
MUMBLES YACHT CLUB
GOWER CHALLENGE
8th August, 2026



BRISTOL CHANNEL YACHT CLUB
PURSUIT RACE
9th August, 2026

NOTICE OF RACE

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The Organising Authority for the Gower Challenge is Mumbles Yacht Club

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

1 Rules

1.1 The event is governed by:

- (a) The event will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing 2025 – 2028, the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions. If there is a conflict between these, the Sailing Instructions will prevail. This changes RRS 63.5
- (b) The prescriptions of the RYA will apply.

1.2 Boats shall also abide by:

- (a) The RYA Racing Charter. Which can be found in the RYA rule book (RRS 2025–28) and at <https://www.rya.org.uk/racing/rules/racing-charter>
- (b) All applicable harbour authority byelaws and regulations.

2 Advertising

2.1 Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organizing authority.

3 Eligibility and Entry

3.1 The MYC Gower Challenge is open to catamarans with an SCHRS rating of 1.55 or lower, dinghies with a PN of 999 or lower and cruisers with a Byron Handicap of 999 or lower.

3.2 Entry for the Gower Challenge will be at registration.

3.3 The minimum crew for all boats in the Gower Challenge shall be 2.

3.4 The MYC Gower Challenge race is only open to persons aged 15 and over on the date of the event

3.5 Competitors, in the MYC Gower Challenge, aged 15 or over and under 18 on the date of the event must be accompanied by an adult.

3.6 The BCYC Pursuit Race is open to all classes of boat with a PY rating of 1368 (Tera Pro) or less.

3.7 Boats entering the BCYC Pursuit Race should complete the online entry form at:

<https://www.bcyco.co.uk/sailing/bcyco-pursuit-race-2026/>

3.8 To be considered an entry in the Pursuit Race, a boat shall complete all registration requirements.

3.9 Entries for the Pursuit Race will close at 18:00 3 days before the event. Competitors shall register online to confirm Pursuit start times and gauge numbers particularly for any post-race social activities.

3.10 Parent/Guardian Declarations: All helms and crews less than 18 years of age during the event shall submit signed Parent/Guardian Declaration form. This can be submitted in hard copy or electronically. The consent form for the Gower Challenge will be available at Registration The consent form for the BCYC Pursuit Race can be found at:

<https://www.bcyco.co.uk/sailing/bcyco-pursuit-race-2026/>
and should be submitted no later than 13:00 on Sunday 9th August.

3.11 MYC Gower Challenge

- (a) Entry for the Gower Challenge is free for MYC members
- (b) The entry fee for visiting boats is £20

3.12 BCYC Pursuit Race

- (a) Entry is free for this race thanks to the BCYC 2026 sailing sponsors.

4 Schedule

4.1 Schedule of racing

DATE	EVENT
Saturday 8th August	• Registration 10.30 – 12.30 • Registration for yachts is on Channel 37 • Competitors Briefing in MYC wet area – Time 11:30 • Long distance race – First Warning Signal not before 12:25 with the race scheduled to start at 12:30
Sunday 9th August	• Registration from 12:00 in the BCYC bar or, for yachts on Channel 37 • BCYC Pursuit Race –The scheduled time of the 5-minute warning signal for the start of the race will be at 13:25 • Individual start times will be published based on a personal handicapping system based on the PY of the vessel • Sign off should take place as soon as possible following racing in the BCYC Bar or Channel 37 for yachts.

5 Equipment and Measurement Checks

5.1 Each boat shall:

- (a) Be in a seaworthy condition

5.2 For the Gower Challenge each boat shall also:

- (a) Carry 0.9m minimum length paddle (extended). Cruisers are exempt from this requirement.
- (b) Carry a suitable tow rope / righting line of minimum diameter 6mm and minimum length 8m with one end securely fastened to the mast foot

- (c) Carry an operations VHF handheld radio capable of operating on Channel 37 / P1, with suitable water resistance, or carry a suitably protect mobile phone with the safety officers number stored in memory
- (d) Carrying personal flares is not mandatory, but is recommended

5.3 Boats and their equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the above rules

6 Sailing Instructions

6.1 The sailing instructions will be available after 20:00 7 days before the event published on the Mumbles Yacht Club website

<https://mumblesyachtclub.co.uk/index.php/sailing-events/>

and the Bristol Channel Yacht Club website

<https://www.bcytc.co.uk/sailing/bcytc-pursuit-race-2026/>

7 Venue

7.1 For the Gower Challenge, racing will be within the confines of the Bristol Channel.

7.2 For the Pursuit Race, racing will be within the confines of Swansea Bay

7.3 The host venue for the Gower Challenge is Mumbles Yacht Club, 746 Mumbles Road, Swansea, SA3 4EL. Tel: (01792) 369321.

