

Ballad UK Class National Championships 2023: 26th-29th May

Notice of Race

The organising authority is the Plym YC in conjunction with UK Ballad Class Association

Rules-

The races will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), RYA prescriptions, the Notice of Race, the Sailing Instructions and the rules of the Ballad class.

RYA rules disputes procedures will be available. The protest committee may apply a penalty less than disqualification, where appropriate and fair, for a minor infringement. The Dockyard Port of Plymouth Order (DPPO), Plymouth Local Notices to Mariners, and the rules of any other Harbour Authority in which racing occurs, shall apply. In particular, regulations regarding the safe navigation of large vessels must be strictly observed and the instructions of harbour officials must be complied with. Skippers are reminded of the necessity to maintain a good lookout at all times when racing.

Eligibility-

The event is open to all boats that are members of the UK Albin Ballad Association. Boats shall declare at entry whether they intend to race with or without a spinnaker. Eligible boats may enter by completing the entry form together with payment of the required fee by the date given on the entry form. The entry form may be downloaded from www.plymyachtclub.org.uk.

Boats may be inspected for compliance with the Ballad One Design Rule, and any alterations adopted by the UK Ballad Association, during the regatta.

Identifying Pennant-

All competing boats to fly flag Q (quarantine yellow flag) when racing.

Communications-

Competitors should arrange to receive communications from the Plym Yacht Club WhatsApp Racing Updates group.

Yachts must monitor Ch M/37 for fixed line starts or Ch 72 for Committee Boat starts. Failure to receive a VHF communication shall not be grounds for redress. (If Ch M or 72 is unusable, then Ch M2 or 77 will be used in its place.) Racing will be managed according to part 3 of the RRS except that visual signals will be replaced by announcements on Ch M/37 (Ch72 for Committee Boat starts.) This changes RRS rule 26.

Sailing Area-

The sailing area shall be the waters of Plymouth Sound and nearby coastal waters. Championship courses may be set North or South of the main breakwater. The pursuit race may involve a trip up the Tamar River to Saltash. Hazards exist in the Sailing Area-safe navigation is the crew's responsibility.

Fees-

These are described on the entry form.

Berthing-

Yacht Haven Marina Plymouth have offered berthing for the duration of the championship. A 20% discount may be obtained provided at least 6 Ballads take up this offer. The marina is also willing to allow Ballads to moor rafted-up over the lunchtime break on Saturday and Sunday racing.

Risk Statement-

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 her’s 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, 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 and other officials and volunteers by the event organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities.
- (f) The provision of patrol boat cover will not routinely be provided and when so provided is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances.
- (g) For offshore races and coastal races, 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.
- (h) They agree to be bound by the by The Racing Rules of Sailing and by all other rules that govern each event.
- (i) Their boat is adequately insured, with cover of at least £3,000,000.00 against third party claims.**

Safety Regulations for Racing- Plym Y.C.

- It is strongly recommended that yachts have an effective working engine or other suitable means of alternative propulsion.
- All competitors under the age of 18 must wear a personal flotation device at all times when afloat. In addition, competitors are reminded that the Race Officer may decide to conduct any race under flag Y.
- For Inshore Races, yachts must comply with the requirements of World Sailing Appendix B. Skippers are reminded that Yachts should have a ‘Man Overboard’ Lifebuoy ready at all times.
- The Club reserves the right to carry out checks of safety equipment, this in no way reduces the obligations of the owner or skipper.

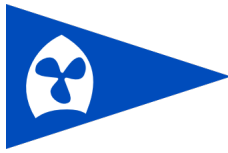
- **Retiring-**

A boat that retires from a race should make every effort to notify the Race Committee of their intentions as soon as possible by either a visual or verbal signal to the race officer or by VHF radio message on Channel M (37) for club line starts or Channel 72 for committee boat starts.

Programme of Racing & Other Events

Date	Activity	Time	Location
Friday 26 th May	Practice Race	Start 18:25 (With Class B)	PYC Start Line
	Skippers' briefing Buffet Supper	2030	PYC Club House
Saturday 27 th May	Race 1	Warning signal 10.30	PYC Start Line/ Plymouth Sound
	Lunch	13.00	Plymouth Yacht Haven
	Race 2	15.00	PYC Start Line/ Plymouth Sound
	Reserve Race*	After Race 2	
	Evening Supper	1930	PYC Club House
Sunday 28 th May	Race 3	Warning signal 10.30	PYC Start Line/ Plymouth Sound
	Lunch	13.00	Plymouth Yacht Haven
	Race 4	15.00	PYC Start Line/ Plymouth Sound
	Reserve Race*	After Previous Race	
	Prize Giving	1830	The Bridge (Plymouth Yacht Haven)
Monday 29 th May	Pursuit race	Warning Signal 10.00	PYC Start Line

The PYC Start Line is at the end of Mount Batten breakwater. A reserve race may be sailed if required to maintain the schedule in the event of adverse circumstances, e.g. weather conditions.



