



The Admiral's Cup
NOTICE OF RACE
2027

RORC





Photo: RORC / Arthur Daniel



The Admiral's Cup



The Admiral's Cup

The Organising Authority is the Royal Ocean Racing Club (RORC). The Rolex Fastnet Race is hosted in association with the Yacht Club de Cherbourg and the Royal Yacht Squadron.
Unless stated all times are BST.

1. RULES

- 1.1. The event will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
- 1.2. The following National Authority (RYA) prescriptions will apply; rules 4, 6, 67, 86.3 and 88.2.
<https://www.sailing.org/tools/documents/NationalPrescriptionsGBR-%5B26794%5D.pdf>
- 1.3. Competitors should note that the RORC implements the RYA Racing Charter and that they will be expected to sail in compliance with it. <https://www.rya.org.uk/racing/rules/racing-charter>.
- 1.4. In all rules governing this event;
 - 1.4.1. [SP] [DP] Respectively denotes a rule for which the Race Committee or Event Technical Committee may apply a standard penalty without a hearing, or a discretionary penalty applied by the International Jury with a hearing (this changes RRS A5).
 - 1.4.2. [NP] denotes a rule that shall not be grounds for protests by a boat and for which the International Jury may refuse to hold a hearing. This changes RRS 60.1.
- 1.5. This Notice of Race, and the terms of the contract created by the acceptance of a boat's entry in any race or event governed by this Notice of Race, shall be governed by and construed in accordance with English law. Any dispute which cannot be resolved under Part 5 of the Racing Rules of Sailing shall be referred to the exclusive jurisdiction of the English Courts.
- 1.6. [SP] [DP] Traffic Separation Schemes, RRS Appendix TS Section B applies to all TSS Zones on the Short Offshore Race and Rolex Fastnet Race (this changes RRS 56.2.)
- 1.7. The World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations.
 - 1.7.1. Inshore Races: OSR Category 4
 - 1.7.2. Short Offshore Race and Rolex Fastnet Race: OSR Category 2 with RORC prescriptions.
<https://www.sailracehq.com/racedocuments>
- 1.8. Appendix WP of The Racing Rules of Sailing in which RRS 28.2 is amended to include: (d) pass between the marks or waypoints of a gate, pass or cross a line of latitude or longitude, as described in the course, from the direction of the previous mark.
- 1.9. Appendix RV of the Racing Rules of Sailing apply in reduced visibility, and in any case between 20:45 and 05:30.
- 1.10. RRS 48.1 does not apply to water used in a water ballast system declared on the IRC certificate (this changes RRS 48.1).
- 1.11. Automatic and/or windvane devices for steering shall not be used.
- 1.12. [DP] Other than a genuine manual galley or marine toilet pump and the scoop valves or pump(s) that are part of a rated water ballast system or engine intake, no other scoop valves or pumps shall be connected in any way or form capable of taking onboard seawater.
- 1.13. IRC rules 2027 parts A, B and C shall apply, including the following changes: Crew numbers and weight, IRC Rule 22.4.2 Crew Number/Weight is deleted and replaced by: The maximum number of crew that may sail onboard a boat shall be the number shown on the IRC certificate, there is no weight limit.

1.14. Sails and sail limit:

- 1.14.1. For IRC rules 21.1.5 (d) and (e), this event is on consecutive days, yet the sails carried onboard need not remain the same for the duration of the event, but sails need to remain the same from when the boat leaves the marina berth for the first time for each day until the boat returns to the marina berth after racing or in the case of the offshore races returns to the marina after completing the race.
- 1.14.2. In addition to one heavy weather jib (HWJ), one storm jib and one trysail (OSR safety sails), Admiral's Cup 1 boats shall not measure in more than Fourteen (14), and Admiral's Cup 2 boats not more than Thirteen (13) sails for the event, including the Short Offshore Race and the Rolex Fastnet Race. The OSR safety sails excluded from the sails measured in shall fully comply with OSR 4.27. The declared OSR safety sails shall remain the same for the duration of the event and may only be changed in accordance with NoR 1.14.3.
- 1.14.3. [DP]Sails shall not be repaired ashore, modified or replaced, without permission from the Event Technical Committee, which may set conditions, including inspection or re-measurement. Repairs, modifications or replacements shall not result in a sail no longer complying with the IRC Certificate.
- 1.14.4. IRC Rule 21.4. is amended such that all sails, irrespective of age shall have a measurement stamp / sticker. All sail measurements shall be registered before the rating deadline defined in NOR 6.1 with a picture of the stamp / sticker.



