

# NFYC



## **Club Racing Season 2023**

## **Notice of Race**



## Title, Place, Date and Organising Authority

The **NFYC Club Racing** season comprises multiple races run from the clubhouse on the River Crouch in Essex during the months of May, June, July and August. In general, each race is separate and distinct from the others.

**The NFYC Club Racing Programme for 2023** is as follows:

<b>Day</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Planned Start Time</b>	<b>Event Name</b>
Sunday	21 <sup>st</sup> May	11:00	Sandpiper Trophy Race
Sunday	4 <sup>th</sup> June	11:00	Vice Commodore's Cup
Sunday	11 <sup>th</sup> June	10:00	Ferry Boat Bowl Race
“	“	14:00	Orca Shield
Sunday	25 <sup>th</sup> July	11:00	Solstice Race
Friday	7 <sup>th</sup> July	17:00	Friday Night Cup
Sunday	9 <sup>th</sup> July	10:00	Single Handed Race
“	“	14:00	Ladies Helm Race
Saturday	15 <sup>th</sup> July	11:00	Staggered Start Race
Sunday	16 <sup>th</sup> July	11:00	Commodore's Cup
Sunday	10 <sup>th</sup> September	11:00	Impatient Trophy
Sunday	17 <sup>th</sup> September	11:00	Rear Commodore's Cup
Sunday	1 <sup>st</sup> October	11:00	King's Trophy Race
Sunday	8 <sup>th</sup> October	11:00	WS Race 1 – Golden Bowl
Sunday	22 <sup>nd</sup> October	11:00	WS Race 2 – Silver Spoon
Sunday	5 <sup>th</sup> November	11:00	WS Race 3 – Autumn Poppy
Sunday	19 <sup>th</sup> November	11:00	WS Race 4 – William Chilly Challenge Cup and Saucer
Sunday	3 <sup>rd</sup> December	11:00	WS Race 5 – Advent Tankard
Sunday	17 <sup>th</sup> December	11:00	WS Race 6 – Mid-Winter Mug

## Governing Rules

The racing will be governed by the rules defined in the latest issue of the Racing Rules of Sailing (the RRS) published by the RYA. Competitors are NFYC Club Racing Season - 2023 Notice of Race

encouraged to ensure they are reasonably familiar with said rules, in advance of their first race of the season.

During the event, competing boats and their crews will also be subject to certain restrictions and requirements that NFYC feel appropriate to impose in the interests of safety and good competition.

## Classes, Handicaps, and Conditions of Entry

**Class:** Races will be for a single class, "Cruising Yachts". Boats eligible for this class of racing are defined by NFYC as being sailing boats:

- with a cabin,
- room for the full crew to sleep, and . . . .
- carrying the equipment and materials required to allow the full crew to live for twenty-four hours, including but not limited to: a cooker of some sort, toilet facilities and bedding.

**Handicaps:** Each boat will be subject to a handicap, calculated on the basis of the type of boat's performance and applied to the actual finishing time to arrive at a corrected finishing time. In the interest of fair and close competition, NFYC reserves the right to amend a boat's handicap at any point in the season, but always after it has achieved no less than two valid results using its current handicap.

It is a **Condition of Entry** that, on each race day, each competing boat delegates one person, with their knowledge and permission, to assist NFYC with the running of the event after the race – in particular with helping to serve food and refreshments, run any club raffle and, later, to clean and tidy up the kitchen and clubhouse. Clearly, an individual can only be delegated by one boat at a time.

## Procedure and Fee for Series Entry

Those wishing to race in a specific club race must enter, and pay the applicable entry fee, to NFYC **before 10:30 on the morning of the race.** i.e. before the end of Signing-on.

This year the fee for entering each of the races in the programme (see above) is £3, which is non-refundable.

## On each race day

**Race Control** will be established in the Clubhouse approximately one and a half hours before the nominal race start time. The Race Officer will be based in Race Control for the rest of the day. Their first task will be to set the course for the day – they will consider the expected weather and tidal conditions and set a course. The target start time will be around that in the Racing Programme (above) based on a target duration, usually about 2 hours.

**Signing On:** All skippers must report to the Race Officer, if necessary enter the race (see above), and then complete Signing-on no later than 10:30 on the morning of a race.

