



Sailing Instructions
Beaulieu Spring Series ~ Central Solent
April – June 2026

1. RULES

- 1.1. Racing is governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028 (RRS).
- 1.2. If there is conflict between the Sailing Instructions (SIs) and the Notice of Race (NoR) the SIs will prevail. This changes RRS 63.7.
- 1.3. World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations (WSOSR) apply - available from www.sailing.org/inside-world-sailing/rules-regulations/offshore-special-regulations/
- 1.4. Boats shall comply with WSOSR Appendix B (Inshore Racing) and have due regard to both the temperature and conditions.
- 1.5. A boat shall observe the IRPCAS (ColRegs) in respect of commercial shipping and vessels not racing.
- 1.6. The Race Committee (RC) shall protest a boat if a ship makes a complaint. This changes RRS 60.2. The Protest Committee may apply a penalty of DNE
- 1.7. No engine shall be used once start sequence has commenced, except in order to comply with 1.5. Competitors shall report the use of an engine whilst racing to the RC who may protest that boat. If a significant advantage was gained the boat shall retire. The Protest Committee may apply a penalty other than DSQ.
- 1.8. Double-Handed crewed boats can use self-steering gear, in variance to RRS 52.
- 1.9. No Anchor shall be carried before the Stem.
- 1.10. All times in these SIs are in BST.

2. COMMUNICATION

- 2.1. The Official Notice Board (ONB) is the Racing tab of the RSYC Website: <https://www.rsyc.org.uk/rsyc-racing/>.
- 2.2. To join the WhatsApp group, the following link can be used:
<https://chat.whatsapp.com/lySEQmyWnY84kDc1ytudds?mode=gi t>
- 2.3. Official notices may also be emailed to entrants or shared on the RSYC Racing WhatsApp Group. Failure to receive such emails will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).
- 2.4. Flag L will not be displayed ashore. This changes RRS Race Signals. However, notification of such notices may be sent by SMS and/or WhatsApp to mobile telephones.
- 2.5. Official notices will be advised by VHF and/or on the RSYC Racing WhatsApp group before the race concerned.
- 2.6. Race Signals may be by VHF only, sound signals may be used, and flags may be displayed. This changes RRS 26, 27, 29 and 30. Failure to receive VHF transmissions will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).
- 2.7. The RC call sign is **'Royal Southampton Race Control'**. All communications between the RC and competitors afloat will be made on VHF CH 08, unless advised that CH 06 or an alternative may be used instead.
- 2.8. A time check will normally be given around 10 minutes before the first scheduled Warning Signal of the day.
- 2.9. 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. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1. Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0900 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

4. CODE OF CONDUCT

4.1. Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials

5. CLASS FLAGS

5.1. The Class flag is the RSYC Burgee, with all competitors under a single race class

6. RACE AREA

6.1. Races 1-4 will use fixed marks in the vicinity of the Beaulieu River/Western Solent/Central Solent but may also use laid marks. The Solent Area Mark Codes 2026 and approximate maps are available on the ONB.

7. COURSES and MARKS

- 7.1. The course may be announced at the time check. It will be announced before the Warning Signal and repeated at the Preparatory Signal. The Course will be announced via VHF – the course may also be announced via the RSYC Racing WhatsApp group.
- 7.2. The Start Line will be the Mast of a RC boat, which may display an Orange Flag at one end of the line and an outer distance mark (ODM), to be identified at or before the Preparatory Signal, at the other end.
- 7.3. The Finish Line will be the Mast of a RC boat, which may display a Blue Flag at one end of the line and a nearby mark at the other end.
- 7.4. Any boat touching an anchored committee boat used as a starting mark or finish mark shall be given a 5-place penalty without a hearing. If damage or injury is caused the boat shall be disqualified without a hearing. This changes RRS 31, A4 & A5.

8. SCHEDULE OF RACES

Race	Date	First Warning Signal	First Start
1	Thursday 23 April	17:00	17:05
2	Thursday 7 May	17:00	17:05
3	Thursday 28 May	17:00	17:05
4	Thursday 11 June	17:00	17:05

9. THE START

- 9.1. The start area will be as advised by VHF but for Races 1-4 is likely to be in the vicinity of **3E – The Boss**.
- 9.2. Boats failing to start within 5 minutes of their starting signal will be scored DNS.

10. CHANGE OF COURSE

- 10.1. There will be no changes in the Course after the first Warning Signal, except to make adjustment to the Start Line or Finish Line when appropriate.

11. PENALTIES

- 11.1. RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.
- 11.2. An OCS boat will receive an additional 3 points to their finishing score. This Changes RRS A5.

12. TARGET and TIME LIMITS

- 12.1. Boats that retire shall promptly inform the RC by VHF and receive acknowledgement.
- 12.2. The target time for Races 1-4 is approximately **60 minutes**. Failure to meet this time will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

13. PROTESTS

- 13.1. Intention to protest or seek redress shall be made known to the RC by VHF, immediately after finishing the race concerned giving the name and sail number of the boats involved, and which race.
- 13.2. Protests shall be submitted to the RC by email.
- 13.3. The protest time limit is 6 hours after the last boat finishes the last race of the day, or after the display of AP/A, N/A or N/H.
- 13.4. The date and time of protest hearings will be notified to the parties.

14. SCORING, RESULTS AND PRIZES

- 14.1. Appendix A 5.3 will apply.
- 14.2. One race is required to constitute a Series.
- 14.3. A boat's Beaulieu Series score will be the total of her scores excluding her discards as follows:

<i>Races/Discards</i>	<i>4 races/ 1 Discard</i>
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- 14.4. Provisional results may be announced at the clubhouse and posted on the RSYC website as soon possible after the day's racing.
- 14.5. A Bottle Prize may be awarded to race winners each day, if present, after each race at Gins.
- 14.6. A Series Prize may be awarded to the total series winner after the final Series race at Gins

15. RISK STATEMENT

- 15.1. RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. **Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.**

Further information can be obtained from the RSYC Captain of Sailing;
Tel: 07889788877 / RCSailing@rsyc.org.uk or from the RSYC website: www.rsyc.org.uk