



2026

# Invergordon Boating Club



Handbook and  
Racing Programme

**Established 1901**

**INVERGORDON BOATING CLUB  
ROSSKEEN SLIPWAY INVERGORDON**



**Office Bearers**

Commodore	Ian Thorburn
Vice Commodore	Matt Dent
Secretary	Andrew Pennington
Rear Commodore	Inga Ovenstone
Treasurer and Membership Secretary	Phil Tomalin
Training Principal	Martin Crawshaw
Bosun	Andy Walters
Committee members	Fred Fraser, John Edmondson, Tom Owen, Robin Woodford

**SAFETY AFLOAT**  
**RISK STATEMENT [Courtesy of RYA]**

Rule 4 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 inherently 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;
- (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) [*For offshore races*] They are responsible for ensuring that their boat is equipped and seaworthy so as to be able to face extremes of weather; that there is a crew sufficient in number, experience and fitness to withstand such weather; and that the safety equipment is properly maintained, stowed and in date and is familiar to the crew; and
- (i) [*If not covered elsewhere in the Notice of Race*] their boat is adequately insured, with cover of at least [£2 million] against third party claims.

**Please see the club website for our full risk assessment and Health & Safety policy.**

**Mandatory IBC rules for competitors**

All skippers must fill in the race entry sheet

All boats entered must have a name, preferably clearly marked on the hull and a sail

**ALL SAFETY BOAT CREWS AND PARTICIPANTS IN SAILING EVENTS MUST WEAR  
PERSONAL BOUYANCY**

IBC will not accept any liability for material damage to boats, personal injury or death to participants sustained before, during or after an event.

**FREE SAILING**

Club Members are entitled to sail from the club at any time they wish outside of organised club activities.

However, they must take full responsibility for the safety of themselves and crew while they are on the water.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Clubhouse

House rules are displayed on the notice board downstairs. Members are requested to acquaint themselves with them and to ensure that the premises are kept in a clean and tidy condition. Specifically, wet sailing clothing should not be worn upstairs in the clubhouse.

All members must ensure that the lights and heaters are switched off before leaving the club house. The water supply should be shut off and drained during winter.

### Security

Security is of paramount importance so please ensure that the clubhouse, boatshed and compound are locked after use. The compound is secured by a combination padlock. You should have been given the number when you joined the club but if you didn't receive it please contact any committee member. Clubhouse keys are available from the Treasurer for a £5 refundable deposit should you wish one. Inflatables & outboards may be stored in the shed, **but at the owner's risk**, and not impeding the use of the boatshed by other members.

The compound and Club **must not** be left open while members visit their boats at moorings if no members are present ashore.

### The Slipway

The slipway is for public use and is not owned or maintained by IBC. Launching trolleys & trailers should not be left in a manner which impedes or restricts access to other users.



### Swinging Moorings

A copy of the club mooring guide is available from the web site, but the design is the sole responsibility of the owner.

"Guide notes for Moorings" was compiled by Keith Stanley in 1983 and was revised in 2026 to include metric equivalents of chain now available.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Club Sailing Dinghies

The club owns several dinghies, which are primarily intended for sail training and tuition. Members can however use these boats for other activities subject to approval by a member of the management committee.

### Safety Boats

Rules regulating the use of the club boats are available in the race office.

Persons operating these vessels must comply with the rules and hold an appropriate RYA powerboat certificate or be of suitable experience.

Please ensure that CFPA is contacted if using a safety boat within the harbour area. (On VHF Channel 11 – call sign “Port Radio”)

### OOD Duties

The person or boat crew named for the above duties must accept full responsibility for providing that service whether carried out personally or deputized to a qualified replacement. Wherever possible, a team of 2 should be allocated for OOD. Dinghy crews must also provide a competent crew for Safety Boat duties and ensure the boat is suitably fueled, equipped and ready for use.

