

**Noble Marine RS500, RS700 and RS800
National Championships 2026
Wednesday 2nd to Sunday 6th September 2026
Hosted by the Royal Torbay Yacht Club**

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

ORGANISING AUTHORITY

This event will be organised by the Royal Torbay Yacht Club (RTYC) in conjunction with the RS Class Association.

The notation '[NP]' in a rule of the sailing instructions (SIs) means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1.

The notation [DP] in a rule of the SIs means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.

1. RULES

- 1.1. The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 1.2. Racing rules Race Signals AP, 31, 33, 34, 35, 40.1, 40.2(c), 44.1, 60.1, 60.3(b), 61.1(a), 61.2(b), 61.4(b)(1), A2, A5.1 and A5.2 will be changed. The changes appear, in full, in this notice of race or in the sailing instructions.

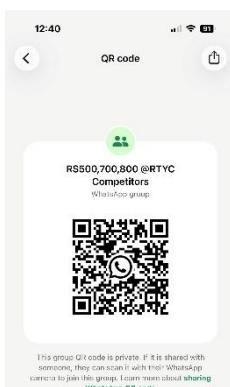
2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1. Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0900 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the start time of the first race will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

3. COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Online Notice Board (ONB) accessible on the Racing Rules of Sailing App for mobile devices and also via [Noble Marine UK RS500, RS700 and RS800 National Championships 2026 | Royal Torbay Yacht Club](#) or direct to RRS ONB site [HERE](#)
- 3.2. A competitor's WhatsApp group will be used, providing notifications and Race Committee communications whilst ashore. Failure to receive WhatsApp messages shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.1(a).
- 3.3. The WhatsApp Link and QR code are:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/DgpHkZUUSat7FMbi3vNtI2>



4. CODE OF CONDUCT

- 4.1. [DP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.

5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagpole at the inshore end of Haldon Pier.
5.2. When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with not less than 60 minutes in Race Signals AP. This changes race signals AP.
5.3. [DP] From Thursday 3rd September to Sunday 6th boats shall not leave the harbour until Flag D is displayed with one sound signal. The warning signal will not be displayed before the scheduled time or less than 60 minutes after flag D is displayed.

6. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 6.1. See NoR 9 for schedule.
6.2. To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, the orange starting line flag will be displayed with one sound signal at least five minutes before a warning signal is made.
6.3. An additional race(s) may be run on any day at the discretion of the Race Committee. To indicate this intention the committee boat will display flag F at the start of the last scheduled race that day.

7. CLASS FLAGS

- 7.1. The Class flags will be:
7.1.1. RS 500 Class Flag or Numeral Pennant 5
7.1.2. RS 700 Class Flag or Numeral Pennant 7
7.1.3. RS 800 Class Flag or Numeral Pennant 8

8. RACING AREA

- 8.1. See NoR 12.

9. COURSES

- 9.1. Courses to be sailed will be Windward/Leeward or Trapezoid. The diagrams in Addendum A show the courses, the order in which marks are to be passed and the side on which each mark is to be passed.
9.2. No later than the warning signal, the main RC vessel will display on a board the course to be sailed and the approximate bearing and distance to the first mark.

10. MARKS

- 10.1. Marks will be Orange inflatables.
10.2. The change mark for Mark 1 will be a Black inflatable.
10.3. For all classes, hitting a mark other than the start or finish marks will not be penalised. This changes RRS 31.
10.4. When a gate mark is used, if one or other of the gate marks is missing, the remaining mark shall be left to port. This changes RRS 34.
10.5. The start marks will be a Race Committee vessel with a mast displaying an Orange Flag and a second Committee vessel with a mast and Orange flag or a white danbuoy displaying an Orange flag.
10.6. The finish marks will be a Race Committee vessel with a mast displaying a Blue flag and a danbuoy/RC vessel displaying a Blue flag.

11. OBSTRUCTIONS

11.1. The following is an obstruction –

A yellow buoy with associated trailing buoys serving as a wave monitor located at approximately 050°433N 003°517W.



12. THE START

12.1. **Starts:**

12.1.1. The starting line will be between the mast on the main Race Committee vessel displaying an Orange flag and a RC vessel displaying an Orange flag or a danbuoy displaying an Orange flag.

12.1.2. A boat that does not start within 4 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.

12.1.3. A race will not be started unless the Race Committee is recording 6knts or more at its recording points in the race area.

13. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE AND SHORTENED COURSE

13.1. To change the next leg of the course the RC will either lay a new mark (or move the gate or the finishing line) and remove the original marks as soon as practicable.

13.2. When Mark 1 is moved the original Mark 1a will be repositioned, where practicable.

13.3. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.

13.4. The RC may move a mark up to approximately 100m without signalling the change. This changes RRS 33. If a new mark is laid, the change will be signalled.

13.5. To shorten the course when the race committee vessel is on station (its position shown on the course diagram), the race committee vessel may display flag S. Boats must then leave the preceding mark to port and sail across the finishing line shown on the course diagram. Boats shall not finish in accordance with this rule until they have completed the same number of rounds as the leading boat. This adds to RRS 32.2.

14. THE FINISH

14.1. The finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on the Race Committee vessel at the starboard end and the course side of the port-end RC finishing vessel or mark.

