

1 GENERAL

- a) These Sailing Instructions (SIs) provide specific details for the SORC Offshore Series Race 5 Channel Race, and apply in conjunction with the SORC 2025 Notice of Race 1.1 including Amendment 1 dated March 2025 and General Sailing Instructions including Amendment 1 (Version 1.1 dated 27 May 2025).
- b) At all times, including whilst on passage to the start and after the finish, boats shall comply with the Port of Southampton Byelaws (http://www.southamptonvts.co.uk/Port_Information/Regulations/Byelaws/), Cowes Harbour General Directions (http://www.cowesharbourcommission.co.uk/general_directions) and King's Harbour Master Portsmouth General Directions (<https://www.royalnavy.mod.uk/khm/portsmouth/safety-and-regulations/regulations>). Particular attention is drawn to the regulations relating to the Port of Southampton Precautionary Area and Direction relating to the Exclusion Zone for underway warships.
- c) All positions given use WGS84 and are approximate. All times are in BST.

2 COMMUNICATIONS

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3 CLASSES AND START TIMES

- a) Each yacht shall carry her class and SORC (if available) pennants on her backstay. Classes and flags are expected to be as follows

Class 1	Solo IRC rated boats with TCC of 0.975 or higher	NP1 and SORC pennant
Class 2	Solo IRC rated boats with TCC of 0.974 or lower	NP2 and SORC pennant
Class 3	Solo boats without an IRC rating	NP3 and SORC pennant
Class 4	Double-handed IRC rated boats	NP4 and SORC pennant
Class 5	Double-handed boats without an IRC rating	NP5 and SORC pennant

- b) It is intended to give a time check on VHF (Channel 72 [preferred] or Channel 77 [back-up]) at 30 minutes before the first expected start. This will normally be GPS time; however, in the event of discrepancy, the time announced by the RC will take priority.
- c) Starts will use a 5-4-1-go sequence. Anticipated times are shown in Appendix A.
- d) Changes to anticipated start times will if possible be notified via SMS or email by 2000 on the evening before the race and will be announced on VHF after the time check and at 20 and 15 minutes before the first start.
- e) Starting signals and recalls will be made on VHF and not signalled visually, changing RRS 26, 29 and 30.
- f) If conditions are unsuitable for the planned start, boats may be directed to motor in the direction of the course at a speed of not less than 5.0 knots and must try to stay together.

The race may start at any time using the Committee Start Boat procedures specified in the General Sailing Instructions.

4 COURSE

- a) It is intended to send the course via SMS, if possible by 2000 on the evening before the race, and to confirm it on VHF after the time check. In exceptional circumstances, the course may differ from that given out the previous evening.
- b) It is intended to set an offshore course appropriate to the weather conditions finishing on Saturday 09 August. It is anticipated that the start will be in the central Solent (see Appendix A) and the finish is likely to be in the eastern Solent. The course may use any of:
 - Standard navigation marks in the central English Channel
 - Marks from the SCRA Solent Mark Designations dated 07 Feb 2025 (see <https://www.scra.org.uk/solent-marks/solent-marks2>)
 - Virtual waypoints as specified in the course announcement. World Sailing guidance on Racing Around Waypoints Version 2.0 dated January 2025 will apply. This document may be found at:
<https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&opi=89978449&url=https://www.sailing.org/document/2025-2028-appendix-wp-rules-for-waypoints-jan-2025/>

Boats shall ensure they carry charting and pilotage information sufficient to cover possible alternatives.

- d) Competitors are reminded that:
 - if any mark of the course is missing, it should be regarded as a virtual waypoint in its charted position
 - all traffic separation schemes rank as obstructions
 - all marks are rounding marks unless otherwise stated

5 FINISHING AND SHORTENING COURSE

- a) The finish will be announced with the course.
- b) There is no time limit.
- c) Competitors must take their own finish time in hours, minutes and seconds.
- d) Amending RRS 32.2, 'SORC RACE CONTROL' or a nominated competitor may shorten the course by announcement on VHF identifying the new finish mark and bearing. In this event, take your own time when the finish mark is at the required bearing.
- e) You are reminded that bearings are taken from the normal helming position.

6 DECLARATION, RETIREMENT AND REPORTING

See General Sailing Instructions Section 7.

7 SCORING, RESULTS AND PRIZES

- a) Results will be published on the SORC website as soon as possible after racing.
- b) It is intended that an informal prize giving will be held after racing on Saturday 09 August.

Appendix A: Race Schedule

All times BST

Offshore Series Race 5 - Fri 08 August: Channel Race HW Portsmouth 1202 Fri 08 Aug; 0005 & 1237 Sat 09 Aug	
<i>Timings</i>	All classes: Warning signal 1755, start 1800
<i>Identity gate</i>	No earlier than 40 minutes before the first scheduled start, each yacht, as draft permits, must pass between the beach and the mooring buoys in the vicinity of the starting line in an East to West direction with the skipper wearing a lifejacket and harness and receive visual acknowledgement.
<i>Start line</i>	The Lisburne line, between a flagstaff flying a SORC flag and Gurnard Buoy (3U). The flagstaff is behind the race box about 50 metres to the east of the New Holmwood Hotel, Egypt Point.
<i>Course</i>	To be announced in accordance with SI 4a).
<i>Finish line</i>	To be announced with the course. Note, if possible, the boats immediately in front and behind and their approximate finishing times.