



ROYAL WESTERN

YACHT CLUB OF ENGLAND

MOCRA UK NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

2nd May - 5th May 2025

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

**Organising Authority: The Royal Western Yacht Club of England
Plymouth, UK**

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

- 1.1 The **MOCRA National Championships 2025** will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing. Where there is a conflict between the Notice of Race and these Sailing Instructions, the Sailing Instructions prevail.
- 1.2 Where boats are racing within the boundaries of the Port of Plymouth they are referred to the Dockyard Port of Plymouth Order 2020, a copy of which is displayed on the website <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2020/1261/made> and Local Notices to Mariners. When the Race Committee believes that such regulations have been broken so as to bring the sport into disrepute it will act under RRS 60.2(c) requesting the Protest Committee to act under RRS 69.1(a), Allegation of Misconduct.
- 1.3 Whilst racing, boats are prohibited from entering the Controlled Mooring Area located north of Mountbatten peninsula and south of the Plym navigation channel. Boats must remain north of a line extending from the westerly mooring buoy positioned on the south side of the Plym navigation channel, east through each mooring buoy on the northern boundary of the Controlled Mooring Area and west of a line extending from the most westerly mooring buoy on the south side of the Plym navigation channel due south to the Mountbatten peninsula.
- 1.4 Racing rule(s) 44.1 and Appendix A are changed as follows:
 - 1.2.1 RRS 44.1 - is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty as described in SI 10.2.
 - 1.2.2 Appendix A – Scoring, refer to NOR 8 and SI 14
- 1.5 The Sailing Instructions may also change other racing rules.
- 1.6 The World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations 2024 – 2025 **Category 4** shall apply. Additionally, boats shall carry a life raft in accordance with WS Offshore Special Regulations 4.20.
- 1.7 The Race Committee may inspect any boat to ensure compliance with OSRs.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1 Notices to competitors before and during the event will be posted on the Triangle Series Event page of the RWYC website. <https://rwy.org/race/mocra-nationals-2025/>. This shall be regarded as the Official Notice Board.

3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1 Any changes to the sailing instructions will be posted by 0800 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.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from each respective yacht club's main flag staff and/or on the Official Notice Board (website).

5. SCHEDULE

5.1 Dates of racing: 2nd May, 3rd May, 4th May and 5th May 2022.

5.2 The race schedule is as follows

Date	Race	First warning signal
1 st May 2025	Skippers briefing and Reception at RWYC	1830
2 nd May 2025	W/L/ RTC Plymouth Sound	1055
2 nd May 2025	Skippers Briefing and Reception RWYC	After racing
3 rd May 2025	Plymouth - Falmouth	0845
4 th May 2025	Falmouth – Fowey	1045
5 th May 2025	Fowey – Plymouth	1015
5 th May 2025	Prize giving and reception RWYC	1600 After race from Fowey

5.3 On Friday 2nd May and Saturday 3rd May to alert boats that the sequence of races will begin soon, the orange starting flag will be displayed with one sound signal at least five minutes before a warning signal is made.

5.4 Any boat that has not started within 10 minutes of her starting time will be scored DNC or DNS as appropriate.

6. CLASS FLAGS

6.1 Class Flags shall be flown from the backstay when racing as follows.

CLASS	Pennant
MOCRA	8

7. COURSES

7.1 Friday 2nd May

7.1.1 Racing will take place in Plymouth Sound and adjacent waters. Refer Admiralty Charts 30 (Plymouth Sound and Approaches) and 1613 (Eddystone Rocks to Berry Head).

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- 7.1.2 Courses will be a combination of Windward/ Leeward (W/L) using laid marks and 'round the cans' (RTC) using navigational marks.
- 7.1.3 Type of course to be used will be indicated by displaying a coloured flag on the bow of the committee boat prior to the race warning signal.

Course	Flag Colour
W/L	Yellow
RTC	White

- 7.1.4 It is scheduled that Race 1 will be W/L (see addendum A), Races 2 will be a short RTC (Addendum B (i)) and Race 3 will be the Long RTC (Addendum B (ii) & (iii)).
- 7.1.5 Race 3 will finish on the club line, see Addendum C
- 7.1.5 **Addendum A** shows the courses and laid marks that shall be used for Windward/ Leeward courses.
- 7.1.6 **Addendum B** shows the navigational marks that shall be used for RTC courses. The table shows the laid and fixed marks that will be used. RTC Courses will be displayed using boards with white letters on either a **green** or **red** background indicating the side on which they are to be left (**green** meaning leave to starboard and **red** meaning leave to port).
- 7.1.7 No later than the warning signal, the committee boat may display the approximate compass bearing and distance to the first mark. This may also be announced on the relevant VHF channel prior to the start.

