

# Solent Race Entry Information 2009

## Useful Contacts

|                |              |               |                                 |
|----------------|--------------|---------------|---------------------------------|
| Mark Oliver    | (Race Entry) | 07768 515109  | kimandmarkoliver@btinternet.com |
| David Feltham  | (Social)     | 07764 790728  | david.feltham@easthants.gov.uk  |
| Richard Vanner | (Sailing)    | 07867 815365  | r.vanner@btinternet.com         |
| Richard Clark  | (crew)       | 07976 251440  | Rclark1977@hotmail.co.uk        |
| John McCann    | (Measurer)   | 01243 512495  | john@cosantes.co.uk             |
| Robin Wills    | (Offshore)   | 020 8893 4322 | robinwills@hotmail.co.uk        |
| George Isted   | (Publicity)  | 07939 260797  | george_isted@ocsl.co.uk         |

This is intended as a handy guide to the Contessa 32 Solent racing programme for 2009. It does not include the racing/sailing instructions for respective events. These are issued by the host club upon entry and will usually arrive about a week before each race. The Class rules, contact details and other useful technical information, including prizes, are

Richard Vanner is Sailing Secretary. He co-owns Blanco and following an excellent programme for 2008, he has now come up with a schedule for 2009 which promises to be at least as good. The series of Inshore Regattas will run from May to September and of course Cowes Week is at the start of August. The National Championships are again a late season fixture in September, with one more round of the Inshore Series to follow.

Richard Clark, skipper and owner of Carolina, takes over as Crew Rep. from Katie McDonald. Through the crew-matching programme, he is able to put owners and crew in touch, both on a one-off basis and also for the entire season through a crew database. This is a fabulous resource that helps new and existing Contessa owners and crew.

View crew details on the website in the 'crewing' section or contact Richard at Rclark1977@hotmail.co.uk or telephone, 07976 251440.

## How to enter

- Entry for the six inshore points weekends is via the Race Entry Secretary, Mark Oliver using the entry form.
- Your details are passed to the host club which will despatch sailing instructions directly in the week before the event.
- Mark also passes details to David Feltham who organises the social side.
- Recently, most of the contact re social and SI's has been handled by email and has proved to be convenient for all concerned. Please ensure Mark has up-to-date email details.

For Cowes Week 2009, Cowes Combined Clubs intend to handle entries for all classes, including ours directly, mostly online. This system was used for the first time in 2008 and seemed to work smoothly, but we ask that entrants do please inform Mark when they have entered, so that the Class Association can keep their records up to date. This really is very important ! Do please remem-

ber that “early bird” entries are cheaper. Class berthing has again been organised at East Cowes Marina following the success of this arrangement. The Marina has kept the rate for Class Assoc. Members for the full 9 days (Friday 31st July - Sunday 9th August) at £495.00, the same price as last years’ special offer!

Book directly with Marine Manager Mike Townsend at :-

**sales@eastcowesmarina.co.uk or tel 01983 293983** making it clear that you are booking as part of the Contessa 32 fleet. It is advisable to make the booking for this as soon as is practicable since Cowes Week berthing is usually oversubscribed. Please also express interest on the entry form regarding Cowes Week.

**The National Championships** this year are again late season and will be held over 3 days in early September, hosted by Hayling Island Sailing Club. Details for entry will follow at a later date but do please indicate your interest on the entry form so as to be added to the mailing list.

Please express any interest in the Offshore events on the entry form and Mark will pass your details to Offshore Rep. Robin Wills, whose programme is to be found in this Handbook.

Please return the Entry Form for blockbookings by Friday 24th April 2009

Please note the first regatta is 3 weeks later in mid May.

## The Entry Form

This is at the end of the Handbook.

Entries are accepted up to 2 weeks before the relevant event. Entries received less than 2 weeks before an event are strictly subject to the agreement of the host club and attract a surcharge of £10 which will be strictly enforced again in 2009. Entry to all 6 weekends totals £420 but is discounted to £380 for block entries received by 24th April 2008.

This year we have managed to keep costs down with an increase of only £10.00 per regatta. However, as before, cost pressures remain intense.

The Association endeavours to run the racing at ‘cost’, but as commented upon in recent handbooks, host clubs have significantly increased their fees in recent years, and since 2006, some clubs have been caught in the net of VAT and have had to increase fees accordingly.

The Committee continues to believe that our entry fees, and indeed the Inshore Programme, compares most favourably with those of other one design classes.

We also believe that the ‘cheaper’ clubs are unable to offer racing to a standard rightfully demanded by the Class, and confine racing to the properly organised – and inevitably more expensive - clubs.

