Bembridge Sailing Club

National Swallow Class, National Championships 5th – 6th July 2025

In Association with the

National Swallow Class

Sailing Instructions 2025

Competitors should note that the Bembridge Sailing Club implements the RYA Charter and that they will be required to sail in compliance with the Charter, the text of which can be found at

https://www.rya.org.uk/racing/rules/racing-charter

Portsmouth Tide Times corrected for BST				
Date	**High Water**	**Height**	**Low Water**	**Height**
Fri 4th July 2025	19:21	4.0m	11:18	1.9m
Sat 5th July 2025	07:55	3.7m	13:17	1.9m
Sun 6th July 2025	09:04	3.7m	14:05	1.9m

1. RULES

1.1 The regatta will be governed by the racing rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing.*

The Sailing Instructions may make permitted changes to any rules but the following are specifically subject to change: RRS 25, 28.1, 32.1, 35, 41, 64.1(a), A2 & A5.

1.2 Add to RRS 25: (25.4) A Race Committee may display a visual signal, referred to in the rules as "a flag", by any appropriate method.

1.3 Add to RRS 32.1: (e) for any reason considered appropriate by the Race Committee.

1.4 Add to RRS 41: (e) help recovering a crew member from the water and their return on board provided the return is in the approximate location of the recovery from the water.

2. COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located on the Bembridge Sailing Club website.

2.2 There will be a regatta briefing for competitors at Bembridge Sailing Club at 10:00hrs on Saturday 5th July 2025.

2.3 A list of entries and their crew may be published on the official notice board.

2.5 The following communications may be made by the race committee on VHF Channel 77. If Channel 77 is unworkable, Flag T may be displayed on the Committee Boat and Channel 72 used instead:

- Time-check 30 minutes before the first start
- The approximate location of the regatta Committee Boat
- The approximate bearing of the windward Mark 1
- Postponements, abandonments and time limits
- General recalls
- The intended time of the next start

3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

3.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 09:00 on the Club notice board and broadcast as part of the RO's brief at 10:00 on Saturday. Except that any change to the schedule of races for Sunday will be posted by 18:00 on the day before it will take effect on the Club notice board.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flag staff of the Harbour Finishing Line outside the BSC Clubhouse.

4.2 When Code Flag AP is flown in conjunction with the class flag from the flag staff of the Harbour Finish Line with 2 sound signals means that the race is postponed. The warning signal will be made not less than one hour after they are lowered with one sound signal. (This amends Flag AP Race Signals).

4.3 When flag Y is displayed ashore, rule 40 always applies while afloat. This changes the Part 4 preamble.

5. SCHEDULE OF RACES AND RACING AREAS

5.1 The number of scheduled races, sailing area and the scheduled time of the first warning signal each day are as follows:

Date	Racing Area	Races per day	Scheduled 1st warning signal
5th July	East Solent (Bembridge Bay)	3	11:55
6th July	East Solent (Bembridge Bay)	2	11:10

5.2 The Sailing Area will be announced on VHF channel 77, and the course boards will be displayed on the rear of the Committee Boat.

5.3 Races that have been postponed or abandoned may be re-sailed at any time as signalled.

5.4 When more than one race is scheduled in a day, second and subsequent races will be started as soon as practicable.

5.5 After a postponement, break, or to alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, an orange flag will be displayed with one sound for at least four minutes before a warning signal is displayed.

5.6 On the last day of the event, Sunday 6th July, no warning signal will be made after 13:30.

5.7 If the weather or other circumstances prevent the completion of the scheduled Championship series, (i.e. 2 races, 6.2) the event may be rescheduled later in 2025. In a rescheduled event, the results of any completed race in the original event shall be included.

6. CLASS FLAG

6.1 The Class Flag employed on the Committee Boat will be **Flag B**.

7. MARKS

7.1 The marks are described in APPENDIX 2.

8. COURSES

8.1 The course to be sailed will be displayed using letters, numbers, or symbols (see **APPENDIX 2**) on the Committee Boat.

8.2 Please see Appendix 1 for diagrams of the set courses that may be used. If a set course is to be used the committee vessel will display black board with a white number to indicate which course is to be sailed. (E.g. 1 = Special Course 1).

