



ROYAL WESTERN

YACHT CLUB OF ENGLAND

2026 Wolf Rock Race

12th June 2026

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Royal Western Yacht Club of England Ltd

Queen Anne's Battery Plymouth Devon PL4 0TW

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Competitors and their families are invited by the Flag Officers of The Royal Western Yacht Club to be temporary members of the Club for the duration of the Wolf Rock Race and to make full use of the bar, catering and other facilities of the Club.

1 RULES

- 1.1 The race will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing.
- 1.2 Boats shall comply with ISAF OSR Cat 3 regulations. Additionally, boats shall carry a life raft in accordance with World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations 4.20.2. The Race Committee reserves the right to inspect boats to ensure compliance.
- 1.3 Where boats are racing within the boundaries of the Port of Plymouth they are referred to the Dockyard Port of Plymouth Order 2020, a copy of which is displayed on the Club notice board, website <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2020/1261/made> and Local Notices to Mariners. When the Race Committee believes that such regulations have been broken so as to bring the sport into disrepute it will act under RRS 60.2(c) requesting the Protest Committee to act under RRS 69.1(a), Allegation of Misconduct.

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

- 1.4 The Exoneration Penalty (and the Advisory Hearing and RYA Arbitration) of the RYA Rules and Disputes procedures will be available. This is the preferred method of resolving disputes. See the official notice board or website for details.
- 1.5 Between sunset and sunrise RRS Part 2 (When Boats Meet) is replaced by Part B (Steering & Sailing) of the International Regulations for the Prevention of Collisions at Sea (IRPCAS).
- 1.7 Racing rule(s) 35, 41 and 52 will be changed as follows:

Rule 41(c) is replaced by: (c) help in the form of information which is freely available to all boats, which shall include navigational, weather, tide or current information from any source which is available to all boats whether or not by payment of a fee or subscription, but shall not include information gathered or the subject of interpretation by, or any advice received from, any source not on board the boat and which is specific to the boat and her situation. By way of an example and interpretation, downloading charts, weather and/or tidal GRIB files from subscription services, or having such information passed to the boat in its pure form, is permitted but receiving messages or information which is the result of interpretation as it applies to the boat is not permitted.

Add the following to RRS 41: (e) Whilst racing a boat may retrieve data from any page of the race website details of which are provided in the Sailing Instructions, even if that page is not publicly available. During the race a boat shall not contact, or be in contact with, any person or private entity using any medium to receive private meteorological forecasts, tactical advice or

information customised for a particular boat or group of boats. A boat may however obtain assistance in the form of any readily available commercial meteorological or hydrographical information regardless of cost.

Rule 52 (Manual Power) is deleted.

1.8 Under rule 87, rule(s) IRC Rule 22.4.2 of the IRC class rules is replaced with:

“The maximum number of crew that may sail aboard a boat shall be the crew number printed on the certificate plus One. There is no weight limit.”

1.9 Autopilots and self-steering devices may be used.

2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the RWYC website on the event page. This shall be deemed to be the official noticeboard. <https://www.rwyc.org/race/wolf-rock-challenge-2026/> and repeated on the notice board located at the RWYC clubhouse.

3 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

3.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted by 1200 on Friday 12th June 2026.

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 AP in Race Signals.

5 SCHEDULE

5.1 IRC, VPRS and YTC boats will have a combined start.

5.2 The warning signal for IRC, VPRS and YTC will be at 1855 with the warning signal for MOCRA Class at 1905.

5.3 Class starts may be combined depending on the number of entries

6 CLASS FLAGS

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

Class	Flag	Warning Signal
IRC, VPRS and YTC	1	1855
MOCRA	8	1905

7 THE COURSE

7.1 The course will be from the Start Line, circumnavigating Wolf Rock Lighthouse to port and then to the Finish Line.

8 THE START

8.1 The start line will be between the mast displaying an orange flag on the Committee Boat and the outer distance mark, an orange pillar buoy.

8.2 All boats shall pass close to the Committee Boat on the side opposite to the Start Line before the start of the race with mainsails hoisted for identification. Boats may be asked to contact the committee boat by VHF to confirm the number of crew they have on board.

9 RECALLS

- 9.1 A broadcast message may be transmitted on VHF Ch 77 This changes RRS 29.2

10 FINISH

- 10.1 The finish line will be between an extension of a line from the flagpole of the RWYC through the yellow and Black Post in front of the clubhouse. Finishers are asked to take note of their finish time and, if possible, to note the number of the boat in front and behind and to report that information to RWYC by e-mail to rcoceanic@rwy.org
- 10.2 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.

11 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 11.1 Rule 44.1 is changed so that only one turn, including one tack and one gybe, is required.

12 TIME LIMITS

- 12.1 The time limit for the Wolf Rock Race is 1800 Monday 15th June 2026

13 HEARING REQUESTS

- 13.1 For each class, the Hearing Request limit is 1900 on Monday 15th June 2026. The same time limit applies to the race committee concerning incidents they observe in the racing area and to requests for redress.
- 13.2 Hearing Request Forms may be obtained from the RWYC office or downloaded from the RYA website. Completed forms should be submitted to the RWYC office
- 13.3 Notices will be posted within 30 minutes of the Hearing Request time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held at RWYC, beginning as soon as possible, after posting.

14 SCORING

- 14.1 The low point scoring system of Appendix A will apply.

15 RETIREMENT

- 15.1 Boats retiring shall report their retirement to the Race Committee as soon as possible.
- 15.2 Retirements shall be reported by telephone to RWYC telephone: 01752 660077 or by email to rcoceanic@rwy.org

16 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

- 16.1 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions.

17 RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

- 17.1 All yachts shall carry and operate a VHF radio and monitor Race Committee broadcasts. Except in an emergency, yachts shall neither make nor receive communications which are not available to other yachts competing in the race. This restriction also applies to communication by mobile phone.
- 17.2 The Race Committee will use VHF Ch 77.
- 17.3 The failure to receive any Race Committee transmissions shall not constitute grounds for redress

18 PRIZES

- 18.1 Prizes will be awarded at the discretion of the Race Committee depending on number of entries

19 INSURANCE

- 1.1 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 £3m.