

HELFORD RIVER SAILING CLUB

L'ABER WRAC'H 2022

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SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- RULES.** Racing will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing 2021 - 2024 (RRS), World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations 2022-23 for Category 3 races (plus life raft), the prescriptions of the RYA, the 2022 L'Aber Wrac'h Notice of Race and these Sailing Instructions.
- DISCLAIMER OF RESPONSIBILITY.** Competitors participating in this race do so entirely at their own risk. See RRS Rule 3, Decision to Race. The organising authority will not accept any liability for material damage, personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the racing.
- SEAWORTHINESS, SAFETY AND SPECIAL REGULATIONS.** The World Sailing Offshore Racing Special Regulations Category 3 will be in force. In addition, every yacht must also carry a serviced life-raft capable of carrying the entire crew. Boats are liable to random inspection for compliance with safety regulations. Any boats found to be in breach of the specified regulations will be disqualified.
Each yacht shall carry Admiralty Charts No 1432 and 2644 or Imray 35 or the equivalent French charts, in addition to the normal charts for the area. Yachts may use their engine to recover a man overboard or to render assistance in grave emergency. Full details must be reported on the Declaration Card.
- NOTICES** to competitors will be posted on the HRSC L'Aber Wrac'h notice board in the clubhouse. Changes to these Sailing Instructions will be posted on the notice board before 08:30 on Friday 24th June 2022. International Code Flag "L" will be flown on the HRSC flag pole to indicate a change to the Sailing Instructions.
- CREW LISTS.** All starters **must** declare the number of persons on board not later than 08:30 on Friday 24th June 2022 to the Race Office at HRSC clubhouse, or by telephone to 01326 – 231460.
- IDENTIFICATION ON SAILS.** In interests of safety and race results, all yachts must make every effort to display their correct sail number on at least their mainsail. Yachts which cannot comply **must advise** the HRSC race committee prior to 08:30 on Friday 24th June 2022. This changes Rule 77.
- HANDICAPS AND START TIMES.** Handicaps and start times will be issued by the HRSC Handicap Committee who will, where appropriate, use ratings from the FFV published list. Any queries or complaints must be addressed to the Handicap Committee in writing.
- THE START LINE** will be the transit of the pole on Dennis Head with the triangle behind. (See chart on HRSC notice board). There will be a distance mark (yellow pillar buoy) near but not necessarily on the line. Yachts shall start south of this distance mark. A yacht starting earlier than 15 minutes prior to their allocated start time will be deemed to have started

incorrectly and will be automatically disqualified. A penalty of 30 minutes will be added to the race time of a yacht which starts within the period 15 minutes prior to their allocated start time. No engines shall be used within 5 minutes of each individual yacht's start time.

9. **COURSE.** The Manacles buoy shall be left to starboard.
10. **THE FINISHING LINE** is at the entrance to the Grand Chenal and is the Libenter Buoy in transit with the Ile Vierge Lighthouse and extending 200 metres to the westward of Libenter buoy.
11. **THE TIME LIMIT** for all competitors is 15:00 hrs BST on Saturday 25th June 2022. Rule 35 will not apply.
12. **DECLARATION.** All competitors (**including retirements**) are required to complete the Declaration Card on arrival at L'Aber Wrac'h. Finishers should state their time (**BST**) crossing the finish line, and if possible, **stating the yacht ahead and astern.**

Cards should be handed to the HRSC representative in the sailing club on the quay after 09.00BST (10h00 French). Please ensure that cards are handed in as soon as possible after arrival to enable the organisers to prepare for the Prize Giving. Cards received after 17:00 hrs (BST) on 25th June 2022 or more than 3 hours after arrival at L'Aber Wrac'h may not be counted. Boats not declaring by 17:00 hrs (BST) will be assumed to have retired from the race but must still hand in their declaration card.

Important: If skippers fail to complete and hand in the declaration card the organisers will assume the yacht is missing and alert the coastguard.
13. **CLASSES.** The race will be the L'Aber Wrac'h Pursuit Race, in which every competitor shall be entered. Scoring will be in accordance with RRS Appendix "A".
14. **PROTESTS** arising out of the race must be made in writing, accompanied by a protest fee of £20 or 20 Euros to the HRSC representative as soon as practicable after the arrival of the protesting boat. Protests will be held as soon as is practicable after the race; this may be at HRSC some days after the race.
15. **PRIZES AND RECEPTION.** The prize-giving will take place at approximately 19:00 local time on Saturday 25th June 2022 at probably the Yacht Club des Abers (depending on weather and tbc). Prizes will be as described in the Notice of Race.
16. **ABANDONMENT OR POSTPONEMENT.** It is the responsibility of all skippers to obtain reliable weather forecasts and to take their own independent decision as to the advisability of putting to sea or not. Because of the wide range of craft competing and the differing crew capabilities, the non-cancellation of the race does NOT imply it is safe for an individual yacht to sail. However, the Committee reserve the right to postpone or cancel the race.
Abandonment signal - Flag N over code Flag H will be flown from the HRSC Clubhouse.
Postponement signal - AP answering pennant over code flag H will be flown from the HRSC Clubhouse.
For information regarding new start times or cancellation, telephone the Clubhouse - 01326 - 231460. The conditions will be reviewed continuously in the case of a postponement, to reduce to a minimum the period of the postponement.

17. **RETIREMENT.** The organisers must assume all yachts entered will race. If any yacht fails to start or retires to another port, it is absolutely essential that the skipper telephones the HRSC safety contact on (preferably) 01326 – 231357 or the Coastguard 01326 – 317575. The Coastguard will be advised of any yacht that has not reported back and is considered by the race organisers to be overdue. Use VHF Channel 69 for yacht to yacht contact.

FAILURE TO REPORT MAY INITIATE SEARCH AND RESCUE OPERATIONS AS THEY WILL BE REPORTED MISSING.

SUPPLEMENTARY NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

1 **TIDES.** Local Low Water on Friday 24th June 2022 is at approximately 08:53 BST, height 1.4m. The outer end of the Club pontoon should be accessible to tenders at all times.

2 **MOBILE PHONE NUMBERS.** For safety purposes would all entrants please write the mobile phone number of at least one crew member (or more) on the back of their HM Coastguard form submitted with the Entry Form.

3 **SOCIAL ACTIVITIES** There will be a Champagne Party in the clubhouse 19.00 – 20.00 on Thursday 23rd June, followed by live music. Food will be available.

A breakfast buffet will be available in the clubhouse on the morning of the 24th June.

4 **CUSTOMS FORMALITIES.** Entry to France by non EU yachts is currently extremely onerous. HRSC have obtained special dispensation from French Customs to allow the race to take place and for competitors to clear Customs in L'Aber Wrac'h. All non EU competitors must supply full details of everyone on board to HRSC (preferably a photocopy of the photo page of their passport) but at the very minimum their name, forenames and date and place of birth by close of entries on Thursday 23rd June. These details will be emailed to French Customs on behalf of the competitors by HRSC. On the Saturday 25th in L'Aber Wrac'h there will be a Customs van parked in the carpark at L'Aber Wrac'h between 1400hrs and 1500hrs (French time) who will clear the vessel and crew into France. All skippers and crew must carry a valid passport.

Any competitor failing to comply with these arrangements will do so at their own risk and HRSC can take no responsibility for any actions taken against such competitors by French Customs.