



Cowes Corinthian Yacht Club

COWES SPRING CLASSICS REGATTA

30 - 31 MAY 2026

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS



1. RULES

- 1.1 The race will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028 (RRS).
- 1.2 Classes racing as one-designs must conform to their class rules.
- 1.3 RRS 44.3 is changed in that a boat that may have broken a rule of Part 2 while racing or that has broken RS 31 shall take a Scoring Penalty instead of a One or Two Turns Penalty. The Scoring Penalty will be to add 2% of her elapsed time to her elapsed time, rounding the increased time to the nearest second. The value 23.5 gets rounded up to 24.
- 1.4 A boat taking a scoring penalty shall display a yellow flag in accordance with RRS 44.3(a).
- 1.5 Boats will race under either OGA or IRC Ratings.
- 1.6 If there is conflict between the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions the Sailing Instructions shall take precedence. This changes RRS 63.7

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1 Notices to Competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board at Cowes Corinthian Yacht Club.

3. CHANGES TO THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1 Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted before 0900 on the day it will take effect.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE AND AFLOAT

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flagstaff at the CCYC Clubhouse on Birmingham Rd, Cowes.

5. SCHEDULE OF RACES (All times BST)

5.1 Saturday 30 May 2026:

High Water Portsmouth	11:49 4.27m
Skippers' Briefing	08:45 at Cowes Corinthian Yacht Club
Warning Signal (Race 1)	Class 1: 10:30 Class 2: 10:40 Class 3: 10:50
Warning Signal (Race 2)	As soon as possible after the earlier race in that class is completed.

5.2 Sunday 31 May 2026:

High Water Portsmouth	12:32 4.34m
Warning Signal (Race 3)	Class 1: 10:00 Class 2: 10:10 Class 3: 10:20
Warning Signal (Race 4)	As soon as possible after the earlier race in that class is completed.

No Warning Signal will be made later than 14:00 on Sunday 31 May

6. CLASS FLAGS

6.1 Class 1: NPI; Class 2: NP2; Class 3: NP3

7. COURSES

7.1 Courses will be set in the Central Solent Area using so far as possible fixed racing and navigation marks and announced over VHF Ch 77. The attached list (Appendix 1) shows the names, positions and 2-character designators of all fixed marks which may be used (this is the list as published on the SCRA website).

8. AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS

8.1 Boats shall comply with Associated British Ports Notice to Mariners No 6 of 2024, The Moving Prohibited Zone in the Precautionary Area which shall rank as an obstruction for the purposes of RRS 19 and 20. Boats shall avoid close quarters with any commercial vessel.

8.2 Boats shall not anchor or kedge in the Cowes Harbour fairway and in the area between Stone Point and Gurnard Bay as indicated on the racing chart in these sailing instructions and on Admiralty Chart 2040. Gas and water pipes, telephone and electricity cables carrying 133,000 volts lie on the seabed.

8.3 Boats shall keep a good look out for ferries and commercial traffic.

8.4 Boats shall pass to the north of No 2 (82) Cowes Harbour Buoy and the Cowes Breakwater when racing.

8.5 The Race Committee may set courses that do not permit boats to sail rhumb line courses between marks, particularly over the Central Solent Bramble Bank. This shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.

9. THE STARTING LINE

9.1 The starting line is between the orange flag on the Committee Vessel and a mark to be advised.

9.2 The committee vessel may use engines to hold stations. This will not be grounds for a protest or redress. This changes RRS 27.2

10. INDIVIDUAL RECALLS

10.1 Sail numbers of individually recalled boats may be broadcast on VHF Ch 77 as soon as practical. Failure to broadcast the sail numbers will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

11. THE FINISH

11.1 The finishing line is between the blue flag on the Committee Vessel and a mark to be advised.

11.2 Boats shall ensure that their sail numbers are clearly visible to the Committee Vessel when finishing.

11.3 The committee vessel may use engines to hold stations. This will not be grounds for a protest or redress. This changes RRS 33.

12. RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

12.1 The Race Committee will communicate with competitors on VHF channel 77.

12.2 Except in an emergency, a boat that is racing shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communications that is not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones. The Race Committee may broadcast information to competitors on VHF both before and during a race, and/or via the whatsapp group. Failure to receive these communications shall not be grounds for redress.

12.3 All competing boats are required to monitor the race channel at all times while racing.

13. RETIREMENTS AND TIME LIMIT

13.1 Boats that have retired shall notify the Race Committee on VHF Channel 77 at the earliest opportunity.

13.2 A boat finishing more than 45 minutes after the first boat in that class shall be scored DNF.

14. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

14.1 Protest Forms will be available from the Cowes Corinthian Yacht Club. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered to the Race Officer within the protest time limit. Contact mobile phone numbers must be included on the protest form.