8.3 An ORANGE background to a letter, number or symbol indicates that the mark must be rounded to PORT. A GREEN background to the letter, number or symbol indicates the mark must be rounded to STARBOARD. The £ board (white £ on black background) indicates that competitors must pass through the line at the end of each round.

8.4 A white diamond on a black background will indicate the number of required rounds. See APPENDIX 2 .

8.5 When a BLACK & ORANGE chequered board is displayed, the mark(s) preceding it shall be rounded once before continuing on to the marks displayed after it for the number of beats indicated.

9. THE START

9.1 Races will be started in accordance with rule 26, with the warning signal 5 minutes before the starting signal. (5, 4, 1, Go)

Signal	*Flags*	*Timings*
Pre-Warning	Raise Orange Flag	10 mins
Warning	Raise Class Flag	5 mins
Preparatory	Raise P or I or Z/I or U or Z or Black Flag	4 mins

1-minute Period	Drop P or I or Z/I or U or Z or Black Flag	1 min
Start	Drop Class Flag	0 min

9.2 The starting line will be described in Attachment A.

9.3 A boat starting later than 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes rules A4 & A5.

10. SHORTEN & CHANGE OF COURSE

10.1 Courses will be shortened or changed in accordance with RRS 32 & 33.

11. THE FINISH

11.1 The finishing line will be described in Attachment B.

12. PENALTY SYSTEM

12.1 **Penalties**

RRS 44.1 (breaking a part 2 rule) is modified, a boat may take a One-Turn Penalty when she has broken one or more rules of Part 2 in an incident while racing. (A One-Turn Penalty remains in place when she may have broken rule 31)

12.2 **Exoneration Penalty**

A boat that may have broken a Part 2 rule, or rule 31 or 42, may, after finishing the race concerned and before the start of a related protest hearing, notify the Race Committee that she accepts a 20% scoring penalty as stated in rule 44.3(c), (except that the minimum penalty is two places if that does not result in a score worse than DNF). This penalty does not reverse an OCS score, a disqualification under rule 30.3, 30.4 or a penalty under Appendix P. It is not available for a breach of rule 2 or of class rules or for gross misconduct under rule 69. Nor is it available to a boat that caused injury or serious damage or gained a significant advantage by her breach: in these circumstances, her penalty is to retire.

12.3 When an Exoneration Penalty is accepted,

(a) Neither the boat nor a protest committee may then revoke or remove the penalty.

(b) The boat shall not be penalized further in a protest hearing when the protest committee decides that it was appropriate to the facts found and the applicable rules.

13. TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES

13.1 The time limit for the first boat to finish shall be 90 minutes and target time for the first boat shall be 45 minutes.

13.2 Boats failing to finish within 20 minutes after the first boat that has started correctly, sailed the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes rules 35, A4 and A5.

14. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

14.1 Protest forms are available at the race office. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit.

14.2 The protest time limit is 90 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day.

14.3 Notices will be posted no later than 15 minutes after the protest time limit of the day to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses.

14.4 Notices of protests by the Race Committee or protest committee will be posted to inform boats under rule 61.1(b).

14.6 Breaches of instructions 18 will not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes rule 60.1(a).

14.7 Penalties for breaches of rules, except RRS Part 1 and 2 are at the discretion of the protest committee.

14.8 RYA Rules Dispute Advisory and Mediation Hearings are available.

14.9 On the last scheduled day of racing a request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered

(a) within the protest time limit if the requesting party was informed of the decision on the previous day;

(b) no later than 30 minutes after the requesting party was informed of the decision on that day.

This changes rule 66.

14.10 On the last scheduled day of racing, a request for redress based on a protest committee decision shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the decision was posted. This changes rule 62.2.

14.11 Competitors are requested to advise the Race Committee by VHF if intending to lodge a protest or seek redress.

14.12 A boat that has taken a penalty under 44.1 shall complete an acknowledgement form at the Race Office within the Protest Time Limit.

15. SCORING

15.1 Scoring will be by the Low Points System.

15.2 **2** races are required to be completed to constitute the Swallow Class National Championship.

15.3 When fewer than **4** races have been completed a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores with no discard.

15.4 When **4** or **5** races have been completed, there will be one discard.

16. SAFETY & DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

16.1 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the Race Committee by radio on Channel 77, or 72 when flag T is displayed as soon as possible.

