

Babbacombe Corinthian Sailing Club

Notice of Race: Club Racing During 2026 Season

Babbacombe Corinthian Sailing Club (hereafter, referred to as BCSC) is the organising authority for all club racing scheduled in the club calendar during the 2026 sailing season. The calendar is published on the BCSC website at start of season.

Racing will take place in Babbacombe Bay (50° 30' 56"N 003° 30' 13"W) with competing boats launching from and returning to the slipway on Oddicombe Beach, in front of the BCSC Clubhouse. Courses will be set before the start of each session, based on the known or forecast wind strength and direction. *For general information to contestants, the racecourse will normally be set between 0.25nm and 0.5nm from the slipway in the direction of the centre of the bay. Tidal range is between 4m and 5m and charted water depths are in the range 8-18m. High cliffs surround the bay in an arc from the SW to the NNW and the sailing area is open to the East. Prevailing wind direction is generally between SW and NW, leading to gusty conditions near the shore. Sailing may be prevented when the wind is from the East, due to excessive surf on the edge of Oddicombe Beach.*

Dates of club racing are published in the calendar on the club website, but normally racing is scheduled on Saturday afternoons between Spring and Autumn, with a second weekly session on Tuesday evenings during the summer months. These are subject to change if forecast weather conditions are unfavourable and competitors will be notified of changes at the earliest opportunity.

Club racing will be run under the Racing Rules of Sailing (2025-2028), published by the RYA. Rule 40 (personal flotation) will apply for all competitors in club racing at all times. However, no protest committee will be appointed, and Rules 60 to 73 do not apply. It is expected that all competitors will adhere to the *Corinthian Spirit* and avoid disputes.

The following race formats will be used, as published in the club sailing calendar.

Either

A(a). Trophy Series will be competed on a triangular course, with approximately even sides and delineated by yellow buoys (numbered sequentially) of approximately 1.0m diameter, set at the turning points. The direction and length of the legs will be set, based on considerations of wind conditions, sea state and safety of competitors and race officials. The start line will normally be laid between Mark 1 and the Committee Boat (displaying an orange flag). Variation from this start arrangement will be notified to competitors in pre-race briefing. The race duration will be three laps and sailed in the order

Mark 1 (Start) – Mark 2 – Mark 3 – Mark 1 – Mark 2 – Mark 1 – Mark 2 – Mark 3 – Mark 1 (Finish)

(Note: This course is often referred to as "triangle- sausage – triangle")

(Note: A Port Hand Course will be the normal choice Starboard Hand Courses may be set in certain circumstances. Competitors will be notified in the pre-race briefing, in this event)

The Finish line will be the same as the Start line and lay between Mark 1 and the Committee Boat.

Or.

A(b). Trophy Series will be competed on a triangular course, with approximately even sides and delineated by yellow buoys (numbered sequentially) of approximately 1.0m diameter, set at the turning points. The direction and length of the legs will be set, based on considerations of wind conditions, sea state and safety of competitors and race officials. The start line will normally be laid between Mark 1 and the Committee Boat (displaying an orange flag). Variation from this start arrangement will be notified to competitors in pre-race briefing. The race duration will be three laps and sailed in the order

Mark 1 (Start) – Mark 2 – Mark 3 – Mark 1 – Mark 2 – Mark 3 - Mark 1 – Mark 2 – Mark 3 – Mark 1 (Finish)

(Note: This course is often referred to as “Olympic triangle”)

(Note: A Port Hand Course will be the normal choice Starboard Hand Courses may be set in certain circumstances. Competitors will be notified in the pre-race briefing, in this event)

The Finish line will be the same as the Start line and lay between Mark 1 and the Committee Boat.

Subject to weather conditions, two races will be run during each session, with the second race starting one hour after the start of the first race. Boats which arrive at the start line after the start signal may, at the Race Officer’s discretion, join the race but will be timed as if they had started at the start signal.

