communicated to competitors prior to the first warning signal on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April together with display of the appropriate visual signals.
- 3.5 If the race committee displays flag R, alternate VHF Ch P4 will be used.
- 3.6 While racing, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.
- 3.7 Sail plan restrictions
  - 3.7.1 Restrictions are as follows:

| Flag displayed on signal vessel at or before the attention signal | Sail plan visual signal   | Restriction – from starting signal, whilst racing |
|---|---|---|
| Flag O  |    | No sail plan restriction                          |
| Flag T  |    | No Spinnaker, no mainsail reef required           |
| NP 1  | <br><br> | At least one mainsail reef and no spinnaker       |
| NP 2  |   | At least two mainsail reefs and no spinnaker      |
| NP 3  |   | Three mainsail reefs and no spinnaker             |

3.7.2 Sail plan visual signals may be repeated on VHF and event WhatsApp. Failure to receive such broadcast shall not be grounds for redress.

3.7.3 After the starting signal, if the wind speed changes significantly, sail plan restrictions may be changed. A race committee vessel may display a new sail plan visual signal with repetitive sounds at a mark. The new signal applies after passing the mark and boats shall implement the change promptly.

3.7.4 The penalty for not complying with signalled sail plan restrictions will be disqualification by the Race Committee from any race sailed in which the rule is broken. This changes RRS A5.1.

#### 4 CODE OF CONDUCT

4.1 Competitors shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.

4.2 Competitors shall handle any charter boats, or equipment provided by the OA with care, seamanship, in accordance with any instructions for its use and without interfering with its functionality.

#### 5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed by either or both picture and words, only on the Official Notice Board and on the event WhatsApp group.

5.2 Boats shall not leave the harbour until released by the race committee using VHF Ch 37A and on the event WhatsApp group. The warning signal will not be made before the scheduled time or less than 45 minutes after release by the race committee.

#### 6 SCHEDULE OF RACES

6.1

| Date                          | Time         | Warning signal | Other  |
|-------------------------------|--------------|----------------|--|
| Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> April | 1900         |                | All competitor briefing - Banana Wharf           |
| Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April | 0730         |                | All competitor briefing– outside Fairview office |
|                               | 0800         |                | Earliest competitor departure from harbour       |
|                               | Before 0900  |                | Conduct safety drill – see NoR 10.2.1            |
|                               | 1000         | Race start     |  |
|                               | After racing |                | Boats return to Port Hamble Marina               |



|  |                       |  |                              |
|--|-----------------------|--|------------------------------|
|  | One hour after return |  | All competitor coach debrief |
|--|-----------------------|--|------------------------------|

6.1 Attendance of 'Skipper + 1' at briefings and debriefs is mandatory.

## 7 CLASS FLAG

7.1 The class flag is Flag F.

## 8 RACING AREA

8.1 The racing area is central, western and eastern Solent and approaches

## 9 COURSES

9.1 A provisional course to be sailed will be released by 20:00 on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April. Should this need to be amended a revised course will be communicated to competitors prior to the first warning signal on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April together with display of the appropriate visual signals.

9.2 Courses will be announced as provided in SI 3.4. Fixed marks will be identified using the two digit/letter codes as shown on the SCRA 2026 Chart provided by Fairview. Also available to download on the SCRA website:

<https://pgage.co.uk/chart/chart.htm?M=scra>

9.3 No later than the warning signal, the race committee signal vessel will display the approximate compass bearing of the first leg.

## 10 OBSTRUCTIONS

10.1 Southampton Harbour Bye-law

The attention of all competitors is drawn to [Local Notice to Mariners No 5 of 2026](#) and any subsequent update explaining the Moving Prohibited Zone. This Moving Prohibited Zone shall be deemed an Obstruction for purposes of RRS 18 and RRS 19. RRS 60.2(a) and RRS 61.1(b) are changed so that the Race Committee may disqualify without hearing a yacht that infringes this instruction except that the offending yacht shall be entitled to a hearing on request.

