



2026 HAMBLE CLASSICS REGATTA

Hosted by the HRSC (sailing) and RAFYC (social)

5th – 6th SEPTEMBER

NOTICE OF RACE (NoR)

Racing on Saturday / Sunday 5th September - 6th September 2026
for all eligible yachts and classes

The Organising Authority (OA) is the Hamble River Sailing Club
in agreement and consultation with Hamble Classics® & the RAFYC

1. RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing 2025– 2028 <https://www.sailing.org/inside-world-sailing/rules-regulations/> and the RYA Prescriptions.
- 1.2 The event is to be raced under the principles of the RYA Racing Charter: <https://www.rya.org.uk/racing/rules/racing-charter> and in compliance with the regatta ethos set out in paragraph 25.4 of this Notice of Race.
- 1.3 All yachts (other than dayboats) shall comply with World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations (OSR) for Category 4 races, except that Regulations 3.09.1, 3.09.2 and 3.09.3 regarding cockpit self-draining, water tightness and draining, and height of the cockpit sole, and 3.14 regarding lifelines, stanchions and pulpits, shall not apply. Further dispensations can be requested in writing.
- 1.4 Yachts that normally sail with stanchions and guardwires in place shall not remove them for the Regatta.
- 1.5 Dayboats shall comply with Appendix B of the Notice of Race, Dayboat Safety Regulations, (attached below) and One-Design class and International (Metre) class boats shall also conform to their class rules.
- 1.6 All participants are advised to wear a personal flotation device at all times while afloat.
- 1.7 Anchors stowed on deck shall not protrude over the bow. Outboard motors shall not be stowed outboard while racing.
- 1.8 Boats shall comply with local Harbour Authority Bye-laws and Directions including ABP Southampton Notice to Mariners 2026 No.05 concerning the Thorn Channel Precautionary Area, available here: https://www.southamptonvts.co.uk/yachting_leisure/notices_to_mariners/
- 1.9 This Notice of Race may be changed by Amendment or by the Sailing Instructions. In the event of a conflict between documents, the Sailing Instructions shall prevail. This changes RRS [63.5\(c\)](#).
- 1.10 In addition to and changing RRS 32.1, the Race Committee (RC) may shorten the course or abandon a race due to major windshifts or irregular winds.
- 1.11 Hamble Classics and the hosting clubs reserve the right to cancel, postpone or modify the format of the event at any point before or during the event and each accepts no liability for losses incurred by entrants and others.

2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The Sailing Instructions will be available on the online Official Notice Board (ONB) at or before 17:00 on the Thursday immediately before the Regatta.

3. COMMUNICATION

3.1 The ONB is online at <https://www.hrsc.org.uk/open-events-1/hamble-classics-regatta-ONB>

3.2 All yachts shall carry a VHF radio capable of receiving all the usual UK marine channels.

3.3 On the water, essential race information including courses will be transmitted by the race committee via VHF radio.

3.4 The WhatsApp mobile telephone app may be used to provide other information about the Regatta to the yacht owner's mobile number provided in the entry form. Additional numbers may be added on request.

4. ELIGIBILITY and ENTRY

4.1 The event is open to boats as listed and described in Appendix A of the Notice of Race - Hamble Classics Yacht Eligibility Rules (attached below). Attention is drawn to A11: Size and draft: The Hull Length (length on deck) range for competing yachts is between 6 and 22 metres and the draft limit is 2.8 metres. However a yacht that exceeds the upper figures may request to take part. The decision of Hamble Classics working with the OA and PRO will be final.

4.2 IRC Rated boats:

a) The current IRC Rules Parts A, B and C will apply.

b) The RORC rating website is at: <https://myirc.rorcrating.com> Tel: 01590 677030.

c) IRC Single Event Ratings (SER) - boats that do not already hold a current IRC certificate may obtain a Single Event Rating on application to the RORC Rating Office MyIRC at: <https://rorcrating.com/irc-rating/gbr-irc-racing/irc-single-event-rating>

d) For boats with two rating certificates under IRC rule 8.2, the primary certificate will apply unless the OA receives a written declaration from the boat that the secondary certificate is to apply and may not be changed before the end of the event. The rating deadline is 17:00 Friday September 4th.