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General Sailing Instructions

Rules-

- Competitors must note their obligations as given in the Notice of Race.
- Restricted Areas. Yachts shall not pass through 'The Bridges' between Drakes Island and the Cornwall shore and shall not enter the designated Bathing Area east of Tinside Pool and shall not sail through the moorings at Mount Batten.
- Competing yachts should pass close to the starting control before the warning signal, with sail number clearly shown, in order that their intention to race is noted.
- Please assist the race committee by making sure that your sail numbers are in clearly contrasting colours to the sail, are easily visible and readable when set, and the correct sail number is shown on each sail. (Red numerals on black sails are seldom readable.) A sail without the correct number may only be used with the explicit prior agreement of the race committee.
- In an emergency, a yacht may use her engine and afterwards continue to race without penalty, providing that she does not gain by such use, and she reports the circumstances to the race committee, who are satisfied with the explanation given.
- In strong or gusty winds, the Race Officer may decide to restrict the use of spinnakers on grounds of safety. This will normally be communicated to competitors by an announcement on the race VHF Channel either before or during a race.
- A boat may take a One Turn Penalty only when she may have broken one of more of the RRS Part 2 rules in an incident when racing. This changes RRS Rule 44.

Communication with Competitors-

- All racing will be managed over VHF. Yachts shall monitor Ch M (37) for Club Line starts or Ch (72) for committee boat starts. Failure to receive a VHF communication shall not be grounds for redress. Yachts should not make nor receive other VHF communications not available to other competitors.
- Any changes to sailing instructions, details of the start line and course will be communicated by email, by WhatsApp or announced on VHF before the warning signal.

Series scoring-

- Appendix A of the RRS will apply but with races to count as below. At least 3 races must be sailed to constitute a championship. Spinnaker and Non-Spinnaker boats will be scored as two separate classes.

Races Sailed	1	2	3	4
To count	1	2	3	3

- In addition to the perpetual prizes listed later, race prizes will be awarded at the discretion of the race committee; these will not necessarily go to the winning boats.

Protests-

- The protest time limit shall be two hours after the last boat in the class finishes its last race of the day. Yachts intending to protest should inform the race committee by VHF to arrange delivery. Protest forms are available on the PYC website.

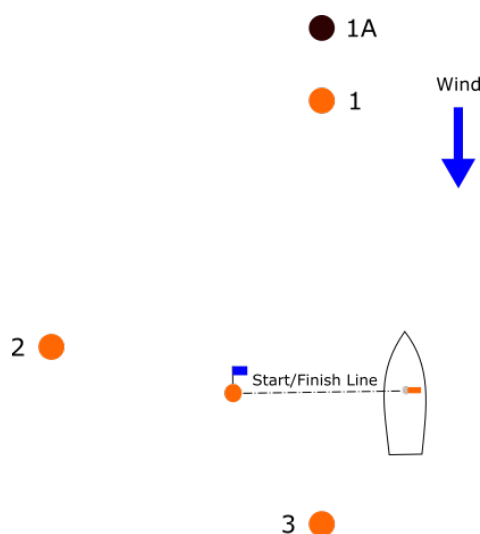
The Start-

- Races will be started using RRS 26, with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal. The starting sequence will be transmitted on VHF channel M (37) for club line starts or Channel 72 for committee boat starts . The failure to receive radio transmissions is not grounds for redress.
- The start line to be used will be announced at the briefing on the Friday of the Championships. It may be the PYC Line at Mount Batten or a Committee Boat Start
- Mountbatten Start Line. A transit of the PYC Flagstaff at Mount Batten and orange or black and white pole in front, with outer distance mark to be announced on VHF.
- Committee boat start will be between the mast on the Committee Boat flying an orange flag and an outer distance mark which will be an orange danbuoy with blue banner flag.

Courses-

- Courses will use navigational marks in all instances and will either be from the PYC list of courses using the Mountbatten start line or committee boat courses (sausage/triangle). A mark chart is included at the end of the course list.
- Courses selected from the PYC list of courses (which **has been updated for the 2023 season**) are available as a separate download at www.plymyachtclub.org.uk.
- Alternatively, the course will be announced over VHF and displayed on course boards next to the start line.
- Committee Boat Courses-

The general layout of the course is as below, not to scale.



Marks 1 ,2 and 3 will be navigation marks to be announced over VHF Ch 72.

The distance from 3 to 1 will normally be about 1 nm.
(Mark 1A will not be used for this event.)

Course	Marks to:			Round 1			Round 2			Round 3			Finish.	Notes
				1	3		1	2	3	1	3			
1P	Port	Start		1	3		1	2	3	1	3		Finish.	Sausage, Triangle, Sausage.
2P	Port	Start		1	3		1	3		1	3		Finish	Windward/Leeward, 3 rounds.
3P	Port	Start		1	2	3	1	3		1	2	3	Finish	Triangle, Sausage, Triangle

The Committee boat will be a white 32 ft motor cruiser or as advised via VHF or otherwise.

