

Raymarine Warsash Spring Series 2009

Notice of Race

The **SPRING SERIES** will take place in the Central Solent on Sundays **15, 22 and 29 March, 5, 19 and 26 April 2009** for **Black and White Group** boats (see “Classes” below). Starts from 1000.

The **SPRING CHAMPIONSHIP** will comprise weekends with multiple races:-

Saturday-Sunday 18-19 April and 25-26 April for White Group classes.

Saturday-Sunday 4-5 April and 25-26 April for “Big Boats.”

1. RULES and ELIGIBILITY

Races will be held under the Racing Rules of Sailing and the RYA Racing Charter. IRC Endorsed Certificates are required for boats deemed by the race committee to be works teams and for boats with any Group 3 sailor aboard (ISAF Sailors' Classification Code). The Notice of Race may be varied by amendment or by the Sailing Instructions (SIs).

The event is open to boats having an LOA of 6.9m or over, in IRC, SBR Sportsboat, or the specified One Design classes.

Boats may remove their bunk cushions without penalty.

2. CLASSES

Spring Series: Black Group: 4 IRC classes. J/109. J/105.

White Group: Laser SB3. Hunter 707. J/80. SBR Sportsboats.

Spring Championship: White Group: Laser SB3. Hunter 707. J/80.

“Big Boat” classes:

(a) “45 foot class” open to Farr 45, Swan 45, DK46, Ker 46. Boats must comply with IRC rules but will race level regardless of rating.

(b) “BB1 class” - boats whose IRC rating is 1.090 or above (provisional) and whose IRC displacement-length ratio (DLR) is 200 or less, racing under IRC.

(c) First 40.7s and other one-design class(es) on request if with 10 or more entries by 20 February.

Starts may not be offered for a class if less than 10 entries have been received by Saturday 7th March. IRC boats with TCC less than 0.890 are welcome provided that sufficient enter for satisfactory racing.

J/109s, J/105s, Laser SB3s, Hunter 707s and J/80s will each race under their one-design class rules.

SBR Sportsboat Class boats must have an RYA/RORC Sportsboat Rule (SBR) certificate, LOA under 9.2m and draft of under 2m. Boats with any of the features of SBR Rules 9.1(a), (b) & (c) may race and any crew member using a trapeze shall wear an effective dry suit. Other sportsboats not fully able to meet the requirements of the Notice of Race may apply to the organising committee for permission to enter. Other boats may be eligible for the appropriate IRC class.

Current 2009 IRC or SBR ratings will be used. IRC boats must have a current IRC certificate. The maximum crew is IRC crew number plus two. IRC classes may be divided flexibly, to group similar boats. The race committee may permit a boat in IRC to compete in the class above that for which she is eligible, allocating a TCC not less than the bottom rating of that class. Boats will be allocated between the IRC classes on 11th March and details will be mailed to entrants and shown on the website.

3. SAFETY REGULATIONS

All boats shall carry a functional VHF radio with all usual UK marine channels including M1 (37) & M2.

Crews on White Group boats shall wear clearly visible personal flotation devices at all times when racing. If flag Y is flown for Black Group, personal flotation devices shall be worn and be clearly visible to other boats.

Black Group: All boats are required to comply with the ISAF Offshore Special Regulations for Category 4 races or with their Class Safety Regulations.

White Group: Regulations are available on request and in the SIs and on the website.

Sail numbers must be readily readable by the race committee in variable light conditions. In case of doubt, a dodger with the sail number should be displayed to the race committee at the start and finish. Otherwise boats may be scored DNC or DNF.

4. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

SIs will be posted to all entrants on or about 2 March. They will also be available for collection from the Club Administrator, Warsash Sailing Club, and will be posted on the website www.warsashsc.org.uk. SIs may not be posted for late entries.

5. SCORING and NUMBER OF RACES

A modified version of the Low Point scoring system will apply. Details will be in the SIs and are available on request.

Spring Series: Black Group except IRC1 will have 6 races with 5 to count.

IRC1 will have 8 races (1 each Sunday except 2 on each of 5 & 26 April) with 6 to count.

White Group will have 18 races (3 races each Sunday) with 15 to count.

Spring Championship - Big Boat classes: 12 races - 4 races on each of Saturdays 4 & 25 April, and 2 races on each of Sundays 5 & 26 April. All races will count.

Spring Championship - White Group classes: 14 races - 4 races on each of Saturdays 18 & 25 April, and 3 races on each of Sundays 19 & 26 April. All races will count.

6. ENTRY FEES - See Entry Form.

7. PRIZES

The prize-giving reception will be held on Friday 15 May at 2000 BST.

Spring Series: A winner's trophy and other prizes will be awarded in each class.

Spring Championship: A winner's trophy and other prizes will be awarded in each class.

The Raymarine Trophy will be awarded as the "Spirit of the Event" trophy by the race committee and the Sponsors to a boat or an individual for outstanding achievement during the event.

The Commodore's Trophy will be awarded to a class winner of IRC-rated boats, and **The Founder's Salver** to a class winner of non-IRC-rated boats, each selected on merit by the race committee.

8. MOORINGS AND FERRIES

A free ferry service is provided before and after racing on Sundays from Warsash to and from moorings up river as far as Port Hamble.

Some visitors moorings are available from the Hamble Harbour Master 01489 576387, email harbour.office@hants.gov.uk; or contact marinas and boat yards.

9. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

A boat is entirely responsible for her own safety, whether afloat or ashore, and nothing, whether in the Notice of Race, SIs or anywhere else, reduces this responsibility.

It is for the boat to decide whether she is fit to sail in the conditions in which she will find herself. By launching or going to sea, the boat confirms that she is fit for those conditions and her crew is competent to sail and compete in them.

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 million per event.

Nothing done by the organisers can reduce the responsibility of the boat nor will it make the organisers responsible for any loss, damage, death or injury, however it may have occurred, as a result of the boat taking part in the racing. The organisers encompass everyone helping to run the racing and the event, and include the organising authority, the race committee, committee boat(s), the race officers and others.

The boat is responsible to ensure that she is equipped and seaworthy so as to be able to face extremes of weather; that there is a crew sufficient in number, experience and fitness to withstand such weather; and that the safety equipment is properly maintained, stowed and in date and that the crew knows how to use it.

The fact that the race committee may inspect a boat does not reduce the responsibilities set out in this paragraph.