

### 1 ORGANISING AUTHORITY

The organising authority is the Solo Offshore Racing Club Limited (SORC).

### 2 ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- a) Entries are accepted at the discretion of the Race Committee.
- b) All competitors must be aged 18 years or older on the date of any race entered.
- c) Only one person shall be on board whilst racing in a solo class, two in a double-handed class, except as required by Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 1.1.
- d) Boats must comply with the applicable Offshore Special Regulations (OSR) category as listed in Section 5. For Category 3 events, the competitor shall have undertaken training within the five years before the start of the race in OSR 6.02 Training Topics.
- e) Before confirming any race entry, the organisers may request the skipper to provide evidence of relevant previous experience. The Race Director will be happy to advise on what is required.
- f) The organisers may waive or modify some of the requirements listed above; requests must be made and determined in writing. Additional procedures and/or restrictions may be prescribed.
- g) Boats shall be adequately insured against third party claims before racing.
- h) **By entering into and taking part in a race, you acknowledge that you have read, understood and agree to this Notice of Race (including the Risk Statement and Declaration) and other applicable rules and regulations.**

### 3 CLASSES & CLASS FLAGS

- a) Solo boats shall display a SORC pennant on the backstay. A SORC pennant will be supplied free to new solo entrants; replacements may be purchased via the SORC website.
- b) Boats entering an IRC class shall have an IRC certificate valid for the duration of the race. No alteration in a boat's certificate will be permitted within 7 days before the race start, except as a result of a rating protest, or to correct rating office errors. Boats with an IRC rating must compete in an IRC class.
- c) If a boat holds both primary and secondary IRC certificates, it must use the configuration with the higher time correction coefficient (TCC) unless otherwise declared to SORC in writing at least 7 days before the race start.
- d) A boat shall remain in its original class in all IRC races even if its TCC changes.
- e) Depending on the number of entries, classes are likely to be as shown below.

Class	Flag	Rating
Class 1	NP 1	Solo boats with an IRC rating
Class 2	NP 2	Solo boats with an IRC rating
Class 3	NP 3	Solo boats without an IRC rating
Class 4	NP 4	Double-handed boats with an IRC rating
Class 5	NP 5	Double-handed boats without an IRC rating

- f) The race committee reserves the right to alter classes as it sees fit.

#### 4 ENTRY FEES & RESERVATIONS

- a) Individual race/event entry fees are listed in Section 5. Payment and complete entry details must be submitted no later than **7 days before the race to avoid a late entry surcharge.**
- b) **Late entry:** SORC is run entirely by volunteers. Late entries cause additional work and sometimes problems; these will be accepted at the discretion of the race committee only in special circumstances and **will incur a surcharge of 25%.**
- c) **Refund policy:** Refund in full if the entrant cancels 7 or more days before an event (14 days for RLOW). No refund thereafter. If the event is cancelled or abandoned one day or more before it is scheduled, entry fees are carried forwards to a future event. No refund thereafter.
- d) **SORC membership:** Competitors automatically become members of SORC for the day(s) of the race(s) in which they are entered. The membership cost is included in the race entry fee.

## 5 2026 RACE PROGRAMME

*Times are in BST unless otherwise indicated. Distances and durations are approximate.*