16.2 Each boat is entirely responsible for her own safety, whether afloat or ashore, and nothing, whether in this Notice of Race, Sailing Instructions or anywhere else, reduces that responsibility.

16.3 It is for the skipper of each boat to decide whether the boat is seaworthy and/or fit to sail in any conditions that may be encountered. By going to sea, the skipper confirms that the boat is seaworthy and fit to sail and that its crew is competent to sail in any conditions that may be encountered.

16.4. Nothing done by the Organising Authority can reduce the responsibility of the skipper nor will it make the Organising Authority responsible for any loss, damage or personal injury, however the same may have occurred, as a result of the boat's participation in the event.

The term 'Organising Authority' shall include any person helping to run and/or assist with the event and it includes, but is not limited to, the Bembridge Sailing Club, the Race Committee, Principal Race Officer, trustees, support boat, sponsor, supporters and other companies and organisations officially involved with the event.

If any provision in this Section (Safety & Disclaimer of Liability) is deemed for any reason to be invalid, void or deleted, the remainder of this Section shall nevertheless remain in force.

16.5 The provision of support boats does not relieve the boat of her responsibilities.

16.6 A boat that retires from a race shall make every effort to ensure that the Race Committee is notified as soon as possible and before returning to her berth. Failure to comply may result in disqualification from the series.

16.7 A boat shall comply with the Swallow Rules and prescriptions with regard to safety and shall carry a personal floatation device (PFD) for each person aboard. Buoyancy aids shall be a minimum buoyancy ISO 12402 (formally EN 393) performance level 50 (Newtons) and life jackets will be a minimum buoyancy ISO 12402 performance level 150 (Newtons). PFD's will be carried whilst aboard a BSC launch and worn on a BSC RIB.

16.8 All boats shall carry a functioning marine VHF with at least channels 16, 72, 77 & 37 (M2/P4). Safety and race management information will be passed on Channel 77.

17. REPLACEMENT OF HELM OR CREW

17.1 No authorisation is required for the substitution of helm, crew or equipment, except as required by the Class Rules.

18. ADVERTISING

18.1 Boats may advertise in accordance with ISAF Regulation 20.

18.2 Boats will not be required to display advertising supplied by the Organising Authority.

19. OFFICIAL BOATS

19.1 A pin-end RIB may be used to identify boats OCS at the start.

20. SUPPORT BOATS

20.1 Support personnel shall stay outside areas where boats are racing from the time of the preparatory signal for the first class to start until all boats have finished or retired or the Race Committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment.

20.2 A breach of this instruction may result in a penalty being imposed on the boats associated with the support boat.

21. EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

21.1 A boat or its equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the Class Rules and Sailing Instructions.

22. RUBBISH DISPOSAL

22.1 Boats shall not put rubbish in the water.

23. PRIZES

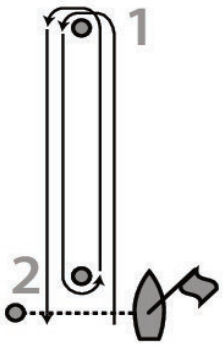
23.1 In view of the need to return to Itchenor on completion of the last race, prize giving will be arranged by the Swallow Class at a later date.

Royal Corinthian YC Trophy	National Championship winner
Bang Wedgewood Bowl	Second placed boat overall
Wolfe Memorial Salver	Highest placed boat in all races on first day
Mossman Cup	Highest placed boat in all races on second day
Fractured Hip	Highest placed boat overall with combined crew age of 170 years or more
Thurne Tankard	First lady overall
Vernon Trophy	Passage race to Bembridge

25. INSURANCE

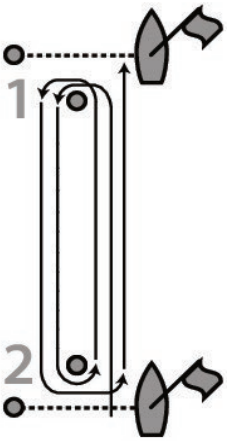
25.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £3 million per event or the equivalent.