14.2 The Protest time limit is 90 minutes (60 minutes on the last day of the regatta) after the last race of the day has finished.

14.3 Protests will be heard at the Cowes Corinthian Yacht Club as soon as practicable after racing.

15. SCORING/RESULTS

15.1 The Low Point scoring system of Appendix A will be used after rating calculations have been applied.

15.2 One race will constitute a series. This is a NO discard series.

15.3 Finishing places in all races will be determined using the handicapping system appropriate to each class. Prizes will be awarded to first, second and third overall in each class. Prizes may also be awarded for top scoring boat in the Vintage Bermudan, Classic Bermudan and Old Gaffer Classes.

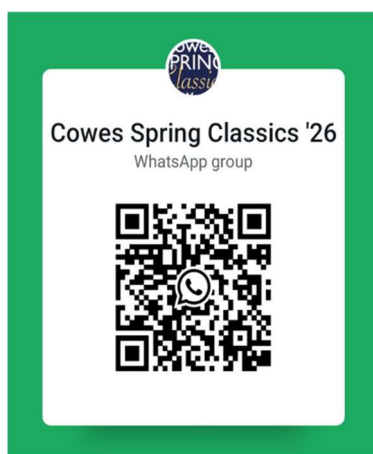
15.4 The overall prize for the regatta will be awarded to the yacht with the lowest resultant score when the following formula is applied: (a yacht's series score divided by (number of scored races minus 1)) divided by (Number of entries in class plus 2).

16. PRIZES

16.1 Prizes will be awarded as soon as possible after the end of racing on Sunday at Cowes Corinthian Yacht Club.

--- End of Sailing Instructions ---

To join the Cowes Spring Classics WhatsApp Group, scan the QR code below:



