



JUNE 2013

This newsletter is to provide you with further information about the process from completing your entry to getting to the startline including additional details about the RORC in Cowes.



RORC is delighted to welcome aboard Exposure Marine who will be bringing you the Exposure Marine Crew Bar in Plymouth as well as exclusive offers and competitions—details on page 2!

Deadlines

Closing Date: **Thursday 18th July**

Q: What should I have done by this date?

A: By this date all your entry fees should be paid, in full. Please do not incur a late payment fee by missing this deadline! If you registered your card details on Autopay then the final amount will be debited on this date.

Q: Does my entry have to be confirmed as complete by this date?

A: No, this deadline is about payment only. You can still continue your qualification process and entries can be confirmed as complete after this date.

Rating Deadline: **Thursday 1st August**

Q: What if I am doing Cowes Week and want an optimised IRC rating for racing inshore?

A: Boats planning to race in Cowes Week with an IRC certificate optimised for inshore racing will need to have submitted the measurements and details to the RORC Rating Office (details on page 2) before the Rating Deadline and agree that the rating will change for the start of the Rolex Fastnet Race.

Q: I am not racing in IRC; what does this mean for me?

A: By this deadline you must have a valid Class Certificate for the Class you are racing in.

ISAF Offshore Special Regulations

Our OSR Inspection team have been very busy visiting the fleet and have raised the following 2 points:

1. Lifejacket Bottles

When checking lifejackets, inspectors have found that sometimes the gas bottle is working loose. This would result in, at best, your lifejacket only partially inflating and in many cases it would not inflate at all.

Therefore we strongly urge you to **CHECK YOUR LIFEJACKET GAS BOTTLES**

Completing your entry: have you...?

These are the questions we ask ourselves every time we check your entry to see if it is complete. Look through and check your REMUS account to see if you have met these criteria.

...sent evidence of adequate Hull Construction?

There is an FAQ on the RORC website that explains in detail what evidence we require; just click below:

<http://www.rorc.org/1-racing/21-does-the-rorc-already-hold-hull-construction-data-for-my-boat.html>

...lodged a complete crewlist on the RORC Crew Management System with up-to-date Emergency Contact details for each crewmember?

...met the Offshore Crew Training requirement NoR2.9.1 and sent us the certificates to check?

...met the First Aid training requirement NoR2.9.2 and sent us the certificates to check?

...completed your qualification mileage, as proposed, and informed the RORC?

...paid the full race entry fee by the Closing Date? (see 'Deadlines' for more details).

...got a valid IRC Certificate/Class Certificate by the Rating Deadline? (See 'Deadlines' for more details)

...have stability indices (SSS or STIX/AVS) noted on your IRC Certificate? Please contact the RORC Rating Office if not (email: info@rorcrating.com; call: +44(0)1590 67703)

...filled out completely, and handed back to the Race Team, your OSR Checklist (to Cat 2)

2. Storm Trysail Numbers

We emphasise the importance of ISAF Offshore Special Regulation 4.26.4 (d):

'...if a storm trysail is required...the yacht's sail number and letter(s) shall be placed on both sides of the trysail...in as large a size as practicable'.

There are no exceptions to this rule.



RORC in Cowes

The RORC Race Team will be operating from the RORC Cowes Office from **Saturday 3rd August**.

The office will be open daily from **0900-1800**.

Address: The Disrespect, 82 High Street, Cowes. PO31 7AJ

Phone: +44 (0) 1983 295144

Fax: +44 (0) 207 493 5252

Email: racing@rorc.org.uk

Skipper's Packs

All Skippers' Packs must be **collected in person**, unless prior arrangements have been made for a nominated person to collect them for you.

Skippers' Packs are only handed out once all the requirements of the race have been met!

You may collect your Skipper's Pack from Saturday 3rd August from the RORC Office, Cowes.

The pack will include:

- Notice of Race 2013
- 2 copies of Sailing Instructions
- Entry List
- Rolex Backstay Flag
- Rolex Bow Stickers
- Yellowbrick Tracker



Bag & Sail Drop

For more information, prices and to pre-book please contact the Activate team.

Email: bagdrop@activateswitch.com

Website: www.activateswitch.com

Rolex Fastnet Race competitors can take advantage of the **Bag & Sail Drop** organised by **ACTIVATE**.

