

Contessa 32 Class Association



Racing Handbook Solent 2010

Useful Contacts

Mark Oliver	(Sailing & Race Entry)	kimandmarkoliver@btinternet.com /07768 515109
Jess Hogarth	(Social)	corafin@hotmail.com /07521 714494 (Outside office hours)
Richard Clark	(Crew)	Rclark1977@hotmail.co.uk / 07976 251440
John McCann	(Measurer)	john@cosantes.co.uk /01243 512495
Robin Wills	(Offshore)	robinwills@hotmail.co.uk /07971 417061

This is intended as a handy guide to the Contessa 32 Solent racing programme for 2010.

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 published elsewhere in the Handbook.

Mark Oliver, skipper of Connie, who continues as Race Entry Secretary, takes over from **Richard Vanner** as Sailing Secretary. Richard`s last act in this role was to devise a superb schedule for 2010. 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. This year, the first event at Royal Lympington Yacht Club will be held jointly with the J109 fleet – although, of course, races will be separate, and the third fixture with the Royal Southern Yacht Club will constitute part of their June regatta.

Class Vice Captain and skipper of Carolina, **Richard Clark** continues as Crew Rep. Through the crew-matching programme he is able to put owners and crew in touch, both on a one-off basis and for the entire season. through a crew database. This is an excellent 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 class' 6 inshore points weekends is via the **Sailing Secretary, Mark Oliver** using the entry form. (signed hard copy please).
- 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 **Jess Hoggarth** who organises the social side.
- Recently, most of the contact re. social fixtures 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 2010**, 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 remember that “early bird” entries are cheaper. Class berthing has again been organised at East Cowes Marina following the success of this arrangement which was first tried out in 2008. The marina has kept the rate for Class Association members for the full 9 days (Friday 31st July – Sunday 9th August) to £495.00: the same price as 2008`s special offer! Book directly with marina manager Mike Townshend at sales@eastcowesmarina.co.uk or telephone 01983 293983 making it clear that you are booking as part of the Contessa 32 fleet. It is advisable to make a booking for this as soon as is practical since Cowes Week berthing throughout the harbour is usually oversubscribed. Please also express interest on the entry form regarding Cowes Week.

- The **National Championships** are again late season and will be held over 3 days in mid September hosted by Royal Solent Yacht Club in Yarmouth on the Isle of Wight. Details for entry will follow at a later date but do please indicate your interest on the entry form to be added to the mailing list.
- Please express any interest for 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 block bookings by Friday 23rd April 2010 - *please note the first regatta is 2 weeks later in 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 subject to the agreement of the host club and attract a surcharge of £10 which will be strictly enforced again in 2010. Entry to all 6 weekends totals £450 but is discounted to £400 for block entries received by 23rd April 2010.

This year we have managed to keep costs down with an increase of only £5.00 per regatta. However, as before, cost pressures remain intense. The association endeavours to run the racing at 'cost', but as observed 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 the extremely high 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 in 2007 showed, on average, a slight increase (accounted for both by returning friends and new owners) and this level of entries remained fairly constant throughout 2008 and 2009 – with the added thrill of an occasional overseas entry from Belgium! We can only observe that 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 below should give you the background information to persuade you to enter this year.

Inshore Points Championship:

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 2010. Additions to the programme include the Royal Naval and Albert Yacht Club in Portsmouth. 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 2010. Please refer to race notices and sailing instructions when issued.

The JP Morgan Asset Management Round the Island Race: 19th June 2010

Details of this ever-popular event should be obtained directly from the organiser, the 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: 31st July to 7th August 2010

The Contessa 32 has been at the heart of the regatta for over 30 years and with continued support from Cowes Combined Clubs, in the face of 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 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 2010. 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. If this is something you are considering, please do contact the Class Association for encouragement and reassurance about how easy it all is.

Additionally a varied and exciting social programme is being planned for the week including the drinks receptions and parties that we have come to expect!

For the third time this year, Cowes Combined Clubs intend to handle all entries for all classes themselves (rather than just the late ones): this can be done online at www.cowesweek.co.uk. Please, 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 or telephone 01983 293983 making it clear that you are booking as part of the Contessa 32 fleet.

The National Championships: 17th to 19th September

National Championships are once again in the popular spot towards the end of the summer, following Cowes Week and Fowey. The Royal Solent Yacht Club in Yarmouth on the Isle of Wight will host the racing and all starts will be from a committee boat. The facilities of the Club`s delightful 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.

