



THE ROYAL WESTERN YACHT CLUB OF ENGLAND



The RWYC PLYMOUTH FASTNET 500 RACE 2021

PLYMOUTH - FASTNET ROCK - PLYMOUTH



NOTICE OF RACE

SUNDAY 4th JULY 2021

RWYC PLYMOUTH FASTNET 500 RACE 2021 NOTICE OF RACE

1. ORGANISATION

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

2. OBJECT

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.

3. COURSE

The course will be from Plymouth, around Fastnet, to a Finish Line in Plymouth Sound. Marks of the course will be defined in the Sailing Instructions (SI's).

4. RULES AND REGULATIONS

- 4.1 The event shall be governed by the following documents, complemented and/or modified by the SI's:
- The World Sailing (WS) Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) (sailing.org/documents/racingrules) and the RYA Prescriptions, except in the rules modified in Notice of Race (NoR) rule 4.2.
 - The WS 2020-2021 Offshore Special Regulations (OSR) Category 2 (sailing.org/specialregs), except in the regulations modified in NoR 4.3.
 - International Rules for the Prevention of Collisions at Sea Part B (Steering & Sailing) (COLREGS).
 - Class Rules as recognised by WS.
 - The RWYC NoR and any amendments.
 - The RWYC SIs and any amendments.
- 4.2 The following RRS have been modified:
- Rule 44.1 is deleted.
 - Rule 52 (Manual Power) is deleted.
 - Part 2 rules are replaced by the right-of-way Rules of International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea between the times of local sunset and sunrise.
 - Rule 41(c) is deleted.
- 4.3 The following OSR have been modified:
- Regulation 3.07.3 (Escape Hatches - multihulls) modified in NoR 6.5.1.
 - Regulation 3.29.13 (AIS) extended in NoR 6.5.2
 - Regulation 4.01.2 (Sail Number) extended in NoR 11.
 - Regulation 5.01 (Lifejacket) extended in NoR 6.5.3.
- 4.4 The following IRC rules have been modified:
- Rule 22.4.2 is deleted and replaced by "The maximum number of crew while racing shall be the Crew Number printed on her certificate. There is no weight limit."
 - Rule 21.3.6 is deleted.
- 4.5 The 2020/21 OSR Category 2 rules shall be followed as closely as possible. Where a boat is unable to comply with a particular rule the boat may be permitted to compete at the discretion of the RWYC provided that an alternative measure is incorporated or embarked in the boat that provides equivalent safety and does not confer a racing advantage. In these circumstances, full details shall be submitted to the RWYC for approval when applying for entry.

5. SCHEDULE

- 5.1 The Closing Date by which all entries must be received, the boat and crew must have qualified, all required documents submitted, and payments made is Friday 4th June.
- 5.2 The "Early Bird" date by which discounted entry fees may be paid is 31st March.
- 5.3 Registration must be completed by 1800 on Friday 2nd July.
- 5.4 The Person in Charge must attend the Skippers Briefing at 1000 on Saturday 3rd July.
- 5.5 The Start of the Race will be at 1200 British Summer Time (BST) on Sunday 4th July 2021.
- 5.6 Prize Giving will be at the RWYC on Friday 9th July.

6. ELIGIBILITY

- 6.1 The Race is open to monohull and multihull boats with a minimum LOA of 27ft (8.23m) and a maximum LOA of 70ft (21.34m).
- 6.2 Boats may race fully crewed, half-crewed (IRC) or two-handed. Monohulls may be sailed single-handed. At least one of the crew shall be over the age of 18 by the Start date.
- 6.3 Boats may sail rated (IRC / MOCRA), unrated, or Level. Monohull boats not racing under IRC shall satisfy the RWYC that they meet the requirements of other stability indices for the category of race.