7.2 Saturday 3rd May 2025

7.2.1 Passage race **PLYMOUTH** to **FALMOUTH**

After clearing Plymouth Sound breakwater

7.2.2 Course Board A: Leave Manacles east cardinal buoy (50deg 02.81'N 005deg 01'.91'W) to Stbd. Then proceed directly to the finish line.

Course Board B: Leave the yellow spherical mark named 'Hotel Meudon' (50deg 06.04'N – 005deg 04.22'W) at the northern entrance to the Helford River to Stbd. Then proceed directly to the finish line.

Course Board C: Omit the Manacles / Hotel Meudon marks and proceed directly to the finish line.

7.2.3 Competitors are reminded that Black Rock Beacon marks rocks. Boats should keep well clear when rounding this mark.

7.3 Sunday 4th May 2025

7.3.1 Passage race **FALMOUTH** to **FOWEY**

7.3.2 Flag A: leave Manacles east cardinal buoy (50deg 02.81'N 005deg 01'.91'W) to Port, then to the finish line at Fowey.

Flag B: Leave the yellow spherical mark named 'Hotel Meudon' (50deg 06.04'N – 005deg 04.22'W) at the northern entrance to the Helford River to Port. then to the finish line at Fowey.

Flag C: Omit the Manacles / Hotel Meudon marks and sail directly to the finish line at Fowey.

7.4 **Monday 5th May 2025**

7.4.1 Passage race **FOWEY to PLYMOUTH**

7.3.1 Proceed direct to the finish line at Plymouth.

7.5 **Course indication and start sequence signals will be made at:**

7.4.1 Plymouth – Boards and Flags on the side of the committee boat (MV Fulmar)

7.4.2 Falmouth – Flags on the flag-pole on Pendennis Point

7.4.3 Fowey – Flags on the committee boat (tbc).

8. **SHORTENED COURSE**

8.1 Passage races will not be shortened.

9. **START AND FINISH PROCEDURES**

9.1 **Friday 2nd May, Plymouth Sound**

9.1.1 The start line will be between an Orange Pillar Mark and the Committee Boat mast displaying an Orange Flag at the starboard end of the line.

9.1.2 To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, an orange flag will be displayed on the committee boat with one sound signal at least 5 minutes before a warning signal is made.

9.1.3 Windward/leeward races shall finish by sailing directly back through the start line after rounding the leeward mark. Where more than one lap is signaled, boats shall sail through the start line on each lap.

9.1.4 The final race of the day is scheduled to finish at the RWYC club line, unless shortened, by sailing in an easterly direction to pass an extension of a transit from the RWYC flag mast and a yellow and black striped transit staff on the shore below it. The outer distance limit of the line will be the yacht mooring buoys on the south side of the main Cattewater channel.

9.1.5 Whilst racing, boats are prohibited from entering the Controlled Mooring Area located north of Mountbatten peninsula and south of the Plym navigation channel. Boats must remain north of a line extending from the westerly mooring buoy positioned on the south side of the Plym navigation channel, east through each mooring buoy on the northern boundary of the Controlled Mooring Area and west of a line extending from the most westerly mooring buoy on the south side of the Plym navigation channel due south to the Mountbatten peninsula. The prohibited area defined above ranks as an obstruction to sea room under RRS.

9.2 **Saturday 3rd May to Monday 5th May, Passage races.**

9.2.1 See *Addendum C* for details of starting and finishing at Plymouth.

9.2.2 See *Addendum D* for details of finishing and starting at Falmouth.

9.2.3 See *Addendum E* for finishing and starting at Fowey.

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- 9.3 All yachts shall take their own finishing times at Falmouth, Fowey and Plymouth for Passage Races using GPS time, and noting the boat that finishes one position ahead and one position astern if possible. This information is to be retained by each skipper and only required if the Race Committee so requests it.
- 9.4 In the event of a boat being over the line at the start, the race committee may broadcast on vhf (channel 77) the sail number of that boat, OR (if there are more than one boat over) the number of boats that were recorded over the line. Such transmission will not be made for at least one minute after the start. This changes, but is in addition to, Rule 28.1 Failure to make or receive such broadcasts will not be grounds for redress. This changes rule 62.1.

10. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 10.1 The Exoneration Penalty and RYA Arbitration of the RYA Rules and Disputes procedures will be available. This is the preferred method of resolving disputes. See the below website for details. <https://www.rya.org.uk/racing/rules/rules-disputes>
- 10.2 The Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty. This changes rule 44.1.
- 10.3 Discretionary penalties will be available to the Protest Committees.

11. TIME LIMITS

- 11.1 Any boat not finishing the Plymouth-Falmouth passage race by 2000hrs on Saturday 3rd May 2025 will be scored DNF.
- 11.2 Any boat not finishing the Falmouth-Fowey passage race by 1800hrs on Sunday 4th May 2025 shall be scored DNF.
- 11.3 Any boat not finishing the Fowey-Plymouth passage race by 1800hrs on Monday 5th May 2025 shall be scored DNF.

12. PROTESTS & REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 12.1 For each class, the protest time limit is 60 minutes after the last boat has finished that day's racing. The same time limit applies to protests by the race committee and protest committee about incidents they observe in the racing area and to requests for redress.
- 12.1 Protests submissions are to be delivered to the RWYC representative within the protest time as follows:

Plymouth to Falmouth leg at the Royal Cornwall YC.

Falmouth to Fowey leg at the Royal Fowey YC.

Fowey to Plymouth leg at the Royal Western YC.

Protests will be heard at the end of the regatta at the RWYC. Leg prizes will be awarded on a 'subject to protest basis'.

13. RETIREMENTS

- 13.1 Boats retiring shall report their retirement to the Race Committee as soon as possible but no later than 60 minutes after finishing or retiring. Retirements shall be reported via VHF Ch77 to the race committee call sign "Western", or by telephone and confirmed by text to the race committee mobile as follows –

14 SCORING

- 14.1 Two races are required to constitute a series.
- 14.2 The MOCRA National overall scores will be calculated using a high point (HP) weighted scoring system. The first boat in each leg will be awarded points equivalent to the number of starters multiplied by the race weighting. Second and subsequent places will be awarded one point less than the previous place multiplied by the race weighting. This changes A4.1 RRS
- 14.3 Each race will be weighted and categorised as follows:

Leg	WS OSR Category	Weighting
Plymouth Sound. W/L	4	1.0
Plymouth Sound RTC Short	4	1.0
Plymouth Sound RTC Long	4	1.0
Plymouth – Falmouth	4	1.5
Falmouth – Fowey	4	1.0
Fowey – Plymouth	4	1.0

15 DISCARDS

- 15.1 (a) When 5 or fewer races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- (b) When 6 or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores, excluding her worst score. Discard limited to Friday races only.

16. RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

- 17.1 All yachts shall carry and operate a VHF radio and monitor Race Committee broadcasts.
- 17.2 The Race Committee will use VHF Channel 77.

Committee Boat	Call sign	VHF Channel
Fulmar	Fulmar	77

- 17.3 The failure to receive any Regatta Committee transmissions shall not constitute grounds for redress.
- 17.4 Except in an emergency, a boat that is racing shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

17. SELF STEERING

- 16.1 The use of self-steering devices is permitted.

17. PRIZES

- 17.1 Daily prizes will be awarded. Overall class prizes/trophies will be awarded
- 17.2 Prizes may also be awarded to single handed and two handed entries that have declared their intention to race as such beforehand, subject to sufficient entries in each category.

18. RISK STATEMENT

- 18.1 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:

- 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) The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances;
- g) 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;

19. INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £3,000,000 for the duration of the Series or the equivalent.

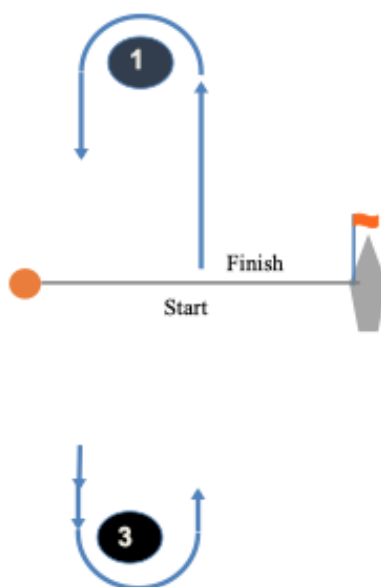
20. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please contact the Secretary, Royal Western Yacht Club, Queen Anne's Battery PL4 0TW - by email at admin@rwy.org.