At Signing-on, skippers will nominate a person to assist with that day's post-race clubhouse activities (see above), and declare that:

- the skipper and all crew members agree to be bound by The Racing Rules of Sailing and the applicable Sailing Instructions
- the skipper recognises and accepts the risks inherent in sailing (see below)
- their boat is adequately insured, with cover for racing and at least £3million against third party claims.

The skippers will then get a briefing from the Race Officer.

Further items of interest at Race Control will be the Race Clock and the Official Noticeboard on which information about the course, tides, weather, and any change to the Sailing Instructions will be displayed.

**Warning Signals** will be sounded using the clubhouse horn. The first warning signal will be sounded 10 mins before the start. There will be another, longer signal at 5 minutes (the point at which the RRS apply) and then one at the start itself. At the end of a race, each finishing boat will be given a sound signal from the Clubhouse as the boat crosses the Finishing Line.

In addition, during the race, the Race Officer will communicate with boats on the water via VHF Ch.37A.

**Post-race in the clubhouse:** After the race, volunteer club members will aim to provide a limited selection of food and non-alcoholic drinks in the clubhouse. The menu, in terms of style, content and length, will vary from race to race – details being available on the day.

NFYC will endeavour to announce the Race Results within one hour of the last boat finishing. There will also be a raffle, all funds raised going to the club.

## **Racing Area, Course, and the Starting and Finishing Lines**

The **Racing Area** will usually be bounded by "Fairway 15" in the east and "Bill Bunyan" in the west. The **Courses** will be around the racing marks already laid in the Crouch. (A map of the Racing Area showing the positions of the racing marks and their lat/long co-ordinates will be available at Race Control.)

The **Starting Line** will normally be the Club Line – a line from the centre of the clubhouse to the "Submerged Cable" marker on the south bank of the river. In certain weather conditions the start line may be moved to just east of the moorings, in which case further details will be available at Signing-on.

The **Finishing Line** will always be the Club Line (see above).

## **Penalties, Points and Prizes**

**Penalties** shall be those specified in the RRS.

**Points** aren't relevant to a single race, but if a series of races comes to form the basis of a series, championship, or league of some sort they will be awarded as follows:

Per finishing position (on handicap)	First gets 1 point, second gets 2, etc.
Retired (RTD)	1 point per number of boats that started plus 1
Did Not Compete (didn't start and didn't come to the starting area - DNC)	1 point per number of boats entered in the series plus 1
Did Not Start (DNS)	1 point per number of boats in the starting area plus 1
Did Not Finish (DNF)	1 point per number of boats in the starting area plus 1
Retired After Finish (RAF)	1 point per number of boats in the starting area plus 1
Disqualified (DSQ)	1 point per number of boats in the starting area plus 1

In the final calculation of total points scored by a boat in a series, the results of one race in which that boat finished will be discarded.

The winner of a series will be the one with the fewest points.

**Prizes** will be awarded as set out in the Racing Programme (above), the overall winner of the race being presented with the prize at an awards ceremony (location, date and time to be confirmed). In addition, the first, second and third boats in each race will receive a small prize on the day – a token of some sort, in recognition of their achievement.

## Recognition and Acceptance of Risk

At NFYC we only race in relatively benign conditions. However, Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk. By entering and participating in any race or competition organised by NFYC, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:

1. A boat is responsible for its own safety, whether afloat or ashore, and nothing in this Notice of Race or anywhere else reduces this responsibility.
2. It is for the boat to decide whether it is fit to sail in the conditions in which it will find itself. By launching or leaving its berth the boat confirms that it is fit for those conditions and its crew is fit to sail and compete in it.
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 £3,000,000.
4. 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 personal injury, however it may have occurred, as a result of the boat taking part in the races and the event. The organisers encompass

everyone helping to run the races and the event, and include the organising authority, everyone in Race Control and the operators of any official boat.

5. In general, official boats will **not** be operating during NFYC club races. If a competing boat gets into difficulties it will be other competitors that are best placed to provide first assistance.

Note: A "boat" in this context is any combination of the owner, skipper and crew aboard a named vessel that is entered for the race.

## Event and Race Organisation

<b>Rear Commodore:</b>	Lee Reeves
<b>Honorary Secretary:</b>	Margaret White
<b>Race Officers:</b>	Pauline Abbott Nigel Brune-Pridham
<b>Handicap Committee:</b>	Three of: Tim Masters Paul Dickinson Nigel Morton Brian Dalby
<b>Protest Committee:</b>	Nigel Brune-Pridham Paul Wiggins (FYH) Plus two skippers not otherwise involved

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