



Etchells Class British Open, National Championship and 2020 World Championship Qualifier

Friday 1st – Sunday 3rd November 2019

Cowes, Isle of Wight

Sailing Instructions

Organising Authority (OA)

Royal Ocean Racing Club in conjunction with the Cowes Etchells Fleet.

The notation '[DP]' in a rule means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.

1. RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing 2017 - 2020* (RRS).
- 1.2 [DP] National authority (RYA) prescriptions will apply.
<http://www.rya.org.uk/SiteCollectionDocuments/Racing/RacingInformation/RacingRules/RYA%20Prescriptions%202017.pdf>
- 1.3 [DP] The Etchells Class rule will apply.
- 1.4 The Championship is a Class B Sanctioned Event in accordance with Etchells Class Rules Appendix A; sail nomination and weigh-in are required.
- 1.5 [DP] The International Etchells Class Rules are amended in that all competing boats shall carry a handheld VHF radio capable of transmitting and receiving.

2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS AND COMMUNICATION

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board (ONB) located at the RORC Race Office, the Disrespect, 82 High Street, Cowes, Isle of Wight, PO31 7AJ.
- 2.2 The VHF call sign for the Race Committee Vessel (RC) will be "Ocean One". VHF channel 77 will be used to communicate with Competitors.

3. SAFETY

- 3.1 Competitors are reminded of their responsibility to take account of Notice to Mariners and should be particularly aware of the Port of Southampton Precautionary Area – (Thorn Channel). Competitors are reminded to maintain a constant watch for shipping movements, particularly in the Port of Southampton Precautionary Area (Thorn Channel). Your attention is drawn to the ABP Notice to Mariners No.14 of 2019 and any subsequent amendments which covers the movement of shipping and the accompanying sound signals that may be heard. [DP]
See [http://www.southamptonvts.co.uk/admin/content/files/NTMs/2019%20No%2014%20-%20Port%20of%20Southampton%20-%20Precautionary%20Area%20\(Thorn%20Channel\).pdf](http://www.southamptonvts.co.uk/admin/content/files/NTMs/2019%20No%2014%20-%20Port%20of%20Southampton%20-%20Precautionary%20Area%20(Thorn%20Channel).pdf)
- 3.2 The RC or Protest Committee may protest a boat for breach of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (IRPCAS) or the above regulations on the basis of a report from any source. This changes RRS 60.2(a) and 60.3(a). [DP]
- 3.3 Yachts should check in with the RC each day before the Warning Signal of their first race, by passing close on the starboard side of the Committee Vessel. [DP]
- 3.4 Retirement: A boat that retires from a race shall notify the RC by VHF before leaving the race area. [DP]

4 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 4.1 Any changes to the sailing instructions will be posted on the ONB by 0830 on the day it will take effect.
- 4.2 Any changes to the schedule of races will be posted not later than 1900hrs on the day before it will take effect.

5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flag mast of the Royal Ocean Racing Club, The Parade, Cowes. When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 60 minutes' in the race signal AP. This changes RRS Race Signals.

6 SCHEDULE OF RACES, CLASSES AND CLASS FLAGS

	Friday 1st November	Saturday 2nd November	Sunday 3rd November
High Water Portsmouth	HW 1400 4.7m	HW 1446 4.5m	HW 1534 4.2m
First Warning Signal	11:55	12:55	10:55

- 6.1 A maximum of Eight (8) races are scheduled for all classes.
6.2 No warning signal will be made after 14:55hrs on Sunday 3rd November.
6.3 The Class flag will be International Code Flag E.

7 BERTHING AND HAULING OUT

- 7.1 [DP] Boats shall be berthed afloat during the Championship from 1600 on Thursday 31st October 2019 until the completion of the final race. Boats shall not be hauled out during this time, except with and per the terms of prior written permission of the race committee.

8 RACING AREA

- 8.1 Racing will be the Central Solent. The RC will advise competitors of the intended starting area via VHF, initially 60 minutes prior to the first warning signal of each day.

9 COURSES

- 9.1 Courses will be as in Addendum A. The RC shall provide the course signal, compass bearing and distance for mark 1 by VHF.

10 MARKS

- 10.1 The colour of any laid inflatable mark that is to be used shall be provided by the RC, using VHF.
10.2 Starting and finishing marks will be the RC vessel and an orange inflatable mark.

