

1. Rules

- 1.1 These Sailing Instructions shall apply to Local Races, Passage Races and indicated Open Events organised by Fairlie Yacht Club (Hereafter referred to as 'FYC') during racing when indicated.
- 1.2 Racing shall be governed by:
 - a) World Sailing Racing Rules of Sailing 2025 to 2028 as supplemented, (Hereafter referred to as 'RRS')
 - b) Class Rules except as altered by these Sailing Instructions
 - c) FYC Standing Orders
 - d) FYC Sailing Instructions and any subsequent amendments.
- 1.3 There will be races for One-Design and Handicap Classes as required.
- 1.4 The start times and starting sequence for each Race Series, Passage Race, and Open Event are variously detailed in the Schedules of Races.
- 1.5 The Race Officer (Hereafter referred to as 'RO') may, at his or her absolute discretion, cancel or amalgamate any class, race or any other activity organised by the Club. An abandoned or cancelled race shall not be re-sailed.
- 1.6. If a large vessel is manoeuvring in the area, racing may be cancelled or postponed
- 1.7 **Person in charge.** In case of EMERGENCIES the person in charge of the racing vessel should phone 999 and ask for Coastguard or call Coastguard on Ch16.

2. Eligibility

2.1 FYC Club racing:

- 2.1.1 Each competing yacht shall be owned by, chartered by or be in the charge of a Member and have a Member at the helm except for short periods for personal needs.
- 2.1.2 Prior to starting a race and to be eligible for a result in any race or series of races, it is the responsibility of the owner or of the owner's representative of each competing yacht to have lodged with the Local Racing or **FYC Secretary**:
 - a) The Club's annual subscription.
 - b) The appropriate race entry fee.
 - c) A copy of a valid CYCA handicap and/or Class certificate.
 - d) The Race Committee may require proof of appropriate insurance as per Standing Order No3

2.2 FYC Open events:

As per **2.1 FYC Club racing** except that open event competitors who are not members of **FYC** shall be a member of an RYA affiliated club and shall comply with **2.1.2 b and c and d** only.

3. Single handed racing

Single handed racing is NOT permitted

4. Temporary handicap certificates

A temporary handicap or rating certificate may be accepted for a limited time if agreed by the Race Committee. Upon issue, the valid handicap or racing certificate shall be submitted and all previous race results shall be recalculated and amended. After recalculation no improved results shall be allowed. To be amended for a series, valid certificates must be submitted 48 hours prior to the last race or 48 hours prior to a passage race to be eligible for prizes in a race or series.

5. Crew limits

Crew complement limits do NOT apply.

6. Amendments and Notices to Competitors

- 6.1 In alteration to **RRS RACING SIGNALS**, visual signals need not be displayed ashore.
- 6.2 Amendments to, but not included in, these Sailing Instructions shall be by written notice and posted on the **FYC Website**. Amendment Notices will also be distributed by email and WhatsApp. It is the responsibility of competitors to acquaint themselves with any such amendments.
- 6.3 Additionally, amendments shall be posted on www.fairlieyachtclub.org.uk, Facebook and Whatsapp at the earliest possible opportunity.

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7. Racing

- 7.1 Competitors must identify their yachts to the RO before starting and as soon as possible after finishing a race. Yachts finishing in darkness must illuminate their sail number and report to the RO.
- 7.2 Yachts retiring from a race or event must inform the RO or, in Passage Races, endeavour to send a report to the RO.
- 7.3 If, for any reason, a Committee Vessel is not present at the designated finish line of a Passage Race, competitors shall record their finishing time to the nearest second referenced to a GPS receiver or mobile phone and take a note of the competitors sail numbers immediately ahead and astern if visible. It is advised that a photo of the finish line and GPS receiver is taken as evidence. This information should be forwarded to the Race Committee as soon as possible by VHF or phone.
- 7.4 In Passage Races, unless referred to in the Race Instructions, cardinal marks must be passed on the correct hand.
- 7.5 In alteration to RRS 52 (manual power) any yachts wishing to use equipment described by these rules, should, prior to racing, advise the race secretary of their intentions. The race secretary will then advise on acceptability.
- 7.6 Results will be calculated using IRC or CYCA handicaps as appropriate. If a yacht's handicap is changed during a race series;
 - a) she shall remain in the class in which she competed in her first race of that series.
 - b) her new handicap will apply to races which start after the date on the new certificate.
- 7.7 No anchor shall be carried on deck projecting forward of a yacht's bow.