Notwithstanding the undoubted expense to members, the Committee is pleased that entries have shown, on average, a slight increase (accounted for both by returning friends and new owners), and this level of entries remained fairly constant throughout 2008, with the added thrill of an occasional overseas entry from Belgium! The more entries we have, the greater are the savings we can pass on. As ever, Mark Oliver would welcome any feedback on these issues.

**The Events**, if you have not entered some or any of these before, the details on next page should give you the background information to persuade you to enter this year.

## **Inshore**

### **Points Championship:**

# **The Solent Programme 2009**

There will be a total of 6 weekends forming the inshore championship. A popular format in recent years has been weekends with three races (two on Saturday) which we hope to run again at all clubs in 2009.

Additions to the programme include the Island Sailing Club and the Royal Corinthian Yacht Club. The series is timetabled around an increasingly hectic wider Solent programme and is designed to give favourable tides to those coming from the opposite end of the Solent for any given weekend. To reflect feedback from those trekking from west to east Solent (or further) and vice-versa, Richard arranged later start times on the Saturday for the last couple of seasons and since this proved popular, the intention is to continue this in 2009. Please refer to race notices and sailing.

## **The JP Morgan Asset Management Round the Island Race: 20th June 2009**

Details of this ever-popular event should be obtained directly from the organiser Island Sailing Club,

<http://www.roundtheisland.org.uk>

Entry is directly to the ISC and cannot be arranged through the class. The class awards the Contessa Rose Bowl to the first Contessa 32. Please see further the notes below regarding measurement.

## **Cowes Week:**

### **1st to 8th August 2009**

The Contessa 32 has been at the heart of the regatta for over 35 years and with the continued support from Cowes Combined Clubs, despite pressure from the burgeoning number of classes clamouring for this privilege, we expect to retain our own start and finish, off the Green, following a considerable resurgence of Contessa 32 entries in 2008.

CCC have shown great benevolence to the Class in the last few years by preserving our start, and we hope owners and crew will repay that by turning out in force in 2009. Early research this year indicates that we can expect to see a few boats entering for the first time in addition to the regular Cowes week entries.

This year the Cowes Week championship revert to it's earlier format and be settled on races held from Saturday to Friday inclusive (for both Class Assoc.trophies and those awarded by CCC). As usual there will be racing on the final Saturday but it will not count for points. We do however hope that entrants will take the opportunity to compete, especially since the special Class Assoc. arrangement for berthing also includes the final Saturday night.

Class Captain, Zoë McKee, is looking forward to hosting our customarily excellent Cowes Week cocktail party and a varied and exciting social programme is being planned for the week, including the drinks receptions and parties we have come to expect.

For the second year, Cowes Combined Clubs intend to handle all entries for all classes

however, inform Mark Oliver when you have done so to enable the Class to keep up to date with entries.

Berthing has been arranged at East Cowes Marina with its excellent facilities at our disposal. Unlike our berthing in the years before this arrangement, there is, theoretically, no maximum number of boats who can benefit from our group arrangements. However, although the Marina staff say they will do what they can to squeeze latecomers in, it is certainly advisable not to leave booking longer than necessary.

Please contact marina manager Mike Townshend at [sales@eastcowesmarina.co.uk](mailto:sales@eastcowesmarina.co.uk) or telephone 01983 293983 making it clear that you are booking as part of the Contessa 32 fleet.

## **The National Championships: 4th-6th September**

National Championships are once again in the popular spot towards the end of the summer, following, Cowes Week and Fowey, Hayling Island Sailing club, at the entrance to Chichester Harbour will host the racing and all starts will be from a committee boat.

The facilities of the Club's beautiful modern clubhouse will be at our disposal.

Entry and berthing details will be published later in the season, but to be added to the mailing list, please indicate your interest on the entry form.

## **Offshore Racing**

For informative notes and the Offshore programme for 2009, see pages 16 & 17 or Representative Robin Wills can give more information.

**Mobile Tel:07971 417061**  
**Email [robinwills@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:robinwills@hotmail.co.uk)**

## **CLASS CERTIFICATES:**

**It is mandatory for all entrants to Class races to hold a valid Class Certificate.**

These are issued by John McCann, the Class Measurer.

There is a waiver for the Round the Island Race where the Committee reserve the right to measure the first six boats to finish unless they already hold certificates. New certificates must be issued on change of ownership. Please contact John for more details.

**Tel.01243 512495**  
**Email [john@cosantes.co.uk](mailto:john@cosantes.co.uk)**

Please note also, that entry to the Class fleet at events such as, the Round the Island and Cowes Week, are conditional on the owner holding a certificate and their being a paid-up member of the Association on board.