Activate will be arranging collection points in Cowes and Hamble for competitor bags and sails. Bags may be retrieved from a collection point in the Rolex Fastnet Race Village, Plymouth Yacht Haven.

Skippers Briefing

Saturday 10th August at 1600 in The Events Centre, Cowes Yacht Haven.

Please note space is restricted and therefore the invitation is extended to the **Owner/Skipper plus one**.

Racing Manager, Nick Elliott, will conduct the briefing with meteorologist, Chris Tibbs, giving the latest weather information.

The RORC is planning to post a podcast of the briefing on the Rolex Fastnet minisite (<http://fastnet.rorc.org>) as soon as possible after the finish of the briefing.

Can we pick up our Skipper's Pack from the RORC office at the same time?

Many boats take the opportunity to pick up their Skipper's Pack whilst they are in Cowes for the briefing.

Be warned: this means it will be very busy immediately before and after the briefing. We encourage everyone to, as far as possible, plan ahead and come pick up your pack before Saturday.

EXCLUSIVE OFFERS for Rolex Fastnet Race competitors

EXPOSURE MARINE

EXPOSURE X1 CREW TORCH

'...the ultimate sailing torch...' Mike Golding



High powered, compact and lightweight with a searchlight beam **visible from over 3nm** and a red light to **protect night vision**. SOS & strobe options and up to 20 hours 'burn' makes this ideal to have with your PLB.



Exclusive Fastnet package includes free 12V charger when you order!

Click here: <http://www.exposuremarine.com/Exposure-Marine-X1-p/expmar-x1.htm> and enter promotional code: **FASTNETX1**.

Offer available until 19 July 2013

Offer price £124.99 inclusive of postage (Normal SRP £170 with charger)

WIN an EXPOSURE MICRO XS-R TORCH!

This adaptable, neat, red-beam is the ultimate 'hand-free' torch!

With 5 XS-Rs up for grabs all you need to do to **WIN** is send a 'bite sized' blog about what doing the **2013 Rolex Fastnet means to you**. Whether Fastnet veteran or first timer - **tell us your thoughts, preparations and ambitions**.

EMAIL: info@expmarine.co.uk by the **19 July 2013**.

Winners will be drawn on 24 July 2013.

For Terms and Conditions click here: <http://blog.exposuremarine.com/fastnet-blog-competition-terms-and-conditions/>





Royal Yacht Squadron Start

The intention is to start the Rolex Fastnet Race to the West, exiting the Solent through Hurst Narrows.

The startline itself is formed by bringing the large orange triangle on the roof of the RYS into line with the RYS flag-staff. Inner and Outer limits will be set – make sure you understand exactly which marks they are.

Start Order

The Multihull fleet will be first away, followed by the IMOCA 60 and then Class 40s/Figaro IIs. IRC classes will follow starting from Class 4 through to Class Zero/Canting Keels.

Full details and exact timings will be in the Sailing Instructions.

Startline considerations

Exclusion Zones

Keep clear of areas designated as exclusion zones at the start - they are there for a reason!

The Sailing Instructions will provide full details: read them carefully and ensure you do not fall foul at the start by leaving any mark of the course to the wrong side.

The Thorn Channel Precautionary Area

This area is on the approach to the line and large shipping manoeuvre around Prince Consort on their entry and exit to the Port of Southampton.

For more information please see the **Local Notice to Mariners:**

<http://www.southamptonvts.co.uk/admin/content/files/NTMs/2012%20No%202023.pdf>

Keeping clear at the start

Boats are reminded to keep clear of the line when it is not your start! Please be considerate and do not get in the way.

Identity Gate

It is mandatory to pass through an identity gate prior to the start of the race.

There will be **two Identity Gates**: one outside of the Medina in Cowes adjacent to Snowden Buoy, and another on the northern side of the Solent just outside Southampton Water. You do not need to go through both, but you must pass through one.

Identity Gate Boats **fly a RORC blue flag with a white seahorse and border over a large yellow flag (Q flag)** so they are easy to locate.

The Gate boats **will be on station from 1030.**

For the Rolex Fastnet Race, as you pass through the gate, you must:

- declare the number of persons aboard for the race
- display (in the set position) your storm jib and try-sail



Contact the RORC Race Team

Email: racing@rorc.org.uk

Phone: +44 (0) 207 518 3131

Fax: +44 (0) 207 493 5252