

G.S.S. & THE BOTANIST GIN REGATTA

Saturday 14th June 2025

Organising Authority: Cove Sailing Club

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS **for** **Handicap IRC 1&2, CYCA 3&4 Yachts and Restricted** **Sail Class**

1. RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the 'Rules' as defined in the current Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028 (RRS), and the Prescriptions of the RYA and their relevant Appendices.
- 1.2 The Conditions of Entry, the Rules of each Class, the Sailing Instructions, and any special instructions or amendments issued by the Organising Authority will apply. In the event of conflict these Sailing Instructions shall prevail.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located at Cove Sailing Club, which, for the purpose of these Sailing Instructions, is the Race Office.

3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to these Sailing Instructions will be posted before 09:00 on the day it will take effect including the schedule of races.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

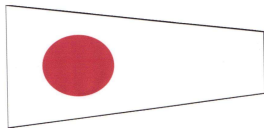
Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagstaff outside the Race Office.

5. SCHEDULE OF RACES, STARTS, STARTING FLAGS & TIMES

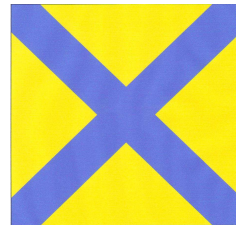
5.1 Racing is scheduled for yachts of the following Classes:

Start	Class	Starting Flag	Start Time
A	IRC 1 & 2, CYCA 3 and 4	Pdt 1	13:00
B	Restricted Sail	NN5	13:05*

* unless delayed by General Recall of previous start



Pdt 1



NN5

5.2 Handicap Classes will be split as follows:

IRC 1: IRC of 1.010 and above

IRC 2: IRC up to 1.009

CYCA Handicap 3: up to 17.00 minutes/hour

CYCA Handicap 4: 17.25 minutes/hour and above

5.3 The separation of race results into Classes for the purpose of the issue of prizes will be at the discretion of the Organising Authority.

5.4 There will be a Time Signal at 12:50.

6. CLASS FLAGS & SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR HANDICAP YACHTS

IRC 1	Int. Code Pdt 1	IRC 2	Int. Code Pdt 2
CYCA 3	Int. Code Pdt 3	CYCA 4	Int. Code Pdt 4
Restricted Sail	Int. Code Pdt 5		

6.1 Yachts competing in Handicap Classes 1,2 3, 4 and Restricted Sail shall have a valid IRC or CYCA Rating.

6.2 From her Warning Signal until she has finished racing, each Handicap Yacht shall fly the appropriate Class Flag from her backstay as follows:

IRC 1	Int. Code Pdt 1	IRC 2	Int. Code Pdt 2
CYCA 3	Int. Code Pdt 3	CYCA 4	Int. Code Pdt 4
Restricted Sail	Int. Code Pdt 5		

7. RACING AREA

The racing will be held in Clyde Mid Firth West. The start line will be off Cove Sailing Club.