- The rota for the OOD and Safety boat duties will be in this Booklet and posted on the clubhouse notice board.
- No dinghy racing is permitted unless a suitably crewed, fueled and equipped safety boat is in attendance.
- VHF Radio check should be carried out before any rescue boat crew goes on the water.
- Dinghy racing should be abandoned if weather conditions are unsuitable or deteriorate during a race. Three blasts on the starting horn indicate abandonment.
- **If a crisis arises beyond your control, do not delay in calling the emergency services – Dial 999 and ask for the coastguard.**

A 24 hour radio watch is maintained on VHF Channel 11, Call - sign “port radio”. Local weather forecasts are broadcast daily at 0815/1730 and will be reported on request.



# SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

## Rules

Racing will take place under the Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028, RYA prescriptions and class rules, supplemented by these sailing instructions.

## Conditions of entry

The safety of a yacht /dinghy and her entire management including third party insurance shall be the sole and inescapable responsibility of the owner or skipper. All skippers, and regular crews, competing in club events must be members of IBC.

All boats must have at least £2,000,000 third party insurance.

## Handicaps

Skippers of Boats equipped with spinnakers, when entering series events, must declare at the outset their intentions to claim the handicap allowance for white sails only racing and complete all races in that series without spinnakers.

## Course instructions

The OOD will communicate the course to be sailed either from the standard course card listed in this handbook or a course made up by the OOD to give the best racing for the wind direction. The course will be indicated on a board hung from the clubhouse veranda or on a notice in the clubhouse and communicated to skippers at sign on.

Courses shall only be shortened to finish the race at a lap completion at Mark 1 or A.

## Starting procedures

In accordance with the Racing Rules of Sailing 2025 – 2028 Rule 26

## Recalls

Will be in accordance with the Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028 Rule 29



## SAILING INSTRUCTIONS Continued

### Starting Penalties

Will be in accordance with the Racing Rules of Sailing Rule 30

### Start/ finish line

Shall be defined by an imaginary line projected from the flagpole on the Clubhouse veranda to

Race Mark 1 for keelboats and Race Mark A for dinghies.

Race Mark 1 may also be used for starting dinghies when there is insufficient water depth at Race Mark A and when indicated on a board at sign on

### Taking a Penalty

A boat may take a Two-Turns Penalty when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 in an incident while racing. She may take a One-Turn Penalty when she may have broken rule 31.

### Time Limits

Time limits will govern all racing. (See midweek start times) If no yacht finishes within the time limit, the race is null and void. If 1 or more yachts finish within the time limit, all other competing yachts must finish within 30 minutes of the time limit or retire.

### Protests

Protests must be lodged with the OOD in writing in accordance with World Sailing – RRofS rule 61 within 1 hour of publication of the results.

### Entering a Club Race

It is essential that all race skippers or deputies formally enter each race by 'signing on' in the entry book in the starter's box, before the race commences. Information entered must include boat name and handicap.

### Declaration

On completion of every race, the skipper of each vessel or his/her nominee must sign the race entry sheet to confirm compliance with the rules. The OOD is permitted some discretion in implementing the rule.

**Midweek start times** – Start time for **all** races will be 7.00PM. Dinghy time limit is 1.5 hours. Keel boat time limit is 2 hours. The time limits are minimums and may be increased at the race officer's discretion.

### Scoring

Shall be as the Racing Rules of Sailing Appendix A (variations below).

The Club Championship is scored by adding the place for each qualifying event, not each individual race. DNC in a qualifying Series/Event for the Championship is scored as the highest number of boats in a qualifying Series/Event for that Season + 1.

Average points from all races (excepting the duty race) are awarded for doing the safety boat or OOD when regularly sailing in that Series.