Photo: RORC / Rick Tomlinson

- 1.15. The Offshore Races:
For the Rolex Fastnet Race, where its Notice of Race requires additional training or equipment, and requires additional rules for the use of equipment, this shall be seen as part of the safety requirements for boats racing under the Admiral's Cup Notice of Race.
- 1.16. For the Rolex Fastnet Race, World Sailing Test Rule DR21-01 Applies. The RRS definition of "Start" is changed as follows:
Start: A boat starts when her hull having been entirely on the pre-start side of the starting line, and having complied with rule 30.1 if it applies, any part of her hull crosses the starting line from the pre-start side to the course side either;
(a) at or after her starting signal, or
(b) during the last 60 seconds before her starting signal. When a boat starts in accordance with item (b) of the definition Start, she shall not return to the pre-start side of the line, and the starting penalty shall be 90 minutes added to her elapsed time. RRS 29.1 does not apply.
- 1.17. [DP] When leaving the marina, there shall be no empty "tank capacity" (bottles, canisters, or tanks of any sort onboard other than the permanently fixed freshwater or holding tanks and personal water bottles. Genuine permanently fixed fuel and oil tanks as well as certified/rated water ballast tanks shall not be seen as "tank capacity" in the sense of this rule).
- 1.18. In the event of a discrepancy between the Admiral's Cup Notice of Race and the Rolex Fastnet Race Notice of Race the Rolex Fastnet Race Notice of Race takes precedence with the exception of the Admiral's Cup Notice of Race 1.11, 1.14, 3.1.4, 7, 11.4, this changes RRS 63.5(c)(2).
- 1.19. In the event of a discrepancy between the Short Offshore Race Sailing Instructions, Admiral's Cup Inshore Races Sailing Instructions, Rolex Fastnet Race Sailing Instructions and Admiral's Cup Notice of Race the Admiral's Cup Notice of Race takes precedence, this changes RRS 63.5(c)(2).

2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The Sailing Instructions will be published on the www.sailracehq.com entry portal no later than 7 July 2027.

3. COMMUNICATION

- 3.1. The online Official Notice Board (ONB) is located at www.sailracehq.com
- 3.2. All boats shall be equipped with a Marine VHF transceiver of at least 25 watts of power capable of operating on VHF channels 09, 16, 69, 71 and 72.
- 3.3. Communication with competitors will be via the online ONB, emails and WhatsApp. Additionally, the race committee may make broadcasts to competitors on VHF.
- 3.4. [NP] [DP] Each boat shall have at least two devices connected to the internet with WhatsApp installed.
- 3.5. [DP] Rule 41(c) is replaced by: A boat shall not receive help from any outside source, except (c) help in the form of information which is freely available to all boats, which shall include navigational, weather, tide or current information from any source which is available to all boats whether or not by payment of a fee or subscription, but shall not include information gathered or the subject of interpretation by, or any advice received from, any person not on board the boat and which is specific to the boat and her situation. By way of an example and interpretation, downloading charts, weather and/or tidal GRIB files from subscription services, or having such information passed to the boat in its pure form, is permitted. The use by competitors of publicly available cloudbased weather routing services is permitted. Receiving messages or information which is the result of human interpretation as it applies to the boat is not permitted

4. ELIGIBILITY, CREW LIMITATIONS

- 4.1. Yacht clubs are invited to enter a two-boat team. A team shall consist of one boat in the Admiral's Cup Class 1 and one boat in the Admiral's Cup Class 2. Once entries have been accepted by the RORC Race Office boat owners and/or yacht clubs may request to reconfigure teams no later than 7 July 2027.
- 4.2. The nationality of the team will be determined by the location of the entering club.
- 4.3. Boats shall submit crew lists in line with NoR 7.1.
- 4.4. [NP] Each two-boat team shall have at least two female crew and two crew members of under 27 years old on the 14 July 2027. Additionally, each two-boat team shall have one further crew member who is either female, or under 27 years old on the 14 July 2027. For the avoidance of doubt, any individual sailor

can fulfil only one of the age or gender criteria.

