



Solent Circuit 2026

Notice of Race

Event dates:

11, 18, 25 October; 1, 15 November

The notation '[NP]' in a rule means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule.
This changes RRS 60.1

1. Organising Authority.

- 1.1. The Organising Authority is the Lymington Town Sailing Club.

2. Rules

- 2.1. The event will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing.
- 2.2. The Sailing Instructions may make permitted changes to any rules.
- 2.3. Racing will be conducted in accordance with the RYA Racing Charter and competitors are expected to conform to it. [RYA Racing Charter](#)
- 2.4. [NP] Boats in the Lymington River, while racing, proceeding to a race or returning from racing, shall not cause Wightlink ferries to take avoiding action.
- 2.5. [NP] All yachts shall comply with World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations - Appendix B. (See NoR Attachment A for details). Regarding the provision of personal flotation devices, Nordic Folkboats and Sportsboats shall comply with **either** Appendix B **or** their class rules. (See NoR Paragraph 13)
- 2.6. For Nordic Folkboats there shall be no penalty for a breach of NFIA Rule 13.10 (Crew Limitations) and Nordic Folkboats are permitted to use spinnakers as per UK Class Racing Regulation Part II 1.4.
- 2.7. RRS 52, Manual Power shall not apply.
- 2.8. In accordance with IRC Rule 22.1, boats rated with bunk cushions on board may remove the bunk cushions. No compensating weight need be carried.

3. Advertising

3.1. Boats may be required to display advertising.

4. Eligibility and Entry

4.1. Entries can be made online at <https://www.ltsc.co.uk/solent-circuit>

4.2. The event is open to the following classes:

Class/ Handicap Name	Rating/ System	Rating/ Handicap Range (Provisional)	Min No of Entries (see 4.5- 4.10 below)
1. IRC 1		0.926 and above	6
2. IRC 2		0.925 and below	6
3. YTC 1		999 and below	6
4. YTC 2		1000 and above	6
Folkboat		Not Applicable	6
Sportsboat		IRC Ratings	6

4.3. The entry fees are:

Single day Entry Fee, LTSC Member	Single day Entry Fee, non- LTSC Member	Entry fee for whole series for entries received by 20.09.26, LTSC Member	Entry fee for whole series for entries received by 20.09.26, non- LTSC Member	Entry fee for whole series for entries received after 20.09.26, LTSC Member	Entry fee for whole series for entries received after 20.09.26, non-LTSC Member
£25	£42	£55	£90	£75	£110

4.4. The latest entry date for Whole Series Entries will be Thursday 8th October 2026. Thereafter only Single Day Entries will be accepted.

4.5. If there are insufficient number of entries in either Class 1 or Class 2 and only one IRC class is viable, the lower rated competitors will be contacted to offer them the choice of IRC or YTC.

4.6. If there is and insufficient number of entries in YTC 1 or YTC 2, all entries will be combined in YTC 1.

4.7. The Race Committee reserve the right to alter the ratings split between classes if the minimum number of entries have not been received in a particular class by the closing date, or to balance class sizes. Final Class Splits will be posted as a Notice to Competitors by 0900hrs on Saturday 10 October 2026.

4.8. Any One Design class with 6 or more entries may be run as a separate race. If a dedicated course with moveable marks is required, the minimum number of entries will be 8.

4.9. For Sportsboats. If a dedicated windward-leeward course with moveable marks is required, the minimum number of entries will be 8. The Race Officer may set the best possible course using laid marks depending on conditions and the number of entrants at the start area prior to a race.

4.10. All IRC and YTC Entries must include their handicap rating, for the Entry to be accepted. YTC Ratings can be obtained via the RORC Rating office at <https://rorcrating.com/ryaytc>

5. Racing Schedule

5.1. The event schedule will be:

All Classes		
DATE	Week Number	Number of Races Scheduled
Sunday 11 October	1	Two.
Sunday 18 October	2	Two
Sunday 25 October	3	One
Sunday 1 November	4	One
Sunday 8 November		No Racing
Sunday 15 November	5	SPARE

5.2. The race schedule may be changed by the Race Committee to accommodate weather conditions or other circumstances. Changes to the advertised race schedule may be posted on the Official Notice Board, and by WhatsApp by 20:00 hrs on the day before the race day concerned.

