



Etchells Southern Area Championship

6th & 7th July 2024

NOTICE OF RACE

Royal Thames Yacht Club - Cowes Etchells Fleet
Cowes, Isle of Wight



The Organizing Authority (OA) is the Royal Thames Yacht Club in conjunction with the Cowes Etchells Fleet.

The notation [DP] in a rule means that the penalty for a breach of the rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.

1. RULES

- 1.1. The event will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 1.2. The International Etchells Class Association (IECA) Rules and Regulations will apply.
- 1.3. The RYA Racing Charter is in effect and competitors are expected to sail in compliance with it. The Charter can be found at the front of the RYA edition of the Racing Rules of Sailing (the yellow pages after the definitions), or on the RYA website at www.rya.org.uk/racingrules.
- 1.4. The International Etchells Class Code of Conduct – details can be found via this link: <https://etchells.org/news/article/ieca-code-of-conduct>
- 1.5. Boats will be provided with bow number stickers by the UK Etchells class. They shall be placed 52cm aft of the bow, 6cm from the shearline and 6cm apart. Single digit numbers (e.g.'2') shall display the leading zero (e.g.'02'). These stickers shall be applied prior to the first race of the series. It is the responsibility of competitors to ensure that these are properly in place before racing each day.

2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1. The sailing instructions will be available no later than Thursday 27th June 2024 on the class Official Notice board: https://www.yachtscoring.com/event_documents.cfm?eid=16509
- 2.2. Questions regarding the notice of race or sailing instructions, may be submitted in writing to the RTYC Sailing Office via email to Tim.hancock@Royalthames.com by Thursday 4th July 2024. Questions and responses from the race committee will be posted to the online official notice board.

3. COMMUNICATION

- 3.1. The online official notice board is located at: https://www.yachtscoring.com/event_documents.cfm?eid=16509
- 3.2. [DP] All boats shall carry a marine VHF radio capable of receiving all international channels.
- 3.3. On the water, the race committee will make courtesy broadcasts to competitors on VHF radio. This channel will be stated in the SIs.
- 3.4. [DP] While racing, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.
- 3.5. The OA and race committee will use a Whatsapp group to facilitate communications with competitors regarding their intentions, notices, results, protest details and other information during the event. A link to join the group will be emailed to competitors closer to the time of the event.

4. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1. The event is open to all International Etchells boats.
- 4.2. All boat owners must be current (2024) members of the International Etchells Class Association as described by IECA rule 4. Information on how to join the Class can be found at <https://etchellsukfleet.co.uk/shop/>
- 4.3. Eligible boats may enter by completing the entry form and submitting it, together with the required fee by Thursday 4th July 2024. Late entries will be accepted at the discretion of the OA.

4.4. Boats may enter the event by registering online at: https://www.yachtscoring.com/event_documents.cfm?eid=16509

4.5. To be considered an entry in the event, a boat shall complete all registration requirements, including providing crew details, and pay all fees.

5. FEES

5.1. The entry fee for this event is £190.

5.2. All entry fees are non-refundable after Thursday 4th July 2024.

6. CREW LIMITATIONS

6.1. [WS Sailor Categorization Code, Regulation 22](#) will apply to all crew members of boats competing for the Corinthian Prize; each crew member shall have a valid WS Sailor Categorization as a Group 1 competitor no later than the Crew Deadline. Information on how to apply can be found at <https://www.sailing.org/sailors/sailor-categorisations/>.

6.2. The Crew Deadline for boats competing for the Corinthian Prize is 1159 Thursday 4th July 2024.

6.3. To be eligible for the Youth Prize, all competitors on such boat shall be no older than 29 on 1st January 2024.

7. ADVERTISING

Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the OA.

8. PROVISIONAL SCHEDULE

8.1. Six (6) races are scheduled. A maximum of four (4) races per day may be sailed.

	Saturday	Sunday
Race Days	6 July	7 July
First warning signal	1055	1025
No warning signal after	--	1500
LW Portsmouth (BST)	0533 1.0m	0618 1.0m
HW Portsmouth (BST)	1242 4.4m	1327 4.5m

9. EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

9.1. Each boat shall verify the existence of a valid measurement certificate during the entry process.

9.2. Boats may be inspected at any time during the event.

10. CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT

No additional rules apply.

