MENAI STRAIT REGATTAS

27th July to 8th August 2026

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WELCOME TO THE MENAI STRAIT REGATTAS

OUR AIM: TO PROVIDE UNFORGETTABLE RACING IN THE MENAI STRAIT

For our regular participants, the Menai Strait Regattas need no introduction. Your continued support is the backbone of the event, and we acknowledge the importance of the loyalty and enthusiasm you bring year after year.

But we are keen to share the enjoyment of this unique event with sailors who have never been and may not know about the Menai Strait Regattas and their special appeal.

GREAT SAILING, GREAT RACING

Sailing in the Menai Strait benefits from being relatively sheltered while at the same time the devious tides which defy rational explanation present a rewarding challenge for sailors of all levels.

TOGETHER ON OUR WATER

The Menai Strait Regattas are a remarkable collaboration of 12 local organisations: yacht clubs, sailing clubs, and town regatta committees who come together to create an event which offers welcoming, friendly, competitive sailing for boats of any and all classes – including dinghies, keelboats and cruisers. The sailing programme runs the full length of the Menai Strait from Puffin Island, to Beaumaris, Menai Bridge, Y Fellin Heli and Caernafon.

12 DAYS BUT COME FOR AS MANY AS YOU LIKE

We coordinate 12 individual regattas over 13 days. There is one race per day with no racing on the middle Sunday. You can enter as few or as many days as you wish. Results are recorded against the boat rather than the helm, so a number of people can sail a boat and contribute to its overall result. And there's plenty to enjoy ashore too, with Anglesey and Eryri | Snowdonia National Park offering a perfect backdrop for a summer holiday.

Each day is a self-contained regatta with up to 16 fleets starting in races against their own class or in handicap races, with a prize giving for each regatta including many daily trophies at the end of the day and socialising in the Clubhouse.

SAILING TO SUIT ALL

Over the two weeks, the regattas provide a mix of different sailing venues and types of races, all with vigilant on water support from a number of ribs and launches. There are races off Beaumaris and three iconic longer races that start in Beaumaris: The Round Puffin Island Race; The "Race Through to Caernarfon" under the bridges and through the famous Swellies; and The Menai Bridge Long Distance Regatta. We spend two days racing at Caernarfon and the return to Beaumaris features a regatta at Y Felinheli | Port Dinorwic and a passage back through the Swellies at low water.

TROPHIES AND PRIZES

For those chasing silverware, there are series scores each week and for the overall fortnight with trophies to be won. But above all, the Regattas celebrate participation, camaraderie, and the joy of sailing.

DINGHIES, KEELBOATS AND CRUISERS

While the core of the Regattas may lie with the classic one-design classes—many of whom enjoy the chance to sail away from their home waters—we continue to welcome dinghies and cruisers alike. Our aim is to offer an inclusive, enjoyable sailing experience for all.

A CALL TO DINGHY SAILORS

The Menai Strait Regattas were once a major fixture for dinghy racing, and we're keen to see more dinghies enter. Our aim is to create a friendly, welcoming atmosphere—less intense than national-level competition, but still full of good sailing and camaraderie.

For those new to racing, the Regattas offer an ideal starting point: the start lines are less crowded, and the waters are relatively sheltered. At the same time, dinghy sailors looking for a longer challenge can take part in the Round Puffin Race or the Race Through from Beaumaris to Caernarfon.

SEE YOU THERE!

So, take a look at the dates for 2026, rally your crew, galvanise your friends and join us for another unforgettable fortnight on the Menai Strait. We look forward to seeing you on the water.

Notice of Race

The Organising Authority of the event is the Menai Strait Combined Regatta Committee in conjunction with the individual host clubs and committees. The MSCRC has appointed a Principal Race Officer who will oversee all of the Regattas.

1 Rules

1.1 Racing will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS 2025 – 2028)

1.2 Competitors should note that the Menai Strait Combined Regatta Committee implements the RYA Racing Charter and that they will be expected to sail in compliance with it. The charter can be found at the front of the RYA edition of the Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028 (the yellow pages after the definitions), or on the RYA website at www.rya.org.uk/racing/rules/#racing-rules-of-sailing.

1.3 Changes to the racing rules are identified in the Sailing Instructions.

2 Sailing Instruction

The Sailing Instructions will be available for download from our website menaistraitregattas.org.uk. Printed copies will also be available at the start lines during the event.

3 Communication

The online official notice board is located at menaistraitregattas.org.uk/notices. Whenever possible information will also be displayed on the Notice Board situated in the RAYC, the Regattas Facebook page and by WhatsApp message.

Official notices published on the website take precedence over printed race documentation or instructions and information published on the Facebook page or via WhatsApp.

The WhatsApp messaging system can be subscribed to on the Entry Form or by contacting the Secretary secretary@menaistraitregattas.org.uk.