- Other courses may be used, in which case they will be detailed on VHF Ch 72 and they may use different marks and a different finish line.
- Boats do not need to pass through the start/ finish line at the end of a round unless the course is shortened.

Finish Line-

- Mountbatten Finish Line. Between the PYC Flagstaff and the last mark on the course or as notified on VHF
- Committee boat finish line will be between the mast on the Committee Boat flying an orange flag and an outer distance mark which will be an orange danbuoy with blue banner flag. In addition the Committee Boat may fly a blue flag when on station for the finish line.

Time Limits-

- The time limit for each Championship race will be 90 minutes.

PRIZES

Jean Ellis Memorial Trophy	Overall winner
Upper Deck Trophy	2 nd Overall
Toms Trophy	3 rd Overall
City of Plymouth Trophy	Highest placed Plymouth yacht (after the first 3 overall)
Pam Sheridan Trophy	Highest placed Fowey yacht (after the first 3 overall)

Rocky's Wooden Spoon	Last boat overall (by places in series races)
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UK Open National Championship (White sail Division)

Corinthian Trophy	Overall winner
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Pursuit Race

Old Ferry Inn Trophy	Winner
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Other Trophies

The Julian Foye Trophy	Winner Concours d'Elegance
Noakes and Habermehl Voyager Trophy	Boat travelling furthest from her home port to the championship
Variety Trophy	Best endeavour

Engraved glassware will be awarded to the boats placed 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in the overall series. In addition, mementos of the championship will be presented to each attending boat.

PLYM YACHT CLUB EMERGENCY ACTION PLANS

The following Emergency Action Plans are to be used by Yachts and Race Officers for emergencies during Plym Yacht Club Racing. The emergency plans give standard actions, but these may need to be modified depending upon the actual nature of the emergency.

Plymouth Sound and Port of Plymouth Area Racing - Mt Batten Starting Line.

Yachts with a Man Overboard (MOB), Serious Injury or Serious Damage requiring assistance are to carry out the following actions.

- Yacht to inform Race Officer on Ch 37 if they can recover the MOB, or if more serious inform Port Control at Longroom of position and emergency on VHF Ch 14 and request assistance or relay to Falmouth Coastguard. If necessary, contact Falmouth Coastguard directly on VHF Ch 16 or by telephone.
- Race Officer to acknowledge the emergency to Yacht and to Longroom.
- Race Officer to broadcast the emergency to the racing fleet on VHF Ch 37 giving Yacht name, position and emergency with '**Code Red**' to signify a serious emergency. Request the nearest yachts switch to VHF Ch 14, contact distressed Yacht and Longroom and give all assistance.
- Race Officer to monitor the situation and provide the communications link for an ambulance, other rescue facilities and to the Marinas for berthing assistance as

necessary. Injured people to be taken to Queen Anne's Battery Marina Slip for transfer to an Ambulance.

Plymouth Sound and Port of Plymouth Area Racing - Committee Boat Starting Line.

Yachts with Man Overboard (MOB), Serious Injury or Serious Damage requiring assistance are to carry out the following actions.

- Yacht to inform Race Officer of position and emergency on VHF Ch 72 using 'Code Red' to signify a serious emergency and request assistance
- Race Officer to immediately send the Mark Laying Rib to provide assistance and informs the Yacht with the emergency.
- Race Officer to inform the racing fleet of the emergency using 'Code Red' to signify a serious emergency and request that the nearest yachts give assistance.
- Race Officer to inform Port Control at Longroom of the emergency and the actions taken on Ch 14.
- Race Officer to monitor the emergency and as necessary consider using the Committee Boat to provide further assistance as necessary and to abandon the race.
- If further assistance is considered necessary, Race Officer to request assistance from Longroom on Ch 14 or relay to Falmouth Coastguard. If necessary, contact Falmouth Coastguard directly on VHF Ch 16 or by telephone.
- Race Officer to monitor the situation and provide the communications link for an ambulance, other rescue facilities and to the Marinas for berthing assistance as necessary. Injured people to be taken to Queen Anne's Battery Marina Slip for transfer to an Ambulance.

Coastal Racing Outside Port of Plymouth Area.

Yachts with Man Overboard, Serious Injury or Serious Damage requiring assistance are to carry out the following actions.

- Yachts are to follow standard marine emergency procedures, such as PAN PAN and MAYDAY, and call Falmouth Coastguard on VHF Ch 16 or by telephone.
- Yacht to inform the Race Officer if possible.

Useful contact details-

Plym Yacht Club 01752 404991 pyc@plymyachtclub.org.uk

[PYC-courses-2023-final.pdf \(plymyachtclub.org.uk\)](#)

[Plymouth Yacht Haven | Marina Of The Year 2018/19 \(yachthavens.com\)](#)

Yacht Haven- 01752 404231 plymouth@yachthaven.com

VHF Channel 80 call sign- Plymouth Yacht Haven