- 4.5. For the inshore races the crew numbers shall remain the same with the maximum crew being the crew number on the respective IRC certificate.
- 4.6. For the offshore races crew numbers may be added to, up to the certificate limit, or reduced but shall still conform with NoR 4.4.
- 4.7. Owners may choose to sail or not on any day, but crew numbers shall not exceed the certificate number.
- 4.8. Any changes due to sickness, injury or other exceptional circumstances, should be only be approved by the Event Technical Committee or Race Committee.
- 4.9. The classes are defined in the table below:

CLASS	MIN. TCC	MAX. TCC	MIN. LH (m)	MAX. LH (m)	Max D (m)
Admiral's Cup 1	1.292	1.440	13.41	17.10	3.9
Admiral's Cup 2	1.125	1.282	11.50	13.40	3.4

- 4.10. The OA will adhere to the applicable World Sailing recommendations on participation.

5. ENTRY AND ENTRY FEES

- 5.1. From 1 July 2026, entries may be made online using the link on the event website <https://admiralscup.rorc.org/>
- 5.2. The Entry completed in full shall be received by the RORC Race Office not later than noon GMT on 28 February 2027 accompanied by an entry fee of GBP 15,000 per team. A 25% discount (refunded retrospectively), will be available to teams where at least one boat has a crew with 80% U27 on the 14 July 2027. Payment will be via the online entry system at www.sailracehq.com.
- 5.3. If an entry is cancelled before the 31 March 2027 or rejected, the fee will be refunded, less a 10% administration charge.
- 5.4. If, on or before 1 March 2027, more than one team is entered per nation as defined in 4.2, the Organising Authority will allocate colours for identification e.g. AUS Red.
- 5.5. Late entries from March 1 2027 may only be made if approved by the Organising Authority and the entry is accompanied by an increased entry fee of GBP 18,000 per team, which is non refundable once the entry is confirmed. The Organising Authority shall accept or reject within 14 days of receiving the fully completed entry.
- 5.6. The entry fee includes berthing as detailed in NoR 13.
- 5.7. The entry fee includes tickets to the owners' dinner (2 per boat) and crew tickets to the crew party & social events.
- 5.8. The entry and entry fee includes the entry and entry fee of the Rolex Fastnet Race ensuring eligibility for the overall trophies of the Rolex Fastnet Race.
- 5.9. The Organising Authority may cancel the event and reject or cancel entries at its discretion, subject to RRS 76.

6. RATING CERTIFICATES

- 6.1. Boats shall have an endorsed IRC certificate issued by an IRC Rating Authority not later than noon on 7 July 2027. The event shall be raced based on one IRC certificate, either the primary (IRC Rule 8.2) or the secondary IRC certificate (IRC Rule 8.2.1).
- 6.2. The boat weight shall be checked using a loadcell and by a measurer agreed by a Rating Authority after the 15 February 2027 and prior to the 18 June 2027. If any changes are made to the boat following this weighing the boat shall be re-weighed or an alternative process to confirm and document the change agreed with the Rating Authority. Bulb weight as certified shall be verified by an IRC measurer appointed by an IRC Rating Authority and have documentation of any changes by an appointed measurer.
- 6.3. Following equipment inspection, written permission of the Event Technical Committee is required for any modification or replacement of boat equipment.
- 6.4. [DP] All repairs shall be like for like. Following equipment inspection, written permission of the Event Technical Committee is required for any repair that may impact a rated parameter or a boat's rating.

