



THE ROYAL WESTERN YACHT CLUB OF ENGLAND



**2 Handed RB&I RACE
&
Fully Crewed RB&I RACE
2024**

NOTICE OF RACE

SUNDAY 12th MAY 2024

**Supported By
The Galway Bay Yacht Club
The Lerwick Boating Club
The Lerwick Port Authority
The Royal Northumberland Yacht Club**

ROUND BRITAIN AND IRELAND RACE 2024

NOTICE OF RACE

1. ORGANISATION

- 1.1 The Organising Authority (OA) will be the Royal Western Yacht Club of England (RWYC).

2. OBJECT

- 2.1 The Race is intended to be a sporting event and to provide a sailing challenge to Corinthian sailors over a traditional course. A test of skill and endurance; safer by modern design, innovation, standards and training but not without risk and the need for excellent seamanship.
- 2.2 It is a race for two-handed and short-handed monohull and multihull boats around the islands comprising the British Isles and Ireland. The race starts and finishes in Plymouth with compulsory 48 hour stopovers at Galway, Lerwick and Blyth.

3. RULES

- 3.1 The event is governed by the rules and regulations set out below:
 - 3.1.1 The World Sailing (WS) Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 2021-2024 as modified by Notice of Race (NoR)
 - 3.1.2 The WS Offshore Special Regulations (OSR) 2024-2025 for Category 2 Races, except the regulations modified in NOR.
 - 3.1.3 International Rules for the Prevention of Collisions at Sea Part B (Steering & Sailing) (COLREGS).
 - 3.1.4 IRC, MOCRA and Class rules recognised by WS as appropriate. Restrictions on sails used do not apply.
 - 3.1.5 The Dockyard Port of Plymouth Order 2020 (DPPO) and the Plymouth Local Notices to Mariners (PLNTM).
 - 3.1.6 This NoR and any amendments.
 - 3.1.7 The Sailing Instructions (SI).
- 3.2 The following RRS have been modified:
 - 3.2.1 Part 2 (When Boats Meet): applies only inside the Dockyard Port of Plymouth after which they are replaced by Part B (Steering & Sailing) of COLREGS.
 - 3.2.2 Under World Sailing Test Rule DR21-01, change the definition **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 minute before her starting signal.

When a boat starts in accordance with item (b) of the definition **Start**, she shall not return to the pre-start side of the line, and the starting penalty shall be: 2 hours added to her elapsed time. This changes Rules 29.1, 30, A5.1
 - 3.2.3 Rule 52 (Manual Power) is deleted.
 - 3.2.4 Rule 55.2 (Spinnaker Poles and Whisker Poles): shall not apply at any time.
 - 3.2.5 Rule 56.2 (Traffic Separation Schemes) is changed to:

56.2 (a) A Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS) shall be understood to mean an area shown on a nautical chart, or in the notice of race, as a TSS.

(b) A boat shall not enter a TSS and, while near a TSS, shall not impede, or present a threat of impeding, a vessel using a TSS traffic lane.
 - 3.2.6 Rule 61 (Protest requirements) modified in the SIs.
 - 3.2.7 Rule 62 (Redress) modified in the SIs
 - 3.2.8 Rule 63 (Hearings) modified in the SIs
 - 3.2.9 Rule 64 (Decisions) modified in the SIs
- 3.3 The following OSR have been modified:
 - 3.3.1 Regulation 3.28 (Propulsion Engines): Outboard engines in multihulls less than 12m (39ft 3ins) LOA (OSR 3.28.2) shall be permanently installed.
 - 3.3.2 Regulation 3.29.13 (AIS): After "an AIS transponder" Add " , which has an audible alarm and which shall be transmitting throughout the Race, and "
- 3.4 The following IRC rule has been modified:
 - 3.4.1 Rule 15.2 (stored power for steering) shall not apply to Double Handed Class.
- 3.5 The 2024-2025 OSR Category 2 Regulations shall be followed as closely as possible. Where, by reason of novel or unorthodox design, a boat is unable to comply, a request for dispensation shall be made to the OA.

4. SCHEDULE

- 4.1 The Entry Date by which all entries must be received is 1st April 2024.
- 4.2 The "Early Bird" date by which discounted entry fees must be paid in full is 22nd January 2024.
- 4.3 The Closing Date by which the boat and crew(s) must have qualified, all required documents submitted, and payments made in full is 19th April 2024.

- 4.4 Registration must be completed by 1800 on Friday 10th May 2024.
- 4.5 The Person in Charge must attend the Skippers Briefing at 1000 on Saturday 11th May 2024.
- 4.6 The Start of the Race will be at 1200 British Summer Time (BST) on Sunday 12th May 2024.
- 4.7 Prize Giving will be at the RWYC on a date to be announced.

