



BUCS SAILING: YACHTING INSHORE CHAMPIONSHIPS

2026

14th- 16th April 2026

NOTICE OF RACE

1. ORGANISING AUTHORITY

1.1. The Organising Authority is the British Universities Sailing Association (BUSA), on behalf of the British Universities & Colleges Sport (BUCS).

2. RULES

- 2.1. The event is governed by the rules as defined in [The Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-28](#)
- 2.2. For the purpose of this regatta the word 'team' may be used to describe the crew of a boat. The word 'boat' and 'yacht' are interchangeable.
- 2.3. Byelaws and general directions of the Hamble River Harbourmaster will apply.
- 2.4. Byelaws and general directions of the Cowes Harbourmaster will apply.
- 2.5. Southampton Harbour Byelaws will apply. The attention of all competitors is drawn to [Notice to Mariners No 6](#) of 2024 and any subsequent update: The Moving Prohibited Zone shall be deemed an obstruction and the Race Committee may disqualify a boat that infringes this instruction without a hearing except that the offending boat shall be entitled to a hearing on request. This changes RRS 63.1 and A5.
- 2.6. The Dockyard Port of Portsmouth Byelaws and general directions will apply.
- 2.7. The Race Committee or Protest Committee may protest a boat for a breach of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (IRPCAS), or the rules in NOR 2.3 and 2.4 based on a report from any source. This changes RRS 60.2(a) and 60.3(a).
- 2.8. The allocation of boats will be by Fairview Sailing Ltd.
- 2.9. Any performance consequences of the allocation including the supply, condition, or maintenance of a boat and her equipment shall not be grounds for redress.
- 2.10. Breakages, consequent on the condition or maintenance of the boat, not reasonably preventable by the crew may be considered as grounds for redress.
- 2.11. Coaches specified by the race committee may give outside help to any boat during racing and any boat may receive such help. This changes RRS 41.
- 2.12. When RRS 20 applies, a boat may indicate her need for room to tack or her response by hailing.
- 2.13. The [BUCS General Regulations](#) and [BUCS Sailing Regulations](#) will apply.

3. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1. The Sailing Instructions will be available no later than 23:59 on Monday 30th March 2026.
- 3.2. The Sailing Instructions will be displayed on the [event web page](#) on the BUSA website, and a link shared on the event WhatsApp group found here: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/DDSdUZGk8766VrDh7OUbnb?mode=wwt>



4. COMMUNICATION

4.1. The online official notice board is located on the official event webpage at:

[Online Notice Board](#)

- 4.2. All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communicating on international channels.
- 4.3. On the water, the Race Committee will make courtesy broadcasts to competitors on VHF radio. The channel will be stated in the SIs.
- 4.4. Informal race communications may also be made via the official event WhatsApp group, the link of which can be found in NoR 3.2.
- 4.5. From the first warning signal until the end of the last race each day, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

5. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 5.1. The regatta is open to teams from all member clubs which are currently affiliated to and in good standing with BUSA.
- 5.2. The number of teams is limited to 14.
- 5.3. To make a valid initial entry each team must:
 - 5.3.1. At 18:00 on Friday 14th November 2025 a Google Form will begin accepting responses, any responses before this shall not be accepted. Each entrant will be required to provide a sailing CV and list of qualifications for their proposed skipper and first mate. This will decide the entries into the Championship on a first come first serve basis. (The proposed skipper and first mate do not necessarily have to be the finalised skipper and first mate; however, any replacement must have the sufficient experience and qualifications as required by Fairview). The form will close at 23:59 on Sunday 7th December 2025.
 - 5.3.2. If a team's application is successful, from Monday 8th December 2025 the team will receive an email confirming their place in the Championship with the Fairview Sailing booking form attached.
 - 5.3.3. By no later than 23:59 on Friday 12th December 2025, the team must submit a completed Fairview Sailing booking form. The form is located on the BUSA Yachting Championships web page.
 - 5.3.4. The team will then receive a confirmation from Fairview that they can charter a Fairview Oceanis 37 (information regarding minimum qualifications and experience is available in the Fairview brochure).
 - 5.3.5. After receiving Fairview approval, BUCS Play entries will open on Tuesday 6th January 2026. The Team Entry Deadline on BUCS Play (Deadline for teams to have been entered on BUCS Play by an Institution Administrator) is Thursday 19th March 2026 at 23:59. The Team Join Deadline (Skipper and ALL crew members to have joined the respective event on BUCS Play) is Tuesday 31st March 2026 at 23:59. Finally, the Admin Approval Deadline (Players to have been approved and assigned in a team by an Institution Administrator on BUCS Play) is Thursday 2nd April 2026 at 23:59.
 - 5.3.6. To be considered as a reserve, students will also need to enter the event as per the entry closing dates above. IA's must approve any reserves but not assign them to a specific team.
- 5.4. Following the BUCS Play Entry Deadlines, places will be allocated by BUSA, based on:
 - 5.4.1. One place per university, on a first come, first served basis in the order that completed online booking forms have been received by Fairview Sailing.
- 5.5. If the entry limit has not been reached by the entry deadlines set out above, a Stage 2 entry process will be opened. A late entry team must:
 - 5.5.1. Submit a completed Fairview Sailing booking form. The form is located on the BUSA Yachting Championship web page.



