

Notice of Race for Dinghy Racing Season 2023-2024

1. **Organising Authority:** Warsash Sailing Club (WSC).
2. **Rules:** WSC Club Racing shall be governed by the RYA Racing Rules of Sailing 2021-2024 (RRS), the Prescriptions of the RYA, this Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions issued for the series. In the event of a conflict, the Sailing Instructions shall take precedence. Any changes to the rules shall be detailed in the series Sailing Instructions.
3. **RYA Racing Charter:** Competitors should note that WSC as the organising authority implements the RYA Racing Charter and that all competitors are required to sail in compliance with the Charter which can be found in the RYA Racing Rules of Sailing 2021- 2024 (RRS) or at www.rya.org.uk/racing/charter
4. **Eligibility:** Club racing is open to WSC members only. Racing is for sailing dinghies and will be split into four fleets segregated by the current RYA Portsmouth Yardstick. Fleets shall be known as Super-Fast, Fast, Medium and Slow. Fleet PY splits are defined in the Sailing Instructions.
5. **Entry:** All Club members are required to register their boat(s) before racing for the first time in the season. Registration forms are available on the WSC website: warsashsc.org.uk. Unregistered boats/helms will not be given a result.
6. **Schedule of races and start times:** The warning signal for the first race of the season shall be no earlier than 17:57 on Wednesday 29th March 2023. Subsequent race start times are as published in the sailing calendar on the WSC website: warsashsc.org.uk.
7. **Sailing Instructions:** The sailing instructions are available to view/download at the WSC website: warsashsc.org.uk.
8. **Courses:** The course card for WSC dinghy series races is available to view/download at the WSC website warsashsc.org.uk. Starts shall be either from the Shore House Club Line in the mouth of the river Hamble or by committee boat in the vicinity of Cathead bay. Racing will be in the western Solent and Southampton water.
9. **Handicaps:** Dinghies shall race under the RYA Portsmouth Yardstick handicap system.
10. **Scoring:** Scoring will be in accordance with RRS Appendix A, but different series may have different requirements for the numbers of races to count; these are described in the Sailing Instructions. Sailors allocated a Club duty for a race may be awarded points for that race. Refer to the Sailing Instructions for details.
11. **Prizes:** Prizes will be awarded to the winning sailors and such lower places as the dinghy committee deem appropriate having regard to the total series entries, and the entries in each race. Prizes will be awarded for each fleet with the lowest points scored in each series. Ties shall be broken using the principles of RRS App A, A.8. Trophies may also be awarded for series overall or other reasons. Only full WSC members are eligible for perpetual WSC trophies. Prizes will be awarded on the completion of each race series.
12. **Risk Statement**

Rule 3 of the RRS states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or continue to race is hers alone'. Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently 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, 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 if any and other officials and volunteers by the event organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
 - (f) the provision of patrol boat cover if any is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can practically be provided in the circumstances;
 - (g) their boat is adequately insured, with cover of at least £3,000,000 against third party claims

Further Information may be obtained from the Dinghy Committee Chairman (dinghy@warsashsc.org.uk) or event leads as listed in the Sailing Calendar.