4.3 The OGA Handicap Rule will apply for Gaff-Rigged Yachts in the Gaffer classes and handicaps will be provided by the Solent Old Gaffers Association.

4.4 Class rules will apply for One-Design class entries and International (Metre) Class entries.

4.5 Other yachts are welcome and will be given a 'Regatta Handicap' based on data submitted plus other relevant information, and will race in the 'Regatta' class(es). A yacht with an IRC certificate but requesting or requested to join a Regatta class will be given a Regatta Handicap. Regatta Handicaps will be supplied free-of-charge. Yacht data to obtain a handicap is required by noon on the Saturday a week before the Regatta, submitted online at: <http://eepurl.com/dm90vv>

5. ENTRY FEES

5.1 Entry fees listed below in 5.3 are for a two-day regatta on Saturday and Sunday, with:

a) 'Early-Bird' Entry rate available for entries received and paid at time of entry before 16:00 Friday June 12th – min. 25% reduction from Standard Entry rate listed in 5.3.

b) 'July Discount' Entry rate for entries received and paid at time of entry before 16:00 Friday July 31st – min. 10% reduction from Standard Entry rate listed in 5.3.

c) Standard Entry rate for entries received and paid at time of entry before 16:00 Monday August 24th.

d) Late entries may be accepted if received before 16:00 on Wednesday September 2nd but will be at the discretion of the OA. The Late Entry fee applicable will be as listed in 5.3.

e) If an entry is withdrawn and refund requested before August 24th a 50% cancellation fee will be deducted, otherwise refunds will not be made.

5.2 Berthing cost is NOT included in the Entry Fees. If berthing is required see paragraph 18 for information.

5.3 Eligible boats may enter by:

- a) Providing a completed online entry form - link at <https://hambleclassics.co.uk> or using this link direct to the online entry form: <http://eepurl.com/hXZdGD>
- b) Paying the Entry Fee as follows:

CLASS/ BOAT SIZE	ENTRY FEES / ENTRY TIMING OPTIONS			
	'Early-Bird' Entry received before 16:00 Friday June 12 th (see 5.1a above)	'July Discount' Entry received before 16:00 Friday July 31 st (see 5.1b above)	Standard Entry received before 16:00 Monday August 24 th (see 5.1c above)	Late Entry received before 16:00 Wednesday September 2 nd (see 5.1d above)
Select entry fee for Classes listed below and for other boats by Hull Length (LH not LOA – no charge for bowsprit & bumpkin length)				
XOD Class	£ 90	£105	£125	£145
Folkboat – all types	£110	£130	£150	£170
International Dragon	£125	£150	£170	£190
West Solent OD	£155	£185	£210	£230
Int. 6-Metre	£155	£185	£210	£230
Yachts and Gaffers, other classic ODs, and non-class dayboats, select entry fee from the table below				
Up to 7 metres	£ 95	£115	£135	£155
Up to 8 metres	£115	£135	£155	£175
Up to 9 metres	£130	£155	£175	£195
Up to 10 metres	£145	£175	£195	£220
Up to 11 metres	£160	£190	£215	£240
Up to 12 metres	£175	£210	£235	£260
Up to 13 metres	£190	£225	£255	£280
Up to 14 metres	£205	£245	£275	£300
Up to 15 metres	£220	£265	£295	£320
Up to 16 m. & over	£235	£280	£315	£340

6. (number not used)

7. ADVERTISING

7.1 Boats may be required to display advertising supplied by Hamble Classics.

8. (number not used)

9. SCHEDULE - All times are BST

- 9.1 Friday 4th September From 12:00 crews arriving in Hamble will be welcome at the RAFYC
WhatsApp group operational
18:15 Welcome Reception at the RAFYC – pay bar
Club Supper available – booking advisable
- Saturday 5th September 08:20 Competitor briefing at the RAFYC
10:30 First Warning Signal
Elephant Boatyard Rum Party from 15.00 at the RAFYC
Spinlock Race Day Prize Giving - target time 15:30
18:30 for 19:00 Hamble Classics Supper (ticket details at eventwebsite)
- Sunday 6th September 10:30 First Warning Signal
Main Prize Giving after racing - target time 15:30

- 9.2 The Regatta will consist of up to 4 races for IRC and Regatta classes, up to 5 races for one-design and level racing classes, and up to 2 races for Gaffer classes, or as agreed with a class before the event.
- 9.3 Classes and class starts may be combined in the starting schedule depending on numbers entered. Two or more classes may be started at the same time as necessary to run the racing effectively.
- 9.4 The list of entries, handicaps and class splits will be provided at or before 17:00 on the Thursday before the Regatta.
- 9.5 For a One-Design class start, four or more entries are required, although two boats of the same type if competing in a handicap class may receive a prize for the first boat.
- 9.6 On Sunday, no warning signal will be made after 14:00.