21. BERTHING

Cattewater Harbour have agreed to the use of the pontoons in the river adjacent to the RWYC. Could entrants specify what nights they need a spot there Thursday, Friday and Monday. Details of berthing arrangements can be found on the MOCRA Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/mocra/> . Berthing fees are not included in the entry fee.

ADDENDUM A: 2nd May Windward/Leeward Courses (Yellow Flag)



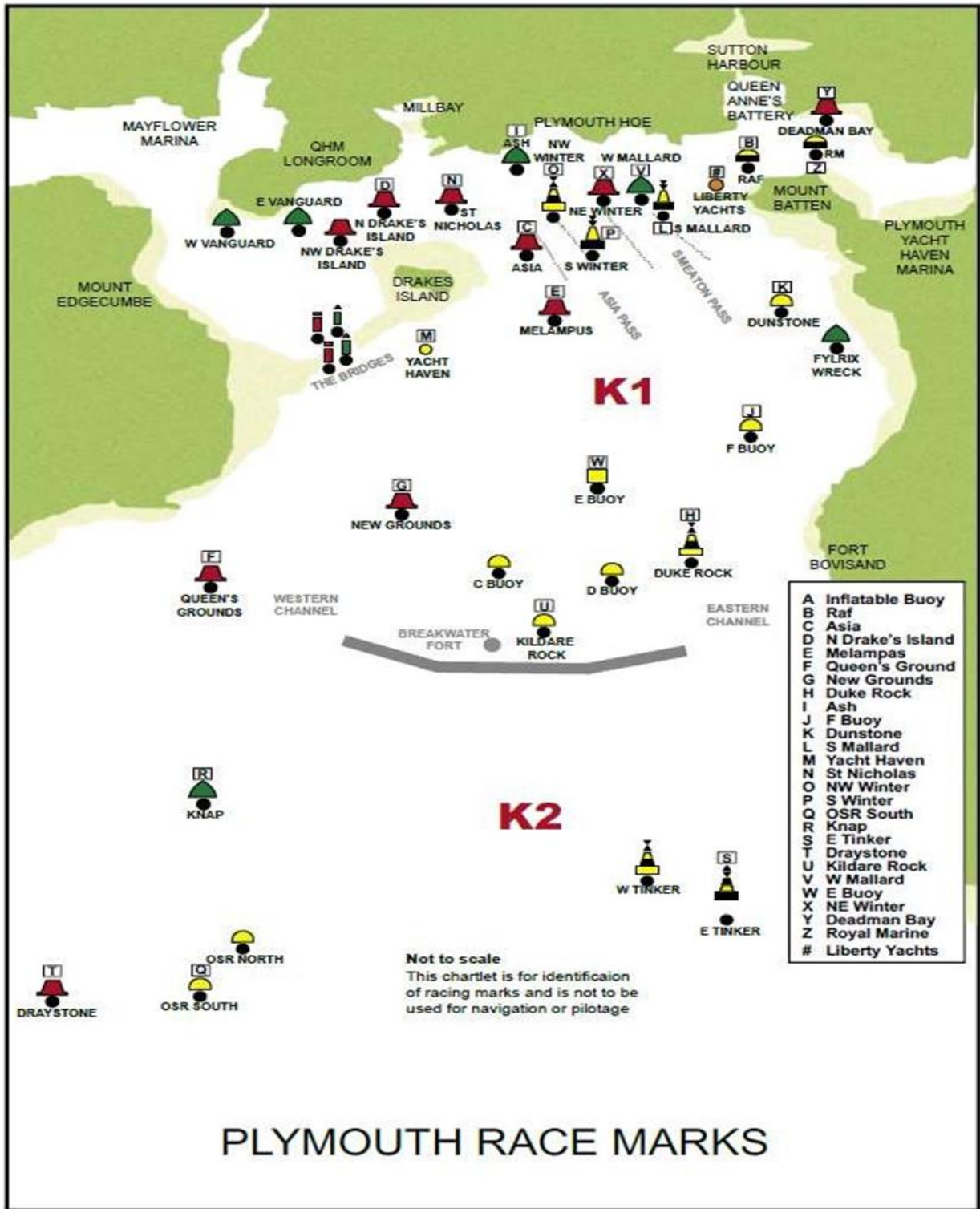
Signal	Mark Rounding Order
W2	Start - 1 - 3 - 1 - 3 - Finish
W3	Start - 1 - 3 - 1 - 3 - 1 - 3 - Finish
W4	Start - 1 - 3 - 1 - 3 - 1 - 3 - 1 - 3 - Finish