7. REGISTRATION, EQUIPMENT INSPECTION AND RATING PROTESTS

- 7.1. [NP] The final Crew List shall be submitted on the entry portal www.sailracehq.com no later than noon on 7 July 2027. Any allowed changes for the Short Offshore Race or the Rolex Fastnet Race must be updated on the online portal.
- 7.2. [NP] Final registration formalities shall be completed at the RORC Race Office by 16:00 on 13 July 2027 unless the Organising Authority approves a later time, which it will do only under exceptional circumstances. All entry requirements on www.sailracehq.com shall be completed by the 13 July 2027.
- 7.3. [NP] Boats will be inspected, and sails may be measured before and during the event. All boats shall be at their berth in Cowes no later than 09:00 on the 13 July 2027 and from 10:00 on 13 July 2027 be available to the Event Technical Committee at the agreed time for the boat's inspection and measurement. Boats may book inspection slots before arrival and boats are free to sail unless being inspected.
- 7.4. A list of boat ratings will be posted on the online ONB by 16:00 on 7 July 2027. The list will remain posted on the online ONB during the event. The Protest Time Limit for rating protests by boats will expire at 17:00 on 9 July 2027, except if relating to changes made during the event.
- 7.5. The fact that event officials may conduct inspections does not reduce the responsibilities of each competitor set out in this Notice of Race.

8. ADVERTISING & TRACKING

- 8.1. Advertising is permitted in accordance with the Class Rule and World Sailing Regulation 20.
- 8.2. [SP] [NP] Boats may be required to display identification and advertising chosen and supplied by the Organising Authority.
- 8.3. [DP] [NP] Boats/teams intending to display advertising during the event shall state the nature of such advertising in the entry form. The Organising Authority shall approve all advertising.
- 8.4. [SP] [DP] [NP] Boats may be requested to install event-supplied trackers for the inshore races, and trackers are mandatory for the offshore races. Requests shall not be refused, nor shall the functionality of trackers be reduced in any way or form.



Photo: RORC / James Tomlinson

9. SCHEDULE

Date	Event	Time	Location
1 July 2026	Entry Opens	09:00	www.sailracehq.com
28 February 2027	Entry Closing Date	12:00	
1 March 2027	Late Entry Date	23:59	
Wednesday 7 July	Rating & Crew List Deadline Sailing Instructions Published	12:00	
Tuesday 13 July 2027	Registration Deadline Inspection & Measurement	16:00 10:00	Cowes Yacht Haven
Wednesday 14 July 2027	Inspection & Measurement	09:00	Cowes Yacht Haven
Thursday 15 July 2027	Inspection & Measurement	09:00	Cowes Yacht Haven
Friday 16 July 2027	Short Offshore Race	17:00	RYS Line
Saturday 17 July 2027	Short Offshore Race Cont'd		
Sunday 18 July 2027	Spare Day		
Monday 19 July 2027	Inshore Races		
Tuesday 20 July 2027	Inshore Races		
Wednesday 21 July 2027	Inshore Races		
Thursday 22 July 2027	Inshore Races		
Friday 23 July 2027	Lay Day		
Saturday 24 July 2027	Rolex Fastnet Race Start	13:00 TBC	RYS Line
Wednesday 28 July 2027	Prizegiving	18:00 Local	Cherbourg

9.1. The Schedule may be amended. Any changes to the schedule will be published by 16:00 on the day before it will take effect.



Photo: RORC / James Tomlinson



10. VENUE AND RACE AREA

- 10.1. The Race Area and courses will be described in the Sailing Instructions.
- 10.2. [DP] [NP] Boats will be berthed in Cowes from 09:00 on 13 July 2027 and at Port Chantryne Marina after finishing the Rolex Fastnet Race.

