



Royal Burnham Yacht Club

(The Organising Authority)

The Payne-James Icicle Race

Thursday 1st January 2026

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

PREAMBLE

The Royal Burnham Yacht Club, its officers, members and employees bear no responsibility for accidents, damage or injuries to boats or their personnel in any way or from any cause during or related to Races organised by the Race Committee. Attention is drawn to ISAF RRS 3 (Decision to Race).

1. RULES

1.1. Sailing Boats

Racing will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028 (RRS), the prescriptions of the RYA, the Crouch Harbour Authority bye-laws, the Notice of Race and these Sailing Instructions. These Sailing Instructions prevail over the Notice of Race when they conflict.

1.2. Motor Boats

Racing will be governed by the International Regulations for the Prevention of Collisions at Sea, the Crouch Harbour Authority bye-laws, the Notice of Race and these Sailing Instructions. These Sailing Instructions prevail over the Notice of Race when they conflict.

A Predicted Log Contest is an exercise in navigational skills where the Contestants predict in advance the times necessary for their boats to complete a predefined course. It is not a speed contest, each Contestant chooses a speed for their own boat, which is comfortable and safe. The objective of the contest is to complete the course in as close as possible to the predicted time without adjusting the throttle after the start, and the winner is the boat, which has the lowest percentage time error.

2. CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

2.1. General:

The safety of a boat and her entire management, including Insurance, shall be the sole responsibility of the owner/person in charge who must ensure that the boat and crew are adequate to face the conditions that may arise in the course of the race. Neither these Sailing Instructions nor any inspection of the boat or the provision of safety boats, limits or reduces the absolute responsibility of the owner/person in charge for the crew, the boat and her management. The race organizers shall not be responsible for any damage, death, or personal injury howsoever caused to the owner/person in charge or crew as a result of them taking part in a race or races. Moreover, every owner/person in charge warrants the suitability of the boat for the race or races and that the boat contains at least the minimum specified safety equipment detailed in class rules.

2.2. Covid-19:

It is the responsibility of all participants to read and be familiar with the RYA Covid-19 Guidelines and any further RYA and Government guidance from time to time.

2.3. Insurance:

Each boat shall have a valid third-party insurance of not less than £3,000,000 in force for the duration of all races sailed under these Sailing Instructions for which she has entered.

2.4. Entry Form:

A Race Entry Form must be submitted and received by 1200hrs, Tuesday 30th December 2025. Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the Race Officer.

Predicted Log entries must indicate the predicted time for the vessel to complete the course. Sailing entries must indicate their handicap (YTC or PY under 1213).

2.5. Eligibility:

Races are open to any member of a yacht club recognized by the RYA (or by another National Sailing Authority). This is not a junior event and while those under 18 are permitted to enter the safety planning is based on an adult entry profile, parents / guardians of those under 18 must approve entries and acknowledge this limitation.

3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS:

Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board in the RBYC.

4. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS:

Any changes to the Sailing Instructions will either be posted on the Official Notice Board at least one hour before the race, or by communication (which may be orally or on VHF Channel 37) with each competitor afloat before the warning signal.

5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE:

Signals made ashore will be displayed by boards on the Race Box Platform of the RBYC.

6. SCHEDULE OF RACES

Class	Warning	Start
Cruisers	11:00	11:05
Dinghies	11:25	11:30

Predicted Log Motor Boats Starting window 11:10 to 11:20

All predicted log boats to announce to the Race Officer on Channel 37 their intention to start as they approach the start line within the starting window and predicted time to complete the course.

7. RACING AREA: The rivers Crouch and Roach.

8. THE COURSE: The courses will be confirmed in the RBYC at or around 10am and announced on VHF channel 37 before the start:

8.1. Dinghies

To be announced on the day in the RBYC at or around 10am.

8.2. Predicted Log Motor Boats

The course will be available on the website no later than one week before the race.

8.3. Cruisers

To be announced on the day in the RBYC at 10am.

Any changes will be posted on the club notice board and broadcast via VHF Channel 37 at regular intervals before the warning signal.

9. THE START. (*RRS 26 is amended*)

9.1. Starting Line:

All races will start from the RBYC line. The starting and finishing line is defined by two posts in transit on the South Shore, opposite the clubhouse

The starting procedure will be as stated in RRS 26 **except** that every mention of "flag" should be interpreted as "board".

9.2. Finishing Line- Club Fixed Line:

The finishing line is the RBYC line as defined in 9.1 above.

9.3. Individual Recall: (*RRS 29.1 is amended*)

The sail numbers of yachts identified under RRS 29.1 **MAY** be broadcast on VHF Ch 37.

9.4. General Recall:

When at the starting signal the race committee is unable to identify boats that are on the course side of the starting line, or to which RRS 30 applies, or there has been an error in the starting procedure, the race committee may signal a general recall (display the First Substitute with two sounds further to the starting signal). The warning signal for a new start for the recalled class shall be made one minute after the First Substitute is removed (one sound).

10. SHORTENING COURSE AFTER THE START (*RRS32 is amended*)

10.1. Shortening course at Finishing line.

When Flag S is displayed, with two sounds, at or near the finishing line, its meaning is for all classes. The leading boat will finish when she crosses the designated Finishing Line; all other boats will finish when they do so after having sailed the same course.

11. FINISHING LINE: See paragraph 9.2 above.

12. PENALTIES FOR BREAKING RULES OF PART 2: (*RRS 44.1 is amended.*)

One turn shall be regarded as a penalty for infringement of a part 2 sailing instruction.

13. PROTESTS:

Protests shall be written on forms available from the Race Officer and delivered to the Race Officer within one hour after the last boat's finish unless the Race Officer decides to allow a longer period.

14. SCORING:

Results for cruisers will be calculated according to YTC rating. Results for dinghies will be calculated according to PY rating.

Results for Predicted Log will be calculated based on the percentage difference between the predicted time and the actual time of each competitor.

15. PRIZES:

The prize giving will take place in the RBYC as soon as practicable after the race.

16. SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

16.1. Personal Buoyancy: RRS 40 will apply (keelboats only). In addition, dinghy sailors will wear adequate buoyancy at all times and clothing suitable for the time of year with a minimum requirement of full wet or dry suit.

16.2. Safety Equipment: Any yacht found deficient in safety equipment according to the rules of their class during a race or during a spot check will be considered to have infringed Rule 1 of these Sailing Instructions.

16.3. Moored Vessels: A boat that makes contact with a moored or anchored vessel whilst racing shall retire and report the incident to the Race Officer and the Crouch Harbour Authority.

16.4. VHF Radio: It is compulsory for all non-dinghy competitors (and dinghy safety boats) to have a VHF Radio in working order and listening on Channel 37.

17. DECLARATIONS AND RETIRING:

Declarations are not required. However, it is the responsibility of the owner/person in charge who retires to notify the Race Officer without delay and in all cases within the Protest Time Limit.