

Bristol Channel Yacht Club
Pursuit Race
9th August 2026 Start 13:30 Finish 16:00
Sailing Instructions

The Organising Authority (OA) for the Pursuit Race is the Bristol Channel Yacht Club

1. Rules

- a. The Regatta will be governed by the “Rules” as defined by the *Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028* and these sailing instructions
- b. If there is a conflict these sailing instructions will prevail

2. Notices to Competitors

- a. Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board at <https://www.bcyk.co.uk/sailing/bcyk-pursuit-race-2026/> and transmitted on Channel 37

3. Changes to Sailing Instructions

- a. Any changes to the sailing instructions will be posted in on the Official Notice Board (<https://www.bcyk.co.uk/sailing/bcyk-pursuit-race-2026/>) at least two hours before the scheduled start time of the race concerned and announced over VHF channel 37 before the warning signal is made.

4. Signals Made Ashore

- a. Signals made ashore will be displayed on BCYC Flagstaff
- b. When flag AP is displayed ashore, ‘1 minute’ is replaced with ‘not less than 1 hour’ in the race signal AP.

5. Schedule of Races

- a. The scheduled time of the 5 minute warning signal for the start of the race will be 13:25hrs
- b. Start times will be published on the Official notice board at <https://www.bcyk.co.uk/sailing/bcyk-pursuit-race-2026/> Hard copies may be made available on the BCYC and MYC notice boards.
- c. A clock, situated in the BCYC Race Office, will be synchronized to the race officer’s watch to help competitors gauge when to go on the water/start.

6. Flags

- a. Flag R will be displayed at the five minute signal.

7. Racing Area

- a. Within the confines of Swansea Bay

8. The Course

- a. The course will be as in appendix 1
- b. All marks to be taken to port, in order Start, 1, 2, 3.
- c. The Start line must be crossed at the commencement of each lap
- d. Legs of the course will not be changed after the preparatory signal. This changes rule 33.

9. Marks

- a. Marks will be orange or yellow coloured cylindrical marks
- b. The port end start mark will be a small yellow buoy and the starboard end will be the Committee Boat, a vessel displaying an orange flag.
- c. The Start Committee Boat may stream a buoy from its stern which is also a mark of the course. Boats shall not pass between this buoy and the Committee Boat it protects.

10. The Start

- a. The race will be started using rule 26, as follows.

<u>Time to first start</u>	<u>Signal</u>
5 Minutes	Flag R + one sound
4 Minutes	Preparatory (Normally "P") + one sound
1 Minute	Preparatory Lowered + one sound
START	Flag R Lowered + one sound

- b. The starting line will be between the orange flag on the Committee Boat and the yellow buoy (see Appendix 1)
- c. Boats whose starting signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other Classes and boats already racing.
- d. Boats starting after the first start will only receive a sound signal to signify their start.

11. The Finish

- a. The scheduled finish will be at 16:00.
- b. The winner will be notified by the crew of a safety boat displaying a blue flag.

12. Penalty System

- a. For all classes rule 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns penalty is replaced by the One-Turn penalty.

13. Protests and Requests for Redress

- a. Hearing forms can be accessed at <https://www.bcyk.co.uk/sailing/bcyk-pursuit-race-2026/> and will be available at the BCYC foyer. Completed Hearing Forms shall be returned to a member of the race management team within the specified time limit.
- b. For each boat the protest time limit is one hour after the finish.
- c. Notices will be posted on the Official Notice Board no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or witnesses. Hearings will be held at the BCYC Clubhouse.
- d. Notices of protests by the Race Committee or Hearing Committee will be posted within protest time to inform boats under Rule 61.1(b)
- e. Breaches of Sailing Instructions 10d, 15 and 16 will not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes Rule 60.1(a). Penalties for these breaches may be less than disqualification if the protest committee so decides.

14. Scoring

- a. The Boat which has completed the greatest number of laps or part of a lap at the finish time will be the winner and so on.

15. Safety Regulations

- a. All dinghy/catamaran competitors shall sign on and off in the BCYC Race Office. Yachts shall notify the race committee of their intention to race using VHF channel 37.

- b. A boat that retires from the race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible either by VHF Channel 37, or by notifying the committee boat, or by notifying the Rescue RIBs.

16. Radio Communication

- a. Except in an emergency, in case of retirement or stating an intention to race, a boat shall neither make nor receive radio transmissions not available to all boats. This also applies to mobile phones.

