

Sailing Instructions

The Holms Race

Saturday 9th September 2017



BOAT SALES LIMITED

1.0 THE EVENT

1.1 A race from Portishead, around Flat Holm and Steep Holm and back to Portishead, giving a sailing distance in excess of 35nm.

1.2 There will be a social event at Portishead Youth Club on Saturday 9th September from 19:30. There will be food, bar and provisional results when ready. Meal tickets will be £10. See Appendix 1 for location of the Portishead Youth Club.

2.0 RESPONSIBILITY

2.1 Yacht racing can be dangerous. The attention of owners, skippers and crew is drawn to RRS Fundamental Rule 4: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone". The safety of a yacht and her crew is the sole and inescapable responsibility of the owner or owner's representative who must do their best to ensure that the yacht is fully found, thoroughly seaworthy and manned by an experienced crew who are able to sail in bad weather. They must be satisfied as to the soundness of the hull, spars, rigging, sails and all gear. They must ensure that the safety equipment is properly maintained and stowed and that the crew know where it is kept and how it is to be used. Nothing, whether in the Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions or anywhere else, reduces this responsibility.

2.2 Nothing done by the organisers can reduce the responsibility of the skipper nor will it make the organisers responsible for any loss, damage, death or personal injury, however it may have occurred, as a result of the boat taking part in the racing. The organisers encompasses everyone helping to run the race and the event, and includes any appointed organising authority, race committee and race officers.

2.3 Competitors must remain well clear of shipping, which will likely be constrained by draught. Any competitor interfering with shipping will be liable to disqualification from the race.

3.0 RULES & REGULATIONS

3.1 The race will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) of the ISAF and the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea.

4.0 ELIGIBILITY & CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

4.1 Competitors attention is drawn to stipulations 4.1 to 4.5 in the Notice of Race.

4.2 All competitors to wear lifejackets for the duration of the race.

4.3 The boat is required to hold adequate insurance and in particular to hold insurance against third party claims in the sum of at least £2,000,000 sterling.

4.4 All boats shall carry an operational marine VHF radio, preferably with DSC capability, equipped with channels 12 (Bristol VTS), 16 (Emergency), 37/M1 (Race Control), 67 (Milford Haven MCA - small ship safety channel), 77 (preferred yacht to yacht channel).

5.0 ENTRIES/CLOSING DATES/ETC

5.1 Entries will be accepted by post, email or in person at the PCC clubhouse until Sunday 2nd September 2016. Late entries will only be accepted at the discretion of the race committee.

5.2 Mooring fees are NOT included in the £10 entry fee. However, Portishead Quays Marina are offering reduced rates for moorings on Friday night and Saturday night for boats participating in the Holms Race. Boats must be pre-registered and have paid the entry fee to take up this offer.

6.0 PRIZES & PRIZE GIVING

6.1 Prizes will be awarded to the first six boats

6.2 Presentation of the provisional results will be at the post race party at the Portishead Youth Club at approximately 22:30. Prizes will be awarded once the results have been checked if possible on the night.

7.0 THE START

7.1 Each entrant selects their own start time; the earliest start time is 11:00 BST. The latest start time is LW Avonmouth (16:50 BST). Note that the first HW Avonmouth is at 10:00 BST.

7.2 Each boat must call Race Control (VHF CH37/M1) to identify themselves (giving their boat name and sail number or other visible identification) and declare their intention to cross the start line. This declaration to take place within 5 minutes of their actual start.

7.3 Entrants should keep clear of the start line unless they are about to start the race so as not to interfere with other starting boats and to avoid being given an earlier start time than they intend.

7.4 Entrants are permitted use of the engine until one minute prior to their start.

7.5 Once an entrant has declared their intention to start, their first crossing of the start line will be presumed to be their intended start.

7.6 The Start Line is between the Portishead Yacht & Sailing Club (PYSC) clubhouse and the southern tip of Denny Island. This is a change from previous years. The PYSC clubhouse is located in Kilkenny Bay, just under 1NM south west of Battery Point.

8.0 THE COURSE

8.1 As follows:

- 1 Start (leaving PYSC clubhouse to port)
- 2 North West Elbow to port
- 3 Flatholm to port
- 4 Steepholm to port
- 5 Northwest Elbow to starboard
- 6 Finish (~~leaving PYSC clubhouse to starboard and the orange marker/committee boat to port~~)

9.0 THE FINISH

9.1 The Finish Line is between the Portishead Yacht & Sailing Club (PYSC) clubhouse and the southern tip of Denny Island. This is a change from previous years.

9.2 At the finish each entrant must call Race Control (VHF CH37/M1) and confirm their identity within close proximity of the line, plus that they have completed the full course. Finishing yachts who do not confirm that they have completed the course will not be given a placing.

9.3 Each entrant must also note the names of the boats immediately in front and behind at the finish line.

9.4 Any boat retiring from the race must confirm that fact to Race Control (VHF CH37/M1) or by phone to Judy Melmoth on 07796 204372. Please ensure that this is adhered to, to prevent an unnecessary search.

9.5 Once finished, yachts who intend to enter Portishead Quays Marina should call the marina immediately on VHF CH80 to book a lock. The marina will then call yachts into the lock by name.

10.0 COMMUNICATIONS

10.1 Between Race Officers, and entrants - use VHF CH37 (M1)

10.2 Channel 77 will be the preferred inter yacht channel.

10.3 Portishead Cruising Club's group DSC MMSI number is 023 200 069 although this will not be used by Race Control.

10.3 All entrants should monitor Bristol VTS CH 12 when in their zone of control.

10.4 To contact the OOD on the day call "PCC Race Control" on VHF CH37 (M1), on low power or phone Judy Melmoth on 07796 204372.

10.5 It is requested that the leading boat makes contact with the OOD approx 45 30 mins before crossing the finish line.

APPENDIX 1 – LOCATION OF THE PORTISHEAD YOUTH CLUB

