



Royal Lymington Yacht Club

## Needles Relief

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2024

Tide Times – Portsmouth-GMT

HW	Ht	LW	Ht
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Saturday 14th December 2024	10:06	4.8	15:35	1.0
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The Royal Lymington Yacht Club and The Royal Solent Yacht Club extend a warm welcome to all owners and crews of competing yachts and invite them to become temporary members for the duration of the event.

Royal Lymington Yacht Club, Bath Road, Lymington, Hants SO41 3SE.

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Email: [sail@RLymYC.org.uk](mailto:sail@RLymYC.org.uk)

[www.RLymYC.org.uk](http://www.RLymYC.org.uk)

The finish this year will be south of buoy 9, see A5.1 below. Boats whilst racing and after racing should keep well to the north of Yarmouth Pier in case a Lifeboat display is in progress.

## SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The Organising Authority will be the Royal Lymington Yacht Club.

### 1. Rules

- 1.1. The event will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*, (RRS).
- 1.2. Boats intending to race, racing or that have been racing, may be found to break the IRPCAS if they impede the passage of a vessel (such as a Wightlink ferry) that can safely navigate only within a narrow channel or fairway. A boat that breaks RRS 42 in order to comply with IRPCAS, or for other safety reason, shall report the incident to the Race Committee before the end of the protest time limit for that race. If no racing advantage was gained, there will be no penalty. In cases of doubt, the Race Committee shall protest the boat in order that the Protest Committee may hear the case and decide any appropriate penalty.
- 1.3. USE OF ENGINE, RRS 42 is modified in that: Boats may motor from their start time until abeam of the RLymYC Platform. THE RIVER SPEED LIMITS MUST BE OBSERVED AND FAILURE TO DO SO WILL RESULT IN DSQ WITHOUT A HEARING. In addition, boats may also motor for UP TO 5 MINUTES at any other time during the race after passing the RLymYC platform.
- 1.4. When motoring BOATS SHALL NOT SET ANY SAIL FORWARD OF THE MAIN MAST.
- 1.5. Add to RRS 28.1. 'If the Race Committee observes a boat failing to sail the correct course, then she may be disqualified without a hearing.' This also changes RRS A5.
- 1.6. Add RRS 32.1 '(e) for any reason considered appropriate by the Race Committee.'
- 1.7. RRS 52, Manual Power, shall not apply.
- 1.8. Use of Spinnakers: Boats shall NOT fly spinnakers until they cross a line drawn between Jack in the Basket and the Platform.
- 1.9. When flag Y over A is displayed with one sound signal before or with the warning signal, competitors in boats not fitted with lifelines shall wear personal flotation devices in accordance with RRS 40.1.
- 1.10. No sails shall be set when north of the Lymington Harbour wave barrier.

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## **2. Communications with Competitors**

- 2.1. Notices will be posted on the official notice board(s) located in the Royal Lymington Yacht Club or the Royal Solent Yacht Club and also at <https://rlymyc.org.uk/needles-relief>. Competitors may be alerted of any changes by a posting on the Needles Relief 2024 Telegram group. [https://t.me/+K\\_tpfxjdu05hMDFk](https://t.me/+K_tpfxjdu05hMDFk)
- 2.2. A list of entries, their YTC handicaps and starting times will be published on the official notice board and the Club website on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2024 by 17.00 hours.
- 2.3. The following communications may be made by the Race Committee on VHF Channel 37 (M1)
  - Time check(s)
  - The courses to be sailed and any changes
  - Sailing Instruction changes (confirmation of changes posted)
  - Postponements and abandonments
  - Individual and general recalls
  - The intended time of the first start of the starting sequence.
- 2.4. In addition, the following communications will be posted on the Needles Relief 2024 Telegram group:
  - The course to be sailed and any changes, but in abbreviated format
  - Postponements or abandonments signalled more than one hour before the scheduled starting signal.

## **3. Changes to Sailing Instructions**

- 3.1. Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted no later than 1 hour before the first start.

## **4. Signals Made Ashore**

- 4.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed from a flagstaff on the upper balcony of the Club.

