



# LYMINGTON TOWN SAILING CLUB

## Cruiser Racing Series 2026

### SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

#### Race Schedule

<b>Race 1</b>	<b>Lymington to Hamble</b>	<b>Saturday 2nd May</b>
<b>Race 2</b>	<b>Christchurch Ledge</b>	<b>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May</b>
<b>Race 3</b>	<b>Newtown/Yarmouth Race</b>	<b>Sunday 14th June</b>
<b>Race 4 &amp; 5</b>	<b>Cowes and Back</b>	<b>Saturday 4th July</b>
<b>Race 6</b>	<b>Round the Cans</b>	<b>Sunday 19th July</b>
<b>Race 7</b>	<b>Round the Cans</b>	<b>Sunday 9th August</b>
<b>Race 8</b>	<b>Round the Cans</b>	<b>Sunday 30th August</b>
<b>Race 9</b>	<b>Bramble Bank Race</b>	<b>Saturday 12th September</b>
<b>Race 10</b>	<b>Nut Roast Special</b>	<b>Sunday 4th October</b>

Lymington Town Sailing Club  
Bath House  
Bath Road  
Lymington  
SO41 3SE

TEL: 01590 674514

[sailing@ltsc.co.uk](mailto:sailing@ltsc.co.uk)

[www.ltsc.co.uk](http://www.ltsc.co.uk)

## 1. Rules

- 1.1 The LTSC Cruiser Racing Series 2026 will be governed by the rules as defined by the Racing Rules of Sailing.
- 1.2 Competitors shall undertake to sail in compliance with the RYA Racing Charter.
- 1.3 In the event of a conflict in the rules the Sailing Instructions will prevail.
- 1.4 All competing yachts shall comply with World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations - Appendix B (see Notice of Race Attachment A for details), with the exception of the rules relating to Personal Flotation Devices (para 5.01.1 and 5.01.4).
- 1.5 For Cruiser Racers Personal Flotation Devices shall comply with Appendix B 5.01.1. Appendix B 5.01.4 is replaced with Notice of Race Attachment B.
- 1.6 Regarding the specification of Personal Flotation Devices, dayboats like the J70, J80, RS21, Yeoman & Folkboats shall comply with either World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations - Appendix B (in which case they shall comply in accordance with NOR 1.5), Appendix C (see Notice of Race Attachment C for details) **or** their Class regulations. Class rules are to be found on the relevant Class Association website.
- 1.7 Anchors shall not be carried over the bow whilst racing.
- 1.8 Racing Rules will be changed as follows:
  - 1.8.1 RRS 33 (Changing the Next leg of the Course) is modified as described in S.I. 12
  - 1.8.2 RRS 35 Time Limits altered as described in S.I. 15
  - 1.8.3 RRS 42 Propulsion is modified as described in S.I. 14.5
  - 1.8.4 RRS 44.1 is modified to permit an alternative penalty (see S.I. 14).
  - 1.8.5 RRS 63.1 is amended to allow the Race Committee to disqualify without a hearing
    - a) any boat observed to infringe RRS 28.1 so long as the boat is notified within the protest time limit
    - b) any boat that impedes the progress of a ferry in the Lymington River before, during or after racing. See also SI 26.

## 2 Notices to Competitors

- 2.1 The Official Notice Board shall be the Yacht Racing Pages of the LTSC website. [www.ltsc.co.uk/yacht-racing](http://www.ltsc.co.uk/yacht-racing)
- 2.2 Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board and will be advised on the LTSC Cruiser Racing WhatsApp Group.

## 3 Changes to the Sailing Instructions

- 3.1 Change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted before 0900 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.
- 3.2 Changes to Sailing Instructions will be posted on the Official Notice board at least two hours before the scheduled race start time for the first start. They will also be signalled by flying IC "L" from the Club flagpole over the numeral pennant indicating the number of the change. When no further changes have been made IC "L" will be lowered after the start of the last race.

## 4 Signals Made Ashore

- 4.1 Flag signal made ashore will be flown from the LTSC flagpole below International Code Flag K.