Races shall be started according to Racing Rules of Sailing (2025-28) Rule 26 (Otherwise known as “5-4-1-0” sequence). All races will be run as Mixed Fleet with Flag R as start flag, accompanied by a sound signal. Rule 30.1 applies and Flag P shall be the Preparatory signal, accompanied by a sound signal. In event of a delayed start, Flag AP will be displayed by the committee boat, but no numeric flag will accompany this to show duration of delay.

Penalties for infringement of racing rules shall be according to Racing Rules of Sailing (2025-28) Rule 44.

The elapsed time of each boat passing the finish line shall be measured from the start of race signal. The time that each boat takes to complete the race shall be adjusted according to the Portsmouth Yardstick Scheme, 2026, as published by the RYA. Where a boat is not listed in the PY Tables, the best available information (for example, the Great Lakes Scheme) shall be used to allocate a rating. Contestants may request to be informed of their allocated rating and are permitted to protest this before the day of the race. Race results will be calculated using the adjusted times.

Scoring shall be according to Racing Rules of Sailing. Appendix A (Low Points System) Rule A5.3 shall apply where boats do not complete the race or do not come to the start line. For the purpose of calculating the Series tables, the score of each boat will be allocated to each member of the crew on an individual basis, irrespective of whether they were helm or crew.

(Note: This is because BCSC members do not always sail throughout the season in a particular boat or with a regular partner. It is accepted that members may often sail in different boats in different races of the series)

Four series will be conducted during the year. Early Series; Summer Series; Late Summer Series; Autumn Series. Each series will comprise eight races. The first race of the day, in each session will be used for the purposes of the series. However, where an insufficient number of races have been possible during the sessions of that series, the Race Officer may choose to define the second race of the session as a contributory race. Competitors will be informed during the pre-race briefing if this is the case.

For the purpose of calculating the series result, the two worst results for each competitor will be discarded and the remaining six summed to give a final result. If two competitors remain tied, then the best five results will be used to determine their order. The series winner and runner-up will be awarded a trophy for the series, but no other prizes will be awarded.

B. Short Course Racing may be scheduled according to the club sailing calendar or organised whenever Trophy Series races are not being sailed. This racing event is informal and no trophies will be awarded. Results will be published on the club website.

Short Course Racing will be competed on a triangular course, with approximately even sides and delineated by yellow buoys (numbered sequentially) of approximately 1.0m diameter, set at the turning points. The direction and length of the legs will be set, based on considerations of wind conditions, sea state and safety of competitors and race officials. The start line will normally be laid between Mark 1 and the Committee Boat (displaying an orange flag). Variation from this start arrangement will be notified to competitors in pre-race briefing. The race duration will be one lap only, sailed in the order

Mark 1 (Start) – Mark 2 – Mark 3 – Mark 1 (Finish)

(Note: A Port Hand Course will be the normal choice Starboard Hand Courses may be set in certain circumstances. Competitors will be notified in the pre-race briefing, in this event)

The Finish line will be the same as the Start line and lay between Mark 1 and the Committee Boat.

Subject to weather conditions, up to five races will be run during each session, with the second and subsequent races starting immediately after completion of the previous race. Boats which arrive at the start line after the start signal may, at the Race Officer's discretion, join the race but will be timed as if they had started at the start signal.

Races shall be started using an abbreviated 3-2-1-0 minute sequence. All races will be run as Mixed Fleet with Flag R as start flag, accompanied by a sound signal. Rule 30.1 applies and Flag P shall be the Preparatory signal, accompanied by a sound signal. In event of a delayed start, Flag AP will be displayed by the committee boat, but no numeric flag will accompany this to show duration of delay.

Penalties for infringement of racing rules shall be according to Racing Rules of Sailing (2025-28) Rule 44.

The elapsed time of each boat passing the finish line shall be measured from the start of race signal. The time that each boat takes to complete the race shall be adjusted according to the Portsmouth Yardstick Scheme, 2026, as published by the RYA. Where a boat is not listed in the PY Tables, the best available information (for example, the Great Lakes Scheme) shall be used to allocate a rating. Contestants may request to be informed of their allocated rating and are permitted to protest this before the day of the race. Race results will be calculated using the adjusted times.

