

**Cowes International Series [CIS] -
Champion of Champions 2026**
Cowes Etchells Fleet



NOTICE OF SERIES

The 2026 Cowes International Series is run and managed by the Cowes Etchells Fleet. Each event will be hosted by a yacht club or organisation, which will be the Organising Authority (OA) for an event. They will work in collaboration with the Cowes Etchells Fleet to run each event.

1. RULES:

1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028.

1.2 The International Etchells Class Association (IECA) Rules and Regulations will apply.

1.3 The International Etchells Class Code of Conduct – details can be found via this link:

<https://etchells.org/news/article/ieca-code-of-conduct>

2. RACE DOCUMENTS:

2.1 The SI's and NOR for the 2026 Cowes International Series will be available on the [Cowes Etchells Fleet website](#) prior to each regatta and may be emailed to class members, unless otherwise specified.

3. COMMUNICATION:

3.1 See all race documents.

4. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY:

4.1 The event is open to all boats of the International Etchells Class.

4.2 All boat owners must be current (2026) members of the International Etchells Class Association as described by IECA rule 4. Information on how to join the class can be found at the [Cowes Etchells Fleet - JotForm](#). In addition, all crew are required to provide their personal World Sailing registration number.

4.4 Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the Organising Authority (OA).

4.5 To be considered an entry in the event a boat shall complete all entry requirements and pay all fees.

5. FEES:

5.1 Entry fees for each regatta are listed in the Notice of Race document for each event.

5.2 Entry Fees include the following:

(a) Race Management.

(b) Prizegiving.

5.3 Teams may enter for the complete Cowes International Series at the following prices [**NOT INCLUDING THE ETHELLS EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS - CORK WEEK**]:

(a) Concession/Youth - £600.00

(b) Standard - £1,200.00

(c) Contributor - £1,690.00

6. CREW LIMITATIONS:

6.1. There are no crew limitations, except for the limitations in the class rules.

7. ADVERTISING AND BOW NUMBERS:

7.1 Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the OA and the Cowes Etchells Fleet.

7.2. Boats will provide their own bow number stickers. They shall be placed 52cm aft of the bow, 6 cm from the shearline and 6 cm apart. Single digit numbers (e.g.'2') shall display the leading zero (e.g.'02'). These stickers shall be applied prior to the first race of the series. It is the responsibility of competitors to ensure that these are properly in place before racing each day.

7.3. Boats intending to display advertising during the event/series shall notify the series OA of the nature of such advertising. All advertising shall be approved by the Series OA.

8. QUALIFYING SERIES AND FINAL SERIES:

8.1 Events listed in the regatta **Table A** will form part of the Cowes International Series, and have no qualification requirements to attend.

9. SERIES SCHEDULE & SOCIAL INFORMATION:

9.1 Listed in table A is the schedule of events for the Cowes International Series:

Round No.	Event Name	Host Club	From	To	No. Days Racing	Social Date & Dress Code	Social Location
1	Bedrock Trophy 2026	RSYC	11th April 2026	12th April 2026	2	No Social	No Social
2	Sir Kenneth Preston Trophy 2026	RYS	23rd May 2026	25th May 2026	3	23rd May 2026 - Jacket & Tie	RYS Pavilion
3	British Open and National Championships 2026	RYS	18th June 2026	21 June 2026	3	20th June 2026 - Jacket & Tie	RYS Pavilion
4	European Championships - Cork Week 2026	RCYC	5th July 2026	10th July 2026	4	7th July 2026 - Casual	RCYC
5	David Franks Cup 2026	RYS	5th September 2026	6th September 2026	2	5th September 2026 - Jacket & Tie	RYS Pavilion

Table A - 2026 Cowes International Series Regattas

9.2 The scheduled time for the warning signal for the first race each day will be specified in each individual event NOR.

9.3 Each individual event NOR will specify the time after which no warning signal shall be made.

9.4 The Etchells European Championships will be incorporated with the [Cork Week Regatta](#).

9.5 Practice days will take place at the Etchells National Championships 18th June 2026, and European Championships 5th July 2026, results from these days will not add to a boat's regatta score.

10. EQUIPMENT INSPECTION:

10.1 Boats may be inspected at any time during the Event.

10.2 The fact that race officials may conduct inspections of a boat does not reduce the responsibilities of each competitor set out in this notice of series.

11. CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT:

11.1 See Class Rules.

12. VENUE:

12.1 Each event venue will be specified in each event NOR.

12.2 The target racing area will be specified in each event NOR.

13. COURSES:

13.1 The courses to be sailed will be a windward / leeward configuration as described in the SIs. Further details will be available in the SIs.

14. PENALTY SYSTEM:

14.1 RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty. However, when a boat may have broken a rule of Part 2 while in the zone around a mark other than a starting mark, her penalty shall be a Two-Turns Penalty. This changes RRS 44.1.

