



2017 IRC DOUBLE HANDED NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

NOTICE OF RACE

Friday 8, Saturday 9 and Sunday 10 September 2017

1. ORGANISING AUTHORITY

- 1.1. The Organising Authority (OA) is the Royal Southampton Yacht Club (RSYC) in conjunction with RORC.
1 Channel Way, Ocean Village, Southampton, SO14 3QF, United Kingdom.

2. RULES

- 2.1. Racing is governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
- 2.2. Changes to RRS are notified in the Sailing Instructions (SIs).
- 2.3. In accordance with IRC Rule 15 for IRC classes, the use of self steering equipment is permitted.
- 2.4. Boats shall comply with World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations (OSR) Category 4 (available from www.sailing.org).
- 2.5. In the event of conflict between the Notice of Race (NoR) and the SIs, the SIs shall apply.

3. ADVERTISING

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

4. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1. Classes are provided for IRC rated monohulls.
- 4.2. Boats will be allocated to classes at the discretion of the OA and according to the number of entries.
- 4.3. At the discretion of the OA any one design boat with more than 6 entries may have its own class.
- 4.4. Two persons only shall be on board.
- 4.5. Boats are not eligible as follows: boats under 20 feet length of hull (LH); boats over 2.5 metres draught. The OA may waive these requirements - requests must be made and determined in writing.
- 4.6. Boats are required to berth in Cowes Yacht Haven overnight on Friday 8 and Saturday 9 September 2017. The OA may waive these requirements - requests must be made and determined in writing. Berthing in Cowes Yacht Haven is supplied by the OA, to include electricity. Supplied berthing may require rafting to other boats.
- 4.7. Entry is Online from 1 April 2017, only together with payment. A link is available at the event website (www.dhnationals.co.uk) to the entry form on the RSYC website (at which point a log-in is required which can be set up at that time).

5. FEES

- 5.1. Any boat that has entered the RSYC Nab Tower Race (either by a series or the individual race) before 26 April 2017 will be entitled to a reduction in entry fee for this event of £45.
- 5.2. All fees are in UK pounds sterling and apply per boat (ie to include both crew):

		Until 1 September 2017	From 2 September 2017
A	Race Entry*	£245	£295

* Includes: Supper on Friday evening
Dinner on Saturday evening
Berthing in Cowes Yacht Haven for the nights of Friday **and** Saturday (to include electricity).
Two event branded shirts for each boat. Additional shirts may be purchased from the OA.

- 5.3. If all or part of an event is cancelled, fees are not refundable except at the discretion of the OA and only if the cancellation is due to circumstances under the OA's direct control.
- 5.4. Cancellation of entry by a boat is entitled to reimbursement of the entry fee as follows:
before 1.7.2017 - full refund
before 1.8.2017 - 50% refund
before 1.9.2017 - 25% refund
from 1.9.2017 - no refund.

6. SCHEDULE

- 6.1. Racing will take place on Friday 8, Saturday 9 and Sunday 10 September 2017.
- 6.2. It is intended that there will be two races on Friday, one on Saturday and two on Sunday, but this may be varied at the discretion of the Race Committee.
- 6.3. The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race each day will not be before 0855.
- 6.4. The last possible warning signal for the first of a sequence of starts will be 1600 on Friday and 1430 on Saturday and Sunday, except after a general recall or a postponement during the starting sequence.

7. RATINGS

- 7.1. Boats must have a valid IRC rating certificate.
- 7.2. In accordance with IRC Rule 8.2.1, a boat holding a shorthanded certificate shall use only that certificate for racing.
- 7.3. Applications for an IRC rating must be lodged with the RORC Rating Office before 1 September 2017. Failure to do so will render entry to the regatta invalid.

8. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 8.1. SIs will be available on the event website on or before Wednesday 6 September 2017, and may be sent by email to competitors.

9. VENUE

- 9.1. Racing will take place in the Solent with race starts in the Central Solent.
- 9.2. The Regatta Office will be located at the RORC Clubhouse, previously known as the Royal Corinthian YC, Cowes. Social events and prize-giving will also take place at this location.

10. COURSES

- 10.1. It is intended that the courses to be sailed in the three races will be as follows:
 - 10.1.1. Two laid marks courses (Windward Leeward) of approximately 90 minutes duration; two round the cans course of approximately 120 minutes duration; one 'passage' race, of 180 minutes duration or more. It is likely that the 'passage race' course will be used on Saturday.
 - 10.1.2. At the discretion of the Race Committee this format may be changed.
- 10.2. Courses will be described in the SIs.

11. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 11.1. A two-turns penalty is replaced by a one-turn penalty. This changes RRS 44.1.

12. SCORING

- 12.1. The event will be scored using Spinlock IRC TCCs.
- 12.2. The Low Point System of RRS Appendix A will apply.

12.3. One race is required to constitute a regatta.

12.4. All races count towards the series score.

13. HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS

13.1. Boats shall not be hauled out during the regatta except with and according to the terms of prior written permission of the race committee.

14. DIVING EQUIPMENT

14.1. No diving gear shall be used around boats between the preparatory signal of the first race and the end of the regatta.

15. RADIO COMMUNICATION

15.1. A working VHF radio with channels 16, 67, 72, 77, 80, M1(37A) shall be carried and be kept on listening watch on the race VHF channel for the duration of each race.

15.2. Except in an emergency, whilst racing a boat shall neither make nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.

16. PRIZES

16.1. Trophies for overall results will be awarded to the first boat in each class.

16.2. Other prizes may be awarded.

17. RISK STATEMENT

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."

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 any patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances.

18. INSURANCE

18.1. Each participation boat shall be adequately insured, with cover of at least £2,000,000 (two million pounds sterling) per event against third party claims.

19. RYA CHARTER

19.1. The regatta is organised in accordance with the RYA Racing Charter and competitors are expected to conform to it. See www.rya.org.uk/racing/Pages/RacingCharter.aspx

20. FURTHER INFORMATION

20.1. Further information is available on the event website (www.dhnationals.co.uk) or from the Race Director at race.director@dhnationals.co.uk.