Scoring shall be according to Racing Rules of Sailing. Appendix A (Low Points System) Only boats which compete on the day shall be allocated a score. The individual race scores for the session will be summed to calculate a final score. The score of each boat will be allocated to each member of the crew on an individual basis, irrespective of whether they were helm or crew.

(Note: Short Course Racing is intended as a mainly social activity and is suitable for newly qualified members to learn about the practice and discipline of racing. It is particularly helpful for members wishing to improve their starts. Course legs are kept short to permit multiple races and to prevent boats becoming separated from each other beyond hailing distance)

C. Either

C(a). Pursuit Races will be competed on a triangular course, with approximately even sides and delineated by yellow buoys (numbered sequentially) of approximately 1.0m diameter, set at the turning points. The direction and length of the legs will be set, based on considerations of wind conditions, sea state and safety of competitors and race officials. The start line will normally be laid between Mark 1 and the Committee Boat (displaying an orange flag). Variation from this start arrangement will be notified to competitors in pre-race briefing. The race will be sailed for a fixed duration of time from the start signal. The number of laps is indeterminate, but the course will be set over a large area in order to minimise this.

Or.

C(b). Pursuit Races will be competed quadrilateral course, with a long upwind beat, two reaches and a short downwind run, delineated by yellow buoys (numbered sequentially) of approximately 1.0m diameter, set at the turning points. The direction and length of the legs will be set, based on considerations of wind conditions, sea state and safety of competitors and race officials. The start line will normally be laid between Mark 1 and the Committee Boat (displaying an orange flag). Variation from this start arrangement will be notified to competitors in pre-race briefing. The race will be sailed for a fixed duration of time from the start signal. The number of laps is indeterminate, but the course will be set over a large area in order to minimise this.

C (continued).

(Note: A Port Hand Course will be the normal choice Starboard Hand Courses may be set in certain circumstances. Competitors will be notified in the pre-race briefing, in this event)

At the end of the race, the committee boat will display Flag N, with a sound signal. Once the race has ended, all competitors must hold their position and not attempt to pass or overtake any other competing boat until instructed. Any boat that breaches this rule will be disqualified. The Race Officer will record positions of each competing boat, including multiple laps completed, and the boats are ordered according to total distance travelled in the race, from greatest to least.

Subject to weather conditions, one pursuit race will be run during each session. Boats which arrive at the start line after the start signal may, at the Race Officer's discretion, join the race but will be timed as if they had started at the start signal for their particular class.

Races shall be started according to Racing Rules of Sailing (2025-28) Rule 26 (Otherwise known as "5-4-1-0" sequence). Each competitor will be allocated a set start delay (in minutes) according to the class of boat that they are sailing. At the race start, indicated by the lowering of the Flag R, the Race Officer will display a white sign with black number, denoting time elapsed since the start. Competitors will cross the start line at the time when their own (pre-notified) time is displayed.

At the discretion of the session leader and race officer, competitors start delays may be adjusted to take account of the individual helm/crew experience level. This will be notified to all competitors during the pre-race briefing.

In event of a delayed start, Flag AP will be displayed by the committee boat, but no numeric flag will accompany this to show duration of delay.

Penalties for infringement of racing rules shall be according to Racing Rules of Sailing (2025-28) Rule 44.

A low-points scoring system will be applied to results with the helm/crew of the boat sailing the greatest distance being awarded one point each and those of the runner-up boat awarded two points each. Subsequent boats will be awarded three, four...points etc. Four Pursuit Races will form the Pursuit Series. Individual scores will be summed to calculate an overall series winner. Boats which do not compete in any given race will be awarded points equal to one more than the total number of boats competing in the series.

The series winner and runner-up will be awarded a trophy for the series, but no other prizes will be awarded.

Appendix: Provisional Pursuit Race Start Delays (75 minute race)

(Calculated for classes which may be expected to sail with BCSC)

Laser Radial (ILCA)6	+4 mins
2000	+6 mins
Laser Standard (ILCA7)	+7 mins
Bahia	+8 mins
RS200	+10 mins
Albacore	+11 mins
Taser	+12 mins