



# **THE ROYAL MOTOR YACHT CLUB**

## **‘XOD’ CHARITY RACE 2025**

**SATURDAY 17th May 2025**

### **SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

#### **1 RULES**

- 1.1 Racing will be governed by the rules currently defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing, the prescriptions of the RYA, these sailing instructions and the XOD class rules.
- 1.2 The current RYA Prescriptions to the Racing Rules will apply.
- 1.3 Racing Rule 29(1) will be changed in that a circular fluorescent shape will be used in place of International Code Flag ‘X’ for individual recalls.
- 1.4 XOD Class boats are not required to carry flares (LED or pyrotechnic). This changes the minimum requirement stated in XOD Class Rule C,4.1d (Flares) as permitted by that Rule.

#### **2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS**

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official noticeboard outside the RMYC office

#### **3 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

- 3.1 Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted from 1200 on the day it will take effect.
- 3.2 Following any change, Code Flag L will be displayed for at least 1 hour before the start.

#### **4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be made using signal halyards on the Balcony of the RMYC.

**5 CLASS FLAGS:**      XOD                      Code flag ‘X’

#### **6 RACING AREAS**

- 6.1 Racing will take place in Poole Harbour, the approaches to Poole Harbour and in Poole Bay.

#### **7 COURSES**

- 7.1 Courses will be as detailed in the list of XOD Courses No.25/2025 and will show the order in which marks are to be passed, the side on which each mark is to be passed and an approximate course length. All marks are rounding marks unless stated to the contrary in the course list.
- 7.2 The course to be sailed will be announced on **VHF CH 37** (or if blocked **CH72**) before the Preparatory Signal. **Ad Hoc courses** may also be given. The course given at the Warning Signal shall apply.
- 7.3 Legs of the course will not be changed after the Preparatory Signal. This changes Rule 33.

#### **8 MARKS**

- 8.1 Marks are listed in XOD courses list No. 25/2025. All marks are rounding marks unless stated to the contrary in the course list.

#### **9 AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS**

- 9.1 There are no specified areas of obstruction.
- 9.2 When courses in the list specify **North Channel**, yachts shall pass all port hand marks from **NC 4** to **NC 12** inclusive on the channel side.



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## **‘XOD’ CHARITY RACE 2025**

- 9.3 When courses are sailed which include marks in the Swash Channel and Poole Bay, yachts must pass **North Haven Beacon on the Channel side.**

### **10 THE START**

- 10.1 Races will be started by using Rule 26, with the Warning Signal made 5 minutes before the Starting Signal.
- 10.2 **Start time:**      *Warning Signal - 1355hrs*      **Start time: - 1400**
- 10.3 The Starting Marks will be a white flag staff flying an orange flag, situated on the RMYC race deck, and an Outer Distance Mark (ODM).
- 10.4 The **Starting Line** is between the white flag staff with orange flag, situated on the RMYC race deck and the inflatable buoy (ODM) on the north west side of the North Channel. If the ODM is not in position, then the port hand red channel mark NC2 will be used instead.

### **11 THE FINISH**

- 11.1 The **Finish Line** is between the white flag staff with orange flag, situated on the RMYC race deck, and an inflatable buoy (ODM) on the north-west side of the North Channel. If the ODM is not in position, then the port hand red channel mark NC2 will be used instead.
- 11.2 Competitors are requested wherever possible, to note the identities of the boats finishing immediately ahead and astern. The Race Committee does NOT REQUIRE competitors to advise them of this information routinely, but may request it to clarify finishing positions.

### **12 TIME LIMITS**

- 12.1 The Time Limit for the XOD Charity Race will be **1800 hrs** except that if any yacht finishes within the time limit, such limit shall be extended until **1830 hrs** for all yachts in the class.
- 12.2 When no yacht finishes within the time limit, the race shall be abandoned and will not be re-sailed. This changes Rule 35, and appendices A.4, and A.5
- 12.3 After the first 2 boats have finished, any boat behind the body of the fleet may be awarded a finishing position whilst still on the course (‘Stragglers’ rule). This shall only be at the discretion of the Race Officer.

### **13 PENALTY SYSTEM**

- 13.1 In accordance with Rule 44.1 the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the **One-Turn Penalty.**

### **14 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**

- 14.1 Protests shall be in writing. Protest forms should be used whenever possible and are available at the RMYC office.
- 14.2 Protests and requests for redress shall be delivered to the RMYC office by 12 noon on the day following the race in question.
- 14.3 Parties to a protest will be informed of the date, time and location of the protest hearing.
- 14.4 Breaches of Sailing Instructions 11.2 and 16.4 will not be grounds for a protest.

### **15 SCORING**

- 15.1 The Racing Rules of Sailing ‘Low Points System’ shall be used.
- 15.2 The race results will be posted on the RMYC Notice Board as soon as possible after the finish.
- 15.3 **Note:** Forms part of the Parkstone Y.C. ‘XOD’ Saturday Points Series.



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### **16 SAFETY REGULATIONS**

- 16.1 Adequate personal buoyancy for crew members shall be worn or carried on board at all times. Wet suits or dry suits do not constitute adequate buoyancy.
- 16.2 For safety, in order to avoid risk of collision with any commercial shipping that is under way, a boat may use other means of propulsion until risk of danger has passed, without the need to retire. Such use must be reported to the Race Committee as soon as practicable.
- 16.3 Competitors are reminded that under Poole Harbour Bylaws, the Sandbanks Chain Ferry has right of way over all non-piloted vessels.
- 16.4 A yacht that retires from a race shall notify the Race Committee as soon as possible.

### **17 EQUIPMENT CHECKS**

- 17.1 A boat or its equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the XOD class rules and these Sailing Instructions.

### **18 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 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, their boat to such inherent risk while taking part in the event;
- b) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their 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) 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, in date and is familiar to the crew, and;

Their boat is adequately insured, with cover of at least £2,000,000 against third party claims.

### **19 INSURANCE**

- h) Each participating boat shall be insured against Third Party liability to a minimum cover of £2,000,000 throughout the series.

### **20 PHC YACHT RACING CRITERIA**

The attention of all yacht skippers is drawn to the Poole Harbour Commissioners Yacht Racing Criteria, the latest version of which can be found at:

[Poole-Harbour-Sail-Racing-Procedures-Version-9-March-2023.pdf](#)