10.2 Portsmouth Harbour Regulations

Competitors are reminded of their strict obligation NOT TO IMPEDE SHIPS in Main Buoyed channels and when proceeding in and out of Portsmouth Harbour to use the Small Boat channels as prescribed in the KHM's Notice to Mariners.

10.3 Yachts shall not anchor or kedge in any areas where there are very high tension (132 KV) cables on the sea bed.

## 11 THE START

11.1 Unless otherwise notified, the starting line is the Royal Ocean Racing Club (RORC) start line off Cowes.

11.2 A boat that does not start within five minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.

## 12 CHANGE OF THE COURSE

12.1 To change the course, the race committee will announce the new mark over VHF and the WhatsApp group or the new position of the finish line.

## 13 THE FINISH

13.1 The finishing line is between the finishing mark indicated on the course and the Committee Vessel.

## 14 PENALTY SYSTEM



- 14.1 RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.
- 14.2 RRS Appendix P does not apply.
- 14.3 The Exoneration Penalty, the advisory hearing, and RYA Arbitration of the RYA Rules Disputes Procedure will be available. Decisions from RYA Arbitration can be referred to a protest committee but cannot be re-opened or appealed.
- 14.4 At a protest hearing, the penalty for a breach of any rule other than a rule in Part 2 of RRS, may be less than disqualification at the discretion of the jury.

## 15 TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES

- 15.1 The Mark 1 Time Limit, Race Time Limit (see RRS 35), and the Finishing Window are shown in the table below.

| Course type | Mark 1 Time Limit | Target Time | Finishing Window |
|-------------|-------------------|-------------|------------------|
| Coastal     | Not applicable    | 4-8 hours   | 45 minutes       |

- 15.2 The Finishing Window is the time for boats to finish after the first boat sails the course and finishes. Boats failing to finish within the Finishing Window, and not subsequently retiring, penalised or given redress, will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) without a hearing. A boat scored TLE shall be scored points for the finishing place two more than the points scored by the last boat that finished within the Finishing Window. This changes RRS 35, A5.1, A5.2 and A10.
- 15.3 Failure to meet the Target Time will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

## 16 HEARING REQUESTS

- 16.1 The protest time limit is 90 minutes after the last boat finishes the race. The time will be posted on the official notice board.
- 16.2 Hearing request forms are available from the race office
- 16.3 Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the protest room, located at Britannia Events room, above the Port Hamble Harbour Office, beginning at the time posted.

## 17 SCORING

- 17.1. The Low Point System will apply

## 18 SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 18.1 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee by VHF at the first reasonable opportunity.
- 18.2 All crew shall wear a lifejacket at all times except briefly while changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment. This changes RRS 40.2. A buoyancy aid does not count as a lifejacket. Lifejackets used must meet the standards of the MCA Code of Practice; including being less than 12 months old, or having been professionally serviced within the last 12 months.

## 19 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

- 19.1 Substitution of competitors is not allowed without prior written approval of the race committee.
- 19.2 Substitution of damaged or lost equipment is not allowed unless authorised in writing by Fairview. Requests for substitution shall be made to Fairview.

## 20 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

- 20.1 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules, notice of race and sailing instructions.



20.2 When instructed by a race official on the water, a boat shall proceed to a designated area for inspection.

**21 SUPPLIED BOATS**

21.1 Boats will be supplied by Fairview Sailing Ltd under a separate contract.

**22 OFFICIAL VESSELS**

22.1 Official vessels will be the signal vessel (Ocean 800 Rib).

**23 SUPPORT TEAMS**

23.1 See Notice of Race.

**24 RUBBISH DISPOSAL**

24.1 Rubbish shall be brought ashore after racing each day.

**25 BERTHING**

25.1 See Notice of Race.

**26 HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS**

26.1 See Notice of Race.

**27 DIVING EQUIPMENT**

27.1 See Notice of Race.

**28 PRIZES**

28.1 See Notice of Race.

**29 RISK STATEMENT**

29.1 See Notice of Race.

**30 INSURANCE**

30.1 See Notice of Race.

End of Sailing Instructions