**Dinghy Results** --- Results for Dinghy races will normally be calculated using average lap times

## Invergordon Boating Club Fixtures 2026

March						
	Day	Event	Time	OOD	Safety Boat	HT.BST
Sun	29	Spring Meeting	12:00			
April						
Sun	5	Work party	10:00			
Fri	10	Keel Boat Crane In		F Fraser		
Sun	12	Opening Event – dinghy shake down	11:00	A Pennington	I Thorburn	08:07
Tues	14	Dinghies – Spring Race 1	19:00	F Fraser	M Dent	10:11
Wed	15	Keel Boat – Spring Race 1	19:00	J Edmonson		11:07
Tues	21	Dinghies – Spring Race 2	19:00	I Ovenstone	A Gunn	15:46
Wed	22	Keel Boat – Spring Race 2	19:00	P Burnell		16:39
Tues	28	Dinghy – Spring Race 3	19:00	F Munro	T Owen	10:41
Wed	29	Keel Boat – Spring Race 3	19:00	N Cormack		11:30
May						
Sat	2	<b>Safety boat training</b>	10:00	M Crawshaw		13:32
Sun	3	<b>OPEN DAY</b>	10:30	M.Crawshaw, Inga Overstone	Ian Thorburn	14:05
Tues	5	Dinghies – Spring Race 4	19:00	P Tomalin	M Dent	15:09
Wed	6	Keel Boat – Spring Race 4	19:00	S Dolan		15:41
Tues	12	Dinghies – Spring Race 5	19:00	P Whiles	A Pennington	21:37
Wed	13	Keel Boat – Spring Race 5	19:00	A Walters		09:28
Sun	17	Dinghy level 1 course	11:00	M Crawshaw	F Fraser	13:17
Tues	19	Dinghies – Spring Race 6	19:00	T Owen	S Hewett	14:53
Wed	20	Keel Boat – Spring Race 6	19:00	R Nelson		15:45
Sat	23	Moray Firth Cruiser Race	11:00	J Burgis Cromarty BC		18:37
Tues	26	Dinghies – Spring Race 7	19:00	K Laird	P Burnell	08:51
Wed	27	Keel Boat – Spring Race 7	19:00	M Dent		09:57
Sun	31	IBC Dinghy Regatta	11:00	I Ovenstone		13:09
June						
Tues	2	Dinghies, Summer Race 1&2	19:00	A Gunn	F Munro	14:19
Wed	3	Keel Boat – Summer Race 1	19:00	A Pennington		14:53
Tues	9	Improvers	19:00	A Walters	J Edmonson	06:36
Wed	10	Keel Boat – Summer Race 2	19:00	I Ovenstone		20:44
Sat	13	Nairn SC Regatta		David Vass	dat@sailingfree.co.uk	10:56