## 5 Race Schedule, Time or First Warning Signal and Tides

### 5.1

Race No	Date	Warning Signal	Tides Portsmouth (BST)		
			HW	LW	HW
1	Sat 2 May	10:00	12:36 4.5m	18:00 1.0m	
2	Sun 24 May	10:00		11:42 1.6m	19:29 4.2m
3	Sun 14 June	10:00	11:14 4.6m	16:39 1.0m	
4	Sat 4 July	10:00	15:06 4.4m	20:19 1.3m	
5	Sat 4 July	15:00	15:06 4.4m	20:19 1.3m	
6	Sun 19 July	10:00		08:44 0.9m	16:46 4.6m
7	Sun 9 August	10:00	08:50 4.0m	14:17 1.8m	
8	Sun 30 August	10:00		06:39 0.7m	13:33 4.7m
9	Sat 12 September	10:00		05:57 0.6m	12:50 4.8m

Race No	Date	Warning Signal	Tides Portsmouth (BST)		
			HW	LW	HW
10	Sun 4 October	10:00		11:01 2.1m	18:16 4.0m

5.2 The time of the first warning signal may be delayed to accommodate the start of other races being sailed from the same start line. Announcements will be made on VHF to confirm.

## 6 Classes & Class Flags

- 6.1 The class flag for all yachts competing will be **Numeral Pennant 3**.
- 6.2 The class flag shall be displayed on the backstay or other easily visible place.
- 6.3 Boats sailing Double Handed should notify the Race Committee prior to the warning signal of the specific race entered.

## 7 Race Area

- 7.1 Racing will take place in the Solent or Christchurch Bay.
- 7.2 The Committee Boat, will display an LTSC Burgee.

## 8 Courses

- 8.1 The course to be sailed will be announced VHF radio Channel 37A prior to the Warning Signal, and, where possible, on the LTSC Cruiser Racing WhatsApp Group.
- 8.2 Courses will be announced using a combination of the SCRA 2025 Mark Designations and local West Solent mark designations / names.
- 8.3 All marks shall be rounding marks unless the alteration of course is less than 90 degrees when they shall be passing marks.
- 8.4 When moveable marks are used in the course, their approximate magnetic bearing from the previous mark or from the Committee Boat will be displayed, if the moveable is the first mark of the course, it will be displayed in three figure notations of the bearing. If two or more moveable marks are used the magnetic bearings will be displayed in the order in which the marks are to be rounded or passed.

## 9 Areas that are Obstructions

- 9.1 The following shall, after starting and whilst racing, only be passed on the channel or seaward side:
  - Jack in the Basket
  - The RLymYC Starting Platform
  - Pennington Sewer Beacon
  - The barrier off Durns Point
- 9.2 The area 100 meters in front of the path of the Lymington/Yarmouth Ferry and within the width of the ferry shall be regarded as an area of obstruction.

## 10 The Start

- 10.1 Races will be started in accordance with RRS 26.
- 10.2 Yachts shall keep clear of the start line until their warning signal.
- 10.3 Boats shall identify themselves by displaying their sail number at the start of each race by passing close to Committee Boat on the opposite side to the starting line. Boats not identified at the start may not be finished.
- 10.4 Sail numbers of individually recalled boats may be broadcast on VHF.
- 10.5 No boat may start more than ten minutes after her class start.
- 10.6 When starting from a Committee Boat, other than Baverstock, starting signals may be broadcast on VHF Channel 37A. RRS 26 is amended such that visual signals may not be displayed.

## 11. Start Lines

- 11.1 All races, except Race 5, will be started on the Baverstock Start Line.
- 11.2 The line is formed between the mast on Baverstock and the outer limit mark identified by the race officer.
- 11.3 The Start Line for Race 5 will be between a Committee Boat flying an LTSC Burgee and Gurnard (3U).
- 11.4 An unmarked buoy may be laid as an inner distance mark and will be classed as a starting mark of the course. Yachts shall not pass between the Committee Boat and the IDM if laid.

## 12. Change of the Next Leg of the Course

- 12.1 The next leg of the course may be changed at any mark to send boats directly to the finish from that mark.
- 12.2 This will be signalled by a boat flying an LTSC Burgee and International Code Flag "F" and making repetitive sound signals. This changes RRS 33

- 12.3 Boats shall round that mark according to the course and sail directly to the finish line leaving marks in SI 9.1 on the appropriate side. This changes RRS 33.

