

Sailing Instructions

The Holms Race

Saturday 4th September 2021



*Advance
Marine*

boatfolk

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 drinks and free BBQ available after the race from 17:00 at:

Advance Marine
2 Harbourmead.
Portishead
BS20 7AY

See section 11 below for location map. Provisional results will be announced there from 20:00.

1.3 All participants must abide by local social distancing rules in force at the time of the event.

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 race. 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 4.6 in the Notice of Race.

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

4.3 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), 77 (preferred yacht to yacht channel).

5.0 ENTRIES/CLOSING DATES/ETC

5.1 Entries will be accepted online until Sunday 29th August 2021. Late entries will only be accepted at the discretion of the race committee.

5.2 Mooring fees are NOT included in the entry however, Portishead Marina are offering reduced rates for moorings on Friday and Saturday nights for boats participating in the Holms Race. Boats must be pre-registered to take up this offer.

6.0 PRIZES & PRIZE GIVING

6.1 Prizes will be awarded to the first three boats on handicap.

6.2 Provisional results will be announced at the post race event (see section 1.2 above) from approximately 20:00.

7.0 THE START

7.1 Each entrant selects their own start time; the earliest start time is 08:00 BST. The latest start time is LW Avonmouth (12:30 BST). Note HW Avonmouth is at 06:10 and 18:30 BST. Sunset is at 19:49.

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 and Finish Line is between Portishead Point (a.k.a. Battery Point, roughly 0.7NM West of Portishead Pier) and the Newcome (red lateral) buoy. This is the same as 2020 but a change from 2017-19.

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

9.0 THE FINISH

9.1 The Finish Line is the same as the start line.

9.2 At the finish each entrant must call Race Control (VHF CH37/M1) and confirm their identity (e.g. sail number, spinnaker or hull colour) 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.