14.2 Where an offset leg at the windward mark is part of the course, penalties while in the zone of the windward mark or on the offset leg shall be delayed and taken at the first reasonable opportunity on the downwind leg. This change is added to RRS 44.2.

15. OVERALL SERIES SCORING:

15.1 At each event, a boat's event position will be used to add to their overall series score in the Cowes International Series league table.

15.2 The series winner will be determined using the low points scoring system.

15.3 If 3 (3) or less events have been completed, then a boat's overall series score will be the total of their event position scores.

15.4 If four (4) or more events have been completed, then a boat's overall series score will be the total of their event position scores, excluding their worst event score.

15.5 Boats that do not compete at an event, will be scored with the total number of boats competing in that Cowes International Series event, plus one (1).

15.6 A boat is identified by the sail number represented during racing within the Champion of Champions Series, and must continue to use the same sail number throughout the series in order to total together a complete series.

15.7 Two events are required to be completed to constitute a series.

16. SUPPORT PERSON VESSELS:

16.1 Team leaders, coaches, other support personnel and their coach and support boats shall stay

outside areas where boats are racing from the time of the Warning Signal for each start until all boats have finished or until the RC signals no more racing today.

16.2 All support person vessels shall carry a marine VHF Radio and comply with RRS 37 'Search and Rescue Instructions'.

17. CHARTERED OR LOANED BOATS:

17.1 Chartered or loaned boats are eligible for the series, their result will be added by the sail number used during an event to the overall series score.

18. BERTHING:

18.1 See event NOR.

19. LAUNCHING AND HAUL OUT RESTRICTIONS:

19.1 Boats shall not be launched, re-launched or hauled out after 2000 on the day prior to the event until the end of the event except with and according to the terms of prior written permission of the RC.

20. DIVING EQUIPMENT AND PLASTIC POOLS:

20.1 Underwater breathing apparatus and plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used around boats between the Preparatory Signal of the first race and the end of the last race.

20.2 No person shall undertake any swimming, underwater or diving activities of any kind within the harbour without a valid permit to dive from the Cowes Harbour Master or the manager of the marina you wish to dive at. This prohibited activity is legislated under [Cowes Harbour Commission General Direction 4.4 & 4.5](#).

20.3 Competitors may at any time and within the existing marina regulations; scrub the hull using flossing, sponging or mechanical devices as long as no person enters the water.

21. DATA PROTECTION:

21.1 The personal information you provide to the OA will be used to facilitate your participation in the event. If you have agreed to be bound by the RRS and the other rules that govern the Events (the rules), the legal basis for processing that personal information is contract. If you are not bound by the rules, the legal basis for processing that personal information is legitimate interest. Your personal information will be stored and used in accordance with the OA's privacy policy. When required by the rules, personal information may be shared with the RYA, your national authority and/or World Sailing. The results of the event and the outcome of any hearing or appeal may be published.

21.2 Competitors automatically grant to the OA, without payment, the right in perpetuity to make, use and show any motion pictures, still pictures and live, taped or filmed television of or relating to the event provided that they do not infringe the privacy rights of participants.

21.3 The OA Armorial, Burgees and all other associated logos shall not be used by any club or individual without the prior written permission of OA.

22. RISK STATEMENT:

22.1 Rule 3 of the RRS states: “The responsibility for a boat’s decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone.”

22.2 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;

(g) It is their responsibility to familiarize themselves with any risks specific to this venue or this event drawn to their attention in any rules and information produced for the venue or event and to attend any competitor or safety briefing held for the event.

23. INSURANCE:

23.1 Each competitor agrees and acknowledges that their boat is adequately insured, with cover of at least £3m (or the equivalent) against third party claims.

24. SERIES PRIZES:

24.1 The Cowes International Series Champion of Champions trophy will be awarded to the boat in 1st place, once the series has been completed.

24.2 Prizes will be awarded to the first, second, and third boats in the overall series.

24.3 There will be a trophy for the highest placed “Youth” boat. A youth boat is defined as one where all crew members are under 29 years of age on 01 January 2026.

24.4 A Corinthian Trophy will be awarded to the highest placed boat whose helm and crew are all World Sailing Sailor Categorization Group 1.

24.5 All series prizes will be awarded at the end of season dinner.

25. FURTHER INFORMATION:

Etchells UK Class Website - <https://etchellsukfleet.co.uk/>

Etchells UK 2026 Full Calendar - <https://etchellsukfleet.co.uk/racing/>

Charter an Etchells in 2026 - <https://etchellsukfleet.co.uk/cowes-race-charters/>

Questions and Queries - Contact:

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Cowes Etchells - Charter & Racing Manager