Date	Event	Series	OSR Category	Start Area	Distance or Duration	HW Portsmouth	First Start	Fee <sup>1</sup>
11 Apr	Training day & prize giving	-	-	-	-	-	-	TBD
12 Apr	Solent Shakedown	Inshore 1	4	Central Solent	4-6 h	0814	1000	£30
1, 3 & 4 May	Weymouth (via forts) Day race Weymouth Back	Offshore 1, 2 & 3	3 with liferaft <sup>2</sup>	Central Solent Weymouth Weymouth	65 NM 4-6 h 50 NM	1208 1327 1404	1900 1000 0700	£30/race
20 May	Solent to Brighton	Channel Week 1	3 with liferaft <sup>2</sup>	Central Solent	48 NM	1502	1900	£30
22 May	Royal Escape Race <sup>3</sup>	CW 2	"	Brighton	67 NM	1715		See note <sup>3</sup>
24-28 May	Seine Bay races <sup>4</sup>	CW 3, 4 & 5	"	Seine bay	TBD		TBD	£30/race
29 May	Return to Solent	CW 6	"	Seine bay	TBD	1105	TBD	£30
20 & 21 Jun	Hayling Bay	Inshore 2 & 3	4	Solent	4-6 h per race	1701 1747	1000	£30/race
10 & 12 July	Technical races with stop in Chichester	Offshore 4 & 5	3 with liferaft <sup>2</sup>	Central Solent Chichester	10-15 h 6-9 h	2028 1009	1800 0800	£30/race
8 & 9 Aug	Poole & Back	Inshore 4 & 5	4	Central Solent Poole	4-6 h per race	0734 0859	1000 1000	£30/race
28, 30 & 31 Aug	Cherbourg Peninsula	Offshore 6, 7 & 8	3 with liferaft <sup>2</sup>	Central Solent Cherbourg TBD	75 NM 4-6 hr TBD	1242 1346 1419	1800 TBD TBD	£30/race
19 Sep	Round Isle of Wight (RIOW)	Inshore 6	4	Central Solent	50 NM	0511	0700	£70 solo <sup>5</sup> £100 DH <sup>5</sup>
26 & 27 Sep	Reserve weekend for resailing abandoned races (if required)							
10 & 11 Oct	Cowes	Inshore 7 & 8	4	Central Solent	4-6 h per race	1204 1237	1000 1000	£30/race
31 Oct	Lay-up Nab Tower Race	Inshore 9	4	Central Solent	30 NM	1450 UT	1000 UT	£30

1. Less 20% for entry to an entire series excluding RIOW (Inshore Series £192 + RIOW fee; Offshore Series £192; Channel Week £120).
2. Where a life raft is required, it must comply with the World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations (OSR) requirements for Category 2.
3. Enter via the Organising Authority [Sussex Yacht Club](#), whose [Notice of Race](#) applies. Channel Week results will be extracted.
4. Starting from Fecamp and going between destinations in the Seine Bay area appropriate to the conditions at the time.
5. Entry fee includes shirt(s)

## 6 RESULTS, SCORING & PRIZES

- a) Results based on corrected finish times will be given for boats racing in rated classes which have supplied a valid TCC. There will be overall solo IRC results as well as results by class.
- b) Results based on elapsed times will be given to boats in non-rated classes.
- c) Results will be posted on the SORC website as soon as possible after the finish.
- d) It is intended to hold informal prize givings after Inshore Races 2, 4, 6, 7 & 9 and Offshore Races 1, 2, 4, 6, & 7. The yellow Winner flag will go to the overall solo winner to fly until the next race. There will be bottle prizes for the winners of Classes 1 & 2 and a Race Director discretionary award. Additional bottles may be awarded.
- e) Series scores will be determined using the Low Point System of Appendix 4. RRS A5.3 will apply. To be eligible for a series score, a boat must rank as a starter for at least 1 race in the series. This changes RRS A2.2.
- f) Series prizes will be awarded at the annual prize giving as shown below.

Series	Class	Position	Races to count / Trophy
Inshore	1 & 2 Solo IRC overall	1, 2 & 3 1	Best 5 Petit Bateau Cup (1 <sup>st</sup> IRC overall)
Offshore	1 & 2 Solo IRC overall	1, 2 & 3 1 <sup>†</sup>	Best 5 Beagle Cup (1 <sup>st</sup> IRC overall)
Channel Week	Solo IRC overall	1 <sup>†</sup>	Best 4 Petit Bateau ZTL Trophy
Season Championship	1 & 2 Solo IRC overall	1, 2 & 3 1	Best 10 results with up to 5 from Inshore Series, up to 5 from Offshore Series and up to 2 from CW. Solon Cup (1 <sup>st</sup> IRC overall)

- g) Other awards for solo boats will be as shown below.