## **5. Schedule of Races**

- 5.1. Races are scheduled as follows:

Date	Class	Time of warning signal for both classes	Number of Races Scheduled
Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2024	YTC 1 and 2	Not before 09.00	1

- 5.2. The order of starting and times will be posted on the official notice board.
- 5.3. Starting times will be dependent on ferry movements and may be subject to postponement. The Race Officer may advise boats verbally.
- 5.4. After a long postponement, or to alert boats that the race will begin soon, an orange flag will be displayed with one sound at least four minutes before a warning signal is displayed.

## **6. Classes, Class and Event Flags. Rating or Handicap Limits**

- 6.1. Class or event flags will be:

Class / Event	Handicap / Rating Limits	Flag
Needles Relief		R
YTC Class 1	YTC 999 and below	NP1
YTC Class 2	YTC 1000 and above and those without Lifelines or inboard engine.	NP2

- 6.2. When a visual signal is displayed under an event flag, the signal applies to all boats in that event. This changes RRS Race Signals.

## 2024 Needles Relief Sailing Instructions

- 6.3. The Classes, handicap or rating limits may change the Notice of Race and may also be displayed on the official notice board as a change to this Sailing Instruction.
- 6.4. Should there be fewer than three entries for one of the above Classes, the Race Committee may exclude that Class, and allocate entries to suitable alternative Classes.
- 6.5. The Race Committee may adjust the definition, the numbers, and/or the handicap limits of Classes. Such decisions will be posted as a notice to competitors.
- 6.6. Each boat is required to display the appropriate Class flag on its backstay or in some other conspicuous place.
- 6.7. Class 1 boats not wishing to go out of the Solent may enter as Class 2 boats PROVIDED THIS IS MADE CLEAR ON THE ENTRY FORM AND THE CLASS 2 PENNANT IS FLOWN FROM THE BACKSTAY.
- 6.8. Any changes to the boat, rigging, sails or equipment that could materially affect its YTC number must be notified in writing to the Race Committee before the start.

### **7. Racing Areas**

- 7.1. The locations of the racing areas are shown in Attachment A.

### **8. Courses**

- 8.1. The courses are described in Attachment A.

### **9. Marks**

- 9.1. The marks are described in Attachment A.

### **10. Areas that are Obstructions**

- 10.1. Areas designated as obstructions are shown in Attachment A.

### **11. The Start**

- 11.1. Each Class has a staggered start in order of handicap with the highest YTC number in each Class the first to start. Class One boats will start first followed by Class Two. The warning signal for the start of the sequence will be made 5 minutes before the first start. After the FIRST start signal there may be NO further sound signals. The Race Officer may give a countdown on Channel 37 (M1). This changes RRS 26.
- 11.2. Visual Signals for the warning, preparatory and starting signals may not be displayed. This changes RRS 26. Times shall be taken from the sound signals which may be available on VHF.
- 11.3. The starting line is described in Attachment A.
- 11.4. A boat starting later than 5 minutes after her starting signal may be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.

### **12. Change Of Course**

- 12.1. There will be no change of course after the warning signal.

### **13. The Finish**

- 13.1. The finishing line is described in Attachment A. **Boats finishing shall ensure that their sail numbers are clearly visible to the Race Committee at the Royal Solent Yacht Club. Boats whose sail numbers are not clearly visible might not be awarded a finishing position.**

### **14. Penalty System**

- 14.1. Rule 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

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#### 14.2. Exoneration Penalty

A boat that may have broken a rule of RRS Part 2, or RRS 31 or RRS 42, may, after finishing the race concerned and before the start of a related protest hearing, notify the Race Committee that she accepts an Post Race Penalty which will be a 20% scoring penalty (SCP) calculated as stated in RRS 44.3(c), (except that the minimum penalty is three and she shall not be scored worse than the number of boats that came to the starting area). However, if the boat caused injury or serious damage, or despite taking a penalty gained a significant advantage in the race by her breach, her penalty is to retire.

#### 14.3. When an Post Race Penalty is accepted,

- (a) Neither the boat nor a Protest Committee may then revoke or remove the penalty.
- (b) The boat shall not be penalised further in a protest hearing when the Protest Committee decides that it was appropriate to the facts found and the applicable rules.

