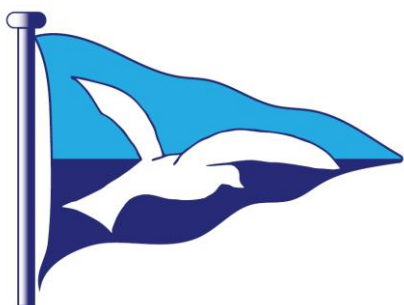




Gower Challenge Regatta 8th August 2026

Mumbles Yacht Club, Swansea

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

- 1.1. The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing 2025 – 2028* and these sailing instructions.
- 1.2. If there is a conflict between languages the English text will take precedence.
- 1.3. If there is a conflict, these Sailing Instructions will prevail.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board(s) located in the foyer of Mumbles Yacht Club.
- 2.2. A blackboard is located in the foyer of Mumbles Yacht Club which will describe any courses required.
- 2.3. Notice to Cruisers will be communicated on VHF CH37

3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1. Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 1000 on the day it will take effect.
- 3.2. Change to the schedule of races will be posted before 1000 on the day it will take effect. The short notice is to be able to adapt to moving the long-distance race due to unfavourable conditions.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagpole on the roof of Mumbles Yacht Club.
- 4.2. When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 45 minutes' in the race signal AP.

5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

5.1. Schedule

DATE	EVENT
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Saturday 8 th August	1 Long distance race – First Warning Signal not before 12.25
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6. RACING AREAS

6.1. Racing shall take place within the confines of Bristol Channel.

7. THE COURSES

7.1. The long-distance race is weather dependent. If conditions are not conducive to coastal racing an alternative around the bay course will be displayed on the official notice board in the foyer of the clubhouse.

7.2. Around the cans course will be displayed in the foyer of the clubhouse on the morning of racing and communicated over VHF Ch37 for the Cruiser Class.

7.3. Dinghy Long-distance course:

1. Club start/finish line or committee boat
2. SWIGG – starboard
3. Mumbles Lighthouse - starboard
4. Mixon - port
5. Pwll Du mark (inflatable pillar) – port
6. Oxwich (inflatable pillar) – port
7. Pwll Du mark (inflatable pillar) – starboard
8. Mixon – starboard
9. Mumbles Lighthouse - port

7.4. SWIG – port

7.5. Club start/finish line or finish boat

7.6. **Cruiser course**

7.7. Club start/finish line or committee boat

7.8. SWIGG – starboard

7.9. Oxwich (inflatable pillar) – port

7.10. SWIG – port

7.11. Club start/finish line or finish boat

8. THE START

8.1. The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee boat at the starboard end and the course side of the port-end starting mark, or between the club starting mark and the clubhouse, as described on the blackboard in the foyer.

8.2. A boat starting later than 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes rule A4.

9. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

9.1. To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will lay a new mark (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. It may not be possible to remove the original mark. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.

10. THE FINISH

10.1. The finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on the Race Committee Boat at the starboard end and the course side of the port-end finishing mark, or the club finishing line, as described on the blackboard in the foyer.

- 10.2. If the race committee is absent when a boat finishes, she should report her finishing time, and her position in relation to nearby boats, to the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

11. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 11.1. Rule 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

12. TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES

- 12.1. Time Limits for the long-distance course.
- 12.2. If the leading competitor has not reached the Pwll Du Gate (1st time) within 90 minutes of the start signal, the course will be shortened, and the Pwll Du mark taken to Port (in line with Pwll Du Headland). A Club safety boat shall be in proximity of the mark flying a shortened course flag. The next mark of the course will be Mixon.
- 12.3. If the leading competitor has not reached the Club start-finish line within 4 hrs (5hrs for Cruisers) the race will be finished at a laid course finish line. In this instance prior warning of a shortened course will be at the discretion of the OOD.
- 12.4. Cruises will be advised via VHF CH37 if the course is to be shortened.

13. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 13.1. Protest forms are available at the race office. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit.
- 13.2. The protest time limit is 90 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day or the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later.
- 13.3. Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the protest room. The location and schedule will be posted on the official notice board.

14. SCORING

- 14.1. One race is required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 14.2. There shall be no discards.

15. SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 15.1. Check-Out and Check-In: A tally board system will be in force during the event. Helm or crew must tally onto the water by wearing a band located in the charge of the beach master. Immediately after returning from the water, this band must be returned to the tally board. Boats failing to comply with these procedures will be subject to a contribution of £10 to the local RNLI for the first failure increasing by £20 for the second and £30 for the third or more. Cruisers to tally on and off via VHF CH37.
- 15.2. A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible.
- 15.3. Personal Buoyancy shall be worn at all times whilst on the water. This changes rule 40.

16. REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

- 16.1. Substitution of competitors will not be allowed without prior approval of the race committee.

17. EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS – This section is only applicable to dinghys

- 17.1. A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions. On the water, a boat can be instructed by a race committee equipment inspector or measurer to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.
- 17.2. Each boat must have:

1. Carry a 0.9m minimum length paddle.
2. Carry a suitable tow rope/righting line of minimum diameter 6mm and minimum length 8m with one end securely attached to the mast foot.
3. Carry an operational VHF handheld radio capable of operating on channel 37 (also known as M, M1, P, P1) and Channel 16, with suitable water resistance, or carry a suitably protected mobile phone with the Race Officers mobile number and the Clubhouse number stored in the memory.
4. Note: The Gower Challenge is an open water/coastal event. Whilst the carrying of personal flares is not mandatory, it is recommended.

18. EVENT ADVERTISING

- 18.1.** Boats shall display event advertising if supplied by the organizing authority as follows: on both sides of the forward 25% of the hull. Additional sponsorship material may also be supplied and will be displayed in the lower 25% of the mainsail.

19. TRASH DISPOSAL

- 19.1.** Trash may be placed aboard support or official boats.

20. RADIO COMMUNICATION

- 20.1.** Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.

- 20.2. 20.1 does not apply to the cruiser class**

21. PRIZES

- 21.1.** Prizes will be awarded as follows:

1. Gower Challenge - Prestige Emerald Trophy

- 21.2.** 1st , 2nd, 3rd places

- 21.3.** 1st Cruiser

1. Spot prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the Race Committee.

22. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 22.1.** Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See rule 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage, personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

23. INSURANCE

- 23.1.** Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £2,000,000 per incident or the equivalent.