8. THE COURSES

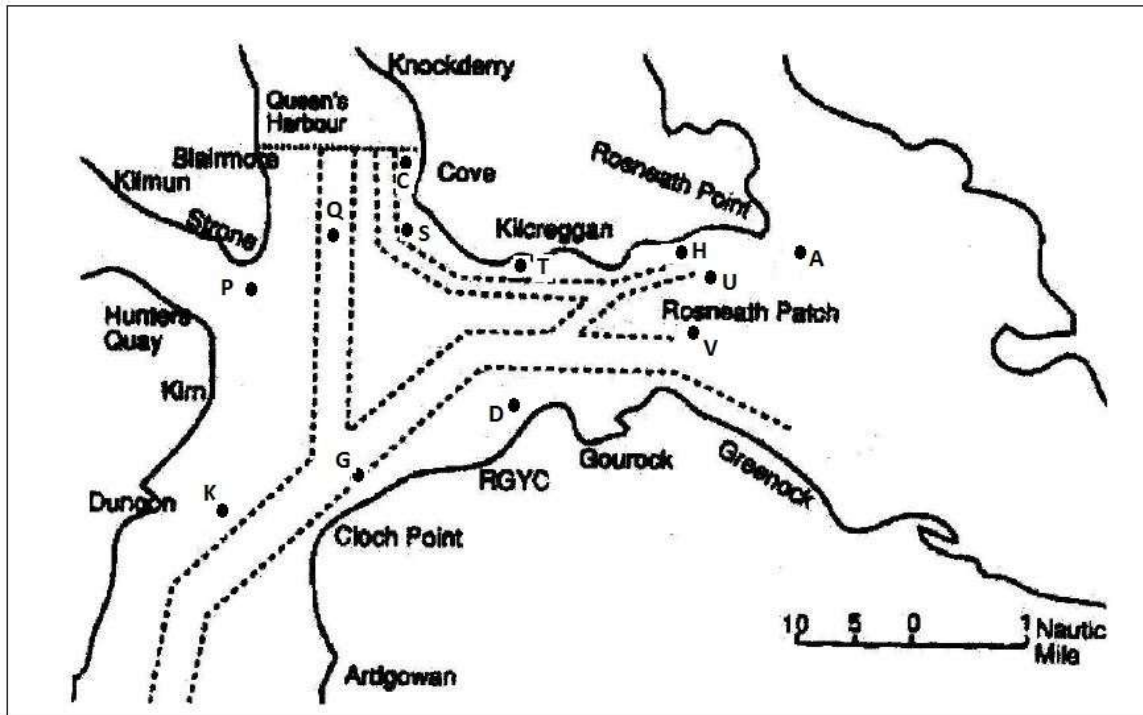
Wind Letter	R	S	T	U	W	Y	Z
Direction	North	East	South East	South	South West	West	North West
Course No. 1	cpgz	APsz	VDQCZ	GPCZ	kvz	UPCZ	cqvz
	cpgz	cqUPsz	VQCZ	GPCZ	cpsz	TPCZ	cqvz
Course No. 2	cpgz	APsz	VDQCZ	GPCZ	kgz	UPCZ	cqvz
	cqgz	cqTPsz	TQCZ	GQCZ	cpsz	TPCZ	cqtz
Course No. 3	cpgz	UPsz	VQCZ	GPCZ	ktz	HPCZ	cqdz
	cqtz	cqTPsz	SQCZ	SQCZ	cpsz	TPCZ	cqtz
Course No. 4	cqgz	TPsz	DQCZ	GQCZ	ktz	TPCZ	cqtz
	cqtz	cTPsz	SQCZ	SQCZ	cqsz	TQCZ	cptz

CAPITAL LETTERS - MARKS TO STARBOARD, small letters - marks to port.

Course 1: not in use
Course 2: not in use
Course 3: IRC 1, IRC 2, CYCA 3 and CYCA 4
Course 4: Restricted Sail

- 8.1. The course to be sailed will be indicated by displaying a white course letter on a black background in front of Cove Sailing Club.
- 8.2. The starting and finishing line shall be a straight line between the Cove Sailing Club main flagpole and Mark Z.

9. MARKS



Mid Firth West Course Chart

Description of Marks

Mark	Name	Colour	Lat/Long (Approx)
A	CPA Ard No.10, Lit Navigation Buoy	Red	
C	CSC Cove Buoy	Day Glo Orange	55°59.922N 004°51.485W
D	RGYC Gourock Swimming Pool Buoy	Day Glo Orange	55°57.729N 004°49.447W
G	RGYC Levan Buoy	Day Glo Orange	55°56.810N 004°52.383W
H	CPA Ard No.4, Lit Navigation Buoy	Red	
K	CPA Dunoon Bank, Lit Navigation Buoy	Black/Yellow/Black	
P	CPA Strone No.30, Lit Navigation Buoy	Yellow/Black	
Q	CPA Loch Long Mid Channel Entrance, Lit Navigation Buoy	Red/White	
S	CPA Kil No.3, Lit Navigation Buoy	Green	
T	CPA Kil No.2, Lit Navigation Buoy	Red	
U	CPA Ard No.5, Lit Navigation Buoy	Green	
V	CPA No.27, Lit Navigation Buoy	Red	
Z	CSC Start/Finish, Cylindrical Inflatable Buoy	Yellow	

10. THE START

10.1 Races will be started using RRS 26.

10.2 The Starting Line will be between the Cove Clubhouse flagpole and Mark Z.

11. LONE YACHT AT THE START

In the event of only one yacht in either Start appearing at a Start Line no race will take place for that Start and no points will be awarded. The Start Sequence for subsequent starts will NOT be altered as a result of such occurrence.