Special Course 5



1 Round: Start -1-2-Finish
2 Rounds: Start -1-2-1- 2-Finish

Special Course 6

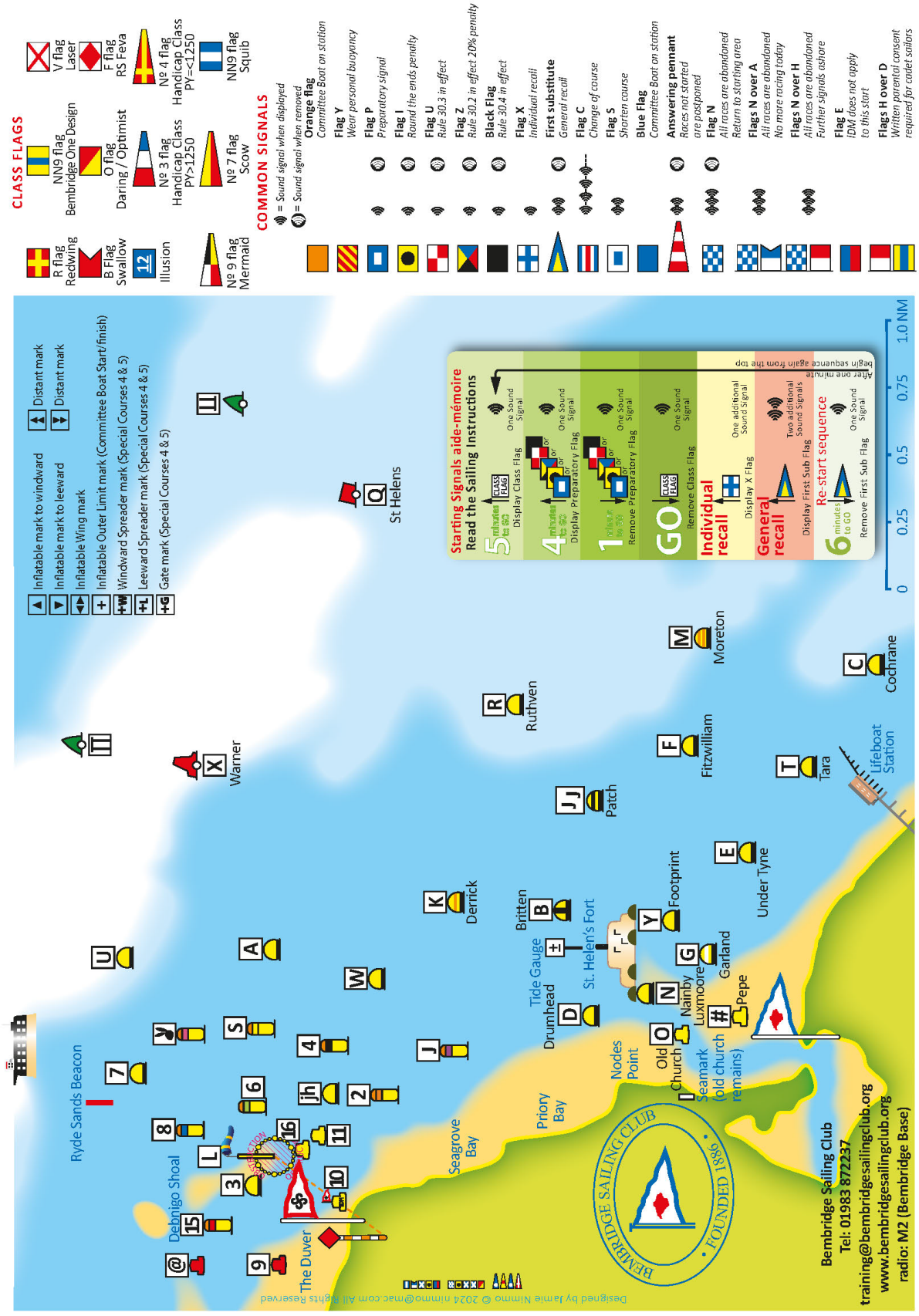


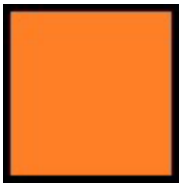
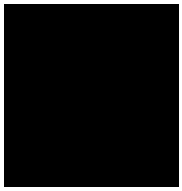
1 Round: Start -1-2-Finish
2 Rounds: Start -1-2-1- 2-Finish