Tues	16	Dinghies, Summer Race 3&4	19:00	P Tomalin	R Nelson	13:55
Wed	17	Keel Boat – Summer Race 3	19:00	S Hewett		14:48
Tues	23	Improvers	19:00	M Dent	T Owen	19:53
Wed	24	Keel Boat – Summer Race 4	19:00	V Spreadborough		20:52
Sat	27	Kessock BC Regatta	11:00	Jim Prentice	j.a.prentice@outlook.com	11:16
Sun	28	Sunday Splash About	11:00	A Walters	A Pennington	12:06
Tues	30	Dinghies. Summer Race 5&6	19:00	K Laird	F Fraser	13:28
<b>JULY</b>						
Wed	1	Keel Boat – Summer Race 5	19:00	P Burnell		14:04
Tues	7	Improvers	19:00	A Pennington	P Burnell	17:52
Wed	8	Keel Boat – Summer Race 6	19:00	R Nelson		18:45
Tues	14	Dinghies Summer Race 7&8	19:00	I Thorburn	I Ovenstone	12:55
Wed	15	Keel Boat – Summer Race 7	19:00	P Whiles		13:49
Tues	21	Dinghies – Autumn Race 1	19:00	A Gunn	S Hewett	18:13
Wed	22	Keel Boat – Autumn Race 1	19:00	R Woodford		19:00
Sun	26	Nigg Cup	10:00	I Ovenstone	L Whittenham I Ovenstone	10:47
Tues	28	Dinghies – Autumn Race 2	19:00	F Fraser	A Walters	12:31
Wed	29	Keel Boat – Autumn Race 2	19:00	S Dolan		13:11
<b>August</b>						
Tues	4	Dinghies – Autumn Race 3	19:00	I Ovenstone	R Dineen	16:45
Wed	5	Keel Boat – Autumn Race 3	19:00	N Cormack		17:20
Sat	8	Storehouse race/cruise	10:00	T Owen	N Reid	07:45
Tues	11	Dinghies – Autumn Race 4	19:00	P Tomalin	J Edmonson	11:54
Wed	12	Keel Boat – Autumn Race 4	19:00	L Gunn		12:51
Tues	18	Dinghies – Autumn Race 5	19:00	P Whiles	I Ovenstone	16:49
Wed	19	Keel Boat – Autumn Race 5	19:00	I Ovenstone		17:26
Sat	22	IBC Keel Boat Regatta		J Burgis		08:04
Tues	25	Dinghies – Autumn Race 6	19:00	I Thorburn	Fred Fraser	11:22
Wed	26	Keel Boat – Autumn Race 6	19:00	S Hewett		12:09
Sun	30	Sunday Splash About	11:00	A Walters	I Ovenstone	14:28
<b>September</b>						
Tues	1	Dinghies, Autumn Race 7	19:00	P Burnell	M Dent	15:28
Wed	2	Keel Boat, Autumn Race 7	19:00	K Laird		16:15
Sat	5	<i>CBC Keel Boat Regatta</i>		Graeme Collard Cromarty	graemecollard@gmail.com	18:54
Tues	8	Dinghies, Frostbite race 1	19:00		Robin Woodford	22:55
Sat	12	<i>Black Isle Challenge Cup</i>	12:00	D Hogan Chanonry	diarmid57@gmail.com	13:56

Sun	13	Bart's Bash	11:00	I Ovenstone	T Owen	14:31
Fri	TBC	Keel Boat Crane Out		F Fraser		
Tues	15	Dinghies, Frostbite 2	19:00		Fred Fraser	14:33
Tues	22	Dinghies, Frostbite race 3	19:00		Neil Read	09:51
Tues	29	Dinghies, Frostbite race 4	19:00		Robert Nelson	14:38
<b>October</b>						
Tues	6	Dinghies, Frostbite race 5&6	19:00		John Edmonson	09:28
	TBC	Socials Events				
Fri	30	IBC Dinner & Prize Giving				

### Racing Notes

Results will be displayed both on the board in the OOD office and on the club's Facebook site.

It is the boat that is entered in a race. But as a variance with Appendix A the Club will allow one change of boat during a Season.

Discards will be allowed based on the number of races completed as follows:

A four race (or fewer) series = no discard  
A five or six race series = 1 discard  
A seven to thirteen race series = 2 discards  
A fourteen race series = 4 discards

Scoring events for the Club Championships in 2026 are as follows:

Dinghies – All evening series, and Regatta.

Keel boats – All evening series, Moray Firth Cruiser Race and Regatta.

### Explanation of Course Card

Courses are designed to be readily shortened if necessary, to ensure a result is obtained within the time limit. It is the Race Officer's sole decision whether to shorten a race. To help in making this decision, boats should be formally timed at key marks during the course of the race. Tidal conditions and weather changes for the day should also be taken into account. If in doubt, it is preferable to shorten a race and obtain a result, than to not make a decision to shorten and run out of time.

### Race Mark Identification

#### Marks 1 to 8.

Yellow and Red Drums bearing the appropriate number.

#### Mark X.

Yellow Sewer Outfall Buoy situated off Rosskeen Bridge. It bears no Identification but is lit.