Event	Achievement	Trophy
RIOW	1st Solo IRC overall 1st Solo on the water*	Anticipation Cup <sup>†</sup> Watermark II Trophy <sup>‡</sup>
Nab Tower race	1st IRC overall	Carbon Pole <sup>†</sup>
Longest race	1st IRC overall	ZTL Trophy
Solent to Weymouth	1st IRC overall	Wonky Mainsail Trophy <sup>†</sup>
Channel Week	Most 1sts on the water* <sup>†</sup>	Ana Cup
2025 season	Best rookie Best act of seamanship	Keeper Prize Spirit of SORC

\* Based on shortest elapsed time after adjustment for any penalty or redress

† Ties will be broken based on the longest race counted

‡ If the race is abandoned/cancelled, the trophy may be reallocated to a different event

- h) If a solo boat changes skipper during a series, each skipper will be treated as a separate entry in the series results.

- i) If a solo skipper changes boat during a series, the new boat may acquire the points accumulated by the previous boat for the purpose of overall season standings and, if both the previous and new boats are in the same class, for the purpose of standing within class.

## 7 RULES AND REGULATIONS

Racing is governed by the following:

- a) The Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-28 (RRS) with changes & corrections and most recent RYA Prescriptions (see <https://www.sailing.org/document/2025-2028-rrs-with-changes-and-corrections/> and <https://assets.rya.org.uk/assetbank-rya-assets/action/directLinkImage?assetId=47811>).

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).

- b) This Notice of Race; the General Sailing Instructions 2026 including Appendix 1, Competitor Start Boat (CSB) Procedure; and the specific Sailing Instructions for each event (see <https://www.offshoresolo.com/documentation>). Sailing Instructions for each event will be posted on the events page of the SORC website at least 5 days before the start of the event.
- c) The 2026 IRC rules Parts A, B and C ([www.ircrating.org/irc-rule/](http://www.ircrating.org/irc-rule/)) and class rules in force at the time of the race appropriate for the class entered.
- d) Relevant local by-laws, which also apply whilst on passage to the start and after the finish.
- [http://www.southamptonvts.co.uk/Port\\_Information/Regulations/Byelaws/](http://www.southamptonvts.co.uk/Port_Information/Regulations/Byelaws/)
  - <https://www.royalnavy.mod.uk/khm/portsmouth/safety-and-regulations/regulations>
  - <https://www.cowes.co.uk/safety-navigation/general-directions/>
  - Prohibited anchorage area defined by the two lines denoting power cables and gas pipes between Stone Point and Gurnard Bay as shown on Admiralty chart 2036
  - By-laws applicable to passages and destinations as specified in the relevant sailing instructions.
- e) The current relevant World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations (OSR) (<https://www.sailing.org/inside-world-sailing/rules-regulations/offshore-special-regulations/>) and Equipment Rules of Sailing (<https://www.sailing.org/inside-world-sailing/rules-regulations/equipment-rules-of-sailing/>).
- f) The RYA Racing Charter (<https://www.rya.org.uk/racing/rules/racing-charter>).
- g) The Post-race Penalty, Advisory Hearing and Arbitration procedures of the RYA Rules Dispute Procedure (<https://www.rya.org.uk/racing/rules/rules-disputes>) will be available.
- h) World Sailing Appendix WP Rules For Racing Around Waypoints ([https://d7qh6ksdplczd.cloudfront.net/sailing/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/13024403/2025-2028-Appendix-WP-Rules-for-Waypoints\\_V2.0\\_January-2025-.pdf](https://d7qh6ksdplczd.cloudfront.net/sailing/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/13024403/2025-2028-Appendix-WP-Rules-for-Waypoints_V2.0_January-2025-.pdf)). If a mark of the course is missing, it should be regarded as a waypoint in the charted position.
- i) World Sailing Appendix TS Traffic Separation Schemes, Section B ([https://d7qh6ksdplczd.cloudfront.net/sailing/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/13024401/2025-2028-Appendix-TS\\_Traffic-Separation-Schemes\\_-V4.0\\_January2025.pdf](https://d7qh6ksdplczd.cloudfront.net/sailing/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/13024401/2025-2028-Appendix-TS_Traffic-Separation-Schemes_-V4.0_January2025.pdf))