10, 11. (numbers not used)

12. RACE AREA

- 12.1 The racing area will be in the Central Solent and Southampton Water.

13. COURSES

- 13.1 A variety of round-the-cans courses will be sailed, with some windward-leeward courses for appropriate classes. Downwind or reaching starts may be used for some classes. Further details will be provided in the Sailing Instructions.

14. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 14.1 The sailing instructions will change RRS 44.1 so that the penalty shall be a One-Turn Penalty (one tack & one gybe) or an Alternative Time Penalty detailed in the sailing instructions.
- 14.2 RRS Appendix T1 Post-Race Penalties shall apply.
- 14.3 RRS Appendix T Arbitration may be made available at the discretion of the OA, but if provided would not remove the right to a hearing if requested by a party to a protest.

15. SCORING

- 15.1 One race shall be completed to constitute a series. The Low Point System of Appendix A will apply except that there will be no discarded scores, and RRS A8.2 shall not apply.
- 15.2 For handicap classes, ties unbroken after A8.1 shall be resolved in favour of the boat with the lowest corrected time for all races added together.
- 15.3 Unless agreed otherwise and separately with each class, for International Rule (Metre Rule) classes, XOD and other one-design and level racing classes, ties unbroken after A8.1 shall be resolved in favour of the boat with the lowest elapsed time for all races added together.

16, 17. (numbers not used)

18. BERTHING

- 18.1 Berthing for visiting yachts must be arranged separately by the entrant and pre-booking is recommended. A full list of contact information for the nearby marinas and the River Hamble Harbour Office is available to download at the event webpage. Harbour Authority visitor berthing is first come, first served so may not be available.

19. PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEO

Event-related still images and video footage used by Hamble Classics, its sponsors and other partners, of the waterborne activity or ashore, taken at and used at any time, may include images of competitors, their boats, support vessels, crew including children, helpers and sponsors. By entering a boat the entrant and/or owner shall accept this provision and be responsible for informing their crew and supporters. Hamble Classics reserves the right to use and make alterations to images and video footage to include the addition of its event and sponsor branding for its marketing purposes.

20. (number not used)

21. DATA PROTECTION

- 21.1 The personal information that owners, charterers, competitors and others provide to Hamble Classics and the co-hosting clubs will be used to facilitate their participation in the event. If they have agreed to be bound by the Racing Rules of Sailing and the other rules that govern the event (the rules), the legal basis for processing that personal information is contract. If they are not bound by the rules, the legal basis for processing that personal information is legitimate interest. Their personal information will be stored and used in accordance with the Hamble Classics and organising clubs' privacy policies as applicable.
- 21.2 When required by the rules, personal information may be shared with the RYA and/or World Sailing. The results of the event and the outcome of any hearing or appeal may be published. Competitors' contact details may be given to other competitors with a valid need (e.g. parties to a protest); and to any relevant Harbour Authority requiring such information.
- 21.3 Contact details provided by the entrant to Hamble Classics or the co-hosting clubs may be shared but only for correspondence with the entrant for the purpose of sending further information relating to the Hamble Classics Regatta and any associated events and will not be passed to any third party without the entrant's permission.

22. RISK STATEMENT

- 22.1 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 if any, and other officials and volunteers by the event organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
 - f) 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 briefing held for the event;
 - 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.

23. INSURANCE

- 23.1 Each participating boat shall be adequately insured, with valid third-party liability insurance for racing with a minimum cover of at least £3 million per incident.

24. PRIZES

- 24.1 Overall series awards based on the cumulative scores for the event will be awarded at the prize giving to first and second place boats, and further places based on the number of entries in each class. Other awards and trophies may be presented.