5. ELIGIBILITY

- 5.1 The RWYC Round Britain and Ireland Race is not a race for novices. Every crew member must have experience of sailing a boat offshore and be prepared to encounter heavy weather. Competitors may be required to provide evidence of their offshore experience.
- 5.2 The Race is open to cruising and racing boats of any type or nationality, with a minimum LOA of 27ft (8.23m) and a maximum LOA of 70ft (21.34m).
- 5.3 The boats may be monohull or multihull, sailed by two (two-handed) or fully crewed (full crew) and race unrated or rated (IRC or MOCRA).
- 5.4 Depending on the number of IRC rated and MOCRA rated entries, the boats may be split into Classes. If there are five or more entries of the same Open or One Design Class, the OA may provide a separate class. If an Open or One Design Class is provided, a boat entered in that class shall not be eligible to compete in an IRC/MOCRA Class.
- 5.5 Each leg shall have two crew members who are competent to take charge of the boat. They will be in possession of RYA, or national equivalent, approved certificates in:
 - Sea Survival
 - First Aid
- 5.6 Within eighteen months before the closing date, a cruise shall be made of not less than 300 nautical miles. This distance shall be sailed in the open sea without anchoring or putting into port. The cruise shall be measured in straight lines joining not more than four points on the cruise track. It is to be made in the boat that the crew intend to sail in the race, with only the crew on board, and without outside assistance or escort. In the event that any structurally significant modification to the boat is made between the date of any such cruise and the race, a further such qualifying cruise must be made.
- 5.7 Each Skipper shall produce independent evidence to substantiate the qualifying cruise. Charts and log extracts signed and dated by the Harbour Authorities at the beginning and end of the cruise would form such evidence. Electronic evidence may be accepted.
- 5.8 A change of one person on a two-handed boat, or up to 50% on a fully crewed boat, is permitted during the Race provided this intention is declared to the OA by the entry date. The crew for each leg must have completed a qualifying cruise in accordance with NoR Fully crewed boats can change over in Galway and / or Blyth
- 5.9 Each boat shall have Third Party Liability insurance cover to a minimum of £3,000,000 or foreign currency equivalent.
- 5.10 All boats shall be liable to a spot check at any stage.
- 5.11 Neither the setting of this eligibility nor the acceptance of an entry by the RWYC implies any warranty by the RWYC that a crew's experience is in fact adequate.

6. ENTRY

- 6.1 Entries are limited to 50 boats.
- 6.2 A Skipper may reserve a place in the Race by completing an Entry Form and sending it to the OA. Submission of an entry will not guarantee a place in a race; all other entry requirements must be completed to the satisfaction of the OA.
- 6.3 £250 of the full race entry fee shall be paid on entry – which is non-refundable after 1st March 2024
- 6.4 Payment of the full race entry fee shall be received by the OA on or before the Closing Date. The discounted entry fee must be paid by the "Early Bird" date.
- 6.5 Payment may be made by bank transfer or by credit/debit cards through the online entry system or by phone. The RWYC may accept other payment methods.
- 6.6 The entry application shall include:
 - 6.6.1. A digital photograph of the Skipper for safety, security and publicity purposes (minimum of 1MB).
 - 6.6.2. A digital photograph of the boat under sail for safety, security and publicity purposes (minimum of 1MB).
 - 6.6.3. One hundred words in English each about the Skipper and the boat which may be used in the race programme, website and for publicity purposes.
- 6.7 A crew list for each leg must be submitted by the Entry Date. Any changes to the list must be requested in writing to the OA.
- 6.8 A Skipper whose entry is rejected by the OA will be informed of the reason as soon as possible and the Entry Fees paid returned. The decision of the OA to reject an entry shall be final. In the event of rejection, payment shall be limited to the return of the Entry Fees paid less the deposit

6.9 Fees – 10% discount from full figure for early entry – MUST BE PAID BY JAN 22, 2024, or it is forfeited

LH (LOA) (ft)		Members	Non-Members	Members	Non-Members
		2 handed		Fully crewed	
Below 30		£ 1,485	£ 1,705	£ 1,782	£ 2,046
30	35	£ 1,595	£ 1,815	£ 1,914	£ 2,178
35	40	£ 1,705	£ 1,925	£ 2,046	£ 2,310
40	45	£ 1,815	£ 2,035	£ 2,178	£ 2,442
45	50	£ 1,925	£ 2,145	£ 2,310	£ 2,574
50	55	£ 2,035	£ 2,255	£ 2,442	£ 2,706
55	60	£ 2,145	£ 2,365	£ 2,574	£ 2,838
60	65	£ 2,255	£ 2,475	£ 2,706	£ 2,970
65	70	£ 2,365	£ 2,585	£ 2,838	£ 3,102

6.10 The entry fee covers:

Free berthing for two nights (10th and 11th May) in Plymouth prior to the start, two nights at Galway, Lerwick, and Blyth and one night in Plymouth after finishing.
 Race Administration by RWYC at the four ports
 Satellite Tracking
 Race Flags
 Mementoes
 Prizes
 Receptions or Happy Hours at all Ports.
 Race Website including on-going results service

6.11 Cancellations and Refunds

Cancellations before the Closing Date will be eligible for a refund of the race entry fee, except for the 25% deposit which is non-refundable.