## **Measurers Corner Details of certification**

**Please refer to your old Handbook on Page 28.**

# The Inshore South Coast Racing Scene 2009

## CO32 Inshore points weekends

Royal LondonYC. Cowes  
16th & 17th May

Hosted by this elegant Yacht club on the Parade close to the Squadron, with its fine facilities and its magnificent Trinity Landing...and legendary Saturday night curries!.. Racing in recent years has been superbly managed and very competitive. The regenerated Shephards Wharfe has proved to be an excellent mooring for the last three years, so we are going back.

Island SC. Cowes,  
30th & 31st May

Back to this friendly club for the first time since our Nationals a couple of years ago. Actually, we are very pleased that they stepped in to take over this fixture when problems developed with the original arrangements with another club. The ISC's comfortable bar and dining room has superb Solent views. The Club is highly experienced at providing excellent racing – and it is possible to book some accommodation in the clubhouse too.

Itchenor Sailing Club  
13th & 14th June

This delightful, picturesque social and sailing venue is always welcoming with an excellent supper in convivial surroundings. Mention must be made of the afternoon teas and hearty breakfasts.

However, let's not forget the racing. Starts are usually close to CHI buoy near to the entrance of Chichester Harbour. The racing is in Hayling Bay which has the advantage of pretty equitable tides and an open race area which can provide classic Contessa conditions.

After the Saturday race, proceed to the peace of the Itchenor channel while the tide is high and to the swinging moorings off the club, some 25 pleasant minutes' motoring up Chichester Harbour. There is normally a ferry service ashore for cocktails and dinner on Saturday and for breakfast on Sunday. It is possible to stay at the club by arrangement with the Club Secretary.

Royal Solent YC. Yarmouth  
4th & 5th July

The challenges of racing in the Western Solent and Christchurch Bay, mingle with the sheer charm of Yarmouth. The Royal Solent Yacht Club is a well-organised club that always lays on challenging racing. Retaining its mid-summer spot, this perennially well-attended weekend is sure to be wonderful. It is intended that the fleet will berth at the Hayles boatyard with its improved pontoon, which usually accommodates one of the seasons liveliest pontoon parties. The town and its several excellent pubs, restaurants, B+B's and hotels is a short walk over the bridge.



Royal LymingtonYC.  
18th & 19th July

Racing is in the Western Solent with the added challenges of the north shore.

Lymington is abuzz this time of year and is the Class Captain's home port, so expect good hospitality!

The Band Stand is a great venue for a cocktail party before supper in the club. Mooring will be on the Dan Bran Harbour Masters Pontoon to the south of the RLymYC, so a very short walk to the Clubhouse.

Royal Corinthian, Cowes.  
19th & 20th September

The RCYC was very keen to host one of our inshore points series two years ago, so we tried them out. The result was that agreed to go back at the first opportunity; and this is it!

This club has a strong racing pedigree and a lovely atmospheric clubhouse (just south of RYS) which, with its convivial bar and restaurant is sure to provide an excellent venue for our evening social fixture.

If the series "goes to the wire", this will be the setting for the showdown.



## Channel Offshore Notes

This year the class has decided to reduce the number of offshore races and promote the excellent two-handed inshore series of races run by the Royal Southampton YC. We hope that this will encourage more Contessa sailors to race. They are an enjoyable series and require no extra certification above that needed for the Contessa Inshore Series.

## Offshore Races

Details of Competitors interested in Offshore races can be sent to the organising clubs if they request. Otherwise contact the clubs direct. IRC rating can be obtained through the Royal Ocean Racing Club and is not expensive. Offshore Representative Robin Wills, can give more information. Mobile number 07971 417 061

## Certificates

Contessa 32s with valid Class Certificates can enter for any RORC or JOG race without a IRC or IRM certificate, to race in Contessa 32 Class. They must, however, have a valid IRC Certificate to be eligible for IRC prizes or trophies. In any case they must comply with General Conditions, Standing Instructions and Special Regulations (SRs) applicable to the race. The RORC Rating Office issues a standard certificate for the class, so all you need to fill in on the application form is "Contessa 32 according to Class Rules". Our TCF for this year is to be calculated.

## Special Regulations

The two offshore races this year will be run under ORC Category 3. SRs appear in both RORC and JOG Programme Booklets. For entries to be accepted, both RORC and JOG require an owners declaration that the yacht complies with the relevant regulations and prescriptions. For the RSYC series you will only require a valid class certificate and fulfil the club's requirements (ORC Cat 4) as we will sail in the club handicap class. Keep a copy of these declarations on board, as in the event of your being inspected, it will be the first thing that the scrutineer asks for. Note: although there has been some convergence, the RORC and JOG forms are slightly different.

## Chaos Trophy Series

Yachts will receive points for each race entered in accordance with the following:-

"Number of Co32 starters" will be taken as the actual number of Contessa 32's ranking as starters.

For the four inshore two-handed races each yacht shall receive the number of points in accordance with RRS Low Point System.