- 5.5.2. Receive a confirmation from Fairview that they can charter a Fairview Oceanis 37.
- 5.5.3. After receiving Fairview approval and by the late entry deadline of 23:59 on Thursday 26th March 2026, you can then complete the BUCS Play Stage 2 online late entry process. Details and deadlines of the BUCS Play Stage 2 entry process, if opened, will be published on the BUCS event page.
- 5.6. Late entries will be accepted at the sole discretion of the Organising Authority. There is no obligation to accept these entries. If late entries are not accepted, they will not be charged the BUCS Entry Fee.
- 5.7. The Organising Authority will consider guest entry requests, where a case can be made that they will support the development of student sailing. Any such entries will need to be requested via email to secretary@busa.co.uk, outlining the proposed team and putting forward a case for their participation. If the case for a team is accepted, a nominated university/college will need to process the entry on BUCS Play as per NoR 5.3.5 or NoR 5.5.3.
- 5.8. Guest entries will be accepted at the sole discretion of the Organising Authority. There is no obligation to accept these entries.
- 5.9. The Organising Authority must approve the entry by no later than 23:59 on Thursday 2nd April 2026.

6. FEES

If you are doing both the coastal and inshore championships:

- 6.1. The Stage 1 entry fee is £236 per team.
- 6.2. The Stage 2 entry fee is £281 per team.
- 6.3. Yacht Charter of £1724.25 which includes one evening's berthing in an away port.
- 6.4. Yacht Charter Damage Deposit of £4,000 (for both events)

For Just the Inshore Championship:

- 6.5. The Stage 1 entry fee is £236
- 6.6. The Stage 2 entry fee is £281 per team.
- 6.7. Yacht Charter of £1999 which includes one evening's berthing in an away port.
- 6.8. Yacht Charter Damage Deposit of £4,000.
- 6.9. An additional cost for a dinner at the away port will be announced and teams will be informed closer to the event.
- 6.10. An optional training weekend not endorsed or supported by BUSA is available for teams entered for the event subject to Fairview acceptance. This is priced at £799.

7. CREW LIMITATIONS

7.1. In order for a team to be eligible for BUCS qualification the following limitations shall apply:

7.1.1. Each team shall:

- 7.1.1.1. Comply with **BUCS REG SAI 2.4 Yachting Championships** Each team shall consist of eight competitors and must contain at least two women and two men.
- 7.1.1.2. Appoint a Team Captain, with whom all communications will be made before and during the event.
- 7.1.1.3. Submit the final and full crew list by email to secretary@busa.co.uk by 23:59 on 30th March 2026. In exceptional circumstances, late changes to crew lists made in writing to the Organising Authority may be accepted at the discretion of the Organising Authority.

7.1.2. Each team member shall:

- 7.1.2.1. Meet the [BUCS General Regulations](#).
- 7.1.2.2. Be over the age of 18 years old.
- 7.1.2.3. Be a registered student of the institution they are representing.
- 7.1.2.4. Have entered the Sailing Yachting Inshore Championships 2025-2026 event on BUCS Play.



8. ADVERTISING

8.1. Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the OA.

9. QUALIFYING AND FINAL SERIES

9.1. Not applicable.

10. SCHEDULE

10.1. Registration and Boat Collection:

All team members must register in person at Port Hamble Marina between 1900 and 2100 on Monday 13th April 2026 and shall present their university registration cards to the Organising Authority at registration.

10.2. Dates of Racing:

Date	Time	Warning signal	Other
Tuesday 14th April	Not Before 1000	Race Day 1	
	After Racing		Boats return to Port Hamble Marina
Wednesday 15th April	Not Before 1000	Race Day 2	
	After Racing		Boats to return to Cowes Yacht Haven
Thursday 16th April	Not Before 0915	Race Day 4	
	After Racing		Boats to return to Port Hamble Marina
	Approximately 1600	Prize Giving for Inshore and Coastal	Prize-giving at Port Hamble Marina
	1630-1700	Boat Handover	

10.2.1. Each boat shall conduct an on-board safety exercise prior to the first race in the series. This exercise shall include a safety briefing and a man-overboard drill.



