

Novice Classes – Findhorn Week
Royal Findhorn Yacht Club 14th – 17th July 2025
Sailing Instructions

1 RULES

The regatta will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing.

2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located on the Club veranda.

3 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any changes to the sailing instructions will be posted before 10am on the day it will take effect.

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

Signals made ashore will be displayed at the RFYC flagpole.

5 BRIEFINGS & LAUNCHING

All Novices will meet at the Clubhouse 2 hours before the scheduled start time each day for a briefing. Once launched, boats at each dinghy park will gather in a fleet and wait to be escorted to the racing area by the safety boats. Boats should be launched 30 minutes before the scheduled start each day.

6 SCHEDULE OF RACES

6.1 Dates of racing 14th – 18th July 2025

6.2 Times of starting signal of first race each day:

Monday 14 th	-	14.15
Tuesday 15 th	-	15.00
Wednesday 16 th	-	15.45
Thursday 17 th	-	16.15
Friday 18 th	-	Fun Race Start time TBA

7 CLASS FLAGS

Class flags will be advised at the briefing. Current classes are Novices and Experienced Novices, but this may be amended at the Race officer's discretion. Eligibility for the Novice or Experienced Novice Classes will be at the Race Officer's sole discretion.

8 RACING AREAS

The racing area will be in Findhorn Bay, away from the main fleet.

9 THE COURSES

The courses will be as shown in the attachment.

10 THE MARKS

The marks will be small buoys to be displayed at the briefing.

11 THE START

11.1 The starting system will be as given below. This changes Rule 26.

3 minute Class Flag up (warning signal)

2 minutes Preparatory Flag up (P Flag)

1 minute Preparatory Flag down

0 minute Class Flag down, next Class Flag up

11.2 The starting line will be between a committee boat and a starting mark.

12 THE FINISH

The finishing line will be between a committee boat and a finishing mark.

13 TIME LIMITS

The time limit for each race is at the discretion of the Race Officer.

14 PROTESTS

14.1 Protest forms are available from the Race Office.

14.2 The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day.

15 SCORING

The scoring system is the Low Point System as per rule A4, using the Portsmouth Yardstick rating system.

16 SAFETY

All boats must sign on before racing and off after racing. Personal buoyancy must be worn at all times whilst on the water, without the need to fly Flag Y. This changes Rule 40.

17 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

No substitution of crew or equipment will be allowed without prior approval of the race committee.

18 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Rule 4 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone."

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:

(a) 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;

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

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

(d) Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;

(e) 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;

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

19 INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with minimum cover of £3 000 000.

20 RFYC DATA PROTECTION POLICY

Regatta Entry Forms on paper or online are stored by the Sailing Secretary for 1 year after events. They are then destroyed by deleting or shredding. They are used for contacting during current and future events, for recording participants in races for results, prizes, payments and for Health and Safety reasons.