For the two JOG races yachts shall receive the number of points in accordance RRS Bonus Point System.

Yachts which retire count points for +1.0 over the number of starters.

Yachts which do not compete count points for +5.0 over the number of starters.

## Entries

Entries are made directly to the organisers but the Offshore Representative holds copies of the entry forms for those who may wish to enter. JOG entries close 8 days before the date of the race.

## The Races 2009

These have been chosen to encompass both offshore races and the Royal Southampton YC two-handed inshore series which are sponsored by McGuigan Wines. We hope that the shorter offshore races will encourage owners to try them, and for those who find fully-crewed racing difficult, the two-handed series means they have only one crew to find.

The season starts with the RSYC Spring Double on 4th April. This is a race within the Solent, usually starting around Hillhead, with the aim of giving it a passage race feel. It should provide an opportunity to blow away the winter cobwebs and see how fast the yacht sails with a clean bottom. The second race is the first of the two offshore JOG races. This starts on 1st May from Cowes to go across the Channel to St Vaast; affording an opportunity to work off a few calories during the race before a visit to M.Gosselin's splendid epicerie to stock up for the return trip perhaps? It is a nominal 85 nm and given the right conditions should see you arriving in time for the lock opening on Saturday afternoon (predicted 1502-1957 hrs French time).

## Channel Offshore Programme 2009

| Date        | Event                              | Start BST | HWP BST  | Distance App | ORC CAT |
|-------------|------------------------------------|-----------|----------|--------------|---------|
| Sat 4 April | Royal Southampton YC Spring Double | 1000 hrs  | 0701 hrs | 20 miles     | 4       |
| Fri 1st May | JOG Cowes to St Vaast              | 1830 hrs  | 1712 hrs | 85 miles     | 3       |
| Sat 18 July | Island Double                      | tba       | 0758 hrs | 65 miles     | 4       |
| Fri 14 Aug  | JOG Cowes to Dartmouth             | 1600hrs   | 1731     | 85 miles     | 3       |
| Sat 5 Sept  | NAB Double                         | tba       | 1243 hrs | 30 miles     | 4       |
| Sat 10 Oct  | Autumn Double                      | 1000 hrs  | 1543 hrs | 20 miles     | 4       |

The third race is the Island Double on 18th July. This is the major two-handed event on the Solent, regularly attracting over 120 entrants in five closely fought classes. The course is the same as the fully-crewed race (i.e. from the Squadron start line down to the Needles, back past St. Catherine's, round Bembridge Ledge and then through the Forts to the finish line at Cowes). After the finish there is usually a convivial get-together with all the other competitors at the Royal Yacht Squadron. The Gualin Rose Bowl is awarded for this race. If you already have a shelf full of ISC Rtl pewter mugs, by completing this race you can start collecting the engraved glasses which are awarded for this one. The Contessa racing fleet will be at the Royal Lympington that week-end so some may wish to sail there to join them on the Sunday.

The next race has been chosen to encourage those going down to Fowey Week to race west instead of making it a passage. It is the JOG race from Cowes to Dartmouth offering some 85 miles of racing. It starts on the evening of Friday 14th to allow a finish sometime on the Sunday.

The penultimate race is the Nab Double. From a start in the central Solent the course goes out to the Nab Tower and back, plus some additional marks depending on conditions, and offering the opportunity of a shy reach on both legs if the wind is SW'erly. It is on Saturday 5th September and this is same week-end as the Nationals; some may wish to go on to HISC for that.

The last race is the Autumn Double on 10th October. Again a round the cans race within the Solent to end the season. The main two-handed

prize-giving takes place at Ocean Village on 31st October.

The JOG races need no introduction to most Contessa sailors and they have been run for many years. The Royal Southampton McGuigan Wines Double-Handed series are the premier series of such races in the UK. They are a very friendly series of races, with much help given to competitors in terms of giving courses over the radio, allowing use of self-steering devices, etc. Many of the yachts use roller genoas. Sailing conservatively can often pay dividends as sail changes with just two crew can lose vital minutes and places.

For the RSYC Series the Contessa's will probably race in Class IV, which requires no IRC certificate but only a valid class certificate. Of course if we have a sufficient number of entries then we could be given a separate start of our own; if you are thinking of entering then please let me know in advance and I will negotiate with the club.

After each of the two-handed races competitors are invited back to the Royal Southampton clubhouse at Ocean Village in the evening for a brief prize-giving. Meals are available at the bar and a good evening can be guaranteed. For those yachts not based in Southampton or not wishing to sail up to Ocean Village there is the option of staying in the Hamble overnight and getting a taxi to the clubhouse. This worked well for Cantata's crew last year.

I hope that this programme will encourage you to join in the fun.

Robin Wills