4 Eligibility

The Menai Strait Regattas are open to classes of boat that will race in the following fleets:
ON #1 22/07/2026 change to PN split for dinghy fleets will now be at 1250

1	Cruiser Handicap NHC>0.81 and >6.5m	9	Hilbre Island One Design
2	Multi-hull Cruiser MOCRA	10	Seabird Half Rater
3	Cruiser Handicap NHC<=0.81 or <=6.5m	11	Hoylake Opera
4	Falcon One Design	12	West Kirby Star
5	RMYC Mylne	13	Handicap Dinghy PN>=~~1178~~ 1250
6	RAYC Fife	14	Handicap Dinghy PN<~~1178~~ 1250
7	Conway One Design		
8	Menai Strait One Design		

We also welcome other classes of boat and will make arrangements for them to race. If there are sufficient numbers we will create a new fleet for them, otherwise they will race alongside one of the above fleets. Contact the Secretary for more information (secretary@menaistraitregattas.org.uk).

Boats in fleets 1 to 12 are required to carry VHF handheld radio which will be used for safety coordination and communicating changes/shortening of courses.

5 Entry

5.1 Entries are made online which is accessed from our website menaistraitregattas.org.uk/entries.

Late entries should also be made online and will be accepted until 1 hour before the start on the day of the race.

5.2 Entry Fees are shown below. Late Entry fees apply after 14th June 2026.

Separate entries are made for each of the 12 Regattas and are not transferrable.

Entry Fees are not refundable in the event of a race being abandoned and not resailed.

ENTRY FEES	**up to 14th June 2026**			**after 14th June 2026**		
Fleet	**1 to 12**	**13 to 15**	**age<18**	**1 to 12**	**13 to 15**	**age<18**
1st to 5th days	£26/day	£14/day	£8/day	£29/day	£15/day	£9/day
6th day	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free
7th to 11th days	£13/day	£7/day	£4/day	£15/day	£8/day	£5/day
12th day	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free

5.3 **Entry Fees should be paid using online banking (BACS):**

Acct Name: Menai Strait Joint Regattas
Sort Code: 30-99-50
Acct Number: 37386862
Reference: Your Boat's Class and Sail Number

For late entries payment by card or phone will be accepted at the start line up to 1 hour the start of the first race.

6 Schedule and Venues

Full details of the daily race schedule will be found in the Menai Strait Regattas Programme.
The time of warning signals shown below are for start 1. Subsequent starts will be at 5 minute intervals. The warning signal for start 0 (Cruiser Fleets 1 & 2) will be 15 minutes before the time shown for start 1.

Date		**Regatta**	**Warning Signal**	**Start Line**
Mon	27th July	Royal Dee YC	10:55	Beaumaris
Tue	28th July	Bangor Regatta	10:55	Bangor Pier
Wed	29th July	Race Through to Caernarfon	09:25	Beaumaris
Thu	30th July	Royal Welsh YC - Seiont	09:55	Caernarfon
Fri	31st July	Royal Welsh YC – Cadnant	10:25	Caernarfon
Sat	1st August	Port Dinorwic RC	11:55	Y Felinheli
Mon	3rd August	Menai Long Distance Regatta	12:55	Beaumaris
Tue	4th August	Conway YC	13:55	Beaumaris
Wed	5th August	Royal Mersey YC	13:55	Beaumaris
Thu	6th August	Beaumaris Town (Round Puffin)	09:55	Beaumaris
Fri	7th August	Fife 100	13:55	Beaumaris
Sat	8th August	Royal Anglesey YC	12:55	Beaumaris

7 Courses

Courses will be chosen by the Race Officer each day to take account of the local weather and tidal conditions and displayed at the start line.

Courses for Fleets 1 to 12 will usually be chosen from the Marks and Courses booklet or may on occasion follow the "X course" procedure shown in the Sailing Instructions on the Beaumaris Marks and Courses page.

Courses for Fleets 13 and 14 will be available each day when signing on at the start line.

8 Penalty System

The penalty system is fully described in the RRS. Specific arrangements for the Menai Strait Regattas are contained in SI 11

9 Scoring

The scoring system is fully described in SI 14

10 Privacy Statement

The personal information you provide to us will only be used to facilitate your participation in the event.

11 Risk Statement

Rule 3 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone."

Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore 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, and will carry adequate lifesaving equipment for all persons on board;
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 familiarise 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 safety briefing held for the event;
h) Their boat is adequately insured, with cover of at least £3,000,000 against third party claims.

12 Sailing on the Menai Strait – Information for competitors

The Menai Strait is a beautiful stretch of water running from Fort Belan in the SW to beyond Puffin Island at the NE. But while it can appear perfect for sailing competitors need to take into account the specific nature of the water before setting out to take part in a race.

