



**ROYAL WESTERN**  
YACHT CLUB OF ENGLAND



# **Devon Yawl National Championships** **18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> July 2026**

**Supported by MDL Marinas**

## **Sailing Instructions**

Organising Authority: Royal Western Yacht Club of England Ltd  
Plymouth UK

# Sailing Instructions

## 1 RULES

- 1.1 Racing will be governed by the 'Rules' as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing, national prescriptions and the Devon Yawl Association Class Rules (<https://devonyawl.co>)
- 1.2 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.
- 1.3 The Post-Race Penalty and RYA Hearing/Arbitration of the RYA Rules and Disputes procedures will be available. This is the preferred method of resolving disputes. See: <https://www.rya.org.uk/racing/rules/rules-disputes>
- 1.4 With the agreement of the Class Association, and for the purposes only of the definition of "Start" and "Finish" and rules 21.1, 29.1, 30 and 44.2 of the RRS (but not any other rules) a boat's bowsprit shall be considered part of the hull.
- 1.5 Rule 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

## 2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1 Notices to Competitors will be displayed on the Official Regatta Notice Board in the Royal Western Yacht Club.

## 3 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted 2 hours before the first warning signal on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> July and before 0800 on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 1800 on the day before it will take effect. In addition any change to the sailing instructions will be posted under amendments on the event website.

## 4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed at the RWYC Flagstaff.
- 4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes' in the race signal AP. This changes the meaning of Flag AP in RRS.

## 5 SCHEDULE

- 5.1 Dates of Racing 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> June 2026.
- 5.2 1<sup>st</sup> warning signal at 1055 on Sat and 1025 on Sunday. No more than 4 races will be sailed each day and no more than 6 races over the two days.
- 5.3 A race briefing will be held prior to racing on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> July from 0900h at RWYC.
- 5.4 The prize giving will be held as soon as possible after the last race on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2026.
- 5.5 On Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> July no warning signal will be made after 1600 and on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July no warning signal will be made after 1400.
- 5.6 The second and subsequent races each day will start as soon as practically possible after the completion of the preceding race, unless otherwise signalled by the committee boat.

## 6 CLASS FLAG

6.1 Class Flag will be International Code Flag T 

## 7 RACING AREA

7.1 Racing area will be Plymouth Sound, north of the Breakwater.

7.2 The Committee Vessel will be Fulmar, a white motor launch.

7.3 The Committee Vessel will be use VHF Ch 77.

## 8 COURSES and MARKS

8.1 The diagram in Appendix A shows the courses, including the order in which marks are to be passed and the side on which each mark is to be left.

8.2 No later than the warning signal for each race, the race committee will display the intended number of laps on the side of the committee boat.

## 9 THE START

9.1 The start line will be between the mast displaying an orange flag on the Committee vessel and the outer distance mark on the port side, an orange pillar buoy.

9.2 To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, an orange flag will be displayed on the committee boat mast with one sound signal at least 5 minutes before a warning signal is made.

9.3 Races will be started using RRS 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes prior to the start signal.

9.4 A boat that does not start within 10 minutes after her starting signal shall be scored DNS without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 & A5.2.

9.5 Following races will start as soon as practically possible after the completion of the preceding race.

## 10 THE FINISH

10.1 The finish line will be between the mast displaying an orange flag on the committee vessel and the finish line distance mark to windward of it a Dan Buoy displaying a blue flag.

10.2 In addition to the other provisions of Rule 32.2, if the committee boats displays flag S with two sound signals as boats are approaching mark 3, then boats shall round mark 3 and then proceed directly to the normal finishing line (as defined in SI 10.1)

## 11 PENALTY SYSTEM

11.1 Rule 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

## 12 TIME LIMITS

12.1 The time limit will be 75 minutes.

## 13 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 13.1 Protest forms are available from the Regatta Office in the Royal Western Yacht Club. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered to the regatta office within the appropriate protest time limit.
- 13.2 The protest time limit is 90 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of that day or the race committee signals that racing is abandoned for the day.
- 13.3 Notices will be posted on the official Regatta notice board no later than 20 minutes after the protest time limit ends to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. All parties to a hearing must assemble at the appointed time.

## 14 SCORING

- 14.1 Two races are required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 14.2 The scoring system is that set out in RRS Appendix A save that when 4 or more races have been scored a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
- 14.3 When 3 or fewer races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- 14.4 When 4 or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores, excluding her worst score.