25. FURTHER INFORMATION

- 25.1 All entrants are temporary members of the RAFYC and HRSC for the duration of the event.
- 25.2 By taking part in the event, competitors automatically grant the OA, Hamble Classics and sponsors/supporters, 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.
- 25.3 The Hamble Classics co-founders Jonty and Vicki Sherwill (Hamble Classics) set the format of the Regatta and work closely with the hosting clubs on general oversight and direction of all aspects of the event plan, afloat and ashore. HRSC as the OA is responsible for the safe running of the regatta afloat and delivery of the sailing programme, and the RAFYC for facilitating the onshore events. From time to time Hamble Classics will consult with the organising clubs, the PRO, yacht owners and others on current and future plans for the event.
- 25.4 REGATTA ETHOS: Hamble Classics as organiser of the regatta together with the HRSC (Organising Authority (OA)) and the RAFYC requests that owners and crews take part and race in a spirit of friendly and fair competition with careful observance of and compliance with the Racing Rules of Sailing, the RYA Charter, the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions. Attention is drawn to the penalty options available in paragraph 14 of the Notice of Race and a boat's duty to accept a penalty after contravening a racing rule or to retire.
- 25.5 The Hamble Classics Regatta is committed to upholding the goals of the RYA's Green Blue initiative to minimise the event's environmental impact and requests that entrants help in this endeavour whenever possible, in particular with regard to reducing fuel usage, ensuring appropriate garbage disposal, avoidance of non-biodegradable litter going overboard, reduction in use of single use plastic packaging, and any other best practice to minimise pollution of the marine environment. Further information is available online at: <https://thegreenblue.org.uk/clubs-centres-associations/running-a-sustainable-event/>
- 25.6 The Hamble Classics Regatta will follow guidelines as recommended by HM Government and the RYA with regard to participation.

For general enquiries about the Hamble Classics Regatta:

Email: jonty@sherwilldesign.com

Tel: +44 (0)1329 835161

Mobile: +44 (0)7885 414081

Event website:

<https://hambleclassics.co.uk/>

EVENT OWNERSHIP, TRADEMARK & COPYRIGHT

Hamble Classics including the Hamble Classics Regatta was founded and is owned by Jonty and Vicki Sherwill. The words Hamble Classics is a UK registered trademark of Jonty Sherwill, and the Hamble Classics Regatta name and Hamble Classics logo is the copyright of Jonty Sherwill.
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Hamble Classics welcomes our supporting partners





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Appendix A – Yacht Eligibility Rules

This Appendix is referred to in Section 4 of the Notice of Race

- A1 **To be eligible to enter**, boats must fit within the following categories:
- A1.1 Yachts and Dayboats, including one-design classes, of traditional 'Classic Style', of pre-1971 design, and built of traditional wood construction. There is no restriction on build date.
 - A1.2 GRP and composite versions of the above category (A1.1) and with no restriction on build date.
 - A1.3 International Rule (Metre Rule) class yachts (with age divisions for racing if viable and agreed with the classes.)
 - A1.4 Spirit of Tradition (Modern Classic) Yachts and Dayboats with an IRC rating TCC 1.040 (tbc) and above.
 - A1.5 Gaff Rigged Yachts of traditional style with no restriction on design age, build date or construction. Includes OGA classes, traditional working boats, spirit of tradition, and those designed and built primarily for racing.
- A2 **Entry by Special Invitation** – for a boat that does not fit the categories in A1 above but may fit the categories in A2, before entering the owner must apply to Hamble Classics for an invitation. Applications will be given full consideration but the decision of Hamble Classics will be final. Please contact Jonty Sherwill at Hamble Classics to discuss your boat. Email: jonty@sherwilldesign.com or Tel: 01329 835161 or 07885 414081.
- A2.1 Yachts and Dayboats of pre-1971 design built only in GRP or of Aluminium construction.
 - A2.2 Spirit of Tradition (Modern Classic) Yachts and Dayboats of IRC rating TCC 1.040 (tbc) and below.
 - A2.3 Light displacement/ planing type Yachts & Dayboats of 'Classic Style' with single fixed keel & through-hull rudderstock.
 - A2.4 Within each of categories A2.2 and A2.3 a minimum of four entries competing is required.
- A3 In categories A1.1 to A1.4, A2.1 and A2.2 boats are to be of displacement type and single keel design (with or without centreboard).
- A4 Entries in categories A1.1, A1.2 and A2.1 will be in a single group before class divisions are arranged. If four or more yachts with GRP hulls are entered a separate class for racing may be considered.
- A5 The inclusion of invited entries will not be subject to protest from other yachts.
- A6 Entries in categories A1.3, A1.4, A2.2 and A2.3 will race as separate classes or as directed by Hamble Classics working with the OA and PRO.
- A7 Entries will not be accepted from boats with trapezes or those deemed by the OA to be unsuitable.
- A8 As directed other suitable entries may race with boats in categories A1.4, A2.2 and A2.3.
- A9 Gaff Rigged yachts may request to race in another appropriate class at the discretion of the OA.
- A10 Folkboats – a minimum of four GRP Nordic Folkboats competing may have a separate class. For other types, wooden Nordic, British, and International IF (GRP) it is intended that these will race in the Regatta handicap class or as directed by Hamble Classics working with the OA and PRO.
- A11 **Size and draft:** The Hull Length (length on deck) range for competing yachts is between 6 and 22 metres and the draft limit is 2.8 metres. However a yacht that exceeds the upper figures may request to take part. The decision of Hamble Classics working with the OA and PRO will be final.
- Note: If your boat falls slightly outside the above criteria please contact Jonty Sherwill at Hamble Classics to discuss your boat. Applications will be given full consideration but the decision of Hamble Classics will be final. Email: jonty@sherwilldesign.com or Tel: 01329 835161 or 07885 414081.