7.4 The host venue for the BCYC Pursuit Race is Bristol Channel Yacht Club, 744 Mumbles Road, Swansea SA3 4EL Tel: 01792 366000

7.5 The host venue websites are

<http://mumblesyachtclub.co.uk/>

<http://www.bcytc.co.uk/>

8 Courses

8.1 The Gower Challenge is particularly weather dependent. If conditions are not conducive to coastal racing an alternative around the bay course may be displayed on the official notice board

<https://mumblesyachtclub.co.uk/index.php/official-notice-board/>

8.2 Gower Challenge course:

- (a) The races will be started from either MYC Club start or a committee boat in line with MYC.
- (b) The course for dinghies will be described in the Sailing Instructions
- (c) The course for yachts will be described in the Sailing Instructions and communicated via VHF Channel 37 prior to the start.

8.3 The BCYC Pursuit Race:

- (a) will be a trapezoid course

9 Penalty System

9.1 Failure to sign on and off for the Gower Challenge may result in a £10 fine / donation to the local RNLI

9.2 Failure to register for and sign off the Pursuit Race, may result in an invalid entry.

9.3 RRS 44.1 is amended so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by a One-Turn Penalty, including one tack and one gybe.

9.4 A boat that may have broken a rule of RRS Part 2 or RRS 31 may, after finishing the race concerned and before the start of the first related protest hearing, notify the RC that she accepts a 30% scoring place penalty as stated in rule 44.3(c), except that the minimum penalty is two places provided that does not result in a score worse than DNF.

9.5 Penalties arising from protests will be at the discretion of the Protest Committee and may be less than disqualification.

10 Scoring

10.1 For the Gower Challenge, Appendix A, Low Points System will apply.

10.2 1 race is required to be completed to constitute a series.

10.3 For the Gower Challenge, all boats shall be scored using the SCHRS handicap. If a boat does not have an SCHRS handicap, an estimation will be made by the following formula: (PN or Byron)/675

10.4 For the Pursuit Race the boat which has completed the greatest number of laps or part of a lap at 16:00 will be the winner and so on.

10.5 There will be no discards

11 Radio Communication

11.1 While racing, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

11.2 Competitors are required to monitor VHF radio channel 37 / M1 for any broadcasts made by the race committee.

12 Notices to Competitors

12.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official noticeboard: Gower Challenge

<https://mumblesyachtclub.co.uk/index.php/sailing-events/>

Pursuit Race

<https://www.bcyco.co.uk/sailing/bcyco-pursuit-race-2026/>

13 Changes to Sailing Instructions

13.1 Any change to the Gower Challenge sailing instructions will be posted on the Mumbles Yacht Club official noticeboard at least one hour before the advertised start time and communicated on VHF channel 37 / M1.

13.2 Any change to the BCYC Pursuit Race sailing instructions will be posted on the Bristol Channel Yacht Club official noticeboard at least one hour before the advertised start time and communicated on VHF channel 37 / M1.

14 Prizes

14.1 Prizes will be awarded as follows:

- Gower Challenge Race:
 - 1st inc. Prestige Emerald Trophy, 2nd and 3rd places.
 - 1st place Yacht
- BCYC Pursuit Race: Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places.
- Additional prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the Race Committee.

15 Risk Statement

15.1 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'.

16 Insurance

16.1 Boats are required to hold adequate insurance and in particular to hold insurance against third party claims in the sum of at least £2,000,000 or the equivalent.

17 Safety Regulations

17.1 Catamarans and Dinghies only - Life jackets or other adequate personal buoyancy shall be worn by all competitors at all times whilst afloat. This changes rule 40.

18 Right to Use Name and Likeness

18.1 Competitors automatically grant to the organizing authority, without payment, in perpetuity the right to make, use and show any motion pictures, still pictures and any live, recorded or filmed television of or relating to the event.

19 Further Information

19.1 For further information regarding the Gower Challenge please contact

Ezri@mumblesyachtclub.co.uk

19.2 For further information regarding the BCYC Pursuit Race please contact

BCYCRearCommodore@gmail.com

20 Social

20.1 BCYC Pursuit

The Presentation for the BCYC Pursuit Race will take place at the Bristol Channel Yacht Club following racing on Sunday 9th August. Food will be available for all competitors who entered before Thursday 6th August. If possible, meals will be provided to late entries, subject to availability. Meals are also available to spectators and guests can also be booked at

<https://forms.gle/3G5rnHP3SsL5VKvE8>

by Thursday 6th August costing £9.75 per person.

"May your tacks be fast, your lines be tight, and the wind be in your favour."



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