

PYRA Poole Bay Summer Series

Guidance Notes

These notes are intended as a simple summary of the series requirements.

Full details are in the '2026 PYRA Red Book' see <https://www.pyra.org.uk/2026-red-book/> . In case of conflict or omissions the Red Book is to take priority.

1.0 Rules

World Sailing Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028 (RRS) These are available online.
<https://d7qh6ksdplczd.cloudfront.net/sailing/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/23114336/2025-2028-RRS-with-Changes-and-Corrections.pdf>

2.0 Conditions of Entry

The series is open to all yachts in Poole Harbour with a current VPRS rating certificate. Yachts shall enter the series via the PYRA website.

There is no charge for entry to the series beyond the purchase of a VPRS rating. Details on how to obtain a rating are shown on the PYRA website.

Identification of Classes

Class 0: Pennant 0	Class 0 and 1 will start together and have combined results
Class 1: Pennant 1	

Class 2: Pennant 2	Class 2 and 3 will start together and have combined results
Class 3: Pennant 3	

Class 4: Pennant 4	No Spinnaker
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Class 5: Pennant 5	Multihull
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2 Handed: Q flag below their class flag	Max 2 Crew
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Boats racing in the 2 handed class shall fly a Q flag below their class flag and start with appropriate class (Class 0-3 only). There is no 2 handed section for Class 4 or 5.

Divisions of classes

In accordance with their VPRS rating see PYRA website.

<https://www.pyra.org.uk/class-list/>

3.0 Safety

World Sailing Special Regulations for Appendix B Inshore Racing will apply.

<https://d7qh6ksdplczd.cloudfront.net/sailing/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/15104518/OSR-Appendix-B-24v1.pdf>

4.0 Communication with Competitors

All boats shall be equipped with a VHF radio capable of receiving and transmitting on either channel. A listening watch should be maintained for the duration of the race.

Communications will be on VHF Channel M2. (P4) If this channel is blocked Ch M (37) may be used.

The Committee Boat will normally start communicating with the fleet 30 minutes before the first start of the race, to announce the location of the Committee Boat and the format of the race.

Courses will be announced on VHF for each class at least 5 minutes before their start. Courses will also be posted on WhatsApp when possible.

Starts will be in line with RRS Part 3. 26. Visual Signals may not be shown.

Audible start signals will be given for each class, (including using VHF radio when possible) as follows.

5 Mins	Sound Signal	Warning Signal
4 Mins	Sound Signal	Preparatory Signal
1 min	One Long Sound Signal	1 Minute
Start	Sound Signal	Start

Delayed starts will be signalled by an AP flag and announcement on VHF where possible.

5.0 Race Programme

Courses will be announced on VHF as 4.0

The Race Officer may confirm the course after the 4 Minute gun

Courses may be based on the list of marks in 6.0, any other established racing mark and or gates, points clearly identified by both longitude and latitude.

Dates:	First Start	RV
Sunday 10th May	11.00	Parkstone
Sunday 14th June	11.00	Royal Motor YC
Sunday 19 th July	13.00	Poole YC
Sunday 19 th August	11.00 - Pursuit Race Start times according to VPRS rating will be published on the PYRA website https://www.pyra.org.uk/2026-rnli-poole-pursuit-race/	Royal Motor YC

Sunday 27th September

11.00

Parkstone

Races to count in a series The Low Point scoring system of Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) Appendix A4 will apply. The number of races to count is shown in the Red Book 5.2.

6.0 Marks

The races will take place in Poole Bay generally around fixed marks.

If weather conditions necessitate, the start and/or racing may be in the harbour.

The Race Officer will endeavour to announce the start location as early as possible via VHF and WhatsApp. Commonly used marks are:

Alum Chine Outfall	(50	42.32N	01,53.40W)
Poole Bar Buoy (No 1) SRM 1B	(50	39.32N	01,55.17W)
Boscombe Outfall	(50	42.89N	01,50.39W)
Bournemouth Outfall	(50	42.60N	01,52.31W)
Branksome Outfall	(50	42.25N	01,54.31W)
East Hook	(50	40.58N	01,55.23W)
East Looe 2	(50	41.07N	01,55.83W)
Hengistbury Head	(50	42.55N	01,44.38W)
Jenkins Marine	(50	41.24N	01,52.67W)
Ledge Buoy	(50	41.60N	01,41.50W)
Magnum	(50	40.31N	01,52.45W)
Parkstone YC	(50	39.61N	01,5520W)
Peveril Ledge SRM1A	(50	36.37N	01,56.10W)
Rig Buoy (CSC Race Mark)	(50	43.01N	01,38.02W)
Stevenson Moorings	(50	39.45N	01,56.85W)
Stoneways Marine Insurance SRM 1C	(50	40.31N	01,54.02W)
Southbourne Outfall	(50	42.92N	01,49.11W)
Swash Channel No 2	(50	39.23N	01,55.24W)
Swash Channel No 3	(50	39.76N	01,55.49W)
Swash Channel No 4	(50	39.72N	01,55.60W)
Swash Channel No.8	(50	40.50N	01,56.26W)
Tony Brooks	(50	38.61N	01,55.78W)
The Rig Shop	(50	41.08N	01,54.26W)

A fuller list is shown in the Red Book. <https://www.pyra.org.uk/2026-red-book/>

7.0 Starts

A Committee Boat Line will be a line between the mast showing an orange flag on the Committee Boat (Call sign 'PYRA Committee Boat') and an outer distance mark. (ODM) The boat may be identified by a PYRA battle flag and shall broadcast its location together with a description and location of the ODM to competitors

on VHF. The ODM may be laid specifically or could be any suitable mark or buoy. Other Starting Systems as described in the Red Book may be used.

8.0 Additional Rules Whilst Racing

Automatic Steering The use of automatic or mechanical steering devices is permitted.

Adjustable Keels A boat with an adjustable keel must race with it fully extended. Adjustment during a race is not permitted.

Penalties One and two turn penalties, RRS 44.2 will apply.

Shortened Course RRS 32 will apply. Shortened course information may be announced via VHF on the channel used during the race start.

9.0 Finish Line

Committee Boat Finish Line: A line between the mast bearing the orange flag of the Committee Boat and an ODM. The boat may be identified by a PYRA Flag and shall broadcast its location together with a description and location of the ODM to competitors on VHF. The ODM may be laid specifically but can be any suitable mark or buoy used for racing or navigation.

Competitors shall take their own finishing times using BST. All competitors are required when circumstances permit to identify the boat ahead and astern.

Competitors are required to give their times to the Records Secretary when requested.

Retirements A boat that has retired should strike their class flag, announce their retirement on VHF radio and must keep clear of competitors who are still racing.

10.0 Protests

Protests shall be delivered to the Hon Secretary of PYRA within 2 hours of the finishing time of the protesting boat and announced to the Race Officer by VHF within 30 minutes. This should be considered a Regatta Sailing Instruction for the purpose of SI 10.2 shown in the Red Book.

11.0 Scoring System

In the event of only one boat starting, providing she sails the course and finished correctly, she shall be awarded the prize and points for that race.

12.0 Social Arrangements

It is intended to hold a rendezvous (RV) after each race of the series at the hosting club when provisional results will be announced. Details of the RV will be announced by the Race Officer.