APPENDIX 2 – RACING MARKS AND BOUYS

EWCC RACING MARKS WITH ALLOTTED LETTERS, NUMBERS AND SYMBOLS		
A	ACLAND	Yellow Spherical/N Cone
B	BRITTEN	Yellow Spherical/Black Vertical Line
C	COCHRANE	Yellow Spherical
D	DRUMHEAD	Yellow Spherical
E	UNDER TYNE	Yellow Spherical
F	FITZWILLIAM	Yellow Spherical
G	GARLAND	Yellow Spherical with White Band
H	BRADING HAVEN TURNING MARK	Yellow Dan Buoy
I	NAB EAST	Red Channel Buoy
J	JONAH	Yellow Inflatable - Violet Top
JJ	JANSON (ex-PATCH)	Yellow Spherical with Black Band
jh	JENNY HUNTER	Yellow Spherical
K	DERRICK	Yellow Spherical with Orange Band
L	SEA VIEW LINE	Yellow Post
M	MORETON	Yellow Spherical with Orange Band
N	NAINBY LUXMOORE	Yellow Spherical
O	OLD CHURCH	Yellow Top Hat Buoy
Q	St HELENS	Red Channel Buoy
R	RUTHVEN	Yellow Spherical
S	LOLLIPOP	Yellow Inflatable - Yellow Top
T	TARA	Yellow Spherical
U	SOMERS	Yellow Spherical
V	BEMBRIDGE LEDGE	Yellow/Black East Cardinal
W	WRECK	Yellow Spherical
X	WARNER	Red Pillar Buoy
Y	FOOTPRINT	Yellow Top Hat Buoy
Z	NAB END	Red Pillar Buoy
!	NAB TOWER	Nab Tower
2	BRUCE	Yellow Inflatable - Orange Top
3	BERTIE	Yellow Spherical
4	PIERHEAD	Yellow Inflatable - Black Top
6	BROOKIE	Yellow Inflatable - Light Green Top
7	OUTER MARK	Yellow Spherical
8	LITTLE DEB	Yellow Inflatable - Mid-Blue Top
9	GORDON	Red Can
11	OLD 'O'	Yellow Top Hat Buoy
15	BOOM	Yellow Inflatable - Red Top
16	MAUDSLAY	Yellow Top Hat Buoy
@	BOB	Red Dan Buoy
	BUNNY	Yellow Inflatable - Pink Top
ILM(10)	SVYC INNER LINE (Orange Start)	Orange Dan Buoy
	SPENCE WILLARD	Yellow Top Hat Buoy
#	PEPE	Yellow Top Hat Buoy
†	BEMBRIDGE TIDE GAUGE	
▲	INFLATABLE MARK TO WINDWARD [OPTIONAL 2 □s FOR A DISTANT MARK]	
▼	INFLATABLE MARK TO LEEWARD [OPTIONAL 2 □s FOR A DISTANT MARK]	
◄ ►	INFLATABLE WING MARK	
+	**LAID OUTER LIMIT MARK (COMMITTEE BOAT START/FINISH)**	
£	**BOATS MUST GO THROUGH THE FINISH LINE ON EACH ROUND**	
+W	**WINDWARD SPREADER MARK (Special Courses 5 & 6)**	
+L	**LEEWARD SPREADER MARK (Special Courses 5 & 6)**	
+G	**GATE MARK (Special Courses 5 & 6)**	

APPENDIX 3 – BOUY CHAT



Clubs Class Flags				
Committee Boat Line (Orange)	Postponement (AP Flag)	Wear Personal Floatation (Y Flag)	Pass through the line Windward leg	Number of rounds
				
Starting Sequence				
Warning Signal (Swallow, Flag B)	Preparatory Signal (i.e. P Flag)	Over Course Start (OCS) (X Flag)	General Recall (1st Sub)	
				
No Penalty (P Flag)	Round the Ends (I Flag)	20% Place Penalty (Z Flag)	DSQ Unless Restarted (U Flag)	DSQ (Black Flag)
				
Removed 1 minute before the start – see SI 9.1				
Shorten Course (S Flag)	Change of Course (C Flag)	(N Flag) Race Abandoned	VHF Channel 72 (T Flag)	
				

BSC Contact Details.

Laurence Blackburn, Sailing Manager.

laurence@bembridgesailingclub.org

Embankment Road,

Bembridge,

Isle of Wight.

PO35 5NR

Tel 01983 872237

Notes