



The Etchells Invitational Regatta for

THE GERTRUDE CUP

ROYAL THAMES YACHT CLUB

Saturday 22nd July to Wednesday 26th July 2017

NOTICE OF RACE

1. ORGANISING AUTHORITY

- 1.1 The Organising Authority is RTYC Regattas Limited in conjunction with the Cowes Etchells Fleet.

2. RULES

- 2.1 The regatta will be governed by
2.1.1 the Racing Rules of Sailing; and
2.1.2 the Associated British Ports Southampton Byelaws current at the start of the each race of the regatta will apply.
2.2 Any prescriptions of the National Authority that will apply will be posted on the official notice board.
2.3 An international jury will be appointed and its decisions will be final as provided in rule 70.5.

3. VENUE

- 3.1 The venue of the regatta is Cowes, England, and the racing will take place in the Central Solent.
3.2 The Race Office will be at Cowes Yacht Haven, Cowes.

4. ADVERTISING

- 4.1 As boats and equipment will be supplied by the Organising Authority World Sailing Regulation 20.4 applies. Each boat and the supplied equipment will be required to display advertising as provided by the Organising Authority.

5. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 5.1 Twenty or more helms representing their yacht clubs or other organisations will be invited by the Organising Authority to participate in the regatta. Only helms, clubs or other organisations invited by the Organising Authority will be eligible to enter the regatta. Those seeking an invitation may request one from the Chief Sailing Officer of the Royal Thames Yacht Club by mail at 60 Knightsbridge, London, SW1X 7LF or by email at sailing@royalthames.com or from the captain of the Cowes Etchells Fleet by email at davidfranks80@gmail.com.
5.2 To remain eligible clubs, or teams representing those clubs, shall confirm acceptance by completing the entry form on the Yacht Scoring website and paying the entry fee in accordance with the

instructions there. They are required to tick their agreement to the risk assessment clause in the space provided on the website.

The entry fee is £3900.

- 5.3 The entry fee will include the cost of all social events.
- 5.4 In the case of the entries being oversubscribed the Organising Authority will EITHER confirm acceptance of the entry OR inform the club or team that the event is oversubscribed and that it has been placed on the waiting list. In that case:
- (a) If it cannot be accepted, the Organising Authority will return the deposit; and
 - (b) If the team withdraws before being accepted by the Organising Authority, the Organising Authority will return the deposit.
- 5.5 Once the Organising Authority has accepted an entry, the deposit will only be returned if another team, acceptable to the Organising Authority in its absolute discretion, is found as a replacement.

6. SCHEDULE OF EVENT

6.1 Saturday 22nd July

0800-1100 Registration and weigh-in at Cowes Yacht Haven
1200 Briefing at Cowes Yacht Haven
1400 Warning Signal for the first race.
Subsequent races will follow as soon as possible after the finish of the first race.

Sunday 23rd July – Wednesday 26th July

0845 Morning briefing at Cowes Yacht Haven
1030 Warning Signal for the first race of the day
Subsequent races will follow as soon as possible after the finish of the first race of the day.

6.2 On the final day of the regatta no warning signal will be made after 1500

6.3 A schedule of social events is detailed in Attachment 1.

7. THE BOATS

7.1 The event will be sailed in International Etchells and the Organising Authority will provide the boats.

7.2 The Organising Authority will also provide full suits of sails, namely a mainsail, jib and spinnaker. Sails will be retained by the teams to which they are allocated throughout the Regatta. The Sailing Instructions will contain provisions dealing with the substitution of sails suffering damage.

7.3 The Race Committee and the Fleet Captain of the Cowes International Etchells Fleet working together will allocate boats and sails to the competing teams at the start of the regatta and will subsequently arrange the rotation of the boats in such a way as to ensure fairness throughout the regatta. That allocation and rotation shall be accepted by the competing teams and shall not be grounds for redress, changing Rule 62.1 (a).

7.4 The Race Committee may allocate boats to particular competitors to be sailed by those competitors on any particular day or days of the regatta without the rotation referred to in

paragraph 7.2.1. Such allocation shall be made in the unfettered discretion of the Race Committee and shall not be subject of a request for redress, changing Rule 60.

- 7.5 The boats and sails allocated will be available for practice sailing immediately after the team has completed registration.

8. THE TEAMS

- 8.1 The helm of each team shall be a member of the invited club or organisation.
- 8.2 There are no sailor classification requirements.
- 8.3 In accordance with class rules, the maximum total crew weight, determined prior to racing, shall be 285 kg, when wearing at least shorts and shirts.
- 8.8 When a registered helm or crew member is unable to continue in the event the Organising Authority (or in an emergency the Race Committee) may authorise a substitute, a temporary substitute or other adjustment. Such change shall be at discretion of the Organising Authority (or Race Committee) and no claim for redress shall be made as a result, changing Rule 62. When a substitute is authorised, the team's weight with the substitute team member shall be checked and shall comply with class rules and with this Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions.