17. Disclaimer of liability

- a. Competitors participate in the race entirely at their own risk. See rule 4 - Decision to race. The organising authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the race.

18. Prizes

- a) Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places.
- b) Other prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the Race Committee
- c) Prize giving will take place in the BCYC following racing accompanied by a light meal.

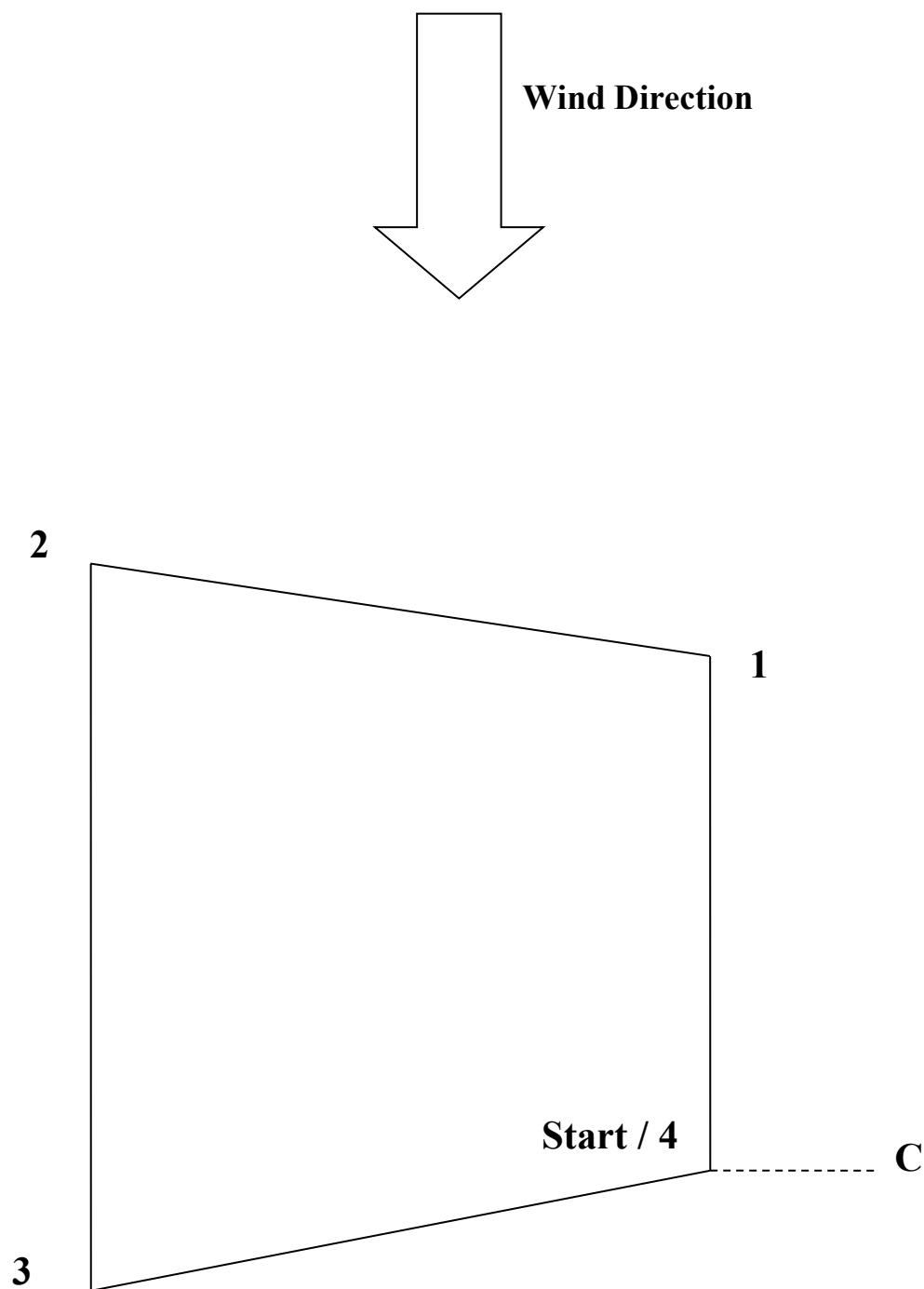
19. Risk statement

- a. RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury.
Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.

20. Insurance

- a. Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £2 000 000 per incident or the equivalent.

Appendix 1 – Course Diagram



Legend:

C: Committee boat

Start / 4: Start mark and 4th mark of the course after starting

All marks to be taken to Port