Appendix 1 – Racing Marks

SOLENT AREA MARK CODES 2026

Zone 1 Western Approaches					Zone 3 Mid Solent (W) Continued				
ID	Name	Colour	Lat N	Long W	ID	Name	Colour	Lat N	Long W
1A	Peveril Ledge	R	50 36.41	01 56.10	3Y	West Knoll	Y	50 47.43	01 17.84
1B	Poole Bar No 1	G	50 39.29	01 55.14	3Z	Trinity House Buoy	Y	50 46.31	01 17.75
1C	Stoneways Marine	Y	50 40.31	01 54.02	30	RORC	Y	50 47.12	01 17.72
1D	The Rig Shop	Y	50 41.08	01 54.26	31	South Bramble	G	50 46.98	01 17.72
1E	Ledge Buoy	Y	50 41.50	01 41.60	33	Prince Consort	BY	50 46.41	01 17.56
1F	Needles Fairway	RW	50 38.24	01 38.98	34	Cowes Corinthian	Y	50 46.15	01 17.20
1G	South West Shingles	R	50 39.29	01 37.52	39	Snowden	Y	50 46.20	01 17.75
1H	Bridge	YBY	50 39.63	01 36.88	Zone 4 Mid Solent (E)				
1J	Shingles Elbow	R	50 40.37	01 36.05	4A	Reach #	G	50 49.05	01 17.65
1K	North Head	G	50 42.69	01 35.52	4B	Coronation	Y	50 49.55	01 17.62
1L	Needles Lighthouse	RW	50 39.73	01 35.50	4C	Fumesy	Y	50 49.21	01 17.46
1M	Warden	G	50 41.48	01 33.55	4D	Calshot #	BY	50 48.44	01 17.03
1N	North East Shingles	BYB	50 41.96	01 33.41	4E	Andy Cassell	Y	50 47.67	01 17.00
11	East Hook	R	50 40.58	01 55.23	4F	Royal Thames	Y	50 47.20	01 17.00
12	Mid Bay Buoy	Y	50 42.60	01 40.80	4G	Chieftain Training	Y	50 49.45	01 16.91
13	Parkstone YC	Y	50 39.61	01 55.20	4H	East Knoll	G	50 47.96	01 16.83
Zone 2 West Solent					4J	hamblewinterseries.com	Y	50 48.63	01 16.56
2A	Hill Robinson	Y	50 42.77	01 32.43	4K	Royal London	Y	50 46.15	01 16.65
2B	Dunford Construction	Y	50 43.38	01 31.54	4L	Jane	Y	50 49.03	01 16.49
2C	Colten	Y	50 43.83	01 30.86	4M	Hill Head	R	50 48.07	01 16.00
2D	Lymington Yacht Haven	Y	50 44.24	01 29.90	4N	Ben F Wood	Y	50 47.27	01 15.90
2E	Circle Marine Insurance	Y	50 44.49	01 29.32	4P	West Ryde Middle	YBY	50 46.48	01 15.79
2F	Berthon	Y	50 44.20	01 29.22	4Q	John Fisher	Y	50 48.46	01 15.72
2G	Bridgeworks WAN Acceleration	Y	50 44.79	01 28.47	4R	Darling Buoy	Y	50 49.18	01 15.71
2H	Draycott Chartered Surveyors	Y	50 44.30	01 28.16	4S	Royal Southern	Y	50 48.86	01 15.43
2J	Zwerver	Y	50 45.11	01 27.34	4T	Norris #	R	50 45.97	01 15.51
2K	Greenings Fintech	Y	50 44.83	01 26.09	4U	Goodall Roofing	Y	50 46.43	01 15.09
2L	Royal Lymington YC	Y	50 43.14	01 31.95	4V	Hamble Yacht Services	Y	50 48.13	01 14.64
2R	Powder Byrne	Y	50 45.43	01 25.89	4W	Ancasta	Y	50 47.33	01 14.59
2T	Lymington Bank	R	50 43.10	01 30.85	4X	Colette	Y	50 45.53	01 14.39
2U	Tuakana Construction	Y	50 43.67	01 29.50	4Y	North Ryde Middle	R	50 46.61	01 14.31
2X	Solent Bank	R	50 44.23	01 27.37	4Z	South Ryde Middle	G	50 46.13	01 14.16
20	Sconce	BY	50 42.53	01 31.43	40	Haven Knox Johnston Specialist	Y	50 47.66	01 13.65
21	Black Rock	G	50 42.57	01 30.59	41	East Bramble	BYB	50 47.23	01 13.64
22	Raymond James Charles Stanley	Y	50 42.86	01 29.40	42	Peel Bank	R	50 45.49	01 13.35
24	BDM CX	Y	50 42.86	01 28.42	43	Little Ship Club	Y	50 46.16	01 13.09
25	Contessa 26 Association	Y	50 43.15	01 27.49	44	Royal Yacht Squadron	Y	50 47.31	01 12.10
26	Hamstead Ledge	G	50 43.87	01 26.18	45	South East Ryde Middle	YB	50 45.93	01 12.10
27	Adam Harding-Domeney	Y	50 42.97	01 28.16	46	North East Ryde Middle	R	50 46.21	01 11.88
28	Harwoods	Y	50.42.73	01.28.69	47	Contessa 32 Class	Y	50 47.70	01 15.25
Zone 3 Mid Solent (W)					48	Paul Heys	Y	50 48.21	01 16.68
3A	West Lepe	R	50 45.24	01 24.09	49	250th Anniversary	Y	50 46.40	01 13.58
3B	Newtown East	Y	50 44.36	01 23.80	Zone 5 East Solent				
3C	Basher	Y	50 45.64	01 23.12	5A	Quarr	Y	50 45.03	01 11.89
3D	Salt Mead	G	50 44.51	01 23.04	5B	Mother Bank	R	50 45.49	01 11.21
3E	The Boss	Y	50 46.13	01 22.19	5C	Browndown	G	50 46.57	01 10.95
3F	Markby	Y	50 44.72	01 21.95	5D	Kemps Quay	Y	50 45.18	01 09.65
3G	Cowes Week 200	Y	50 46.58	01 21.46	5E	Stokes Bay East	Y	50 46.26	01 08.76
3H	East Lepe	R	50 45.93	01 21.07	5F	North Sturbridge	BY	50 45.33	01 08.23
3K	Lepe Spit	YB	50 46.78	01 20.64	5G	Baker Trayte Marine	Y	50 46.42	01 07.90
3L	Gurnard Ledge	G	50 45.51	01 20.59	5H	Portsmouth SC	Y	50 46.82	01 07.35
3N	MDL Marinas	Y	50 47.07	01 19.88	5J	KB Dry Stack	Y	50 46.61	01 07.29
3P	Cowes Yacht Haven	Y	50 45.68	01 19.98	5K	Naomi House & Jackspace	Y	50 47.08	01 06.78
3Q	Polly's Challenge	Y	50 45.97	01 19.45	5M	Gleeds	Y	50 46.11	01 06.52
3R	North East Gurnard #	R	50 47.06	01 19.42	5P	www.victoryclass.org.uk	Y	50 46.36	01 06.08
3S	SCRA.ORG.UK	Y	50 47.81	01 19.25	5Q	Outer Spit *	YB	50 45.44	01 05.46
3T	CHS	Y	50 46.10	01 18.87	50	Fairhall West @	Y	50 46.81	01 10.40
3U	Gurnard	BY	50 46.22	01 18.84	51	SBSC Central @	Y	50 46.60	01 09.85
3V	West Bramble #	YBY	50 47.20	01 18.65	* 5Q Outer Spit may only be used if given prior consent by KHM, which must be sought in weekday office hours				
3W	Williams Shipping	Y	50 47.20	01 18.55	@ Sundays: SBSC only except Cowes Week				
3X	Island Sailing Club	Y	50 46.10	01 18.43					
Zone 3 continued in next column					See other notes on next page				