Races which were not sailed on Week 1 or Week 2 may be rescheduled to Week 3, 4 or 5 to maximise the number of races sailed in the series.

5.3. The warning signal for the first race of each day will not be before 0925hrs.

6. Sailing Instructions

6.1. The sailing instructions will be available on the LTSC website on or about 5 October 2026.

7. Venue and Course Area

7.1. The venue will be the Lymington Town Sailing Club, Bath Road, Lymington.

7.2. The course area will be The Western Solent.

8. Courses

8.1. Courses may be Windward / Leeward or Around the Buoys type.

8.2. Charts of racing mark locations and the letter, number or symbol designated to each will be available on the LTSC website and may be posted on the official notice board. The courses to be sailed will be described in the Sailing instructions: <https://www.ltsc.co.uk/solent-circuit>

9. Penalty System

9.1. The sailing instructions will specify any changes to rule 44 and if Appendix P applies.

9.2. For breaches of any rule, other than a rule of RRS Parts 1 and 2, the protest committee may decide the penalty.

10. Scoring & Discards

- 10.1. RRS 90.3 & Appendix A4 Low Point Scoring System shall apply.
- 10.2. The minimum number of races to constitute a series is two.
- 10.3. For all classes, the following discards shall apply:

No. of Races Completed	Discards
5 or 6	1
4 or fewer	0

11. Communications

- 11.1. The Official Notice Board shall be online at <https://www.ltsc.co.uk/solent-circuit>
- 11.2. VHF radio will be used by the Race Committee to communicate with competitors.
- 11.3. All boats shall carry an operational VHF radio at all times while racing.
- 11.4. For boats with class rules that prohibit the use of VHF radio, there shall be no penalty for breaching the class rule while complying with NoR 11.2 and 11.3.
- 11.5. The Race Committee may, in addition to VHF, communicate courses for each class and other announcements by WhatsApp. Details of how to join the LTSC Solent Circuit Competitors WhatsApp Group will be available on the online official noticeboard by 2 October.

12. Results & Prizes

- 12.1. Results will be posted on the LTSC Website as soon as possible after completion of each race in the series.
- 12.2. Subject to outstanding protests, Final Results will be posted as soon as possible after the last race of the series on Sunday 1st or 15th November 2026.
- 12.3. Daily bottle prizes will be awarded for 1st and 2nd placed boats in each class.
- 12.4. The Overall Prizegiving will be held on 1st November 2026, or 15th November if sailed, as soon as possible after racing or, if there is no racing, at 1200hrs.

13. Safety

- 13.1. For yachts in IRC and YTC Classes, personal flotation devices carried on board for each member of the crew shall conform to the requirements of World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations, Appendix B, Part B, Regulation 5.01.1 and 5.01.4 (See NoR Attachment A)
- 13.2. For Sportsboats, the **boat** shall be equipped with a **personal flotation device** for each **crew** member to the minimum standard ISO 12402-5 (Level 50), USCG Type III, or an equivalent and have been manufactured after 2006. Each shall be of the appropriate size range for the crewmember as marked on the PFD.
- 13.3. For Folkboats, A Personal Flotation Device ('PFD') with minimum buoyancy of 50 Newton shall be carried for each person on board. Each PFD shall be either of compressed gas automatically inflatable, or of the permanently buoyant type, or a combination of both. (Recommendation: the PFD should be of brightly clearly visible colour, when immersed in water.)

- 13.4. The race organisers shall not be liable for any loss, damage, death or personal injury howsoever caused to the owner/competitor, his skipper or crew, as a result of their taking part in the race or races. Moreover, every owner/competitor warrants the suitability of his boat for the race or races.
- 13.5. A boat that retires from a race shall inform the race committee as soon as practical, either by VHF, WhatsApp or telephone.
- 13.6. No boat shall race with an anchor protruding over its bow.
- 13.7. Skippers shall ensure an up to date crew list with emergency contact details for each crew member is lodged with their shore-side contact prior to each race weekend. A shore-side name and contact number is required on the entry form.