8. Advertising

Written permission must be sought from the Race Committee for any advertising, other than an event sponsor's advertising material. In the absence of written permission, advertising is not permitted during racing.

9. Class Visual Signals and Sail Numbers

From the warning signal until completion of a race, competing yachts shall fly a Class flag as indicated in the Sailing Instructions and as designated by the International Code Flags from her backstay. Ensigns shall not be worn during racing.

10. Racing Areas

- 10.1 The racing areas for Fairlie Patch and Kip are illustrated in diagrammatic form in the Fairlie Patch and Kip Race sections of this yearbook. With the exception of the Bangor Race and the Spring Challenge, Passage Races will take place within the Firth of Clyde.
- 10.2 Reference should be made to the appropriate Admiralty Charts of the area as amended from time to time by Notices to Mariners, for the location and description of navigational buoys and channels.

11. Courses, Start and Finishing Lines and Marks

- 11.1 Courses, marks and start/finish procedures for points series races are detailed in the relevant Fairlie Patch, Kip and Passage Racing sections of the current FYC Yearbook.
 - 11.2 Committee vessels shall normally be identified by flying an orange pennant, and a red flag with FYC in white letters.
 - 11.3 Courses, marks, start and finish procedures for passage races are described in the race schedules in the Yearbook.
 - 11.4 Starting Line:
The starting line shall be between a racing mark and an Orange pennant flying on a Committee vessel.
 - 11.5 A yacht shall keep clear of the Start Line area prior to their preparatory signal.
 - 11.6 Late Starting:
No yacht shall start a race more than 10 minutes in the case of a points race series, or 30 minutes in the case of a passage race, after the last start of the sequence including recalls. The RO may exercise discretion during periods of calm weather.
 - 11.7 Start time limit:
At the start time limit as indicated in 11.6 late starting, the Orange flag shall be lowered without a sound signal.
 - 11.8 Finishing Line: The finishing line shall be between a racing mark and a blue pennant on a committee vessel displaying a red flag with FYC in white letters, or as described in the race schedule in the Yearbook.
 - 11.9 Yachts must cross the finish line at the end of each round and at no other time whilst transiting between other marks of the course. Keeping yachts clear of the line as far as practicable is intended to assist accurate round or finish timing by the Committee vessel.
 - 11.10 A competing yacht shall keep clear of the Finish Line area after finishing.
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12. Class Bands

12.1 Evening Races

Classes, handicap bands and starting sequences for Evening and Autumn Points Series Races may vary for individual series and will be published on the Fairlie Patch and Kip Race Notice Boards and on the Club website, Facebook and Whatsapp.

12.2 Classes for Passage Races in 2026 will be as follows:

Class 1 All CYCA Handicaps

Class 2 Reserved for slow CYCA Handicaps if numbers participating justify a split

Class 3 Reserved for an additional CYCA or IRC Class.

Class 4 Restricted Sail Class, all CYCA Handicaps. Spinnakers, Cruising Chutes or Gennakers are prohibited and only one headsail may be hoisted at any one time, except when changing sail.

(Classes 2 and 3 will not be included in the Start sequence unless notified by individual race sailing instructions)

13. General Recalls

13.1 In alteration to RRS 29.2 after a general recall of any class, the normal starting sequence will not be interrupted, and the warning signal for the class that is subject to general recall will be the start signal for the last class to start in normal sequence. If there is more than one class subject to a general recall, then subsequent recalled classes will start at five minute intervals after the first recalled class start. If there is only one class racing, the warning signal will be at one minute after the general recall signal is lowered.

13.2 In alteration to RRS 29.2, the First Substitute will be lowered one minute before the starting signal for the next scheduled class start without a sound signal.