### 13. The Finish

- 13.1 All races, except Races 1, 3, & 4, will finish at the Baverstock Finish Line.
- 13.2 The line is formed between the mast on Baverstock, and a moveable outer distance mark laid in the vicinity.
- 13.3 In the case that Baverstock is not manned (LTSC flag not flying) then the finish line will be an imaginary line formed when the mast of Baverstock bears 000° (M) at a distance of not more than 100 metres.
- 13.4 The Finish Line for Race 1 will be between a Committee Boat flying an LTSC Burgee and Coronation (4B). The Committee Boat will be stationed to the North of Coronation Buoy. If there is no Committee Boat on station the finish line will be an imaginary line formed when Coronation Buoy bears 180° (M) at a distance of not more than 100 metres.
- 13.5 The Finish Line for Race 3 will be between a Committee Boat flying an LTSC Burgee and River Yar Boatyard (9), which is the outer distance mark for the Royal Solent Yacht Club. The Committee Boat will be stationed to the South of River Yar Boatyard Buoy. If there is no Committee Boat on station the finish line will be an imaginary line formed when River Yar Boatyard Buoy bears 000° (M) at a distance of not more than 100
- 13.6 The Finish Line for Race 4 will be between a Committee Boat flying an LTSC Burgee and Gurnard (3U). The Committee Boat will be stationed to the South of Gurnard Buoy. If there is no Committee Boat on station the finish line will be an imaginary line formed when Gurnard Buoy bears 000° (M) at a distance of not more than 100 metres. metres.
- 13.7 Finishing times and reporting.
- 13.7.1 When a Duty Boat, Committee Boat or Race Officer is unavailable at the prescribed finishing line, yachts shall take their own times and report these on the LTSC Cruiser Racing WhatsApp Group or to the Sailing Office at LTSC as soon as possible and no later than 48 hours after the finish.
- 13.7.2 Finishing time reports should include the following information:
- (i) Yachts name and sail number
  - (ii) Exact finish time (hr. min. sec) in BST.
  - (iii) Yacht ahead and astern
  - (iv) Any rule infringement or mark unseen
  - (v) Use of engine
  - (vi) Intention to lodge a Protest
- 13.7.3 Reports may be made to the LTSC Cruiser Racing WhatsApp Group or by email to [sailing@ltsc.co.uk](mailto:sailing@ltsc.co.uk)
- 13.8 A race may be finished at or near any mark of the course by a committee boat flying a blue flag over flag S and class flags of classes affected in accordance with RRS 32.2. If there is no duty Committee Boat the duty Race Officer will advise of any shortened course by VHF radio Channel 37A and may also, when possible, on the LTSC Cruiser Racing WhatsApp Group.

### 14. Penalty System

- 14.1 RRS 44.1 is changed so only a One Turn Penalty is required when a yacht breaks a rule of Part 2.
- 14.2 A boat that takes a penalty under RR44.2 shall declare this in writing before the expiry of the protest time limit.
- 14.3 The exoneration penalty for a boat realising that a rule has been broken after finishing but prior to the commencement of a protest hearing is 20% of the number of boats ranking as starters, to a minimum of 2 and a maximum 5 points.
- 14.4 If on consulting a rules advisor, it is realised that a rule has been broken but no party takes any further action, the penalty is zero. However, if a boat caused injury or serious damage, or gained a significant advantage in the race or series by her breach, her penalty is to retire.
- 14.5 An engine may be used to recover a person overboard, to render assistance, or in any other emergency. If so, a boat should seek redress in accordance with RRS 62.1 (b)

### 15. Time Limits

- 15.1 The time limit for Races 1, 2, 3, & 9 will be 6 hours. The time limit for Races 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, & 10 will be 4 hours. Only yachts finishing within these time limits will be scored as finishers. Yachts finishing outside the stated time limit will be scored as Did Not Finish (This changes RRS 35).

### 16. Protests & Requests for Redress

- 16.1 Protests must be lodged, in writing, with the Duty Race Officer, or Duty Yacht, if away from Lymington, within two hours of the finish of the protesting yacht.
- 16.2 It is the duty of the protesting and protested boats to ascertain from the Race Committee the time and place of the hearing and to attend and produce their witnesses at that place and time.