CLASS CERTIFICATES:

It is mandatory for all entrants to class races to hold a Class Certificate. These are issued by **John McCann**, the Class Measurer (and now Class Captain). 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.

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 being a paid-up member of the Association. There must also be a paid-up member of the Association aboard during Class racing.

The Inshore Points Series Weekends

Royal Lyminster YC, 8th & 9th May

Racing will be in Christchurch Bay or in the Western Solent with the added challenges of the north shore. The Band Stand on The Green is a great venue for a cocktail party before supper in the club. Mooring will be on the Dan Bran Pontoon – so a very short walk to the Clubhouse on the bank of the picturesque Lyminster River. This year we will be sharing the committee boat with the J109 fleet, although our class starts will be separate and racing will be to our usual format.

Island SC, Cowes, 22nd & 23rd May

Back to this friendly club for the second time since our Nationals a couple of years ago.. 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 in Cowes High Street too.

Royal Southern YC, Hamble 12th & 13th June

This Club is a regular host for our racing but, although run to our usual formula, Our Class racing at this event will form part of the Club's June Regatta – so we can expect a lively social scene ashore. Competitors will be welcome in the excellent clubhouse overlooking the Hamble River - a short walk from Port Hamble Marina.

Hayling Island Sailing Club 3rd and 4th July

The scene of last year's Class National Championships, this Club always provides first class racing – usually in Hayling Bay and competitors will be welcome in its dramatic modern clubhouse situated at the entrance to beautiful Chichester Harbour. Sparkes Marina provides convenient berthing a short walk away. Accommodation onshore can be organised through the club

Royal Naval and Albert YC, Portsmouth , 17th & 18th July

We are returning to this Club for the first time in a number of years, although many members will be familiar with its excellent hospitality in its beautiful clubhouse in Old Portsmouth, which has been the scene of several recent Class Association AGM's . Racing is likely to be in Hayling Bay or possibly further out towards the Nab Tower. At time of writing, we are hoping to arrange berthing for competitors at Gunwharf Quays,

Royal London YC, Cowes. 4th & 5th September

Hosted by this elegant Yacht Club on the Parade at Cowes 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 Shepards Wharf has proved to be an excellent mooring for the last three years, so we intend to go back.

If the series “goes to the wire”, this will be the setting for the final showdown.



RACE ENTRY FORM 2010

Please refer to Class Handbook for Race Entry information and conditions of entry

BOAT NAME: _____	SAIL NO: _____
OWNER'S NAME: _____	TEL: HOME: _____
ADDRESS: _____	MOBILE: _____
_____	_____
POST CODE: _____	EMAIL: _____

Please enter my boat for the following Solent Inshore Points Races:-

Date	Venue	Host Club	Entry Fee	My entry
May 8 - 9	Lymington	Royal Lymington YC	£ 75.00	£.....00
May 22 - 23	Cowes	Island SC	£ 75.00	£.....00
June 12 -13	Hamble	Royal Southern YC	£ 75.00	£.....00
July 3 - 4	Hayling Is.	Hayling Island SC	£ 75.00	£.....00
July 17 - 16	Portsmouth	Royal Naval & Albert YC	£ 75.00	£.....00
September 4 - 5	Cowes	Royal London YC	£ 75.00	£.....00
<i>OR</i> All 6 events if entered by 23rd April 2010 at a discounted entry			£ 400.00	£.....00

Entries for individual races will be accepted up to 14 days before the event. Later entries are subject to agreement of host club and a surcharge of £10.00.

CHEQUE ENCLOSED (Payable to: CONTESSA 32 CLASS):

£

I agree to be bound by Class Rules and the Rules of the Clubs concerned. I acknowledge that full details for each event will be in the Sailing Instructions despatched to me at the above address and / or by email in the week before the event(s) entered by me. A class certificate has been issued for my Contessa 32 which complies with class rules and is correctly insured. A member of the Contessa 32 Class Association will be aboard for each race entered.

SIGNED:

PLEASE CONTACT ME RE:

CREW MATCHING

DETAILS TO BE PASSED TO RICHARD CLARK YES | NO

OFFSHORE:

DETAILS TO BE PASSED TO ROBIN WILLS YES | NO

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS:

17th, 18th & 18th September Royal Solent Yacht Club YES | NO

COWES WEEK:

31st July to 7th August Cowes Combined Clubs YES | NO

**RETURN THIS FORM WITH CHEQUE (by 23rd April 2010 for discounted block entries) to:-
Mark Oliver, 42 Cliff Road, Cowes, Isle of Wight, PO31 8BN**