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Appendix B – Dayboat Safety Regulations

1. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Dayboats and open boats that do not necessarily comply with World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations (OSR) Cat 4 including dispensations stated in the Notice of Race (para 12.2) shall comply with the following Dayboat safety standards:

- 1.1 All participants are advised to wear personal buoyancy at all times when afloat. When flag Y is displayed by the race committee in accordance with RRS 40 it is compulsory for buoyancy to be worn. For dayboats a personal flotation device is acceptable.
- 1.2 Bailing/pumping: Boats shall be equipped with suitable means for pumping and bailing including at least one strong bucket with lanyard and of at least 9 litres capacity. Boats with fitted bilge pumps should ensure that the suction hose reaches the bilges.
- 1.3 Fire extinguisher: Boats carrying fuel shall carry at least one fire extinguisher.
- 1.4 All safety equipment carried shall function properly, be regularly checked, and of a suitable type and size for the boat. All equipment and fittings (including outboard motors if carried) shall be securely secured.
- 1.5 After the completion of racing or retiring from racing each day, boats should return to the River Hamble, but a boat based at, or heading to, another port is to report by VHF to their course committee boat on its appropriate callsign that they are leaving the race area and state its destination and receive acknowledgement.

2. EQUIPMENT TO BE CARRIED

All boats shall also carry the following items:

- 2.1 Minimum of one lifebuoy / life-ring with drogue (unless not specified by applicable One-Design class rules).
- 2.2 Flares: Boats shall carry, in a waterproof pack at least two Red hand flares and two Orange smoke flares. All flares shall be in date.
- 2.3 VHF Radio: A Handheld VHF Radio capable of receiving all the usual UK marine VHF channels including M1 (37) and M2 (usually P4).
- 2.4 Marine compass: A hand-held marine magnetic or fluxgate compass is acceptable.
- 2.5 Man Overboard Equipment: A rescue quoit or throwing bag with at least 15m of throwing line of no less than 6 mm, 1/4 inch diameter, readily accessible from the deck or cockpit.
- 2.6 A strong, sharp knife, sheathed and securely secured shall be provided readily accessible from the deck or cockpit.
- 2.7 First Aid: A waterproof first aid pack, with instructions, shall be carried.
- 2.8 Tow-Line: A tow-line throwable and of adequate strength and adequate length for the size of boat when taking a tow shall be carried.
- 2.9 Anchor: An anchor and sufficient warp / chain to hold the boat in 20 metres depth of water in anticipated weather conditions shall be carried.
- 2.10 Propulsion: If the boat has no fitted engine or is carrying no outboard motor, she shall carry a sweep or oar of a minimum length of 2440mm with suitable rowlock shall be carried, or, alternatively, two paddles each 1370mm long minimum shall be carried.