SOLENT AREA MARK CODES 2026

Zone 6 Eastern Approaches					Zone 8 Local Marks and Positions				
ID	Name	Colour	Lat N	Long W	ID	Name	Colour	Lat N	Long W
6A	No Man's Land Fort	B	50 44.40	01 05.70	8A				
6B	Horse Sand Fort	B	50 45.01	01 04.34	8B				
6C	Warner	R	50 43.87	01 03.99	8C				
6D	Horse Elbow	G	50 44.26	01 03.88	8D				
6E	West Princessa	YBY	50 40.16	01 03.65	8E				
6F	Bembridge Ledge Buoy	BYB	50 41.15	01 02.81	8F				
6G	St Helens Buoy	R	50 43.36	01 02.41	8G				
6H	Dean Elbow	G	50 43.69	01 01.88	8H				
6J	Nab East	R	50 42.86	01 00.80	8J				
6K	Horse Tail	G	50 43.23	01 00.23	8K				
6L	Winner	YB	50 45.10	01 00.10	8L				
6M	Nab End	R	50 42.63	00 59.49	8M				
6N	Dean Tail	G	50 42.99	00 59.17	8N				
6P	New Grounds	BYB	50 41.84	00 58.49	8P				
6R	Nab Tower	B	50 40.08	00 57.15	8Q				
6S	Outer Nab No 2	BYB	50 38.43	00 57.70	8R				
Zone 7 Southampton Water					8S				
7A	Gymp	R	50 53.07	01 24.16	8T				
7B	Hythe Knock	R	50 52.83	01 23.81	8U				
7C	No 1 Swinging	G	50 53.00	01 23.44	8V				
7D	Weston Shelf	G	50 52.71	01 23.26	8W				
7H	Moorhead	G	50 52.55	01 22.90	8X				
7J	Deans Elbow	R	50 52.20	01 22.85	8Y				
7K	NW Netley	G	50 52.31	01 22.73	8Z				
7L	Hovercraft 4	Y	50 52.66	01 22.42	80				
7N	SWSA/HSC	Y	50 51.76	01 22.28	81				
7P	Hovercraft 3	Y	50 52.43	01 22.01	82				
7Q	Netley	G	50 52.03	01 21.81	83				
7R	Lains Lake	R	50 51.59	01 21.65	84				
7S	Deans Lake	R	50 51.40	01 21.59	85				
7T	Hovercraft 2	Y	50 52.21	01 21.58	86				
7U	Hound	G	50 51.68	01 21.52	87				
7V	Hovercraft 1	Y	50 51.99	01 21.16	88				
7W	After Barn	G	50 51.53	01 20.82	89				
7Y	Cadland	R	50 51.02	01 20.54	Zone 9 Laid Inflatable Marks				
7Z	Greenland	G	50 51.11	01 20.38	9A	Windward Laid Mark			
70	Warsash Sailing Club	Y	50 50.61	01 19.24	9B	Windward Spreader Mark			
72	Hamble Point	YB	50 50.15	01 18.66	9C	Leeward Laid Mark			
73	Bald Head	G	50 49.80	01 18.07	9D	Leeward Spreader Mark			
74	William	Y	50 49.66	01 17.59	9E	Leeward Gate Above Start Line			
76	Test	R	50 52.59	01 23.45	9F	Leeward Gate Below Start Line			
77	Fawley Deep	G	50 50.42	01 19.19	9G	Wing Mark			
78	Hook #	G	50 49.52	01 18.30	9H	Outer Distance Mark			
<p># Only used for passing and keeping boats out of channel, not for ordinary rounding. Use of other main channel marks should be minimised</p> <p>Most yellow race marks are seasonal March-November</p> <p>Mark codes are mainly in order by longitude from west to east, except Zone 2 is split into Mainland, Middle, and Island Side. Marks added to the list since 2010 may be at the end of their Zones. "Missing" codes are spares.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">See other notes on previous page</p>					9J	Finish Mark			
					9K	Far Windward Mark			
					9L	Far Windward Spreader			
					9M	Near Windward Mark			
					9N	Near Windward Spreader			
					9P				
					9Q				
					9R				
					9S				
					9T				
					9U				
					9V				
					9W				
					9X				
					9Y				
9Z									