11 THE START

- 11.1 To alert boats that a start sequence will begin, the orange starting line flag will be displayed (with one sound), as an attention signal, at least three minutes before the first warning signal.
11.2 The Starting Line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag and the course side of the orange inflatable mark.
11.3 A boat starting later than 4 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This changes rule RRS A4 and A5.
11.4 Individual recalls will be broadcast on VHF. Delay or failure to broadcast or receive a recalled bow or sail number shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a)

12 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 12.1 The position of any laid inflated mark(s) may be adjusted by up to approximately plus or minus 10 degrees relative to the previous laid mark(s) and/or up to approximately 200 metres to windward or leeward without a signal. This changes RRS 33.
12.2 For changes greater than those described in SI 12.1. To change the next leg of the course, the RC will lay a new mark (or move the finishing line) and may remove the original mark as soon as practical. When in a subsequent change, a new mark is replaced, it may be replaced by an original mark.
12.3 In addition to RRS 33 signals, the RC will use VHF radio to assist in communicating the change of the next leg of the course.

13 THE FINISH

- 13.1 The finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag and the course side of the orange inflatable mark.

14 TIME LIMIT

- 14.1 The time limit for the first boat of each class to sail the course and finish will be 75 minutes.
14.2 Boats failing to finish within 20 minutes after the first boat of her class will be scored Did Not Finish. This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5.

15 PENALTIES

- 15.1 The first two sentences of rule 44.1 are changed to: `A boat may take a One-Turn Penalty when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 or rule 31 in an incident while racing. However, when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 while in the zone around a mark other than a starting mark, her penalty shall be a Two-Turns Penalty.`
15.2 Boats intending to protest or request redress for an incident in the racing area should radio their intention to the RC as soon as practical after finishing or retiring from the race concerned, naming any other boats involved, and await an acknowledgement. This adds to RRS 61.1(a).

- 15.3 Protest forms are available at the RORC race office. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit.
- 15.4 The protest time limit is 90 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day.
- 15.5 Notices will be posted within 20 minutes of the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. The location and time of hearings will be posted.
- 15.6 Notices of protests by the RC or protest committee will be posted to inform boats under RRS 61.1(b).
- 15.7 On the last scheduled day of racing a request for redress from a protest committee decision shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the decision was posted. This changes RRS 62.2.

16 SCORING

Appendix A of the RRS will be used with the following changes:

- 16.1 Four races shall be completed to constitute a series.
- 16.2 When one (1) to four (4) races are completed there will be no discard.
- 16.3 When Five (5) to eight (8) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst.

17 PRIZES

- 17.1 The event main prize giving will be held at Cowes Yacht Haven on Sunday 3rd November as soon as possible after racing.
- 17.2 Prizes will be awarded to the top three ranked boats in the Championship.
- 17.3 The Corinthian prize will be awarded to the highest placed boat sailed under World Sailing Classification Group 1. Those crews competing for the Corinthian Prize shall input their World Sailing Classification on Yacht Scoring.
- 17.4 Other prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the Organising Authority.

18 OFFICIAL BOATS

- 18.1 The main RC vessels will fly a blue RORC flag with a white border, crown and Seahorse. All other RC vessels will fly a white flag with a blue Seahorse.

19 SUPPORT BOATS

- 19.1 All support boats shall be registered with the OA.

20. RIGHTS TO USE EMAIL ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBERS, NAMES & LIKENESSES

- 20.1 Competitors automatically grant to the OA, without payment, the right in perpetuity to make, use and show any motion pictures, still pictures and live, taped or filmed television of or relating to the event. By providing your email as part of the entry procedure, you may receive targeted mail from the OA or OA affiliated companies for the purpose of race tracking applications and detailed entry requirements.

21. RISK STATEMENT

- 21.1 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 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,
 - b. Their crew and their boat to such inherent risk whilst taking part in the event;
 - c. They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;
 - d. They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omission;
 - e. Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
 - f. The provision of a race management team and other officials and volunteers by the event organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
 - 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.

22. INSURANCE

- 22.1 Each participating boat shall ensure that their boat is adequately and suitably insured before racing.

Addendum A

Course Diagrams - for illustration purposes only:

