



WOMEN'S OPEN KEELBOAT CHAMPIONSHIP 2017



Notice of Race 3rd & 4th June 2017



1. Organising Authority

The Dubarry Women's Open Keelboat Championships 2017 is organised by the Women's Open Keelboat Society in association with the Hamble River Sailing Club.

All correspondence regarding the series to be sent to:

Hamble River Sailing Club
The Ferry Hard
Hamble, Southampton SO31 4JB
Tel: 02380 452070
Alternatively by e-mail: admin@hrsc.org.uk
The event website will be <http://www.hrsc.org.uk/>

2. Rules

The Championship will be governed by the 'rules' as defined by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) including the IRC Rules parts A, B and C with the exception of IRC Rule 22.4 (crew number/weight) which shall not apply.

This Notice of Race can be changed by amendments or by the Sailing Instructions. In the event of conflict, the Sailing Instructions (SIs) shall prevail. This changes RRS 63.7.

Amendment to the Notice of Race will be posted on the event website.

3. Eligibility

Boats shall have only all-women crews.

Boats shall hold a valid current IRC certificate. Unless as a result of a rating protest, or to correct a rating office error, no changes may be made to a boat's rating dated less than 7 days before the first race, except at the discretion of the organizing authority.

Racing Classes

The Championships is open to IRC rated boats within a guide range of TCC 0.880 to 1.101. Boats with TCCs falling outside that range are invited to discuss possible entry with the HRSC. One design class(es) may be accepted at the discretion of the HRSC provided 5 or more boats are ready to enter.

4. Entry and fees

Entries will be accepted online via the Hamble River Sailing Club website or by contacting the Club office.

The early entry fee is £70 and this closes at 1700 on Friday 26th May 2017. Entries after this date will be accepted at £90.

5. Location of Races and Schedule

Each start will be from a single main Committee Boat and will be sailed around buoys in the central Solent.

The Championship will consist of up to 6 races, with three races per day, conditions permitting.

The planned programme is as follows (approximate timing):

Friday 2 nd June	1800-1900 1930	Registration at HRS Club House Race briefing
Saturday 3 rd June	0800-0845 1030	Registration for remaining boats First race of the day
Sunday 4 th June	1000 1630(Target)	First race of the day Prize giving at HRSC

6. Safety

IRC rated boats shall comply with a minimum of ISAF Offshore Special Regulations Category 4.

VHF Radios

All boats shall carry an operational VHF marine radio with Channels 16, 6, 12, 67, 72, 77, M1 (37a) and M2. VHF channels to be used for communications will be specified in the SIs.

7. Sailing Instructions

SIs will be posted on the HRSC website a few days before the event and will be available at registration.

- a. Courses will be advised by VHF radio and the 2017 Two Digit Solent Marks list and/or inflatable marks, will be used.
- b. The race committee may signal that spinnakers shall not be used in certain races, e.g. in heavy conditions.

8. Penalties

Time penalties will apply instead of the turn's penalties of RRS 44.2. Details will be in the SIs. Penalties arising from protests will be at the discretion of the protest committee.

9. Scoring

The Low Points System of RRS Appendix A will apply except that a boat's championship score in her class will be the total of her race scores.

The overall Women's Open Keelboat Champion 2017 will be determined by a formula that weights the points slightly in favour of larger classes. The formula is:

Each boat's championship score in her class multiplied by 60, divided by the number of races to count for that class, and divided by the square root of the number of entries in her class. The boat with the lowest resultant score is the champion.

10. Prizes

There will be prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places in the championship overall and for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places in each class. Other prizes may be awarded.

Prize giving will take place after racing on Sunday 4th June at the Hamble River Sailing Club. The target time is 1630 and this depends upon conditions and any outstanding protests.

11. Disclaimer of liability

11.1 - The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone; as stated in Rule 4 of the Racing Rules of Sailing.

11.2 - 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:

11.2.1 - 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;

11.2.2 - They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;

11.2.3 - They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;

11.2.4 - Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;

11.2.5 - The provision of a race management team, patrol boats and other officials and volunteers by the event organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;

11.2.6 - The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances;

11.3 - The boat is required to hold adequate insurance and in particular to hold insurance against third party claims in the sum of at least £2,000,000.