9. DAMAGE DEPOSIT

- 9.1 An initial damage deposit of £2000 shall be paid at registration, unless the time for payment is extended by the Organising Authority. This deposit is the maximum payable by the skipper as a result of any one incident. A further reference to the damage deposit is contained in the Addendum B.
- 9.2 If a deduction from the damage deposit is made by the OA, it may require that the deposit be restored to its original amount before the team will be permitted to continue in the event.
- 9.3 Any remaining deposit after the event will be refunded within 30 days after the end of the event.

10. FORMAT

- 10.1 It is intended that thirteen races will be sailed over the five days, with a maximum of four races each day.
- 10.2 The courses will be windward/leeward but the race officer may elect to set courses round laid marks.
- 10.3 The Race Committee may change designation of the course or the format of the event as it thinks fit.
- 10.4 All teams shall race in all races unless excused from doing so in writing by the Race Committee.

11. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 11.1 The sailing instructions will be available at registration and will be posted on the Royal Thames website (www.royalthames.com) some weeks prior to the event.

12. EQUIPMENT REQUIRED AND SUPPLIED

- 12.1 The Organising Authority will supply a buoyancy aid, which shall be worn by each competitor while afloat. Competitors shall provide, from their own resources, marine band radio transceivers capable of receiving and transmitting all usual VHF marine bands, and their own rig tension gauge.
- 12.2 The boats supplied by the Organising Authority will be provided with all necessary equipment and the teams may only take such additional equipment on board as is listed in Addendum C.

13. SCORING

- 13.1 Three races are required to be completed to constitute the series.
- 13.2 A boat's worst score shall not be excluded, changing Rule A2.

14. INSURANCE

- 14.1 The Organising Authority will arrange third party insurance cover for each boat in the sum of Three Million Pounds Sterling (£3,000,000). Competitors are responsible for their own personal, travel, health and other insurance arrangements.

15. MEDIA, IMAGES and SOUND

- 15.1 If required by the Organising Authority:
 - (a) Cameras supplied by the Organising Authority shall be carried on board while racing.
 - (b) Competitors shall wear microphones supplied by the Organising Authority during racing and be available for interviews when advised by the Organising Authority or Race Committee.
 - (c) Helms shall wear communications equipment supplied by the Organising Authority that will allow commentators to communicate with them whilst racing.
- 15.2 Competitors shall not interfere with the normal working of the Organising Authority supplied media equipment.
- 15.3 The Organising Authority, event sponsors and International Etchells Class Association shall have the right to use any images and sound recorded during the event free of any charge together with the right to use the names, comments, photographs and likenesses of all team members.

16. SUPPORT BOATS

- 16.1 Support boats shall conspicuously display identification of the team being supported.
- 16.2 The Organising Authority will not provide berths for support boats.
- 16.3 Any interference by a support boat with the racing or event organisation may result in a penalty applied at the discretion of the International Jury to the associated team.

17. BERTHING

- 17.1 During the event boats shall be moored at Cowes Yacht Haven, or in the dock or mooring assigned to them by the Organising Authority and nowhere else except with the consent in writing of the Race Committee.

18. DIVING EQUIPMENT AND PLASTIC POOLS

- 18.1 The Sailing Instructions will contain provisions banning the cleaning of hulls during the regatta.

19. RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

- 19.1 Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio communications while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats while racing. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones. However the sailing instructions will authorise certain communications with the Race Committee.

20. RISK ASSESSMENT

- 20.1 Rule 4 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".
- 20.2 Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore involves an element of risk. All those taking part should be fully aware and conscious of the actual and potential risks involved in active watersports, including drowning, hypothermia and other physical injuries including head injuries.
- 20.3 By taking part in the event, competitors and each and every competitor agree and acknowledge that:
- (i) 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;
 - (ii) they are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;
 - (iii) they accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;
 - (iv) they have checked that their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event;
 - (v) they have checked that they and their fellow crew members are fit to participate;
 - (vi) the provision of a race management team, patrol boats, umpires and other officials and volunteers by the organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities; and
 - (vi) the provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances.

21. PRIZES

- 21.1 The First Prize is the Gertrude Cup. The winner will be invited to the Royal Thames Yacht Club Prize Winners' Dinner in November 2017 to receive it.
- 21.2 Other prizes and daily prizes may be awarded.

ATTACHMENT A

SCHEDULE OF SOCIAL EVENTS

Saturday 22nd July

After racing 1900	Daily Prize Giving with Drinks and Afternoon Tea Opening drinks and canapés	Cowes Yacht Haven Royal London Yacht Club Dress code: smart casual
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Sunday 23rd July

After racing	Daily Prize Giving with Drinks and Afternoon Tea	Cowes Yacht Haven
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Monday 24th July

After racing 1900	Daily Prize Giving with Drinks and Afternoon Tea Drinks with Zhik	Cowes Yacht Haven Zhik Shop on Cowes High Street
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Tuesday 25th July

After racing 1915	Daily Prize Giving with Drinks and Afternoon Tea Gala Dinner	Cowes Yacht Haven Royal Yacht Squadron Pavilion Dress code: Jacket & tie, no jeans
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Wednesday 26th July

After racing	Drinks and Regatta Prize Giving	Cowes Yacht Haven
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Social tickets for each team are included in the entry fee.