14. Support Boats

- 14.1. Support boats may be subject to restrictions that will be detailed in the Sailing Instructions.

15. Risk Statement

- 15.1. Rule 3 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:
 - 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 or 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, umpires and other officials and volunteers by the organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
 - f) Their boat is adequately insured, with cover of at least £5 million against third party claims.

16. Amendments to the Notice of Race

- 16.1. This Notice of Race may be changed by a notice posted on the Official Notice Board.

17. Official Event Photography & Drones

- 17.1. During the course of the series official photographers may be in attendance. Drones (UAV's/UAS's) may be used in close proximity to obtain media for the event. This may be on land and / or over water. By entering /participating in the series you agree to their use unless

you register any objection prior to the series with the organisers. Any material gained from their use can be used by the organisers or sponsors for PR and Media purposes.

18. Further Information

Competitors are welcome to use the LTSC Clubhouse facilities and bar on each Sunday of the series.

For Further information please contact the office.

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

Tel No: 01590 674514

email: sailing@ltsc.co.uk

website: <https://www.ltsc.co.uk/solent-circuit>

LTSC Solent Circuit 2026

Notice of Race - Attachment A

APPENDIX B – Special Regulations for Inshore Racing 2026-2027

Special Regulations for inshore racing are intended for use in short races, close to shore in relatively warm and protected waters where adequate shelter and/or effective rescue is available all along the course, held in daylight only.

Part A Basic

Regulation	Item
1.02	Responsibility of Person in Charge
1.02.1	Under RRS 3 the responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or continue racing is hers alone. The safety of a boat and her crew is the sole and inescapable responsibility of the <i>person in charge</i> who shall do his best to ensure that the boat is fully found, thoroughly seaworthy and manned by an experienced and appropriately trained crew who are physically fit to face all weather. The <i>person in charge</i> shall also assign a person to take over his responsibilities in the event of his incapacitation.
2.04.1	All equipment required by OSR shall: a) function properly, b) be regularly checked, cleaned and serviced, c) if it has an expiry date, it will not have exceeded its expiry date whilst racing, d) when not in use be stowed in conditions in which deterioration is minimised, e) be readily accessible, and f) be of a type, size and capacity suitable and adequate for the intended use and size of the boat.
3.02	Watertight and Structural Integrity of a Boat
3.02.1	A boat shall be essentially watertight and all openings shall be capable of being immediately secured. Centreboard or daggerboard trunks and the like shall not open into the interior of a hull except via a watertight maintenance hatch with the opening entirely above the waterline.

Part B Portable Equipment

A boat shall have:

Regulation	Item
3.23	A strong bucket with a lanyard and of at least 9 L (2.4 US Gal) capacity.
3.24	A compass (a hand-held is acceptable).
4.05	A fire extinguisher required if electrical system, engine or stove on board.
4.06	An anchor.
4.22.3	A lifebuoy with a drogue.
4.22.4	A heaving line, no less than 6 mm (1/4") diameter, 15–25 m (50–75') long, readily accessible to cockpit.
4.25	A strong, sharp knife, in a securely restrained sheath shall be readily accessible from the deck or a cockpit.

Each Crewmember shall have:

Regulation	Item
5.01.1	A gas inflatable lifejacket which shall comply with ISO 12402-3 (Level 150) and have been manufactured after 2011. It shall be fitted with the following, each complying with ISO 12402-3 or ISO 12402-8: a) a manual or automatic gas inflation system, b) a ride up prevention system (crotch strap or thigh straps), It shall also: g) be of the appropriate size range for the crewmember as marked on the PFD, and h) have been indelibly marked with the name of the owner or boat.
5.01.4	The person in charge shall personally check that each lifejacket has been serviced in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendation by an approved service station and that the next service date as marked on the lifejacket has not been exceeded.