

# GLENCOE REGATTA OBAN TO BALLACHULISH BAY PASSAGE RACE 2026

## SAILING INSTRUCTIONS



Glencoe Boat Club will be the Organising Authority for the Oban to Ballachulish Bay Passage Race on Friday 12 June.

### **1 RULES**

- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing and CYCA handicap system as modified by Glencoe Boat Club to allocate temporary handicaps to yachts without certificates.
- 1.2 We welcome the participation of boats with non-compliant or no sail numbers. This changes RRS 77.

### **2 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

- 2.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be advised onshore at the 09:00 briefing.

### **3 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS**

- 3.1 There will be an onshore briefing at 09:00 BST at Oban Sailing Club which competitors are advised to attend.
- 3.2 VHF radio channel 72 may be used, but is unlikely to be continuously monitored.
- 3.3 Competitors may also communicate with the Race Officer by phone (number to be advised at the briefing, but not published here).

### **4 RACE SCHEDULE**

- 4.1 The race will start at 10:00 BST unless otherwise advised.

### **5 COURSE**

- 5.1 The course is from Oban Sailing Club start line to Ballachulish Bay via the Lynn of Lorn.
- 5.2 Competitors should self-time their crossing of the line of underwater cables at Port Appin (poles with diamonds south of Port Appin pier and just north of that on the Lismore shore) to be used as a shortened course finish if necessary as defined in 9.2 below.

### **6 MARKS**

- 6.1 Sgeir Rathaid and its cardinal buoys shall be treated as one continuous unit and left to port.
- 6.2 Maiden Island shall be left to starboard.
- 6.3 Appin Rocks buoy shall be left to starboard.
- 6.4 The chain of rocks and islets including Inn Island, Eilean nan Chaorainn and Eilean nan Caorach NE of Lismore shall be treated as one continuous unit and left to port.
- 6.5 Shuna Island shall be left to starboard.

### **7 THE START**

- 7.1 The race will be started using RRS 26, i.e. the 5, 4, 1, 0 system with warning, preparatory, one-minute and starting signals.

### **8 THE FINISH**

- 8.1 The finishing line will be between Onich Pier on the north side of Ballachulish Bay and an orange inflatable race mark, with the mark to be left to starboard.
- 8.2 While we expect to have a Race Officer there timing the finish, competitors are also requested to self-time as backup in the unlikely event of the line being unmanned.

## **9 TIME LIMIT**

- 9.1 The time limit is 17:00 BST, with no further extension because the ebb tide at Ballachulish Bridge starts approximately +01:00 Oban, i.e. 17:16 BST.
- 9.2 If fewer than two boats finish in time, finishing times will be taken from the line described in 5.2 above and the course deemed to have been shortened there.
- 9.3 If two or more boats finish in time, the finishing line will stand as such and any other boats still on the course recorded DNF.

## **10 HEARING REQUESTS**

- 10.1 The protest time limit is 18:30 BST, with requests for hearings to be delivered in writing to the Race Officer at Glencoe Boat Club by then.
- 10.2 If required, hearings will be heard ASAP thereafter by a panel of appropriate persons appointed by Glencoe Boat Club and the result(s) notified forthwith.

## **11 SAFETY REGULATIONS**

- 11.1 Adequate personal buoyancy for every crew member must be carried aboard all competing yachts, worn at all times by under-18s and is recommended for everyone when transferring to/from yachts and/or using the GBC jetty and pontoon.
- 11.2 A boat that retires from the race shall notify the Race Officer and other starters at the first reasonable opportunity, with the recommended methods being phone for the Race Officer and VHF channel 72 for the other starters.

## **12 PRIZES**

- 12.1 The main prizes are the J. Malcolm MacMillan Cup for handicap winner and MacLeod Cup for line honours. Any other prizes on offer will be advised at the briefing.

## **13 RISK STATEMENT**

- 13.1 RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury.  
**Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.**

## **14 INSURANCE**

- 14.1 Each participating boat shall be adequately insured, with cover of at least £3 million against third party claims.