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Mark Description

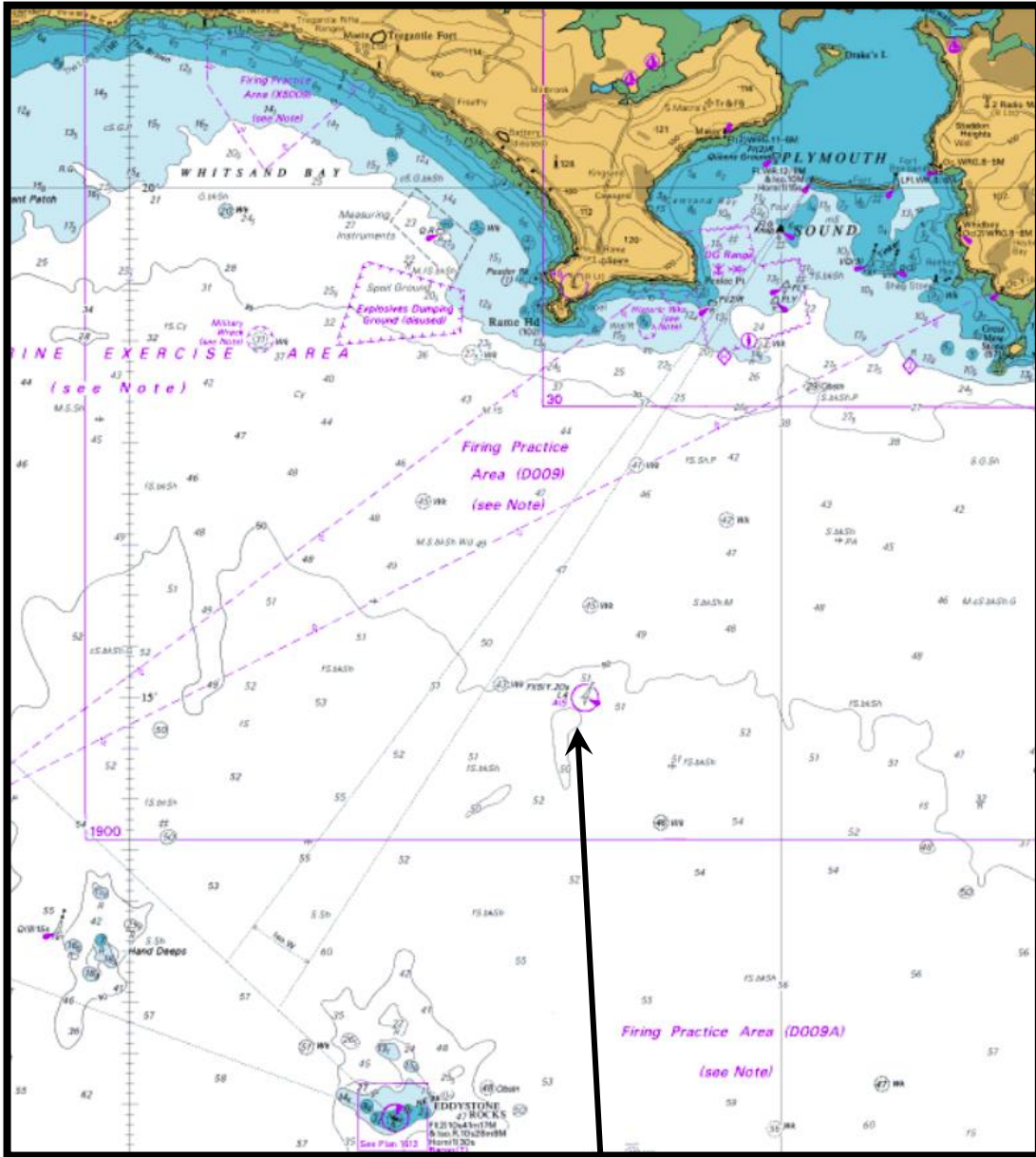
Start and Finish	Orange Pillar
Marks 1 & 3	To be advised

ADDENDUM B (i): 2nd May Navigational Marks for Short RTC Course (White Flag)



Addendum B (ii)

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L4 Data Buoy



Addendum B (iii) Navigational Marks for Long RTC Courses.