14. Time Limits

14.1 Time limits for passage races are detailed in the appropriate schedules and sections.

14.2 For evening races at Fairlie Patch, if by the time limit, no yacht in a class has finished, but one or more yachts have completed one or more rounds of the course, then the class results will be calculated from the elapsed times for the last round completed by the yacht leading on the water, without regard to subsequent events, except for RRS 1 and 69. Boats in a class that do not complete this round shall be scored DNF.

14.3 For evening races at Fairlie Patch, if no yacht has completed one round of the course, or a shortened course, within the time limit, then the race will be considered to be abandoned, and will not be re-sailed

15. Protests

15.1 The Exoneration Penalty and the Advisory Hearing and RYA Arbitration of the RYA Rules Disputes Procedures may be available.

15.2 If it is intended to lodge a protest, the Race Secretary, Race Officer on Duty or a member of the Committee must be informed within 1 hour of the protestor finishing or retiring.

15.3 Protests must be lodged in the form of an RYA protest form, (available from the RYA's website), with a member of the committee within 24 hours of a protesting boat finishing or retiring in accordance with RRS Part 5 Section A and RRS 61.3.

15.4 Breaches of FYC Standing Orders Section 5, Safety Equipment and Requirements, will not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes rule 60.1(a). Penalties for these breaches may be less than disqualification if the Protest Committee so decides. The scoring abbreviation for a discretionary penalty will be DPI.

16. Scoring

16.1 Scoring will be as recommended in RRS Appendix A, Low Points System.

16.2 All race series will provide for the discarding of the worst scores, subject to the provisions of RRS 90.3, and RRS Appendix A.

The best four scores will count in all Fairlie Points Series and Kip Pursuit Series.

The Inshore and Passage Race Series will count up to six races, as detailed in 16.4

In other Series organised by the Club, the Series Sailing Instructions will detail the level of discards.

16.3 Points for yachts that do not score finishing points will be as in RRS Appendix A.4.2 amended as follows:

Non-finishing Yachts	-	Race starters plus one point
Disqualified Yachts	-	Race Entry plus one point
Non-Starting Yachts	-	Series Entry plus one point

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16.4 In the Inshore and Passage Race Series, in alteration to RRS A2, a yacht's series score shall be the total of her race scores with exclusions as follows:

Races sailed:	1 to 3	4 or 5	6 or 7
Results excludable:	0	1	2

16.5 The RO will be awarded points equal to either their average series score, or if there are no finishers in the class, race starters plus one point. In the calculation of average series score, DNC results will be discarded up to the maximum number of discards allowed in the series.

16.6 As an alternative to 16.5, Committee Vessels conducting a Passage Race Start may join the race after the Start sequence is complete. The CV should slip its mooring no sooner than ten minutes after the final Starting Signal. An adjustment appropriate to the Class entered will be made to elapsed time after the Finish.

17. Results

17.1 Provisional results will be uploaded to the Club website, www.fairlieyachtclub.org.uk, as soon as practicable following completion of the race.

Also whenever possible, provisional results for passage races will be announced at any associated Muster.

18. Prizes

18.1 FYC Prizes for each class will be, one prize if two or more yachts start; two prizes if five or more yachts start; three prizes if nine or more yachts start, four prizes if thirteen or more yachts start, and so on.

18.2 For classes with a single competitor, a prize may be awarded at the discretion of the race committee.

18.3 At the End of Year Prize-giving, prizes will be consolidated to reflect a yacht's overall performance.

18.4 End of Series prizes will be awarded at the discretion of the sponsors.

18.5 The **2026 Inshore and Passage Race Series will include a Two-Handed Sub-Class within each of the two main Classes.** Yachts appropriately crewed should notify the RO of their eligibility to compete, before the Start of each race.

18.6 To be eligible for 'Best Family Crew' end of season prizes, a minimum of three immediate family members should be on board during racing.

18.7 To be eligible for a Trophy, yachts competing in a Crews Race shall be helmed by a Club Member who is not a regular helm.

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