6.12 The fees shall be paid, in pounds sterling, by cheque drawn on a British Bank, by credit or debit card (Visa or Master Card only) or by bank transfer (competitors are to be liable for all transfer fees) to the following account:

Account Name: The Royal Western Yacht Club
 Bank Name: Lloyds TSB, Royal Parade, Plymouth, PL1 1DS, UK
 Sort Code: 30 96 68
 Account Number: 05057296
 IBAN: GB37 LOYD 3096 6805 0572 96
 BIC: LOYDGB21082

7. ACCEPTANCE CERTIFICATES

7.1 Competitors who have satisfied/completed the following requirements by the Closing Date will be accepted to race:

- Entry Fee is paid
- Qualifying Evidence
- Third Party Liability Insurance
- Current IRC / MOCRA / Class Certificate as appropriate. Changes to IRC/ MOCRA ratings will be accepted to 11th May 2024, after which no changes will be accepted except to correct Rule Authority or Rating Authority errors.
- Approved Offshore Personal Survival Training Certificate
- National authority approved First Aid Certificate
- Life-raft Certificate
- EPIRB (406) Registration Certificate and PLB Certificate if carried
- VHF Ship Radio Licence
- OSR Checklist
- Evidence of Structural (Keel and Rudder) Inspection as specified in OSR 3.02 and appendix L carried out by a qualified person.

l. Customs Form C1331. Pleasure craft on non-UK voyages - leaving the UK

At registration the Person in Charge shall confirm and sign the following:

- Offshore Race Information Form (completed by OA)
- Race Declaration

7.2 If an entry is not accepted in accordance with NoR by 1800 Friday 10th May 2022, the boat will not be allowed to start and the Entry Fee will be forfeit.

7.3 The Person in Charge shall, by Closing Date, complete an Offshore Special Regulations (OSR) Checklist Category 2. An amended checklist is required if changes are made to the equipment onboard or the yacht changes ownership or charterer.

7.4 No boat will be permitted to race unless the Person in Charge has, before the start of the race, signed a declaration acknowledging their Responsibilities (NoR 15) and confirming their conformance to the Rules.

8. PENALTIES

- 8.1 Time penalties may be applied by the OA for Rule infringements. This changes rule A5.1 Where a boat is found to have broken a rule by the Protest Committee (PC) her penalty may be less than disqualification and may be a percentage time penalty or a defined time penalty added to her elapsed time.

9. COMMUNICATIONS

- 9.1 An entrant who retires or makes an unscheduled stop shall inform the OA as soon as possible by emailing rbandi@rwy.org and ensuring that a response confirming receipt is received.
- 9.2 Social media posts shall be sent via email to rbandi@rwy.org on a daily basis where at all possible for reposting on to social media channels

10. ADVERTISING

- 10.1 When boats are at the pontoon, Skippers are authorised to hoist in their stays pennants or flags of different size with the boat's name, logos and brands.
- 10.2 Boats may be required to display race flags provided by the OA in their rigging.

11. DECLARATIONS

- 11.1 Immediately after arrival at each stopover port, and at the finish, each Skipper shall hand in to the Local Race Officer a completed official declaration form. The arrival time, and the name of the yacht ahead and astern when these are known, should be recorded.

12. PRIZES

- 12.1 Prizes will be awarded to the overall winners for both Monohulls and Multihulls in each Class on the following scale:

No of starters in each class	3	4-6	7-11	12+
No of prizes	1	2	3	4

- 12.2 Additional prizes may be awarded by a Race Sponsor.

13. RESPONSIBILITY

- 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." and Special Regulation 1.02.1 begins: "The safety of a yacht and her crew is the sole and inescapable responsibility of the Person in Charge..."

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) The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances;
- g) It is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks specific to this venue or this 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.

14. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 14.1 A boat is entirely responsible for her own safety, whether afloat or ashore, and nothing, whether in the Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions or anywhere else, reduces this responsibility.
- 14.2 It is for a boat to decide whether she is fit to sail in the conditions in which she will find herself. By launching, or going to sea, the boat confirms that she is fit for those conditions and her crew is competent to sail and compete in them.
- 14.3 Nothing done by the organisers can reduce the responsibility of a boat nor will it make the organisers responsible for any loss, damage, death or personal injury, however it may have occurred, as a result of the boat taking part in the racing. The organisers encompass everyone helping to run the race and the event, and include the Organising Authority, host Yacht Clubs, the Sponsor, the Race Committee, the race officer, patrol boats and berthing masters.

15. APPLICABLE LAW

- 15.1 These Rules shall be interpreted in accordance with the Laws of England and the Organising Authority submit, or will submit, themselves only to the jurisdiction of the Courts of England as may be necessary to permit the resolution of legal actions with regard to these Rules, the conduct and organisation of the Race.

16. MEDIA RIGHTS

16.1 Competitors automatically grant to the OA, and any party to which it may delegate this right, without payment the right in perpetuity to make, use and show (including the internet), any motion pictures, live taped or filmed or any other form of media, relating to the event.

17. FURTHER INFORMATION

17.1 For further information please consult the website at <https://rwyc.org/oceanic-racing/round-britain-and-ireland-yacht-race/> or contact

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