

CARDIFF BAY YACHT CLUB

GAFFERS IN THE BAY



Notice of the Gaffers Series 2026

1.0 THE EVENT

The organising authority is Cardiff Bay Yacht Club, in association with the OGA.

2.0 RESPONSIBILITY

- 2.1 Sailing can be dangerous. The attention of owners, skippers and crew is drawn to RRS Fundamental Rule 4: 'A yacht is solely responsible for deciding whether or not to start or to continue racing'. The safety of a yacht and her crew is the sole and inescapable responsibility of the owner or owner's representative who must do their best to ensure that the yacht is fully found, thoroughly seaworthy and manned by an experienced crew who are physically fit to face bad weather. They must be satisfied as to the soundness of the hull, spars, rigging, sails and all gear. They must ensure that the safety equipment is properly maintained and stored and that the crew know where it is kept and how it is to be used.
- 2.2 Cardiff Bay Yacht Club and other organising bodies accept no responsibility or liability for loss of life or injury to members or others, or for the loss of, or damage to, any vessel or property.
- 2.3 Yachts must hold a valid and current boat insurance covering them for third party claims of up to £3,000,000 for the entire duration of the series.

3.0 RULES & REGULATIONS

- 3.1 The series will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) of World Sailing, the rules of the Club Cardiff Bay Rating handicap system, the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (where applicable), the Harbour Authority regulations and Notices to Mariners and this Notice of Series, all as modified by the Sailing Instructions.
- 3.2 IRC Rule 22.4 shall not apply. There will be no limitations on crew weight.

4.0 ELIGIBILITY

- 4.1 The series is for any vessel sailing under the locally modified Cardiff Bay handicap system which is based on the T(H)CP handicap for Gaff Rigged boats.
- 4.2 All boats must comply with the Safety Regulations.

- 4.3 All boats must have as skipper an adult with some experience of the local area and the type of boat.
- 4.4 All skippers/owners must complete and sign an entry form and pay the prescribed entry fee that will remain valid throughout the years Gaffers in the Bay Series. All competitors under 18 years of age must present a completed Consent Form to the Club Office or Race Committee before their first sail. One such form will be required from each skipper with whom that junior sails.
- 4.5 All non CBYC member skippers and crew will be considered as temporary members while competing in the series.

5.0 ENTRIES/CLOSING DATES

- 5.1 Entries will be accepted at any time before or during a series.
- 5.2 There is a £15 entry fee per boat per year for any of the series races.
- 5.3 The entry fee must be paid by the third sail otherwise they will not be allowed to sail in the series and previous results deleted.

6.0 REGISTRATION & SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 6.1 Registration and payment should be made using the on-line Registration Forms on the Gaffers page of the CBYC website.
- 6.2 Sailing Instructions, and other documentation, will be posted on this web page.

7.0 ADVERTISING

- 7.1 If a series is sponsored then yachts shall carry the sponsor's logo stickers or flags as provided.

8.0 SCORING SYSTEM

- 8.1 The low point scoring system will be used.
- 8.2 Yachts still sailing at a time limit will be awarded points based on their elapsed time at the end of the previous lap. If there are no finishers then no points will be awarded.
- 8.3 Discards will be decided by series and could vary. Normally there will be 6 discards per series.

9.0 PRIZES

- 9.1 Simple trophies will be awarded to the first three boats at the end of each series.

10.0 SCHEDULE OF SERIES

- 10.1 The course will be fixed. See Gaffers Chart of the Bay on the Gaffers page of the CBYC website
- 10.2 The course will be open at 14.30 and close 1 hour before sunset on each Thursday throughout the series.
- 10.3 There will be 1 Annual Series of 26 weeks duration starting on April 2nd and finishing on September 24th.
- 10.4 There may be outside cruises in company if the weather is suitable organised by the Bristol Channel section of the OGA.

Series Committee

Roger Wallington
Charlie Harris