#### Mark Y

Yellow navigation buoy in line with the Yankee Pier. West of clubhouse.

#### Mark A

Is the Dinghy start mark and is an Orange Buoy marked A.

#### Marks B & C.

Will be Orange or Yellow buoys dropped by the safety boat before the race. They will be positioned to give the best racing to suit the wind conditions.

No inner distance mark will be used for start or finish lines.

**Race Mark Positions.** Approximate positions are shown on the Chart on the last page of this booklet.

### DINGHY COURSE CARD

The courses listed below are suggestions for guidance, the OOD is encouraged to select or make up a course that will give the best racing for the wind direction.

The number of laps should not be set, the race should continue until the OOD stops racing by displaying flag board. Boats will then finish when they next pass the Start/Finish mark.

#### Courses starting westward

1. Ap 2p 8p Ap
2. Ap Bp 8p Ap
3. Ap 2p 1p Ap
4. Ap Bp 1p Ap
5. Ap 2p Xp Ap
6. Ap Bp Xp Ap
7. Ap 2p 5p 8p Ap 2p 8p Ap
8. Ap Bp 5p 8p Ap Bp 8p Ap
9. Ap then windward/leeward using 2p 8p
10. Ap then windward/leeward using Bp 8p

#### Course starting eastward

11. As 8s 2s As
12. As Bs 2s As
13. As 8s 1s As
14. As Bs 1s As
15. As 7s Xs As
16. As Bs Xs As
17. As 8s 5s 2s As 8s 2s As
18. As Bs 5s 2s As Bs 2s As
19. As then windward/leeward using 8s – 2s
20. As then windward/leeward using Bs – 2s

Mark A will be the Orange Buoy Marked A

Marks B and C will be drop buoys which, if required, will be positioned by the rescue boat, before the race starts, to allow best courses to be set.

### KEELBOAT COURSE CARD

#### Courses Starting Westward

1. 1p Yp Xp 1s 8s 5s Ys 1s Xp 8p 1p
2. 1p 2p 5p 7p 1p Xp 8p 1p 2p 5p 7p 1p Xp 8p 1p
3. 1p Yp 5p 2p 4p 8p 1p Yp 5p 2p 4p 8p 1p
4. 1p 4p 6p 7p 1p 5s 4s Ys 1s
5. 1p 2p Xs 5p 7p Xs 1p 2p 5p 7p Xs 1p
6. 1p 4s 2p Yp Xp 1s 8p 1p 4s 2p Yp Xp 1s 8p 1p
- A. 1p 2p 6p Nigg East s, Buss Bank s, Newhall s, 1p
- B. 1p 4p 6p Nigg East p, Nigg West p, Xs 1p
- C. 1p Yp 5p 7s Newhall p, Nigg West p, 6s 1p
- D. Light Wind from West, 1p 2p 1s 8s 1p 2p 1s

#### Course Starting Eastward

7. 1s 8s 5p 6p 7p 1s 8s 5p 6p 7p 1p
8. 1s 7s 5s 2s Xp 8p 1p 7s 5s 2s Xp 8p 1p
9. 1s 6s 5s 8p 2s 1s 6s 5s 8p 2s 1s
10. 1s 7s 4p 5p 2s 1s 8s Xs 1p 4p 5p 2s 1s
11. 1s 8s Xs 2s 1s 5p 7p 1s 8s Xs 2s 1s 5p 7p 1p
12. 1s 6p 7p 1p 5s Ys 1s 6p 7p 1p 5s 2s 1s
- A. 1s 6p Nigg East s, Buss Bank s, Newhall s, Xs 1p
- B. 1s 6p 7s Nigg East p, Nigg West p, Xs 1p
- C. 1s 8s 6p Newhall p, Nigg West p, 6s 1p
- D. Light Wind from East 1s 8p 1p 2p 1s 8p 1p

Note: At the preparatory signal [4 minutes] all boats must be afloat and off the moorings.