15. PENALTY SYSTEM

15.1. See NoR 14.

16. TIME LIMITS

- 16.1. The time limit for a race is 75 minutes.
- 16.2. The target time for each race is 40 minutes. Failure to meet the target time shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.1(a)
- 16.3. Boats failing to finish within a 20-minute finishing window after the first boat in her class sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, A5.1 and A5.2
- 16.4. In addition to RRS 32, the race committee may also award a finishing score to a boat that is still racing by displaying to her from a committee vessel (which may be in motion) flag W with one sound signal. A boat so notified is no longer required to sail the course, shall stop racing and shall return to the starting area, or return ashore if there is no more racing. A finishing score under this sailing instruction will be the score she would have received had she sailed the course and finished within any time limit, without gaining or losing any place. However, when two or more boats that are overlapped are notified, they will be scored as if they were tied. The decision by the race committee to use this procedure or not to use it shall not be grounds for requesting redress. This changes rules 60.1(a) and 61.4(b).

17. HEARING REQUESTS

- 17.1. The protest time limit is 90 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day or the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is the later. This changes RRS 60.3(b) and 61.2(a).
- 17.2. Hearing Request forms are available at the race office.
- 17.3. Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses.
- 17.4. Hearings will be held in the protest room located in the Royal Torbay Yacht Club, beginning at the time posted.
- 17.5. Appendix T (Arbitration) applies.
- 17.6. Rules in the Sailing Instructions marked [NP] shall not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1.

18. SCORING

As per NoR 15.

19. SAFETY REGULATIONS [DP] [NP]

- 19.1. The tally control point to check-out and check-in will be located at the top of the slipway on Haldon Pier.
- 19.2. All helms and crews shall individually check-out before racing by personally advising Tally control of their sail number.
- 19.3. All helms and crews shall also individually check-in immediately on returning to shore after racing, but no later than the protest time limit, by personally advising Tally control of their sail number.
- 19.4. A boat that retires from a race shall notify a RC boat as soon as soon as possible or the race office immediately after returning to the harbour.
- 19.5. When returning to the harbour, boats may be held outside the harbour entrance to avoid unnecessary congestion in the harbour. All boats are required to follow the instructions of the safety ribs supervising this process.
- 19.6. [DP] The race committee may protest a boat for a breach of these safety regulations

20. REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

- 20.1. [DP] [NP] Substitution of competitors is not allowed without prior written approval of the race committee.

21. EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

- 21.1. [NP] A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules, notice of race and sailing instructions.

22. SUPPLIED BOATS

Does not apply.

23. OFFICIAL VESSELS

- 23.1. The main Race Committee vessel is identified by blue spray dodgers with white letters 'RTYC'.
- 23.2. Mark Layers will display Yellow Flags with the letter M.
- 23.3. Safety boats will display Yellow Flags.
- 23.4. The Photography boat will display a White Flag.

24. [DP] [NP] SUPPORT TEAMS

- 24.1. As per NoR 16.

25. TRASH DISPOSAL

- 25.1. Trash may be placed aboard official or support person vessels.

26. BERTHING

- 26.1. [DP] [NP] Boats shall be kept in their assigned area on the Haldon Pier.

27. HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS

Does not apply.

28. DIVING EQUIPMENT AND PLASTIC POOLS

Does not apply.

29. PRIZES

- 29.1. As per NoR 24.

30. RISK STATEMENT

- 30.1. As per NoR 22.

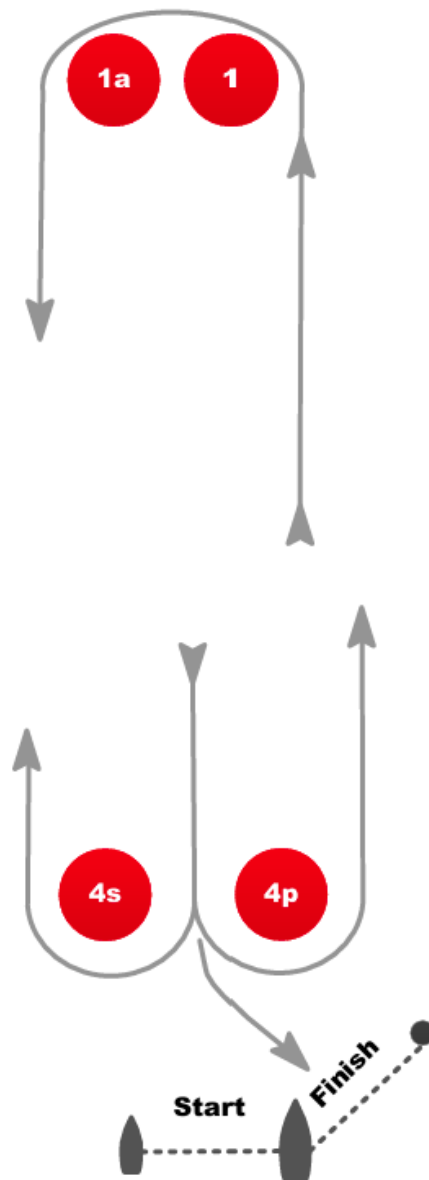
31. INSURANCE

- 31.1. As per NoR 23

ADDENDUM A – Courses

Windward/Leeward

LRA	COURSE: WINDWARD / LEEWARD with spreader mark and reaching finish
Signal	Mark Rounding Order
LRA2	Start – 1 – 1a – 4s/4p – 1 – 1a – 4p – Finish
LRA3	Start – 1 – 1a – 4s/4p – 1 – 1a – 4s/4p – 1 – 1a – 4p – Finish
LRA4	Start – 1 – 1a – 4s/4p – 1 – 1a – 4s/4p – 1 – 1a – 4s/4p – 1 – 1a – 4p – Finish



Trapezoid