11. INTERNATIONAL JURY, PENALTY SYSTEM AND REDRESS

- 11.1. An international jury will be appointed in accordance with RRS Appendix N. All decisions will be final as per RRS 70.3.
- 11.2. The standard penalty will be a 3% time penalty.
- 11.3. The standard penalty for an infringement of Appendix RV (NoR 1.9.) will be a ten minute time penalty per incident added to a boats elapsed time.
- 11.4. For the Inshore races and Short Offshore race, RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty. The penalties for the Rolex Fastnet Race will be described in the Rolex Fastnet Race Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions.
- 11.5. Penalties for breaches of a rule other than a rule of Parts 1 or 2 and rule 31 of the RRS may be less than disqualification if the International Jury so decides.
- 11.6. Redress Limitations:
 - 11.6.1. Once a boat has docked out to start a race after being granted redress no further redress will be granted based on the previous request. This changes RRS 61.4.
 - 11.6.2. [NP] Actions by official boats, drones or helicopters shall not be grounds for requesting redress by a boat. This changes RRS 61.1(a).
 - 11.6.3. Rules 61.4 (b) (3) and 61.4 (b) (5) are deleted for the Short Offshore Race and the Rolex Fastnet Race. This changes RRS 61.

12. SCORING

- 12.1. The low point system of Appendix A will apply, including the following changes:
- 12.2. Three races (including one offshore race) are required to constitute a series.
- 12.3. For the purpose of the overall scoring, one inshore race will be discarded once four or more inshore races are completed. It is intended to complete up to six inshore races.
- 12.4. The Short Offshore and Rolex Fastnet Race will be non-discardable.
- 12.5. The Short Offshore Race will have a weighting of 2.
- 12.6. The Rolex Fastnet Race will have a weighting of 3.
- 12.7. Team Ties: In case of a tie between teams, it will be broken in favour of the team with the best score in the Rolex Fastnet Race. If the tie remains, it will be broken in favour of the team with the best score in the Short Offshore Race. If the tie still remains, it will be broken in favour of the team with the best score in the last-but-one race, and so on until the tie is broken.

13. BERTHING, STORAGE AND HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS

- 13.1. The entry fee includes berthing fees from 09:00 on 13 July 2027 to 12:00 on 24 July 2027 at Cowes Yacht Haven marina, and for 48 hrs after the boat finishes at Port Chantryne Marina in Cherbourg, provided that RORC receives the completed entry form and entry fee before 28 February 2027. For late entries after 1 March 2027, berthing arrangements are not guaranteed. At Cowes Yacht Haven marina, the berthing will include berthing for the teams, one support boat (<10m) and one van per team. Space for containers and extra support boats or vans can be negotiated separately with details available from the race office. The cost for electricity, water, garbage, extra support vessel berthing, parking, and handling of containers, trailers, vans or berthing of race boats for additional periods are not included in the entry fee and shall be paid directly to the Marina Offices.
- 13.2. [DP] [NP] Boats shall not be hauled out during the event except with and according to the terms of prior written permission of the Event Technical Committee.
- 13.3. [DP] [NP] All boats shall be in the water from 09:00 on the 13 July 2027 and in their assigned berths if not sailing until the completion of the last race of the event, unless directed or approved by the Event Technical Committee for weighing, measurement, repair, and inspection purposes.

14. DIVING EQUIPMENT, PLASTIC POOLS AND HULL CLEANING [DP] [NP]

- 14.1. Hull cleaning by Harbour Authority/Marina approved divers will be allowed on the following days 14 July, 16 July, 18 July, 20 July, 22 July and 23 July. Boats must ensure that all local regulations are complied with.

