



SHANGHAI CUP Bristol Channel IRC Championships



9/10 May & 23/24 May 2026

Sailing Instructions

The organizing authority is Cardiff Bay Yacht Club (CBYC) with assistance from Portishead Cruising Club (PCC).

1. RULES

- 1.1. Racing will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)*.
- 1.2. The IRC Rules parts A, B & C shall apply for IRC races.
- 1.3. The rules and byelaws of Cardiff Bay Yacht Club will apply to all competing yachts and competitors. (www.cbyc.co.uk/the-club/club-documents/)
- 1.4. RRS 63.7 is changed in that in the event of conflict between the NoR and the SIs, the SIs shall prevail.
- 1.5. All yachts must display their correct sail numbers, have sail number boards or display name boards prominently.
- 1.6. Competitors should note that Cardiff Bay Yacht Club implements the RYA Racing Charter and that they will be expected to sail in compliance with it. The Charter can be found at the front of the RYA edition of the Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028 (the yellow pages after the definitions), or on the RYA website at www.rya.org.uk/racingrules.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1. Notices to competitors and changes to NoR or SIs will be posted to the official notice board on the event website and/or by the Race Officer on VHF CH 37a (M1).

3. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 3.1. **Portishead Racing** – 9/10 May 2026
 - 3.1.1. A maximum of 6 races are scheduled over the two days.
 - 3.1.2. The scheduled start time of the first race on 9 May is 10:30.
 - 3.1.3. The scheduled start time of the first race on 10 May is 11:30.

3.2. **Passage Race** – 10 May 2026

- 3.2.1. After the last race on 10 May, there may be a Passage race from Portishead to Cardiff.
- 3.2.2. There will be a break in racing before the start to allow crew members returning to Portishead Marina to transfer to shore.
- 3.2.3. The estimated start time for this race on 10 May would be 15:30, but this will depend on what races have taken place and the feasibility of the race

3.3. **Cardiff Racing** – 23/24 May 2026

- 3.3.1. A maximum of 8 races are scheduled over the two days.
- 3.3.2. The scheduled start time of the first race on 23 May is 10:30.
- 3.3.3. The scheduled start time of the first race on 24 May is 11:30.
- 3.3.4. On 24 May there will be no warning signal made after 16:00.

4. **RACING AREAS**

- 4.1. Racing on the weekend of 9/10 May 2026 will take place in the Severn Estuary and Bristol Channel in the vicinity of Portishead Marina.
- 4.2. The passage race on 10 May 2026 will take place in the Severn Estuary and Bristol Channel between Portishead and Cardiff.
- 4.3. Racing on the weekend of 23/24 May 2026 will take place in the Severn Estuary and Bristol Channel or Cardiff Bay at the discretion of the race committee.

5. **THE COURSES**

- 5.1. Racing will be around laid courses using inflatable marks, “Round the Cans” using navigation marks (*See Appendix 1*) or a mixture of both.
- 5.2. The course details, including start and finish lines, which may be different, will be announced over VHF on CH 37a (M1) prior to the warning signal of each race.
- 5.3. Fleets may have different courses.

6. **THE START**

- 6.1. The Race Officer shall inform the racing fleet of the location of the start line prior to the warning signal of each race.
- 6.2. The start line is expected to be between an anchored committee boat and a laid mark.

- 6.3. RRS 26, 29 and 30 are modified in that no visual signals will be used, this includes the operation of rule 30 which will be announced over the VHF at the preparatory signal rather than by the I, Z or Black flags.
- 6.4. Races will be started by using RRS 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal.
- 6.5. Starting signals shall be transmitted over VHF on CH 37a (M1).
- 6.6. Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races.
- 6.7. If any part of a boat's hull is on the course side of the starting line during the two minutes before her starting signal and she is identified, the race committee will attempt to broadcast her sail number on VHF CH 37a (M1). Failure to make a broadcast or to time it accurately will not be grounds for a request for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).
- 6.8. A boat that does not start within 30 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.

7. SHORTENED COURSES

- 7.1. Courses may be shortened by the Race Officer on VHF CH 37a (M1).
- 7.2. No flag, horn or light signal will be used, this a change to RRS 32.
- 7.3. In the event of a 'lap type course' the number or laps to be completed will be given over VHF on CH 37a (M1).
- 7.4. The course may be shortened at any mark of the course by the Race Officer. That mark will then be passed as originally prescribed. Having passed or rounded the mark, competitors will return direct to the finish line, missing out any other marks designated in the original course. The Race Officer may, for the purpose of clarification, give the direction in which they should cross the finishing line.

8. THE FINISH

- 8.1. The Race Officer shall inform the racing fleet of the location of the finish line when announcing the course, prior to the warning signal.
- 8.2. If the race committee is absent when a boat finishes, she should report her finishing time, and her position in relation to nearby boats, and to the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

9. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 9.1. Penalty turns shall be taken in accordance with RRS 44.