## 15 RETIREMENTS

- 15.1 Boats retiring from a race shall use their best endeavours to inform a race committee boat at the earliest opportunity

## 16 PRIZES

- 16.1 Daily prizes and overall prizes will be awarded as stated in NOR 16.1.

## 13 INSURANCE

- 13.3 Each participating boat is required to hold adequate insurance and in particular to hold insurance against third party claims in the sum of at least £3,000,000.

## 14 MEDIA WAIVER

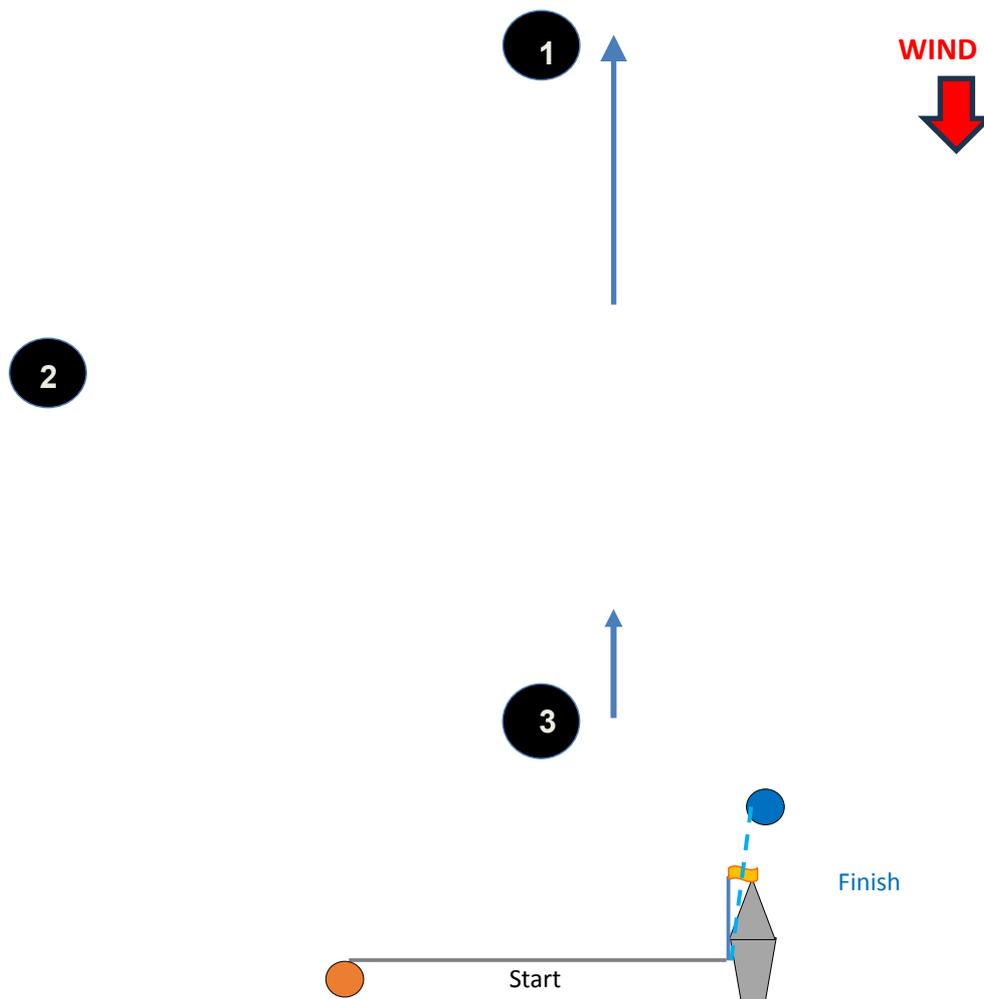
- 14.3 Competitors are asked (on the entry form) to give their consent to the sponsors and the Organising Authority, to use their name, comments, photograph and likeness in order to promote the Club and event.

## 15 FURTHER INFORMATION

- 15.3 The Regatta Office can be contacted by e-mail or telephone as follows:  
Email: [admin@rwy.org](mailto:admin@rwy.org)  
☎ 01752 660077

## APPENDIX A:

Triangle/ Sausage with off-course start and finish



Laps

Mark rounding order (all to port)

2

1 – 2 – 3 – 1 – 3 – 1 – 3 – Finish

3

1 – 2 – 3 – 1 – 3 – 1 – 3 – 1 – 3 – Finish

Note (see SI xxx): If the committee boat displays flag S with two sound signals as boats are approaching mark 3, then boats should round mark 3 and then proceed directly to the normal finishing line.