### 15. Time Limit

#### 15.1. The time limit for all Classes is 12.15. Boats not finished by 12.15 should go straight into Yarmouth Harbour and **SHOULD NOT ATTEMPT TO CROSS THE FINISH LINE.**

### 16. Protests and Requests for Redress

- 16.1. Protests and requests for redress shall be delivered by telephone to the Race Committee within 10 minutes of the boat finishing. Unless a boat is damaged, protests will not be heard unless the boat protesting has made a non-refundable donation of £50 to the RNLI.
- 16.2. Notices will be posted as soon as possible after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses.
- 16.3. Notices of protests by the Race Committee or Protest Committee will be posted to inform boats under RRS 61.1(b).
- 16.4. Penalties for breaches of rules, except RRS Part 1 and 2 are at the discretion of the Protest Committee.
- 16.5. RYA Rules Dispute Advisory and Mediation Hearings are available.

### 17. Scoring

- 17.1. This race is NOT a pursuit race but it will have a staggered start. Scoring will use the YTC Handicap System.

### 18. Safety Regulations

- 18.1. A boat that retires from a race shall notify the Race Committee as soon as possible. Boats may post a message on the Needles Relief 2024 Telegram group to report their retirement.

### 19. Replacement of Crew or Equipment N/A

### 20. Advertising

- 20.1. Boats are not required to display advertising supplied by the Organising Authority.

### 21. Official Boats N/A

### 22. Support Boats N/A

### 23. Prizes

- 23.1. Prizes will be awarded as follows: 1st, 2nd, 3rd in each Class.

- 23.2. Prizes will be presented in the Royal Solent Yacht Club as soon as possible after the race.

### FURTHER INFORMATION

The ingoing and outgoing ferries may cross in the Lymington River or just south of the mouth of the River. Competitors need to be particularly wary in this area.

## 2024 Needles Relief Sailing Instructions

### ATTACHMENT A Race Area, Marks and Courses

#### A1. The Race Area

The race area will be:

- The Lymington River
- The Western Solent and its approaches
- Needles Fairway
- Christchurch Bay

#### A2. Starting Marks and Starting Line

A2.1. The starting line marks will be:

Starting Line	Inner Mark	Outer Mark
Start opposite the Club	Orange pole with cross on Club lower balcony	Nearest <u>Black and White</u> Post on East side of river.

A2.2. The starting line will be between the inner and outer starting marks.

A2.3. Boats starting earlier than their posted time shall be penalised by having THREE TIMES their starting error added to their elapsed time. No recall signals will be given and boats OCS should not re-start. This changes RRS 29.

#### A3. Marks of the Course

A3.1. The list of marks of the course is published on the Club website and available from the Club office as West Solent Racing Marks 2024.

A3.2. In addition the port hand navigation mark known as 'Mid-Shingles' may be used. This buoy is located at 50° 41'.21N 01° 34'.66W.

#### A4. Gates N/A

#### A5. Finishing Marks and Finishing Line

A5.1. The finishing line will be:

Finishing Line	Inner Mark	Outer Mark
Royal Solent Finish Line	Blue flag on RSolYC balcony.	Buoy number 9, this year called <u>River Yar Boatyard</u> .

The finishing line will be between the inner and outer finishing marks.

Boats finishing from the west must pass north of East Fairway buoy (Red Can North of Pier) as they approach the line.

#### After finishing

Boats finishing from either direction must clear the finish line to the North and move in a Northerly direction to clear East Fairway Buoy to the North even if proceeding to Yarmouth Harbour, due to the expected Lifeboat exercise.

#### A6. Courses

A6.1. The marks and the order in which they are to be rounded or passed will be displayed as follows:

Class	Location
Class 1 and 2	Needles Relief 2024 Telegram group. Courses may be transmitted on VHF Channel 37(M1) after the warning signal and repeated during the starting sequence.

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#### A7. Obstructions

A7.1 The following are obstructions and, after starting and whilst racing, shall only be passed on the channel or seaward side:

- The wave barrier near Lymington Yacht Haven
- The Yellow Buoys marking both stone river breakwaters and the B1 post
- All Lymington River Posts including 'Jack in the Basket'
- The RLymYC Starting Platform
- The barrier off Durns Point
- Pennington outfall beacon
- A plain yellow spherical buoy approximately one metre in diameter, situated south-east of the inner trot of harbour moorings to the west of Yarmouth Harbour entrance.

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Please scan the QR Code below to join the Needles Relief 2024 Telegram group.