- 6.3.1. Rated and Level boats shall submit a copy of their current rating or class certificate to the RWYC and keep a copy on board during the race.
- 6.4 Boats must conform to the requirements of the rules in NOR 4. The RWYC reserves the right to exclude any boat which fails to meet these criteria.
- 6.5 Responsibility for compliance with the OSR rests with the Person in Charge. However the RWYC will endeavour to help Competitors to understand the OSR and reserves the right to conduct an OSR inspection on any boat at any time. The following extensions to the safety regulations are required for the Race.
 - 6.5.1. Escape Hatches - Replace OSR 3.07.3 with: Multihulls shall have escape hatch(es) as detailed in OSR 3.07.2
 - 6.5.2. The Automatic Identification System (AIS) transponder (required by OSR 3.29.1) must be active (switched on, transmitting and receiving) at all times during the Race.
The racing name of the boat must be transmitted in addition to the MMSI number.
 - 6.5.3. Safety and Life Saving Equipment - lifejackets (OSR 5.01) must be worn, and crew overboard beacons (OSR 4.22) must be carried, at all times while on deck.
 - 6.5.4. Monohull boats not racing under IRC shall satisfy the RWYC that they meet the requirements of other stability indices for a Category 2 race.
- 6.6 Boats shall have Third Party Liability insurance of at least £3,000,000.
- 6.7 Experience
 - 6.7.1. The RWYC Plymouth Fastnet 500 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.
 - 6.7.2. The minimum qualifying experience requirement is 200 nautical miles of offshore sailing on the boat entered into the Race within 18 months of the start of the Race. This may be completed in one race, two races one of which must be overnight, or a single offshore cruise of 200 miles measured between not more than 2 turning points. Qualifying must be completed by a minimum of 50% of the crew (but no fewer than 2) including the Person in Charge.
 - 6.7.3. Neither the setting of this minimum nor the acceptance of an entry by the RWYC implies any warranty by the RWYC that a crew's experience is in fact adequate.
- 6.8 Training
 - 6.8.1. Offshore Personal Survival Training
At least 30% of the boat's crew (but no less than 2), including the Person in Charge, must have completed training to Section 6 of the World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations and gained a certificate from a World Sailing approved Offshore Personal Survival Training Course. Training must have taken place within 5 years of the start of the race.
 - 6.8.2. First Aid Training
At least one member of the boat's crew must have completed a First Aid Training Course and hold an in-date certificate. The course shall comply with OSR 6.05.2 and have been completed within five years of the start of the race. The qualifications of Doctors, Paramedics or similarly trained medical professionals will be accepted, provided they are familiar with the topics in OSR Appendix H.

7. DIVISIONS

- 7.1 Monohulls
 - 7.1.1. Fully-Crewed IRC
 - 7.1.2. Half-Crewed IRC
Crew limited to the lesser of 6 or half the crew number
 - 7.1.3. Two-Handed IRC
Entries must satisfy the committee that they have suitable and adequate experience and that their boat is appropriately organised for two-handed sailing.
 - 7.1.4. Single-Handed IRC
Entries must satisfy the committee that they have suitable and adequate experience and that their boat is appropriately organised for single-handed sailing.
 - 7.1.5. Unrated
 - 7.1.6. Level
Class 40. Additional Open / One-Design classes may be added if at least 10 entries request it.
- 7.2 Multihulls
 - 7.2.1. MOCRA.

7.3 Divisions may be split into classes depending on the number of entries. IRC and MOCRA classes shall be determined by ratings on the Closing Date or soon as possible after that date.

8. ENTRY

8.1 Each boat shall enter using the online entry system.

Submission of an entry will not guarantee a place in a race; all other entry requirements must be completed to the satisfaction of the RWYC.

8.2 50% of the full race entry fee shall be paid on entry. Payment of the full race entry fee shall be received by the RWYC on or before the Closing Date. The discounted entry fee must be paid by the "Early Bird" date.

8.3 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.

8.4 The entry application shall include:

- a. A digital photograph of the Skipper for safety, security and publicity purposes (minimum of 1MB).
- b. A digital photograph of the boat under sail for safety, security and publicity purposes (minimum of 1MB).
- c. 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.

8.5 A Person in Charge whose entry is rejected by the RWYC will be informed of the reason as soon as possible and the Entry Fees paid returned. The decision of the RWYC to reject an entry shall be final. In the event of rejection, payment shall be limited to the return of the Entry Fees paid.

