



The Etchells Invitational Regatta for THE GERTRUDE CUP

Saturday 30th July to Wednesday 3rd August 2016

NOTICE OF RACE

1. ORGANISING AUTHORITY

- 1.1 The Organising Authority is the Royal Thames Yacht Club in conjunction with the Cowes Etchells Fleet.

2. RULES

- 2.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing.
- 2.2 Any prescriptions of the national authority that will apply will be posted on the official notice board.
- 2.3 The Associated British Ports Southampton Byelaws current at the start of the first race of the regatta will apply.
- 2.4 An international jury will be appointed and its decisions will be final as provided in rule 70.5.

3. VENUE

- 3.1 The venue of the regatta is Cowes, England, and the racing will take place in the Central Solent.
- 3.2 The Race Office will be at Shepards Wharf Marina, Cowes.

4. ADVERTISING

- 4.1 As boats and equipment will be supplied by the Organising Authority ISAF regulation 20.4 applies. Each boat and the supplied equipment will be required to display advertising as provided by the Organising Authority.

5. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 5.1 Twenty or more helms representing their yacht clubs or other organisations will be invited by the OA to participate in the regatta. Only helms, clubs or other organisations invited by the OA will be eligible to enter the regatta. Those seeking an invitation may request one from the

Chief Sailing Officer of the Royal Thames Yacht Club by mail at 60 Knightsbridge, London, SW1X 7LF or by email at sailing@royalthames.com or from the captain of the Cowes Etchells Fleet by email at davidfranks80@gmail.com.

- 5.2 To remain eligible helms, clubs, or teams representing those clubs, shall confirm acceptance in writing by email or post by the date specified in the letter of invitation. The acceptance shall be accompanied by a deposit of £2000 being part of the entry fee of £3900, the balance of which will be payable not later than 30th April 2016. The deposit is returnable in the circumstances referred to in paragraph 5.4.
- 5.3 The entry fee will include the cost of all social events.
- 5.4 In the case of the entries being oversubscribed the Organising Authority will EITHER confirm acceptance of the entry OR inform the club or team that the event is oversubscribed and that it has been placed on the waiting list. In that case:
- (a) If it cannot be accepted, the Organising Authority will return the deposit; and
 - (b) If the team withdraws before being accepted by the Organising Authority, the Organising Authority will return the deposit.
- 5.5 Once the Organising Authority has accepted an entry, the deposit will only be returned if another team, acceptable to the Organising Authority in its absolute discretion, is found as a replacement.

6. THE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

6.1 Saturday 30th July

0800-1100 Registration at Shepards Wharf Marina
1200 Briefing at Shepards Wharf Marina

All competitors are required to attend the briefing unless excused by the Organising Authority. On application, alternative arrangements will be made for competitors who are also sailing in the Commodores' Cup.

1400 Warning Signal for first practice race
1915 Opening Party

6.2 Sunday 31st July

0845 Morning briefing at Shepards Wharf Marina
1030 Warning Signal for the first race
Subsequent races will follow as soon as possible after the finish of the first race.
1915 Social Event - details to be announced

6.3 Monday 1st August

0845 Morning briefing at Shepards Wharf Marina
1030 Warning Signal for first race of the day
Subsequent races will follow as soon as possible after the finish of the first race of the day
1915 Social Event – details to be announced

6.4 Tuesday 2nd August

- 0845 Morning briefing at Shepards Wharf Marina
- 1030 Warning Signal for first race of the day
Subsequent races will follow as soon as possible after the finish of the first race of the day
- 1845 Gala Dinner at Royal Yacht Squadron Pavilion

6.5 Wednesday 3rd August

- 0845 Morning briefing at Shepards Wharf Marina
- 1030 Warning Signal for first race of the day
Subsequent races will follow as soon as possible after the finish of the first race of the day
- After racing Prize Giving at Shepards Wharf Marina