## 8 CHANGES TO RULES AND REGULATIONS

- a) Under the 2025 version of World Sailing Development Rule DR21-01, change definition of Start as follows:

**Start** A boat starts when her hull having been entirely on the pre-start side of the starting line, and having complied with rule 30.1 if it applies, any part of her hull crosses the starting line from the pre-start side to the course side either

(a) at or after her starting signal, or

(b) during the last 5 minutes before her starting signal.

When a boat starts in accordance with item (b) of the definition Start, she may return to the pre-start side of the line to comply with item (a) of the definition of Start but, if she does not, the starting penalty shall be at least 5 minutes added to her elapsed time plus a further 5 minutes for every whole minute early.

Separate starting penalties apply for the Competitor Start Boat (CSB) Procedure, see Appendix 1 of General Sailing Instructions.

- b) IRC rule 15.2(d) does not apply. Amending RRS 52, all types of self-steering devices are permitted.
- c) Section 6e) amends RRS2.2 (series entries) and Sections 6f) and 6g) amend RRS A8 (series ties).
- d) The following is added to RRS 61.4(b):
  - (6) Injury or physical damage because of the action of a boat racing when the IRPCAS applied between them and that boat is determined to be at fault under the IRPCAS.
- e) Additional changes to rules are described in the General Sailing Instructions 2026; the specific Sailing Instructions for each event; and Appendix 1, Competitor Start Boat (CSB) Procedure, as applicable.

## **9 APPLICABLE LAW**

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.

The personal information you provide to the organising authority will be used to facilitate your participation in the event. If you have agreed to be bound by the Racing Rules of Sailing and the other rules that govern the event (the rules), the legal basis for processing that personal information is contract. If you are not bound by the rules, the legal basis for processing that personal information is legitimate interest. Your personal information will be stored and used in accordance with the organising authority's privacy policy. When required by the rules, personal information may be shared with the RYA and/or World Sailing. The results of the event and the outcome of any hearing or appeal may be published.



## Risk Statement and Declaration for all Races

Please note this Declaration will remain valid for all races organised by the Solo Offshore Racing Club Limited in 2026

### RISK STATEMENT

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 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, patrol boats if any, and other officials and volunteers by the organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
- f) It is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks specific to the venue or 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;
- g) 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 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; and
- h) Their boat is adequately insured against third party claims.

## DECLARATION

I have read and understood the Notice of Race and undertake to familiarise myself fully with all documentation in connection with races I wish to enter, including the General Sailing Instructions, specific Sailing Instructions for the events and any amendments to documents.

I agree to be bound by RRS, RYA Prescriptions, SORC Notice of Race, General Sailing Instructions, specific Sailing Instructions, World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations (OSR) and other applicable rules. In particular I understand the OSR categories for the races in which I am competing, as set out in the Notice of Race. The boat will be made available for inspection at SORC's request but I accept that any inspection that may take place will not in any way reduce my responsibilities set out above.

I agree that if any alteration likely to affect the handicap or rating is made, e.g. to sails, rig, mast, ballast, trim, engine or propeller, I will notify the Rating Authority and Race Director in good time.

I understand and agree that the information given in this form and also the information contained on race lists and results will be maintained on SORC-related computers to be used for all aspects of race organisation.

I undertake to sail in compliance with the RYA Racing Charter.

**I confirm that I will skipper the boat.**