

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Contessa 26</b> <b>National Championships</b> 9th and 10th September 2017 <b>NOTICE OF RACE</b> <b>Together with amendment 1</b></p>	
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**1 ORGANISATION**

The Organising Authority is the Royal Southern Yacht Club.

**2 RULES**

- 2.1 The series of races will be governed by the 'rules' as defined in the ISAF Racing Rules of Sailing 2017-2020 (RRS) together with, as appropriate:
- "World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations Appendix B for Inshore Races."
  - For Class 1, the IRC Rules Parts A, B & C – including sail limitations, but excluding rule 22.4 (Crew Number / Weight) There will be no limitations on crew number or weight.
- 2.2 Amendments will be published on the Royal Southern Yacht Club web site: <http://www.royal-southern.co.uk/Afloat/Racing> and the official Notice Board and distributed to all entrants.
- 2.3 Boats shall comply with Southampton Harbour Bye-Laws (and in particular Byelaws 10 & 11) and ABP Southampton Notice to Mariners No. 3 of 2016 concerning the Thorn Channel Precautionary Area. These documents are available from [www.southamptonvts.co.uk](http://www.southamptonvts.co.uk)
- 2.4 All boats shall comply with current ISAF Special Regulations for Category 5 Inshore races except that regulations 3.09.1, 3.09.2 and 3.09.4 as regards cockpit self-draining, watertightness and draining and the height of the cockpit sole shall not apply. Boats may use a trysail instead of reefing equipment to reduce mainsail luff by at least 40%.

**3 CHANGES TO THE RACING RULES OF SAILING**

Any changes to the Racing Rules will be detailed in the Sailing Instructions.

**4 ELIGIBILITY**

- 4.1 The National Championships is open to all boats of the Contessa 26 class.
- 4.2 There will be no race for a class unless at least two boats enter and start in that class.
- 4.3 Boats racing in Class 1 shall hold a valid IRC certificate.
- 4.4 Boats without IRC certificates can race in either Class 2 or if they elect and declare it in the Entry Form Class 3 Non - spinnaker (white sails).

**5 ENTRY FEES**

Eligible boats may enter by completing the Official Entry Form and either submitting it electronically here: <https://www.royal-southern.co.uk/Afloat/2017/Contessa-26-National-Championship> or posting it, together with the entry fee of £45.00 per boat for entries received by 1200 hours on 9 August 2017 or for entries received after that date the entry fee of £50.00 per boat to Royal Southern Yacht Club to arrive no later than 1200hrs on Saturday 2 September.

## 6 CHAMPIONSHIPS SCHEDULE - Start times are as set out below and are on the same course.

Date	Number of Races	Portsmouth HW (BST)	Class	Class Flag	1 <sup>st</sup> Warning Signal	1 <sup>st</sup> Start Signal
Sat 9 <sup>th</sup> September	Up to three	13:52 4.7m	IRC – Class 1	Numeral Pennant 5	10:10	10:15
Sat 9 <sup>th</sup> September	Up to two	13:52 4.7m	Class Handicap – Classes 2 & 3	Numeral Pennant 6 & 7	See NOR 6.3	See NOR 6.3
Sun 10 <sup>th</sup> September	One	14:26 4.7m	All Classes	Numeral Pennant 5, 6 & 7	10:10	10:15

- 6.1 The Race Committee request that all boats fly their Class Flag, as detailed above, from their backstay, although this is not compulsory.
- 6.2 It is intended that two races will be windward leeward course for class 1, one for classes 2 and 3, and two races will be around the cans.
- 6.3 The warning signal for the first race for Classes 2 and 3, shall follow the final start, of the first race, of the September regatta black start. This will not be before 11:00.

## 7 RATINGS AND HANDICAPS

- 7.1 Boats entered for IRC classes shall have a valid rating certificate (Endorsed certificates are recommended) issued by Seahorse Rating (RORC), no amended IRC ratings will be accepted after the 6<sup>th</sup> of September.
- 7.2 The National Handicap for Cruisers (NHC) system will be used for classes 2 and 3. Handicaps will be adjusted after each race. Boats will be provided with a starting handicap using Class handicap information. A measurement form and information may be requested.

## 8 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Sailing Instructions will be available on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of September and found here:  
<https://www.royal-southern.co.uk/Afloat/2017/Contessa-26-National-Championship>

## 9 VENUE

- 9.1 All races will start and finish from a Committee Vessel, which will advise its location by VHF regularly from about 09:00 each day.
- 9.2 All racing will take place in the Central Solent.

## 10 COURSES

- 10.1 The course to be sailed will be communicated only by VHF.
- 10.2 Courses will use race marks as identified on the Royal Southern Solent Mark Codes list 2017, available here:  
<http://www.royal-southern.co.uk/Afloat/Racing>

## 11 SCORING

- 11.1 The Low Point Scoring system will be used.
- 11.2 If 3 or fewer races are completed then all races will count to the series score. In Class 1 if 4 races are completed then 1 discard will be applied. This changes RRS Appendix A2.
- 11.3 1 race is required to be completed to constitute a series.

## 12 PRIZE GIVING

Prizes will be presented on Sunday as soon as possible after racing at the Royal Southern Yacht Club and trophies will be re-presented at the Co 26 Class AGM on 25th November 2017 at RLYC.

## 13 RISK STATEMENT

Rule 4 of the RRS 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. The provision of patrol boat cover if any is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can practically be provided in the circumstances;
- g. It is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks specific to this venue or this event drawn to their attention in any rules or information produced for the venue or event and to attend any safety briefing held for the event;
- h. 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 and in date and is familiar to the crew;
- i. Their boat is adequately insured, with cover of at least £3 million against third party claims; and
- j. The fact that race officials may conduct inspections of a boat does not reduce the responsibilities of each competitor set out in this Notice of Race.

#### **14 BERTHING**

- 14.1 Limited berthing is available at the Royal Southern Yacht Club Yacht Haven, please contact the sailing office for more details.

#### **15 RYA CHARTER**

- 15.1 Competitors should note that the Royal Southern Yacht Club has implemented the RYA Racing Charter and that, when entering, competitors will be required to undertake to sail in compliance with the Charter, which can be found at the front of the RYA rule book (Racing Rules of Sailing 2017-2020) or at [www.rya.org.uk/racing/charter](http://www.rya.org.uk/racing/charter)

#### **16 SOCIAL FUNCTIONS**

- 16.1 **SOCIAL GATHERING** All Skippers and their crews are invited to an informal gathering in the bar / restaurant at the Royal Southern Yacht Club during the evening of Friday 8th September.
- 16.2 **CHAMPIONSHIP DINNER** All participants and their families are welcome to attend the Championship dinner on Saturday 9th September at the Royal Southern Yacht Club 1930 for 2000hrs. Attendees must book with the Class Association. Tickets must be paid for at the point of booking.

#### **FURTHER INFORMATION**

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