- 14.2 Robotic cleaning apparatus and plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used around boats whilst in the water. Diving for inspections or repairs at Cowes Yacht Haven marina shall only take place with and according to the terms of prior written permission of the Event Technical Committee.
- 15. COMPETITOR SUPPORT VESSELS [DP] [NP]**
- 15.1 There shall be only one support vessel per team. Support vessel regulations will be published as an appendix by the 31 January 2027.
- 16. COMPETITOR DRONES [DP] [NP]**
- 16.1 Competitors' support team or their representatives shall not fly drones over the Admiral's Cup shore base/marina or over the race area during training or racing days without prior written approval by the Organising Authority. The approval granted at the sole discretion of the Organising Authority may impose limitations on where and when drones may fly.
- 16.2 Any drone flying must comply with local legislation at all times.
- 16.3 At any time, the risk and responsibility for flying any drone is with the person flying the Drones and images made inside the race area shall be shared with the Organising Authority, Race Committee, International Jury, or competitors at reasonable request.
- 16.4 There shall be no more than one drone per team.
- 17. RIGHTS TO USE NAMES & LIKENESSES**
- 17.1 Competitors automatically grant the Organising Authority and event sponsors, 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.
- 18. PRIVACY STATEMENT**
- 18.1 The personal information you provide to the Organising Authority and event sponsors 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 a contract. If the rules do not bind you, the legal basis for processing that information is a legitimate interest. Your personal data 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 results of the event and the outcome of any hearing or appeal may be published.
- 19. INSURANCE**
- 19.1 Each participating boat shall ensure that their boat is adequately insured against all third-party claims.
- 19.2 It is recommended that all participants have adequate personal insurance.
- 20. RISK STATEMENT**
- 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 nature, an unpredictable sport and, therefore, inherently involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:
- 20.1 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.
- 20.1.1 They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat, and their other property, whether afloat or ashore.
- 20.1.2 They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions.
- 20.1.3 Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event, and they are fit to participate.
- 20.1.4 The provision of a race management team, patrol boats, if any and other officials and volunteers by the event organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities.
- 20.1.5 The provision of patrol boat cover if any, is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can practically be provided in the circumstances.

20.1.6. It is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks specific to this venue or this event drawn to their attention in any rules or information produced for the venue or event and to attend any safety briefing held for the event.

21. TROPHIES & PRIZES

Trophies and Prizes will be awarded at the discretion of the OA

21.1. Admiral's Cup Team Trophies

Admiral's Cup perpetual trophy for best scoring two-boat team (lowest combined score)
Aisher Cup for second best scoring two-boat team (lowest combined score)
RORC Trophy for third best scoring two-boat team (lowest combined score)
Myles Wyatt Plate for yacht with lowest combined score in the Admiral's Cup
Admiral's Cup keeper trophies first, second and third two-boat team
Lowest combined score in Short Offshore Race
Lowest combined score in inshore series
Lowest combined score in Rolex Fastnet Race
Australian Challenge Cup for lowest combined score Australia v GB
Hong Kong Trophy for lowest combined score Asia v Australia v New Zealand
Lowest combined score for teams where at least one boat has 66% of World Sailing Cat 1 sailor classification

21.2. Admiral's Cup individual Trophies

AC 1 Individual Trophies
Oscar Bowl for BCT in the Short Offshore Race
Indulgence Trophy for best combined score in the inshore series
Veritas Cup for BCT in the Rolex Fastnet Race
RORC Centenary trophy, best scoring boat owned and primarily helmed by a RORC member (owner driving inshore races + first hour and final 2 miles of offshore races)
Best boat with 66% of World Sailing Cat 1 Sailor classification

AC 2 Individual Trophies
RYS Trophy for BCT in the Short Offshore Race
Nyria Trophy for best combined score in the inshore series
Founders Cup for BCT in the Rolex Fastnet Race
RORC Centenary trophy, best scoring boat owned and primarily helmed by a RORC member (owner driving inshore races + first hour and final 2 miles of offshore races)
Best boat with 66% of World Sailing Cat 1 Sailor classification

All Admiral's Cup boats will be eligible for the Rolex Fastnet Race Overall trophies, but will not be eligible for Rolex Fastnet Race Class prizes.

Notice of Race Ends



FURTHER INFORMATION

All Competitors will be welcome at the RORC Cowes clubhouse during the event.
An event guide will be available online by 31 July 2026.

The RORC Race team can be contacted:

Royal Ocean Racing Club, Cowes Clubhouse, The Parade, Cowes Isle of Wight PO31 7QU.

Tel: +44 (0)1983 295144

Email: racing@rorc.org



Photo: RORC / Rick Tomlinson





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