10. TIME LIMITS

- 10.1. For a course around laid inflatable marks – 1½ hours.
- 10.2. For a “Round the Cans” type course – 2 hours.
- 10.3. Courses may be shortened as appropriate to ensure that the majority of the fleet can finish inside the time limits, in accordance with RRS 32 (as amended by these SIs).
- 10.4. For the passage race, a time limit of 3 hours.

11. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 11.1. Hearing Request forms are available from the members of the Race Committee and from the event website.
- 11.2. Boats intending to protest are requested to inform the race officer as soon as possible by VHF on CH 37a (M1).
- 11.3. Protests shall then be delivered in writing to the race officer, member or delegate of the race committee within 90 minutes of the end of racing for the day.
- 11.4. Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearing locations and timings will be specified on the notice.

12. SCORING

- 12.1. The low point scoring system, in accordance with RRS 90.3 will be used.
- 12.2. Yachts scoring DNF will score points for the number of starters in the race +1. All other yachts not classified (i.e. DSQ, OCS etc.) will score points for the number of entries +2.
- 12.3. Yachts still racing at a race time limit will be awarded an equal share of the available points had they all completed the course. If there are no finishers, then no points will be awarded.
- 12.4. Discards. 5-7 races sailed = 1 discard; 8-11 races sailed = 2 discards; 12-14 races sailed = 3.
- 12.5. The passage race is an independent race and will not contribute towards the scoring of the Shanghai or Nimrod Cups.

13. SAFETY

- 13.1. Yacht Racing can be dangerous.

The attention of owners, skippers and crew is drawn to RRS Fundamental Rule 3: **"The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone."**

The safety of a yacht and her crew is the sole and inescapable responsibility of the owner or owner's representative who must do their best to ensure that the yacht is sound, thoroughly seaworthy and manned by an experienced crew who are fit to participate. They must be satisfied as to the soundness of the hull, spars, rigging, sails and all gear. They must ensure that the safety equipment is properly maintained and stowed and that the crew know where it is kept and how it is to be used.

- 13.2. The owner and crew will be held jointly responsible for the conduct of the yacht's crew before, during and after a race. Misconduct may result in both owner and crew being excluded from future races and render a yacht liable to disqualification.
- 13.3. Crew members' attention is drawn to RRS 1.2 life-saving equipment... "Each competitor is individually responsible for wearing personal flotation devices adequate for the conditions."
- 13.4. No yacht may carry an anchor that overhangs its bow
- 13.5. Transom mounted outboard motors must be either stowed within the yacht or left in the vertical position while racing
- 13.6. All boats competing in any race shall carry safety equipment as listed in the CBYC Equipment Checklist (*see Appendix 2*), and boats may be scrutinized for compliance.
- 13.7. The byelaws, regulations and Notices to Mariners of the Port of Bristol, ABP Port of Cardiff and Cardiff Harbour Authority will apply.

14. EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

It is a condition of entry that competing yachts shall permit scrutineers to check the validity of handicaps against certificates and/or class rules if required.

15. EVENT ADVERTISING

The Race Committee may require advertising space for event sponsors in accordance with RRS 80 and World Sailing regulation 20.

16. COMMERCIAL SHIPPING

- 16.1. Commercial Shipping must not be impeded under any circumstances; this applies particularly in restricted waters where vessels may be constrained by their draft.
- 16.2. Competitors may use their engine, or any other method of propulsion to avoid a collision with commercial shipping. The boat must not gain an advantage in the race.
- 16.3. Failure to observe this rule may result in a Race Officer protest. In the event of serious breaches, yachts may be scored DNE from all races on the day of the incident.

17. RADIO COMMUNICATION

- 17.1. All yachts must carry a working VHF radio and monitor CH 37a (M1) while in the starting area and for the duration of the race.
- 17.2. Final course details and other information for competitors will be given by the race officer over VHF Radio. Normally CH 37a (M1) will be used. In the event of a problem with this then CH 72 will be used. If possible, the race officer will also announce this over CH 37a (M1).
- 17.3. Yachts should refrain from communicating with the race officer or each other on the race channel between the warning signal and the start, except on matters of safety or unless contacted by the race officer.

18. RESULTS

- 18.1. Results will be displayed on the event website as soon as possible after each day's racing.
- 18.2. Results may be calculated using the times of a previously completed part of the course.

19. PRIZES

- 19.1. There will be a mid-event prize giving on Saturday 23 May 2026 following racing in the CBYC clubhouse.
- 19.2. The final event prize giving will be on Sunday 24 May 2026 following racing in the CBYC clubhouse.
- 19.3. The Shanghai cup will be awarded to the overall winner of the IRC fleets, along with 2nd and 3rd place prizes
- 19.4. Further prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the race committee.

20. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Cardiff Bay Yacht Club accept no responsibility or liability for loss of life or injury to members or others, or for the loss of, or damage to, any vessel or property.