12. KEEPING CLEAR

In addition to RRS 24.1 yachts shall keep clear of the Starting Line prior to their Warning Signal and of the Finishing Line after finishing.

13. TIME LIMITS

13.1 In addition to RRS 35, there will be a 'Fixed Time Limit' of 17.00 hours.

13.2 If by the 'Fixed Time Limit' no yacht in a Class has finished the race, but one or more yachts in that class have completed the first round, the race shall be deemed to have finished at the end of the completed round without regard to any subsequent event. Until the expiry of the 'Fixed Time Limit' all yachts are racing.

13.3 If no yacht has completed one round then the race will be considered abandoned.

14. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

14.1 Protest forms are available from the Race Office. Protests shall be delivered there within the protest time limit.

14.2 For each Class, the protest time limit is 60 minutes after the last yacht has finished the last race of the day. The same protest time limit applies to all protests by the Race Committee and Protest Committee and to requests for redress. This changes RRS 61.3 and 62.2.

14.3 Parties to protests are advised to remain in the vicinity of the Race Office.

15. RESULTS

Results will be posted at the Race Office as soon as possible after racing.

16. SCORING

16.1 The Low Point scoring system of RRS Appendix A will apply.

16.2 A yacht shall not count the result of a race unless the entry fee has been paid prior to the start of the Regatta.

17. SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 17.1 In addition to RRS 1.2 all yachts shall carry an anchor and warp, a tow line, and a bailing device each of which shall be of a type and size suitable for the purpose for which they are intended.
- 17.2 A yacht that retires from a race shall endeavour to notify the Race Office as soon as possible before leaving the Racing Area.

18. CLYDEPORT OPERATIONS LIMITED (COL) INSTRUCTIONS

- 18.1 NARROW CHANNELS. Attention is drawn to the International Regulations for the Prevention of Collision at Sea, 1972. Particular notice shall be taken of Rule 9b which states 'a vessel of less than 20 metres in length or a sailing vessel shall not impede the passage of a vessel which can safely navigate only within a 'Narrow Channel or Fairway'.
- 18.2 Whilst racing or on passage in the Firth of Clyde north of Cumbrae Head, yachts shall regard 'Recommended Channels', marked as dotted lines on Hydrographic Office charts as a 'Narrow Channel' within the meaning of IRPCS 9b. Furthermore Clydeport Operations Limited has decreed that any waters of the Firth of Clyde where vessels by virtue of size, draught, speed or proximity to land, hazards and other vessels are unable to manoeuvre freely must be regarded as a 'Narrow Channel.'
- 18.3 Whilst racing, any yacht which is unable for reasons of lack of wind or other cause, to sail clear of a large power driven vessel shall start her engine and/or paddle in order to clear and thereafter shall report full details to the Race Committee.
- 18.4 Competitors are reminded of the Clydeport Operations Limited Byelaw which prohibits yachts and other craft from manoeuvring within 100 metres of any ferry terminal. Particular regard shall be paid to this when in the vicinity of the Caledonian MacBrayne and Western Ferries facilities at Gourock, Dunoon, McInroy's Point, Hunter's Quay, Largs, Cumbrae, Wemyss Bay and Rothesay.

19. RADIO COMMUNICATION

The Race Committee may maintain a watch on Channel 77, primarily for safety purposes.

20. PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded and trophies will be held until the following year's Regatta.

21. INSURANCE

Each participating yacht shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £3 million.

22. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 22.1 Competitors participate in the Regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race. The safety of a yacht and her entire management including civil responsibility to third parties shall be the sole responsibility of the owner/skipper racing the yacht. The establishment of these sailing instructions in no way limits or reduces the complete responsibility of the owner/skipper for his/her crew/yacht or equipment and the management thereof.
- 22.2 The Organising Club and their representatives disclaim any and every responsibility for any loss, damage, injury or inconvenience to persons, yachts or associated subjects howsoever arising directly or indirectly, ashore or afloat, from their policy, rules or ruling before, during and after the races and related activities.