17. **Scoring**
  - 17.1 RRS A5.3 will apply.
  - 17.2 Results will be calculated using both the RYA YTC Rating System and the LAH/NHC system
  - 17.3 Discards. The number of discards is set out in NoR 11.
  - 17.4 A yacht that changes ownership or charter or sails with a completely new crew, including helm, during the series shall constitute a new entry for the series. Points awarded under the old ownership, crew or charter shall not be carried forward to the new ownership, crew or charter.
  
18. **Safety Regulations**
  - 18.1 The safety of a boat and her entire management, including insurance, shall be the sole responsibility of the owner/competitor racing the boat who must ensure that the boat and crew are adequate to face the conditions that may prevail in the course of the race.
  - 18.2 Neither these Sailing Instructions, nor any amendment thereunto, nor any inspection of the boat limits or reduces the absolute responsibility of the owner/person in charge for the crew, the boat and her management.
  - 18.3 Every owner/person in charge warrants the suitability of his boat for the race or races. The owner/person in charge shall make their crew aware of this condition.
  - 18.4 Yachts retiring from a race shall inform the Race Committee as soon as possible by VHF Channel 37A, via the WhatsApp Group, or by reporting to the LTSC Race Officer in person.
  
19. **Replacement of Crew or Equipment**
  - 19.1 Substitution of crew may be made without restriction.
  - 19.2 Substitution of damaged or lost equipment governed by Class rules, rating or measurement certificates will not be allowed unless approved by the race committee. Requests for substitution shall be made to the committee at the first reasonable opportunity.
  
20. **Equipment and Measurement Checks**
  - 20.1 All boats will be liable to inspection before the start of a race or after the boat finishes.
  - 20.2 Such inspections may cover relevant regulations, class rules regarding sails, safety equipment and re-measurement.
  
21. **Advertising ISAF Regulation 20 (Advertising Code).**
  - 21.1 Boats will not be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organising authority.
  
22. **Radio Communications**
  - 22.1 The Race Officer will communicate with competitors on VHF Channel 37A. Boats are requested not to communicate with the Race Officer unless absolutely necessary in the event of an emergency, notification of protest or notification of retirement.
  
23. **Prizes**
  - 23.1 The Presentation of Trophies will take place at the Annual Prize giving, to be held in the Lymington Town Sailing Club Solent Room, date to be advised.
  - 23.2 Prizes to be awarded will depend upon sponsors and number of entries.
  
24. **Risk Statement**
  - 24.1 Lymington Town Sailing Club are providing this event, only on the understanding that the Club, its representatives and anybody providing assistance bear no responsibility for any loss, damage, injury or inconvenience to yachts, equipment or persons howsoever arising, directly or indirectly from the rules, policies, courses or rulings during the event or related activities.
  - 24.2 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 its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:
    - 24.2.1 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.
    - 24.2.2 They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore.
    - 24.2.3 They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions.
    - 24.2.4 Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate.
    - 24.2.5 The provision of a race management team, patrol boats, umpires and other officials and volunteers by the organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities.

24.2.6 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.

24.3 Competitors participate in the events entirely at their own risk. See rule 4 - Decision to Race.

25. **Insurance**

25.1 Every boat shall have adequate insurance cover of at least £3 million against third party liability.

26. **Ferries**

26.1 Any boat in the Lymington River shall not cause Wightlink Ferries to take avoiding action. The ingoing and outgoing ferries may cross one another in the river off the entrance to Pylewell Lake. Competitors should be particularly wary at this point. As navigation aids to ferry skippers, two black and white posts on the East side, and two red and white posts on the West side have been erected near where the ferries cross.

26.2 Competitors should note that the Wightlink ferries are operating a commercial service in restricted waters and have little room for manoeuvre to avoid obstructions. As a rule of thumb, whilst sailing in the river channel, boats are advised to maintain a distance of not less than two ferry lengths ahead of the ferry. Every effort must be made to avoid interference with their navigation in the river

**NOTES:**

Races 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, & 10 may use the same start line as the Dinghy Solent Series Races. CRS start times will be announced by the Race Officer on VHF Ch 37A.

Yachts are requested to keep well clear of the start line during the Dinghy Solent Series starting sequences.

For the full SCRA List of Solent Racing Marks go to:

<https://www.scra.org.uk/solent-marks/solent-marks2>