



THE ROYAL MOTOR YACHT CLUB

XOD OCTOBER RACE SERIES 2025

Racing will consist of **9** Races on consecutive **Wednesday** and **Saturday** afternoons

1st October until **29th October** inclusive.

Note: XOD **GLAZEBROOK TROPHY** will be on **Saturday 11th October** or if not raced that day then on the next following race.

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 25/2025 and will show the order in which marks are to be passed, the side on which each mark is to be rounded or passed and an approximate course length. **Ad hoc courses** may on occasion be given. All marks are rounding marks unless stated to the contrary in the course list.
- 7.2 The course to be sailed will **only** be notified on **VHF Ch37** (or if blocked Ch72) before the Preparatory Signal. Course boards will not be used. The course announced prior to 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 the List of XOD Courses 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.



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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.

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 October Race Series will be **1700 hrs** with no extensions.

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. RYA 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 Instruction 16.4 will not be grounds for a protest.

15 SCORING

15.1 The Racing Rules of Sailing 'Low Points System' shall be used. Scoring will be as prescribed in RRS Appendix A9

15.2 The number of races to count shall be:

6 or more races

1 discard



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5 or less races

All to count

- 15.3 The race results will be posted on the RMYC Notice Board as soon as possible after the finish.

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 PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded for the best overall 1st, 2nd and 3rd places. Prizegiving will take place at the **Royal Motor Yacht Club** on **Thursday 13th November** at 7.00pm

19 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;
- h) Their boat is adequately insured, with cover of at least £2,000,000 against third party claims.

20 INSURANCE

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



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21 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](#)

Yacht skippers must appraise themselves of the content of these guidelines and in particular the section entitled '*Guidance for Racing Yacht Skippers*'.

23rd March 2025