7. THE BOATS

- 7.1 The event will be sailed in International Etchells and the Organising Authority will provide the boats. Boats will be rotated during the Regatta in a method to be described in the Sailing Instructions.
- 7.2 The Organising Authority will also provide full suits of sails, namely a mainsail, jib and spinnaker. Sails will be retained by the teams to which they are allocated throughout the Regatta. The Sailing Instructions will contain provisions dealing with the substitution of sails suffering damage.
- 7.2 Boats and sails will be allocated by the Race Committee in its absolute discretion in the presence of the Fleet Captain of the Cowes International Etchells Fleet shortly before the start of the regatta in such a way as to ensure fairness throughout the regatta.
- 7.3 However the Race Committee may allocate boats to particular competitors to be sailed by those competitors on any particular day or days of the regatta without the rotation referred to in paragraph 7.2.1. Such allocation shall be made in the unfettered discretion of the Race Committee and shall not be subject of a request for redress, changing Rule 60.
- 7.4 The boats and sails allocated will be available for practice sailing immediately after registration. The spinnakers to be allocated during the regatta may not be available for the practice race, in which case alternative suitable sails will be provided.

8. THE TEAMS

- 8.1 The helm of each team shall be a member of the invited club or organisation.
- 8.2 All competitors shall obtain an ISAF Sailor ID by registering online at www.sailing.org/isafsailor.
- 8.3 The classification provisions of the International Sailing Federation's Regulation 22 shall apply.
- 8.4 The helm shall be Group 1 and all other members of each team may be Group 1 or 3.
- 8.5 No later than 1100 hrs on Saturday 30th July 2016 (the Crew Deadline) the helm shall submit a complete list of the team sailing on his or her boat. However helms are requested to inform

the Organising Authority as early as possible, and not later than the 1st March if they can, of the names of their crew if known by that time.

- 8.6 The Organising Authority will post a crew list not later than 1800 on Saturday 30th July 2016.
- 8.7 In accordance with class rules, the maximum total crew weight, determined prior to racing, shall be 285 kg, when wearing at least shorts and shirts.
- 8.8 When a registered helm or crew member is unable to continue in the event the Organising Authority (or in an emergency the Race Committee) may authorise a substitute, a temporary substitute or other adjustment. Such change shall be at discretion of the Organising Authority (or Race Committee) and no claim for redress shall be made as a result, changing Rule 62. When a substitute is authorised, the team's weight with the substitute team member shall be checked and shall comply with class rules and with this Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions.

9. DAMAGE DEPOSIT

- 9.1 An initial damage deposit of £2000 shall be paid at registration, unless the time for payment is extended by the Organising Authority. This deposit is the maximum payable by the skipper as a result of any one incident. A further reference to the damage deposit is contained in the Appendix B.
- 9.2 If a deduction from the damage deposit is made by the OA, it may require that the deposit be restored to its original amount before the team will be permitted to continue in the event.
- 9.3 Any remaining deposit after the event will be refunded within 30 days after the end of the event.

10. FORMAT

- 10.1 It is intended that eleven races will be sailed over the four days, with a maximum of four races each day.
- 10.2 The courses will be windward/leeward.
- 10.3 The Race Committee may change designation of the course or the format of the event as it thinks fit.
- 10.4 All teams shall race in all races unless excused from doing so in writing by the Race Committee.

11. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 11.1 The sailing instructions will be available at registration and will be posted on the Royal Thames website (www.royalthames.com) some weeks prior to the event.

12. EQUIPMENT REQUIRED AND SUPPLIED

- 12.1 The Organising Authority will supply a buoyancy aid which shall be worn by each competitor while afloat. Competitors shall provide, from their own resources, marine band radio transceivers capable of receiving and transmitting all usual VHF marine bands, and their own rig tension gauge.

- 12.2 The boats supplied by the Organising Authority will be provided with all necessary equipment and the teams may only take such additional equipment on board as is listed in Appendix C.

13. SCORING

- 13.1 Three races are required to be completed to constitute the series.
- 13.2 When fewer than five races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- 13.3 When from five to eight races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
- 13.4 When nine or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her two worst scores.

14. INSURANCE

- 14.1 The Organising Authority will arrange third party insurance cover for each boat in the sum of five million Pounds Sterling (£5,000,000). Competitors are responsible for their own personal, travel, health and other insurance arrangements.

15. MEDIA, IMAGES and SOUND

- 15.1 If required by the Organising Authority:
- (a) Cameras supplied by the Organising Authority shall be carried on board while racing.
 - (b) Competitors shall wear microphones supplied by the Organising Authority during racing and be available for interviews when advised by the Organising Authority or Race Committee.
 - (c) Helms shall wear communications equipment supplied by the Organising Authority that will allow commentators to communicate with them whilst racing.
- 15.2 Competitors shall not interfere with the normal working of the Organising Authority supplied media equipment.
- 15.3 The Organising Authority, event sponsors and International Etchells Class Association shall have the right to use any images and sound recorded during the event free of any charge together with the right to use the names, comments, photographs and likenesses of all team members.