21. INSURANCE

Yachts must hold a valid and current boat insurance which covers them for third party claims of up to £3,000,000 for the entire period of the series.

RACE COMMITTEE

Nick Duppa-Miller, Race Committee member (PCC)
Simon Britten, Race Committee member (PCC)
Nick Hankins, Sailing Secretary (CBYC)
Anthony Chappin, Race Committee member (CBYC)
Tim Gifford, Race Committee member (CBYC)
Matt Sayer, Race Officer (CBYC)

CONTACTS

Website: www.shanghaicup.co.uk
Email: info@shanghaicup.co.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/ShanghaiCup

RORC RATING OFFICE

Website: www.rorcrating.com
Email: info@rorcrating.com
Tel: 01590 677030

Appendix 1 – Buoy List

This is a non-exhaustive list of the approximate positions of marks that may be used for this event.

Portishead Area *(NE to SW)*

Lower Shoots	51° 33.850 N	002° 42.051 W
Unnamed Mark	51° 34.041 N	002° 42.591 W
Cockburn	51° 30.462 N	002° 44.061 W
Inner	51° 29.859 N	002° 43.863 W
Middle	51° 29.933 N	002° 44.218 W
Outer	51° 29.995 N	002° 44.792 W
Firefly	51° 29.958 N	002° 45.341 W
Denny Shoal	51° 30.148 N	002° 45.450 W
Newcome	51° 30.008 N	002° 45.708 W
Denny Island	51° 31.537 N	002° 46.876 W
Welsh Hook	51° 28.534 N	002° 51.845 W
Avon	51° 27.917 N	002° 51.721 W
East Middle Grounds	51° 27.757 N	002° 54.987 W
Clevedon	51° 27.391 N	002° 54.920 W
South Middle Grounds	51° 27.638 N	002° 58.678 W
North Elbow	51° 26.967 N	002° 58.640 W
English & Welsh Grounds	51° 27.122 N	002° 59.922 W
North West Elbow	51° 26.281 N	002° 59.913 W

Cardiff Area *(Alphabetical)*

1 st Sewer <i>(Cardiff East)</i>	51° 28.093 N	003° 06.854 W
2 nd Sewer	51° 29.765 N	003° 04.193 W
3 rd Sewer	51° 30.870 N	003° 01.036 W
Breaksea	51° 19.883 N	003° 19.065 W
Cardiff Spit	51° 24.568 N	003° 07.134 W
Diffuser	51° 27.557 N	003° 04.576 W
Holm Middle	51° 21.722 N	003° 06.721 W
Hope	51° 24.850 N	003° 02.670 W
Lavernock Outfall	51° 23.943 N	003° 09.474 W
Lavernock Spit	51° 23.000 N	003° 10.805 W
Mackenzie	51° 21.750 N	003° 08.226 W
Merkur	51° 21.875 N	003° 15.945 W
Mid Cardiff	51° 25.586 N	003° 08.088 W
Monkstone Lighthouse	51° 24.890 N	003° 06.012 W
Newport Deep	51° 29.367 N	002° 59.120 W
North Cardiff	51° 26.528 N	003° 07.178 W
North One Fathom	51° 20.837 N	003° 12.130 W
Outer Wrach	51° 26.208 N	003° 09.460 W
PYC 'ODM'	51° 25.930 N	003° 09.789 W
PYC 'Q'	51° 25.657 N	003° 09.837 W
Ranie	51° 24.235 N	003° 09.380 W
South Cardiff	51° 24.183 N	003° 08.569 W
Tail Patch	51° 23.531 N	003° 03.647 W
Welsh Water Barry West	51° 22.273 N	003° 16.931 W
Weston	51° 22.612 N	003° 05.745 W
Wolves	51° 23.110 N	003° 08.920 W
'Uncharted' Sewer <i>(Rhymney Pipeline)</i>	51° 28.986 N	003° 05.731 W

Appendix 2 – Racing Equipment Checklist

Boat Name:

Skipper:

Date:

Item		Present?	Comment
Bilge pump or bucket	Complete with operating handle		
Life Jackets	1 per crewmember		
VHF Radio	A working VHF that can transmit and receive on Ch16 and M1		
Flares	At least two in-date red handheld flares and two orange smokes (or electronic alternatives) in a waterproof pack		
Anchor	Each boat shall carry a suitable anchor and sufficient chain/warp (not protruding from the bow)		
Fire extinguisher	Boats carrying fuel shall carry a fire extinguisher		
First Aid	A waterproof first aid kit with instructions		
Man Overboard	Rescue quoit or throw bag with at least 15m of floating line		
Knife	A suitable knife accessible from the cockpit		
Engine	Each boat shall have a suitable working engine and sufficient fuel		
General	All equipment must be of a suitable size and type for the boat		

Scrutineer:

Date: