

Notice of Race

PCC Regatta

Weekend of 19th/ 20th September 2026

boatfolk

THE BOAT REPAIR CENTRE
Weston-super-Mare

THE EVENT

1.1 Racing on the weekend of 19th and 20th September 2026 will take place in King Road off Portishead in the Severn Estuary in the vicinity of Portishead Marina

1.2 The organising authority is Portishead Cruising Club (PCC) via email to commodore@pccsail.com.

1.3 There will be a social event following this year's event: details will be published in the Sailing Instructions.

1.4 Any updates to this Notice of Race or the Sailing Instructions will be published at the event website, www.pccsail.com

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, race officers and beachmasters.

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 This is an open race and is open to all self-sufficient cruising yachts who have read and accepted this Notice of Race and submitted a completed entry form via the event website.

4.2 All boats shall be self-righting (unless multi-hulled) and carry an auxiliary engine. Hulls should be strongly built with a cabin capable of being made essentially watertight.

4.3 All boats shall, while racing, display any flags, stickers and/or sponsor's logo provided in accordance with RRS 80 and World Sailing regulation 20.

4.4 All boats shall carry an operational marine VHF radio.

4.5 Boats shall carry suitable anchor & sufficient cable to hold the boat in the likely depth of water and weather conditions. Dan buoy flags shall be rolled up so as not to be visible unless purposely deployed.

4.6 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.

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

4.8 All boats shall clearly display a sail number for purposes of identification by the race committee.

5.0 ENTRY PROCESS

5.1 Entries will be accepted online until Sunday 13th September 2026.

5.2 Late entries will only be accepted at the discretion of the race committee.

5.3 A completed entry form must be submitted for each yacht. In submitting a form electronically, an entrant is assuring PCC that they have the necessary insurance cover.

5.4 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 PCC Regatta. Promotional offers are also available to cover the intervening period after the Holms Race for visiting boats. Boats must have registered for the race to take up this offer and discounted moorings must be reserved by 1st September 2026.

5.5 PCC race committee reserves the right to accept or refuse any entries.

6.0 REGISTRATION

6.1 Entry forms can be completed online via the PCC website (www.pccsail.com).

7.0 TIME KEEPING

7.1 Elapsed time will be recorded by PCC race officials

8.0 MEASUREMENT

8.1 Racing will use IRC ratings, and the race committee reserves the right to split racing into IRC1 and IRC2 if needed. Starts and classes may also be combined at the race committee's discretion. This shall not be grounds for redress changing RRS 62.1a and RRS 63.1

8.2 IRC Certificates shall be valid for the duration of the regatta.

8.3 No alteration in a boat's TCC will be permitted after entries have been submitted except as a result of a rating protest, or to correct Rating Office errors. Such errors shall be certified in writing as such by the Rating Office

8.4 A boat's owner and any other person in charge shall ensure that the boat is maintained to comply with her measurement and that her rating certificate remains valid for all races held during the course of the regatta.

8.5 The organising committee reserves the right to inspect any boat to ensure compliance with IRC certificates.

8.6 IRC Rule 22.4 is deleted and replaced by: 'The maximum number of crew onboard when racing shall be equal to the crew number shown on her certificate plus one. There is no weight limit.'

8.7 The boat's owner and any other person in charge shall have the boat's IRC certificate available for inspection by either the organising committee or by another competitor at any time.

8.8 Any class splits will not be finalised until the closing date for entries has passed.

9.0 PRIZES & PRIZE GIVING

9.1 Prizes will be awarded for the first day overall and first second and third overall for the entire regatta.

9.2 Prizes will be awarded each day by the lock control building once crews have returned to Portishead Marina. The time will be provided in the sailing instructions or via VHF on the day.

10.0. SCHEDULE

10.1 A maximum of 6 races are scheduled over the two days

10.2 The scheduled start time of the first race on 19th September is 11h20 BST

10.3 The scheduled start time of the first race on 20th September is 12h20 BST

10.5 The PCC race committee reserve the right to postpone the start at any time before the earliest start time.

10.6 Please note that there are limited locks out of Portishead Marina ahead of the start. It is strongly recommended that you reserve a lock before 12th September 2026.

11.0 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

11.1 The sailing instructions will be available from the event website, www.pccsail.com two weeks before the start of the first race.

12. COURSES

12.1 Courses to be sailed may include races around laid marks, races 'around the cans' or a race 'around the cans' including Denny Island

12.2 Courses for each race will be announced via VHF on Ch37a (M1) prior to the warning signal of each race.

13. SCORING

13.1 The low point scoring system, in accordance with RRS 88.3 will be used

13.2 Yachts scoring DNF will score points for the number of starters in the race + 1. All other yachts not classified (i.e. DSQ, OCS etc.) will score points for the number of entries + 2.

13.3 Yachts still racing at a race time limit will be awarded an equal share of the available points if had they completed the course. If there are no finishers, no points will be awarded.

13.4 One discard is permitted once four races have been run.

13.0 COMMUNICATIONS

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

13.2 Channel 77 will be the preferred inter-yacht channel.

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

14.0 POSTPONEMENT/ABANDONMENT

14.1 In the event of the weather conditions not being suitable, the race officials reserve the right to postpone or abandon the race. The starting and the continuing of the race does not imply that the conditions are suitable for safe sailing (see 2.0 Responsibility).