- **Tides**: The tides in the Menai Strait are legendary for their speed and range. At spring tides certain places along the Menai Strait can experience tidal range exceeding 6m and speed of 3 to 4 knots.
- **Sandbanks**: All along the Menai Strait there are sandbanks that are exposed as the tide falls – even at neap tides. Some of these lead into dead end channels.
- **Waves**: The Menai Strait is sheltered but can still experience very difficult sea conditions in strong winds and tides.
- **Wind gusts**: In certain areas the effect of the hills around the shores of the Menai Strait can lead to very gusty winds with sudden changes of direction.
- **Marine Traffic**: The Menai Strait is used by both commercial shipping with large vessels which are constrained to the main channels; commercial fishing operations which may be anywhere that the water allows them to operate; tourist boats and pleasure craft including yachts, windsurfers, power boats, diving boats, jet skis, foil boards, rowing craft, stand up paddle boards and others.
- **Moorings and Fishing Equipment**: There are many moorings around the Menai Strait. Even when no vessel is attached to the mooring attention needs to be paid to the equipment in the water which can interfere with sailing. Unattended fishing equipment is also present.
- **Underwater obstructions**: In some places there are rocks, slipways, outfall pipes and other items underwater that cannot be seen but could cause damage to a boat that hits them.

If you require further information about any of these risks then ask the race officials at the start line or seek advice from other competitors.

13 Prizes

Overall Series Perpetual Trophies

Fleet		Trophy
1	Cruiser	Cholerton Cup
5	RMYC Mylne	RNVR Rose Bowl
5	RMYC Mylne Best 6 Races	J.F.Thornton Cup
6	RAYC Fife	The Sheeva Cup
7	Conway One Design	The James Emery Challenge Cup
8	Menai Strait One Design - 1st	The Pritchard Cup
8	Menai Strait One Design - 2nd	The Rodney Jones Salver
9	Hilbre Island One Design	The Hilbre Trophy
11	Hoylake Opera	The Andrew Stratton Trophy
12	West Kirby Star	The Jupiter Cup
13	Mirror	Mirror Dinghy Challenge Cup
14	Handicap Dinghy PN<~~1178~~ 1250	The Royal Dee Challenge Cup
14	GP14	Menai Strait Punch Bowl
14	Laser	The Pauline Morewood Cup
14	Enterprise	The Bulkeley Challenge Cup

Prizes will be awarded for each day by the host club or committee. Daily trophies are presented for some fleets.

Some fleets will also be awarded prizes for the results of the first and/or second week's racing and in some fleets other prizes will be awarded for specific groups of races and/or specific achievements.

14 Car Parking on the Beaumaris Green

An agreement has been made with Beaumaris Town Clerk that participants (helms and crews) can benefit from a £10 discount on the normal £50 cost of a 7-day Temporary Resident's Pass (£40.00 per car) which can be purchased from the Attendants' Hut on the Green. The discount will be granted on production of the Confirmation of Entry for the Regattas which will be emailed to those entering online. A Temporary Resident's Pass Application form must still be completed to have your car's registration number recorded as the barrier is now controlled by ANPR. Two passes can be purchased to cover the whole Regatta fortnight.

15.1 Moorings and Boat Parking

At Beaumaris some moorings will be available for keelboat competitors. Please contact the secretary with details of your requirements and for information about the moorings available and fees (secretary@menaistraitregattas.org.uk). **Requests for moorings should be made before 14th June.**

At Caernarfon berthing for keelboats (and dinghies remaining afloat) is available in the Victoria Dock and by kind agreement of the Caernarfon Harbour Trust will be free of charge.

There is very limited mooring at Port Dinorwic and most boats will remain in the Victoria Dock at Caernarfon overnight and sail to the start line in the morning.

15.2 Boat launching and recovery - Dinghies and some small keelboats may be parked on the Beaumaris Green in the "Stones Area" near the slipway. However, vehicles may not be left with boats in the Stones area. Vehicles that are required for launching and recovery of boat must be moved into the area beyond the wooden bollards behind the Attendants' Hut when not moving a boat. All other vehicles must be moved into the main parking areas on the Beaumaris Green after unloading. Outside sailing hours, entry and exit from the compound will be by combination lock. Combination available from the line. Please ensure you make note of it

Caernarfon - There are several launching and recovery options at Caernarfon. Please contact the Secretary for more information. At Port Dinorwic the slipway at Port Dinorwic Sailing Club may be used.

16 Further Information

For further information please contact the Regattas Secretary: secretary@menaistraitregattas.org.uk
Or look at our website: menaistraitregattas.org.uk
News will also be available on our Facebook page: http://www.facebook.com/MenaiStraitRegattas