



Blyth to Sunderland Sunday 17th May 2026

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Rules:

The event will be governed by the rules as defined in the RRS 2025-2028, the prescriptions of the RYA, The International Rules for the Prevention of Collisions at Sea, NECRA 2026 rules and the following SI's.

2. Conditions of Entry:

- Boats must be registered with NECRA prior to the start of this event.
- It is requested that boats post their intention to race on the NECRA website.
- Yachts may be inspected before or after races at the discretion of the committee.

3. Notices to Competitors:

Notices will be posted in the foyer of Royal Northumberland Yacht Club. Any changes to the sailing instructions will be posted not later than 90 minutes before the start.

4. Signals made Ashore:

Any signals made ashore will be on RNYC and Sunderland YC VHF Ch.37/M1.

5. Protests:

Protests, accompanied with a fee of £5, must be submitted by 18.00 Sunday to Sunderland Yacht Club.

6. Radio Communication:

A boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile phones.

7. Disclaimer of Liability:

Competitors participate in the races at their own risk. See RRS rule 4 Decision to Race. The organising authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with, or prior to, during or after this event.

8. Insurance:

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third party insurance with a minimum cover of £3,000,000.

9. Safety:

WSOSR Cat 4. Life rafts are strongly recommended.

10. Retirement:

Any boat retiring from the race must inform the Race Committee by texting "retired" followed by your boat name to Tel: 07976 938064

11. Intention to Race:

Prior to the start all boats must inform the Race Officer preferably on VHF Ch. M1/37 of their intention to race including boat name, NECRA class and number of people on board.

12. Schedule of Races:

Start Time 17th May	Tide Blyth	Tide Sunderland
All Classes 10:00 BST	HW Sun 04:13 5.23m.	HW Sun 16:40 5.43m.

13. VHF Channels:

Royal Northumberland Race Committee and SYC Station will operate on VHF CH37/M1 (if manned).

14. Start Line:

The start line will be situated approximately **0.1 nm** due south of the West Pier light, Blyth. The committee boat will form the Windward end and an Orange flagged Dan Buoy the Leeward.

15. Start Procedure:

All classes will have a combined start using Rule 26, may be supplemented on VHF Ch.M1/37.

09:55	All Class Warning	Class flags	One sound signal
09:56	Preparatory	Class flags + P flag	One sound signal
09:59	One -Minute	P lag removed	One sound signal
10:00	All Class Start	Class flags removed	One sound signal
Individual Recall		Flag X	One sound signal
General Recall		First substitute	Two sound signals
Postponement		Flag AP	Two sound signals

16. The Course:

Start - West to East, any course to Sunderland Harbour entrance.

17. Finish Line:

The finish line will be a West/East line between the Sunderland North Pier and any point along the GPS line 54° 55'.275N and inshore of SYC "X" mark situated at 54 35.436N 01 20.900W. Boats must be South of that GPS line.

All competitors should record their own finish times using GPS and a photo taken of the time and GPS coordinates at finish. Note boats ahead and astern and notified NECRA preferably by text with your boat name to Tel: 07976 938064 ASAP after finishing. Any boat not submitting a finish time within 2 hours of the Race Time Limit will be recorded as DNF.

18. Time Limit: 16:00 Sunday 17th May.

19. Restricted Areas:

Blyth Harbour is a commercial port and all yachts must call Blyth Harbour on VHF Ch.12 to ask permission to use the channel. This may be done by the race committee.

All vessels entering and leaving the Port of Sunderland are required to declare their intentions to Sunderland LPS (Port Control) VHF Ch.11 or 14.

The River Blyth, Wear, Sunderland Harbour and Harbour Approaches are commercial waterways. It is emphasised that right of way must be given to commercial craft at all times.