16. SUPPORT BOATS

- 16.1 Support boats shall conspicuously display identification of the team being supported.
- 16.2 The Organising Authority will not provide berths for support boats.
- 16.3 Any interference by a support boat with the racing or event organisation may result in a penalty applied at the discretion of the International Jury to the associated team.

17. BERTHING

- 17.1 During the event boats shall be moored at Shepards Wharf Marina, or in the dock or mooring assigned to them by the Organising Authority and nowhere else except with the consent in writing of the Race Committee.

18. DIVING EQUIPMENT AND PLASTIC POOLS

- 18.1 The Sailing Instructions will contain provisions banning the cleaning of hulls during the regatta.

19. RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

- 19.1 Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio communications while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats while racing. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones. However the sailing instructions will authorise certain communications with the Race Committee.

20. RISK ASSESSMENT

- 20.1 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".
- 20.2 Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore involves an element of risk. All those taking part should be fully aware and conscious of the actual and potential risks involved in active watersports, including drowning, hypothermia and other physical injuries including head injuries.
- 20.3 By taking part in the event, competitors and each and every competitor agree and acknowledge that:
- (i) 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;
 - (ii) they are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;
 - (iii) they accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;
 - (iv) they have checked that their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event;
 - (v) they have checked that they and their fellow crew members are fit to participate;
 - (vi) 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; and
 - (vi) the provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances.

21. PRIZES

- 21.1 The First Prize is the Gertrude Cup.
- 21.2 Other prizes and daily prizes may be awarded.

APPENDIX A

APPLICATION FOR ENTRY Royal Thames Yacht Club



Saturday 30th July to Wednesday 3rd August 2016

Team Captain (to whom all correspondence will be addressed):

Club being represented:

Email:

Phone Number:

Date of Birth

Crew Names (if known):

Dates of Birth

We apply to enter Gertrude Cup Regatta. We agree to be bound by the Racing Rules of Sailing and by all other rules that govern this event. We agree to pay the balance of the entry fee, namely a further £1900, not later than 30th April 2016.

Signed:

Entries along with a deposit of £2000 (being part of the entry fee of £3900) should be sent to the Sailing Office of the Royal Thames Yacht Club: sailingassistant@royalthames.com or by postal mail to 60 Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7LF.

Cheques should be made payable to Royal Thames Yacht Club.

For BACS payment, please use the reference 'Etchells Invitational', details are:

NatWest Bank

Account Number: 8450 4676

Sort Code: 60 04 04

BIC: NWBK GB 2L

IBAN Number: GB28 NWBK 6004 0484 5046 76.

For Credit Card Payment, please complete the form below:



Royal Thames Yacht Club

Credit Card payment details

Name:		
Details of Purchase/Payment:		
Etchells Invitational Entry Fee		
Card Type: Mastercard / Visa / Maestro		
Card Number:		
Expiry Date:	Security Code:	
Amount: £		
		Date:

Please be aware that the OA does not accept American Express card payments.

APPENDIX B THE DAMAGE DEPOSIT

1. The damage deposit required is larger than that often claimed in events where the organisers supply the boats and this appendix explains the reason for its size.
2. The damage deposit is designed to cover the cost of uninsured damage to boats arising from incidents during the event.
3. The only cover that the organisers could arrange included an excess for all damage of £500 for damage to the hull or equipment of a boat, but damage to the rig, excluding the sails will attract an excess of one third of the cost.
4. The organisers have been advised that the maximum possible replacement cost of some rigs is £6000.
5. The maximum deduction in respect of any damage except to a rig will therefore be £500. The only larger deduction will arise in the case of the loss of a rig.

APPENDIX C PERMITTED EQUIPMENT

Basic hand tools
 Adhesive tape
 Line (elastic or otherwise of 4 mm diameter or less)
 Marking pens
 Tell tale material
 Watch, timers and hand held compass
 Shackles and clevis pins
 Velcro tape
 Spare flags
 Marine band radio
 First aid kit
 Rig tension gauge