Designated Letter	Mark Name	Mark Description	Comments
A	Laid Windward Mark	Yellow Pillar	Position to be advised
C*	Hand Deep	West Cardinal	50° 12.68' N 04° 21.10' W
D*	L4 Data Buoy	Yellow Pillar	50° 15.00' N 04° 13.00' W
E	Melampus	Port Lateral	
F	Queens Grounds	Port Lateral	
G	New Grounds	Port lateral	
H	Duke Rock	West Cardinal	
K	Dunstone	Yellow Buoy	In Jennycliff
J	F Buoy	Admiralty Mooring	
M	Yachthaven	Yellow Buoy	Close to The Bridges
Q*	OSR South	Yellow Degaussing	
R*	Knap	Starboard Lateral	
S*	East Tinker	East Cardinal	
T*	Draystone	Port Lateral	
U	Kildare Rock	Yellow Buoy	Close to Breakwater
W	E Buoy	Admiralty Mooring	

Those marks with an * are located south of Plymouth Breakwater.

Addendum C: Start finish procedures at Plymouth for passage races 3rd May and 5th May and finish for Race 3 on 2nd May.

PLYMOUTH

Start procedure: 2nd May 2025.

The start line will be between the RWYC committee vessel (Fulmar) at the starboard end displaying an orange flag, and an orange inflatable buoy at the port pin end

All boats shall pass close to the Committee Boat on the side opposite to the Start Line before the warning signal with mainsails hoisted for identification.

Finish Procedure 5th May 2025.

Finishing at the RWYC club line will be by sailing in an easterly direction to pass an extension of a transit from the club flag mast and a yellow and black striped transit staff on the shore below it. The outer limit of the finish line is a line extending east – west through the mooring buoys on the northern boundary of the Controlled Mooring Area as explained below.

Skippers are reminded that adherence to SI 9.3 is mandatory.

Prohibited Racing Area.

Whilst racing, boats are prohibited from entering the Controlled Mooring Area located north of Mountbatten peninsula and south of the Plym navigation channel. Boats must remain north of a line extending from the westerly mooring buoy positioned on the south side of the Plym navigation channel, east through each mooring buoy on the northern boundary of the Controlled Mooring Area and west of a line extending from the most westerly mooring buoy on the south side of the Plym navigation channel due south to the Mountbatten peninsula.

The prohibited area defined above ranks as an obstruction to sea room under RRS.

Addendum D: Start finish procedures at Falmouth for passage races

FALMOUTH

Finish procedure 3rd May 2025

The finish line is a transit line from the transit mark on Pendennis Point, on the port side, and the Black Rock Beacon (Black/Red/Black – 50deg 8.786'N 05deg 2.037W) in Carrick Roads to starboard.

Skippers are reminded that adherence to SI 9.3 is mandatory.

Start procedure 4th May 2025

The start line will be the transit formed by the PoFSA flagstaff on the foreshore at Pendennis Point displaying an orange flag, and Black Rock Beacon. To start, yachts shall pass between Pendennis Point and this beacon, but attention is drawn to the rocks indicated by this mark.

Addendum E: Start & finish procedures at Fowey for passage races

FOWEY

The Fowey Harbour Byelaws and Notices to Mariners published by the Fowey Harbour Commissioners (FHC) apply both within the harbour and the approaches to it. (The Byelaws are available from FHC or at <http://www.foweyharbour.co.uk/assets/file/pdfs/Downloads/byelaws.pdf>)

Finish Procedure Sunday 4th May 2025.

The finish at the Royal Fowey Yacht Club (RFYC) will be a line extending from the RFYC flagstaff to the **seaward side (south side)** of Mark B, which is a large silver turning buoy leaving this to STARBOARD. Mark B forms the outer distance mark of the finish line. The bearing from the silver turning buoy B to the RFYC flagstaff is approx. 260deg M

Skippers are reminded that adherence to SI 9.3 is mandatory.

Start Procedure Monday 5th May 2025.

The start will be outside the harbour-entrance between a committee boat (tbc) displaying an orange flag at the starboard end and a pin end buoy at the port end. The description of the pin end buoy will be announced at the Sunday evening prize-giving at the RFYC.

All boats shall pass close to the Committee Boat on the side opposite to the Start Line before the warning signal with mainsails hoisted for identification.

End