8.6 Fees

LH (LOA) (m)		Non-Members	Members	Non-Members	Members
		"Early Bird" discounted fee		Full fee	
Below 11.00		£ 339	£ 285	£ 399	£ 339
11.00	12.99	£ 425	£ 359	£ 499	£ 425
13.00	14.99	£ 595	£ 499	£ 699	£ 595
15.00	16.99	£ 719	£ 599	£ 849	£ 719
17.00	18.99	£ 849	£ 719	£ 999	£ 849
19.00 and over		£ 1,059	£ 899	£ 1,250	£ 1,059

8.7 Cancellations and Refunds

Cancellations before the Closing Date will be eligible for a refund of the race entry fee.

The full fee will be refunded if the OA has to cancel the race.

9. ACCEPTANCE

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

- a. Entry Fee is paid
- b. Qualifying Evidence
- c. Third Party Liability Insurance
- d. Current IRC / MOCRA / Class Certificate as appropriate
- e. Approved Offshore Personal Survival Training Certificate
- f. National authority approved First Aid Certificate
- g. Life-raft Certificate
- h. EPIRB (406) Registration Certificate and PLB Certificates
- i. VHF Ship Radio Licence
- j. OSR Checklist (NoR 9.2)

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

- k. Offshore Race Information Form (completed by OA)
- l. Race Declaration (NoR 9.3)

9.1 If an entry is not accepted (NOR 9.1) by 1800 on Registration Date, the boat shall not be allowed to start and the Entry Fee shall be forfeit.

9.2 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.

9.3 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.

10. PENALTIES / ALLOWANCES

10.1 The breaking of any Rules shall be declared after finishing, turns (RRS 41) are not required.

10.2 Time penalties may be applied.

10.3 Time allowances may be awarded.

11. SAIL NUMBERING AND FLAGS

- 11.1 The boat's existing sail number shall be used and displayed throughout the Race. No other number may be displayed. The number shall be on both sides of the mainsail, spinnaker, and the port quarter.
- 11.2 Numbers on the hull shall either be painted on or applied using an approved semi-permanent system which will not be removed by the action of the sea.
- 11.3 All boats may be issued with Race Flags. These flags shall be flown at all times. Failure to display Race flags may incur a penalty.

12. BERTHING

- 12.1 The RWYC will provide 48 hours of berthing from the time a boat finishes in Plymouth.

13. TRACKER SYSTEMS

- 13.1 Person in Charge shall fit the satellite tracker provided by the RWYC at registration. The RWYC shall claim payment from the competitor for the cost of the tracker if it is not returned at the end of/retirement from the Race.

14. PRIZES

- 14.1 Prizes will be awarded in each Class.
- 14.2 A memento will be presented to each boat at the finish
- 14.3 Prizes will be awarded at the RWYC on Prize Giving Day.

15. RESPONSIBILITY

- 15.1 Rule 4 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) 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

- 15.2 Starting and Continuing to Race

Each boat shall exercise her responsibility under RRS Fundamental Rule 4 and decide whether or not to start or to continue to race.

16. APPLICABLE LAW

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

17. MEDIA RIGHTS

- 17.1 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 via the internet), any data, motion pictures, live, taped or filmed television or any other form of media, of or relating to the event.

18. FURTHER INFORMATION

- 18.1 For further information please visit the event website rwyg.org/plymouth-fastnet-500-race/ or send email to PF5@rwyg.org

Competitors will be temporary members of the RWYC, and they and their families and friends are invited to make full use of the RWYC bar and catering facilities during the race.

The Race Office will be open from 1000 to 1600 on Monday 28th June to Friday 9th July 2021 at the RWYC.

Competitors should note that The Royal Western Yacht Club implements the RYA Racing Charter and that they will be required to undertake to sail in compliance with the Charter, which can be found at the front of the RYA rule book (Racing Rules of Sailing), on the Club website, or at www.rya.org.uk/racing/charter.

Amendment 1

1. After 4.2 c add

"d. Rule 41(c) is deleted."

2. Delete Rule 4.4 and replace with

"4.4 The following IRC rules have been modified:

- a. Rule 22.4.2 is deleted and replaced by "The maximum number of crew while racing shall be the Crew Number printed on her certificate. There is no weight limit.
- b. Rule 21.3.6 is deleted."