- 10.2.2. A maximum of 9 races is planned over the course of 3 days.
- 10.2.3. The Race Committee will aim to conduct 3 races per day, but may organise up to a maximum of 4 races per day at their discretion.
- 10.2.4. The scheduled time of the first warning signal and intended format of racing for the next day will be released by 2000 each day.
- 10.2.5. On the last scheduled day of racing, no warning signal will be made after 1500

11. EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

- 11.1.1. Boats shall comply with the class rules as published on the Official Notice Board at all times. Competitors should only use equipment supplied by Fairview Sailing, except for additional tape and ropes of up to 5mm diameter. The Organising Authority reserves the right to protest if this rule is breached.
- 11.1.2. For clarity, Fairview class rule 2.1 includes, but is not limited to: cutlery, crockery, pots, pans, other cooking or cleaning equipment provided by Fairview, mattresses, doors, the TV if present, and any other items provided by Fairview for the benefit and safety of the yacht.
- 11.2. Boats may be inspected at any time.
- 11.3. The Fairview Class Rules are available on the official notice board or at the Fairview Sailing Office.

12. VENUE

- 12.1. The race area will be in The Solent and adjacent waters east and west of the Isle of Wight

13. COURSES

- 13.1. The courses to be sailed are expected to include windward\leeward, and round the cans races. The Race Committee will confirm the course type of each race when publishing the course over VHF and WhatsApp.

14. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 14.1. RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turn Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.
- 14.2. The Exoneration Penalty, the advisory hearing, and RYA Arbitration of the RYA Rules Disputes Procedures will be available. Decisions for RYA Arbitration can be referred to a Protest Committee but cannot be re-opened or appealed.
- 14.3. At a protest hearing, the penalty breach of a rule other than in Part 2 of the RRS may be less than disqualification at the discretion of the jury.

15. SCORING

- 15.1. The Low Point System of Appendix A will apply except as modified below.
- 15.2. In the Race Series:
 - 15.2.1. When fewer than five races have been completed, a boat's score will be the total of her race scores.
 - 15.2.2. When five or more races have been completed, a boat's score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst race score.
 - 15.2.3. 'Round the Cans' races may or may not be sailed at the discretion of the Race Committee if the conditions are favourable for a fair and relevant race.
- 15.3. Four races are required to be completed to constitute the Championship.
- 15.4. Scores are changed as follows:
 - 15.4.1. A boat scored TLE (Time Limit Expired) shall be scored points equal to the number of finishers plus one.



15.4.2. A boat scored BFD, DSQ, DNE, or DGM shall receive points for one place worse than DNF. This changes RRS A5.2.

16. PERSONAL SUPPORT VESSELS

16.1. Support person vessels are not allowed.

17. BERTHING

17.1. Boats shall be kept in their assigned places while in the marina.

18. HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS

18.1. Boats shall not be hauled out during the event except with and according to the terms of prior written permission of the Race Committee.

19. DIVING EQUIPMENT AND PLASTIC POOLS

19.1. Underwater breathing apparatus and plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used for the duration of the event except with and according to the terms or prior written permission of the Race Committee.

19.2. Boats shall not be cleaned below the waterline by any means during the event, defined as from point of collection from Fairview Sailing until the end of the final race of the series.

20. DATA PROTECTION

20.1. The personal information you provide to the Organising Authority will be used to facilitate your participation in the event. If you have agreed to be bound by the Racing Rules of Sailing and other rules that govern the event (the rules), the legal basis for processing that personal information is contract. If you are not bound by the rules, the legal basis for processing that personal information is legitimate interest. Your personal information will be stored and used in accordance with the Organising Authority's privacy policy. When required by the rules, personal information may be shared with the RYA, your national authority and/or World Sailing. The result of the event and the outcome of any hearing or appeal may be published.

21. RISK STATEMENT

21.1. Rule 3 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, 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 is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances;
- (g) It is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks specific to this venue or this event drawn to their attention in any rules and information produced for the venue or event and to attend any safety briefings held for the event.

22. INSURANCE

22.1. The Organising Authority suggests all competitors ensure that they have adequate personal insurance for personal injury and personal effects.

23. PRIZES

23.1. BUCS points are available for this event will be awarded as per [BUCS Appendix 1](#).

23.2. Prizes are awarded as follows:

Result	Trophy or Award
Winner of the Championship	Yachting Trophy
Top 3 Teams in the Championship	BUCS Medals
Top Scottish Team	John Derbyshire Trophy
Top Welsh Team	Welsh Cup

24. MEDIA RIGHTS

24.1. In participating in this BUCS Championship any competitor automatically grants the Organising Authority permission to make, use and show, from time to time, any motion pictures and live, taped or film television and other reproductions of them during the period of the event without compensation, in perpetuity.

25. FURTHER INFORMATION

25.1. All enquiries and correspondence should be addressed to: Karen Rawson, BUSA Secretary, The Cliff Inn, Kirklington, CA6 6DD. Email: secretary@busa.co.uk

For BUCS Play enquiries please contact Tanyel Mustafa, BUCS Event Coordinator, tanyel.mustafa@bucs.org.uk, copying in keelboat-officer@busa.co.uk

For Organising Authority queries please contact BUSA Keelboat Officer, keelboat-officer@busa.co.uk