



ROYAL WESTERN
YACHT CLUB OF ENGLAND

25 Miler Coastal Race

14th June 2026

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Organising Authority: The Royal Western Yacht Club of England

Plymouth, UK

1. RULES

- 1.1 The 25 Miler Coastal Race will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing. Where there is a conflict between the Notice of Race and these Sailing Instructions, the Sailing Instructions prevail.
- 1.2 Racing rule(s) 44.1 and Appendix A are changed as follows:
 - 1.2.1 RRS 44.1 - is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty as described in SI 10.2.
- 1.3 Under RRS 87, IRC Class Rule 22.4 is changed so that:

“The maximum number of crew that may sail aboard a boat shall be the crew number printed on the certificate plus two. There is no weight limit.”
- 1.4 The World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations 2024 – 2025 **Category 4** shall apply. <https://www.sailing.org/inside-world-sailing/rulesregulations/offshore-special-regulations/> additionally, boats shall carry a life raft in accordance with WS Offshore Special Regulations 4.20.
- 1.5 The Race Committee may inspect any boat to ensure compliance with Offshore Special Regulations.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the 25 Miler Coastal Race Event page of the RWYC website. <https://rwy.org/race/the-25-miler-2026/> . This shall be regarded as the Official Notice Board.

3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1 Any changes to the sailing instructions will be communicated on the 24 Miler Events page of the RWYC website. <https://rwy.org/race/the-25-miler-2026/>

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the RWYC main flag staff and/or on the Official Notice Board (website). <https://rwy.org/race/the-25-miler-2026/>

5. SCHEDULE OF RACING

- 5.1 Date of racing: 14th June 2026.
- 5.2 The scheduled start times for each class shall be as follows:

CLASSES	TIMES OF WARNING SIGNALS
IRC, VPRS and YTC	10.25
MOCRA	10.35

- 5.3 To alert boats that the sequence of race will begin soon an orange flag will be displayed on the committee boat with one sound signal at least five minutes before the first warning signal is made. The start sequence will be communicated to competitors on VHF Ch77.
- 5.4 Any boat that has not started within 10 minutes of her starting time will be scored DNC or DNS as appropriate.

6. CLASS FLAGS

6.1 Class Flags shall be flown from the backstay when racing as follows.

CLASS	FLAG No
YTC	4
IRC and VPRS	1
MOCRA	8

7. COURSES

All boats shall sail the same course. The course will be a coastal race of approximately 25 miles in distance using a combination of navigation and laid marks. The course to be sailed will be communicated to competitors on VHF Ch77

8. START

An up wind committee boat start line will be set in Plymouth Sound. All boats shall pass close to the Committee vessel on the side opposite to the start line before the warning signal of the first race with mainsails hoisted for identification.

The start line for all classes will be between the mast displaying an orange flag on the Committee vessel (Fulmar) and the outer distance mark, as specified in SI 8.1.

9. FINISH

All classes will use the same finish line. Finishing at the RWYC club line will be by sailing in an easterly direction to pass an extension of a transit from the club flag mast and a yellow and black striped transit staff on the shore below it. The outer limit of the finish line is a line extending east – west through the mooring buoys on the northern boundary of the Controlled Mooring Area as explained below.

Whilst racing, boats are prohibited from entering the Controlled Mooring Area located north of Mountbatten peninsula and south of the Plym navigation channel. Boats must remain north of a line extending from the westerly mooring buoy positioned on the south side of the Plym navigation channel, east through each mooring buoy on the northern boundary of the Controlled Mooring Area and west of a line extending from the most westerly mooring buoy on the south side of the Plym navigation channel due south to the Mountbatten peninsula.

The prohibited area defined above ranks as an obstruction to sea room under RRS

10. SCORING

10.1 The 25 Miler race scores will be calculated using a low point (LP) scoring system.

10.2 The 25 Miler race is part of the RWYC 6 race coastal series, together with the Triangle and Torbay Weekend and the series will be the total of the race scores less one discard for every four races. . All boats will be dual scored in the series under NHC performance handicap.

11. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 11.1 The Exoneration Penalty and RYA Arbitration of the RYA Rules and Disputes procedures will be available. This is the preferred method of resolving disputes. See the below website for details. <https://www.rya.org.uk/racing/rules/rules-disputes>
- 11.2 The Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty. This changes rule 44.1.
- 11.3 Discretionary penalties will be available to the Protest Committees.

12. TIME LIMITS

- 12.1 Any boat not finishing by 1700hrs will be scored DNF.

13. PROTESTS & REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 13.1 For each class, the protest time limit is 60 minutes after the last boat has finished that day's racing. The same time limit applies to protests by the race committee and protest committee about incidents they observe in the racing area and to requests for redress.
- 13.1 Protests submissions are to be delivered to the RWYC representative within the protest time. Prizes will be awarded on a subject to protest basis.

14. RETIREMENTS

Boats retiring shall report their retirement to the Race Committee as soon as possible but no later than 60 minutes after finishing or retiring. Retirements shall be reported via VHF Ch77 to the race committee.

15. RECALLS (This changes RRS 29.2)

In the event of an individual recall, competitors' attention may be brought to the signal on VHF Ch 77. Such communication may not be transmitted until one minute after the start. The failure to receive any Race Committee transmissions shall not constitute grounds for redress.

16. RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

All yachts shall carry and operate a VHF radio and monitor race committee broadcasts. The Race Committee will use VHF Ch77, however signal will only work close to ports. The failure to receive any race committee transmissions shall not constitute grounds for redress. In all communications to the race committee please state your Class, name of yacht and sail number.

17. PRIZES

- 17.1 A Prize giving will take place straight after racing at approximately 1600 at the RWYC where a post-race reception will be held

In addition to the 25 Miler prize giving, as this race is part of the Ullman Sails Coastal Series (USPRS), additional Ullman Sails and Plymouth Gin random prizes may be awarded to those taking part.
- 17.2 To facilitate competitors to attend the prize giving at the RWYC after racing free berthing (subject to space) at QAB Marina will be available for up to 3 hours to all competitors straight after racing at approximately 1600 to participate in the post-race prize giving and reception. Please contact QAB direct on the day if you wish to use this facility informing them you are part of this RWYC race.

18. RISK STATEMENT

18.1 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.”

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, umpires 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 number, 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.

19. INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £3,000,000 for the duration of the Series or the equivalent.

20. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please contact the Secretary, Royal Western Yacht Club, Queen Anne’s Battery PL4 0TW - by email at admin@rwy.org.

Plymouth is a Naval/ Commercial Port, shipping movements can be frequent and must have priority. Boats, at all times, must keep clear of ships leaving or entering the port and obey instructions from the Race Committee where avoiding action is necessary. Failure to obey Race Committee instructions may be treated as misconduct.

An engine or other alternative means of propulsion shall be used when appropriate to avoid risk of collision with another vessel that is underway but not racing, or in a grave emergency. The facts shall be reported by radio to the Race Committee at the finish with written details submitted to the race office before the end of protest time. The protest committee may impose a penalty if it thinks fit. This changes RRS 63.1.