



HELFDORD RIVER SAILING CLUB NOTICE OF KEEL BOAT RACING 2026

Organising Authority: Helford River Sailing Club (HRSC)

Address: Helford, Helston, Cornwall TR12 6LB

Telephone: 01326 231006

Website: <https://helfordriversc.co.uk>

Facebook Page : <https://www.facebook.com/groups/hrscyachtracing> (Helford River Sailing Club Yacht Racing)

RULES & CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

1. RULES

1.1 Racing will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing 2025 -2028 (RRS).

RRS 44.1 is changed as follows : When a boat may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 in an incident while *racing* a Two-Turn Penalty is replaced by a One-Turn Penalty.

The sailing instructions may also change other racing rules.

The changes will appear in full in the sailing instructions.

1.2 Nothing written in either this Notice of Race or the sailing instructions removes a boat's responsibility to comply with the Falmouth Harbour bye-laws, when sailing in the Falmouth Harbour designated area, see: www.falmouthharbour.co.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/30-130-01-FHC-Byelaws.pdf .

2. ENTRIES

2.1 Entries will be accepted only from owners or their representatives who are members of a PoFSA club, and have (where applicable) completed and submitted a valid entry form, paid the correct entry fee , and whose boat displays sail numbers in compliance with RRS Appendix G. 2.2 Under sixteen-year-olds may enter or crew only if their parent or guardian has given their permission and completed and signed the parental permission form provided.

2.3 The HRSC race committee reserves the right to alter/combine classes and change/adapt entry conditions as they see fit in light of entries received.

2.4 The Entry form can be found on the HRSC website and together with correct entry fee (where applicable) shall be submitted on-line or delivered by hand to:-

The Race Committee, HRSC, Helford, Helston, Cornwall TR12 6L

To be eligible to enter any race an Entry Form must be completed and submitted. Only one Entry Form need be submitted at the beginning of the season for both Wednesday evenings Keel Boat races and Pursuit Races



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3. Assistance to the Race Officer

3.1 Every boat entered will be required to provide an Assistant to the Race Officer of the day on a fixed rota system.

3.2 The rota will be drawn up by the Race Office as soon as possible at the beginning of the season (with amendments periodically as necessary) and published on the Yacht Racing page of the HRSC website and on the Yacht Racing WhatsApp group page.

3.3 The Assistant provided does not have to be part of the boat's race crew (esp. short-handed boats) merely someone who can assist the Race Officer of the day, no prior experience is necessary or PB2 needed (but preferred).

3.3 Boats should adhere to rota and advise the Race Office as early as possible, but at least three days ahead of the scheduled race, if you cannot provide an Assistant.

4. 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 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 and 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) For offshore races they are responsible for ensuring that their boat is equipped and seaworthy so as to be able to face extremes of weather; that there is a crew sufficient in number, experience and fitness to withstand such weather and that the safety equipment is properly maintained, stowed and in date and is familiar to the crew;
- (g) It is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks specific to the venue or event drawn to their attention in any rules and information produced for the venue or event and to attend any safety briefing held for the event;
- (h) Helford River Sailing Club cannot provide patrol boat / safety boat cover for the duration of the racing.



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5. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS.

5.1 Sailing Instructions will be:

- a. posted on the Helford River Sailing Club website and Helford River Sailing Club Yacht Racing Facebook page and may be downloaded and/or
- b. available for collection at the Club.

5.2 Instructions for Special Races and Notice of Racing for individual events will be posted on the HRSC website and on the HRSC Yacht Racing Facebook page.

6. PRIZES, PENALTIES, and SCORING SYSTEM

These are all detailed in the Sailing Instructions, which are available prior to entry, see 4 above.

7. SAILING PROGRAMME 2026

The proposed Sailing Programme is appended to the Sailing Instructions.

8. CLASSES

Generally, Keel Boat Racing will be run as a single Handicap Class. If the number of entries for any one race exceeds 15 the Race Committee reserve the right to group boats into separate classes and run multiple starts.

Where possible, details of classes split will be posted on the HRSC website and Facebook pages.

9. COURSES

9.1 All Series and Special races: Helford River and Falmouth Bay.

9.2 Offshore races: Western Approaches, English Channel, Plymouth forecast area.

9.3 Start times for all races are published in the Sailing Instructions.

10. HANDICAPS

10.1 Generally RYA YTC ratings will be used for all races. A copy of a relevant rating certificate must be submitted with Entries.

10.2 A Non Spinnaker RYA YTC (White Sail) rating for a particular boat will be used, if requested, but only if the request is made to and approved by the Race Committee prior to the commencement of a Series. The rating will then apply to the whole of that Series and consequent Series until a request is made to return to basic RYA YTC rating. Requests may be made verbally to a member of the Race Committee or via the WhatsApp Helford Yacht Racing page. Needless to say, once a request is made and approved, a spinnaker must not be used during any race in a Series.

10.3 In the absence of an RYA YTC handicap rating the Race Committee reserve the right to determine and allocate handicaps based upon similar boats with known handicaps as they see fit.



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11 WEDNESDAY EVENING SERIES RACING

11.1 Spring Series (6 Races) from 8th April to 13th May.

11.2 Early Summer Series (6 Races) from 20th May to 24th June.

11.3 Late Summer Series (6 Races) from 6th July to 5th August.

11.4 Autumn Series (6 Races) 17th August to 23rd September.

12 PURSUIT RACING

12.1 Sunday Pursuit Races (6 Races) - on various Sundays during the season. First race being on 12th April and the final race being on 20th September.

12.2 Long Sunday Pursuit Races ((3 Races) on various Sundays during the season. First race being on 31st May and the final race being on 6th September.

12.3 Winter Mini Series (4 Races) from Wednesday 30th September to Wednesday 21st October.

13. RADIO COMMUNICATION

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

14. INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured for racing including third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £3,000,000, (three million pounds).

15. RACE COMMITTEE

The Race Committee may comprise any or all of the following: Rear Commodore Sailing, Hon. Captain Sailing, Yachts, Race Officer(s) on board the Committee boat and nominated representatives of each entered boat.