11. VENUE

11.1. Racing will take place in the Central Solent.

11.2. The location of the start line will be posted to the online official notice board by 0930 each race day.

11.3. Navigational Safety - Racing occurs near active shipping channels. The race committee would like to call special attention to the preamble to RRS Part 2 and the current [ABP Southampton Byelaws](#). Boats are reminded to keep a good look out for all commercial traffic and recognize that large vessels have very limited manoeuvrability, particular in the shipping channel east of Norris Bay.

12. COURSES

12.1. The course configuration will be windward–leeward and may include offset marks and gates.

12.2. Course diagrams and descriptions will be provided in the sailing instructions.

13. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 13.1. A boat may take a One-Turn Penalty when she may have broken a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 while racing. However, when a boat may have broken a rule of Part 2 while in the zone around a mark other than a starting mark, her penalty shall be a Two-Turns Penalty. This changes RRS 44.1.
- 13.2. In RRS 44.2 insert after the first sentence: "However, if Mark 1a (spreader mark) is set, a boat may take a penalty for an incident in the zone around Mark 1 or on the leg between Mark 1 and Mark 1a, as soon as possible after leaving the zone around Mark 1a."

14. SCORING

- 14.1. One (1) race is required to constitute a series.
- 14.2. When fewer than five (5) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- 14.3. When five (5) or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

15. SUPPORT PERSON VESSELS

- 15.1. All support vessels shall carry a marine VHF radio capable of receiving and transmitting on all international channels.
- 15.2. [DP] All support vessels shall stay at least 100m outside the areas where boats are racing.

16. CHARTERED OR LOANED BOATS

RRS G3 will apply to chartered or loaned boats.

17. BERTHING

Berthing is the responsibility of each competing boat. Berthing costs are not included in the entry fee.

18. HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS

- 18.1. All boats shall be afloat no later than 1800 the day before the first scheduled race.
- 18.2. Boats shall not be hauled out during the event except with and according to the terms of prior written permission of the race committee.

19. DIVING EQUIPMENT AND PLASTIC POOLS

- 19.1. No person shall swim or undertake any underwater or diving activities of any kind within Cowes Harbour without permission and/or a permit from the Cowes Harbour Master or the authorized marina manager. See: [Cowes Harbour Commission General Direction 4.4 and 4.5](#).
- 19.2. Underwater breathing apparatus and plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used around competing boats from 1800 on the day before the first scheduled race until the end of the event.
- 19.3. Competing boats shall not be cleaned more than 10cm below the waterline by any means from the preparatory signal of the first race until the end of the event.

20. DATA PROTECTION & RIGHT TO USE LIKENESS

- 20.1. The personal information you provide to the organizing authority will be used to facilitate your participation in the event. If you have agreed to be bound by the Racing Rules of Sailing and the other rules that govern the event (the rules), the legal basis for processing that personal information is contract. If you are not bound by the rules, the legal basis for processing that personal information is legitimate interest. Your personal information will be stored and used in accordance with the organizing authority's privacy policy. When required by the rules, personal information may be shared with the RYA, your national authority and/or World Sailing. The results of the event and the outcome of any hearing or appeal may be published.
- 20.2. By participating in this event, competitors automatically grant to the OA unconditional, perpetual right and authority to publish and broadcast anywhere in the world, for any purpose and in any media, photographs, video footage, and audio recordings taken of them prior to, during, and after the event without compensation.

21. RISK STATEMENT

RRS 3 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 inherently 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 and other officials and volunteers by the event 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.

22. INSURANCE

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

23. PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded as soon as possible after racing on 7th July 2024 at Cowes Yacht Haven to the following boats:

- a. The Royal Thames Yacht Club Decanter a perpetual trophy, will be awarded to the winner of the Southern Area Championships at the annual RTYC Prize Winners' Dinner. Invitation to follow.
- b. Prizes for the top three (3) boats.
- c. The Corinthian Prize will be awarded to the highest placed boat sailed a WS Category 1 crew.
- d. A prize will be awarded to the highest place boat sailed by youth crew.

24. FURTHER INFORMATION

For more information contact:

Tim Hancock
Tim.hancock@royalthames.com
Tel: 07983 873232

Jan Ford - Etchells Fleet Secretary
secretary@etchellsukfleet.co.uk
Tel: 07747 602707

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