



ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB

2026 RMYC Sailing CALENDAR



ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB

Content

Welome

RMYC Sailing Classes

RMYC Challenge Trophies

Race Calendar

Race Partners

WELCOME

Mark Napier
Commodore

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the Royal Malta Yacht Club's 2026 Sailing Calendar. Each year, our Club grows stronger thanks to the dedication of our members, volunteers, partners, and the vibrant sailing community that surrounds us. This calendar reflects a diverse programme designed to engage sailors of all levels, from competitive racers to those who simply enjoy time on the water. We look forward to another exciting year of enjoyment, friendship, challenges, and exceptional sailing.

Adrian Gauci Borda
Rear Commodore (Sailing)

As Rear Commodore Sailing, I am delighted to present the Royal Malta Yacht Club's 2026 Sailing Calendar. Each event has been thoughtfully designed to offer rewarding experiences for our community—whether you are refining your racing skills, exploring new challenges, or enjoying relaxed cruising with fellow members. Our focus remains on fostering participation, safety, and continuous growth across all levels. I encourage you to make the most of this year's programme and look forward to seeing you on the water throughout 2026.

RMYC RACING CLASSES

IRC CATEGORY

Racing at the RMYC will use the IRC rating rule to calculate corrected times using a time on time basis. All boats participating in races organised by RMYC are required to have an IRC Rating, which can be obtained through the RMYC office who is Malta's local Rating Authority.

Boats are required to have a current and valid IRC rating certificate to be able to participate in a race or regatta. No alteration to a boat's rating certificate will normally be permitted within one week of the start of a race or series of races except as a result of a rating protest, to correct an error in a certificate or at the discretion of the racing committee, to include a genuine amendment which does not seek to gain unfair advantage contrary to the spirit of the IRC rule.

An IRC certificate, revalidation, or a renewal must be applied for, in writing, to the RMYC on info@rmyc.org. Applications should be sent to the RMYC on the Rating Office Forms in good time as these need to be forwarded to the IRC Rating Office at least 5 working days before they are needed for racing to avoid Expedited Processing Fees.

Boat owners requesting their first certificate for a boat, may contact the club Rating Officer for assistance with their application and measurement.





ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB

RMYC RACING CLASSES

IRC Sub-Divisions

Three boats are required to constitute a class, unless otherwise specified by the Notice of Race of a particular event. For every event, the RMYC will accept entries in either the Racer Division or the Cruiser Division, subject to the number of entries, and subject to any provision within the Notice of Race which may limit the number of classes.

Each Division may be further split into sub-divisions or classes, generally on the basis of TCC according to the following bands:

Racer Class 1 - TCC 1.050 and greater

Racer Class 2 - TCC 1.049 and lower

These bands may be adjusted at the discretion of the Race committee, to be appropriate to the fleet entered in the event.

Boats in both divisions of this Category may display advertising as allowed by WS Regulation 20 - Advertising Code. Part D of the IRC rule does not apply.

IRC Racer Division

Boats in this division may race with any configuration permitted under and conforming with the IRC rule 2026 and must be rated accordingly.

Standard items of furniture such as doors and tables may only be removed from the boat if declared in the boat's rating application or revalidation applications.





ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB

RMYC RACING CLASSES

IRC Cruiser Division

The IRC Cruiser Division is limited to cruising boats with an IRC rating that typically race as they cruise. Boats in this Division shall have a fully fitted interior without any standard items of furniture removed and shall be sailed with all normal cruising equipment on board, and in their normal cruising position, including batteries, warps, fenders, tools, galley equipment and at least 1 anchor with an adequate length of chain (in the bow locker).

A boat is considered to have a fully fitted interior if it has all of the following:

1. Cabins with berths and mattresses / cushions
2. Enclosed head
3. Galley with fridge and oven
4. Saloon with Sofa's and table adequately sized for dining

Boats in this division must have an IRC Hull Factor less than or equal to 8.5

Boats in the Cruiser Division shall race with a single roller furling headsail set on a functional furling system besides a Storm Jib and Heavy Weather Jib as defined in the Offshore Special Regulations. This limitation shall not apply to boats of classic design that may have hanked on head sails.





ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB

RMYC RACING CLASSES

Boats in this Division may race with up to 3 downwind sails in line with their IRC rating. Downwind sails may be set on a pole or a bowsprit so that STL is not greater than 120% of their J measurement.

Furthermore, to be eligible for this division boats must have the characteristics described below and must have been maintained in their original configuration without modification to the hull, or appendages. In this Cruiser Division the use of Carbon in the hull, appendages, rig or sails is expressly prohibited. The boats shall conform to current standards for pleasure craft, have a fully fitted interior suitable for cruising of extended duration and be equipped with a number of cruising characteristics from the following as stated below:

- Furling headsail with sail installed or headsail on hanks
- Furling mainsail
- Complete teak decks
- Propeller with fixed blades
- Untapered mast
- Anchor winch on deck
- Anchor winch in dedicated pit with anchor and chain of adequate weight and at least three times LOA
- Watermaker of suitable capacity
- Low-tech sails (*Dacron and other polyester fibres, nylon and other polyamide fibres, cotton and in any case fibres of low elastic modulus which are woven without lamination*)
- Iron bulb deep or shallow (*in case when the series also provided for a lead option*)
- Bow thruster in open tunnel
- Single downwind Sail on board
- Air conditioning
- Water heater
- Lazyjacks in place
- Bimini
- Generator

At least four of these characteristics are required if they include low tech sails, otherwise at least five are required. In all cases the Furling headsail or headsail on hanks and, for boats whose hull length is greater than 11.40, the anchor winch as described above, are mandatory. The Organising Authority may modify this list for any event if stated in a Notice of Race.



ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB

RMYC RACING CLASSES

IRC 2-Handed Division

A Two-Handed Class within IRC may be formed subject to any limitations of the Notice of Race and depending on entries. Boats will race under IRC and will be eligible for both Two-Handed and IRC class trophies. Entries must satisfy the committee that they have suitable and adequate experience and that their boat is appropriately set up for Two-Handed sailing.

Compliance with IRC Rules

The RMYC as the Organizing Authority and the IRC Rule Authority for Malta, may require a boat to be submitted for measurement at any time without giving reasons according to IRC Rule 13.6.

RMYC Sportboat Class

The RMYC Sportboat Class is limited to keelboats whose hull length is not less than 6.0m and not greater than 10m. whose empty weight does not exceed 4000kg and whose DLR based on empty weight does not exceed 162. Boats in this class shall race with an IRC rating. Boats that are a one design class shall conform to class rules. Boats in this class are not required to carry an outboard motor.

One Design Classes

A separate class may be formed by a minimum of four boats from a one design class racing on a level rating, provided they form part of a class association and class rules are presented to the race committee by the association.





ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB

RMYC RACING CLASSES

RMYC Club Rating Class

The Club Class is for unrated keelboats, which comply in all respects with the requirements of the IRC Cruisers Division. The restriction on the use of Carbon in Rig, Appendages, Hull or sails is not applicable.

Boats will be scored using a World Sailing Empirical Handicap system based standard configuration with a Single Furling Headsail Only besides OSR Heavy Weather Sails and downwind sails.

An additional rating credit will be applied to boats of 2% for no downwind sails and 3% for a fixed propeller and a penalty of 1% for Carbon equipment.

An additional performance factor may be applied to boats that have characteristics which are considered to be of a high performance nature as considered appropriate by the Race Committee.

RMYC Pursuit Class

The RMYC Pursuit Class is open to all type of Sailing boats. The Organizing Authority (OA) will assign a Performance handicap to a boat based on the World Sailing Empirical Handicap and IRC rated boats will race under IRC in one class.

Each boat will get a start time by the OA based on your rating

The race can be run either on a fixed duration or a fixed course. In the case of a fixed course the boat placing is simply the order over the finish line. In the case of a fixed duration race the finish will be at the specified time and position will be determined by position at the finish time. In case of disputes boats will be placed based on distance to the next mark.





ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB

RMYC RACING CLASSES

Miscellaneous

Boats in all classes are required to carry all safety equipment necessary to comply with the Category of World Sailing's Offshore Special Regulations (OSR) as may be stipulated in the Notice of Race of each particular race / regatta. Boats will be inspected from time to time to make sure they comply with the event's relevant OSR category

Prizes

Unless otherwise stated in the Notice of Race, prizes shall be awarded as follows:

1. IRC Overall – 1st
2. IRC Racers – 1st, 2nd, 3rd. (per sub division)
3. IRC Cruisers – 1st, 2nd, 3rd
4. RMYC Club Cruiser – 1st, 2nd, 3rd

Classes prize eligibility

1. up to 4 Boats 1st prize.
2. up to 5 boats 1st and 2 nd.
3. 6 boats and over 1st, 2nd and 3rd.

IRC Ratings 2025

The RMYC is offering their Full Members special discounts of 50% on the cost of the Initial and annual revalidation certificates for their boat till 31st May 2026. Amendment certificate & Secondary certificate costs will be discounted by 30% of cost for 2026 for applications done before 1st October 2026

RMYC Racing Committee





ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB

RMYC CHALLENGE TROPHIES





ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB

RMYC CHALLENGE TROPHIES

The Royal Malta Yacht Club will be presenting the annual **Challenge Trophy** for the **Coastal, Offshore** and **Short Handed** Categories to the boat that performs best overall in the IRC Category in the local races which count towards the trophies as listed below. The owner of a boat eligible for this trophy shall be a full member of the RMYC.

Coastal Challenge Trophy

Race	Date	Points Factor
Camilleri Marine Gozo Weekend	March	1
Fully Crewed Figure of 8	April	1.5
Yachting Malta Coastal Race	October	2
BOV Gozo Weekend	November	1
Medcomms Round Malta Race	December	2



ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB

RMYC CHALLENGE TROPHIES

Offshore Challenge Trophy

	Date	Points Factor
Paymix Ragusa Weekend	May	1
The Dock Shop Marzamemi Weekend	June	1
Malta - Syracuse Race	July	1.5
Yachting Malta Licata Race	September	1
Rolex Middle Sea Race	October	2

Short Handed Challenge Trophy

Race	Date	Points Factor
Round Comino DH Race	January	1
Thomas Smith Round Gozo TH Race	February	1.5
Zhik Figure of 8 DH Race	December	2



ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB

RMYC CHALLENGE TROPHIES

Points will be awarded to each boat according to its overall position in each race which will vary with the number of starters according to the table below and multiplied by the Points factor for the race. A boat scored DNF or RET will be awarded 10 points which are not multiplied by the points factor. The points from the races in each category will then count for the award of the Trophy of the challenges separately and for an Overall including all races in all categories.

Points distribution for each category are listed below

Points Table																				
Number of Starters																				Place
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20 +			
31	43	52	60	66	72	76	80	84	87	90	92	94	96	97	98	99	100			1
25	37	46	54	60	66	70	74	78	81	84	86	88	90	91	92	93	94			2
21	33	42	50	56	62	66	70	74	77	80	82	84	86	87	88	89	90			3
	29	38	46	52	58	62	66	70	73	76	78	80	82	83	84	85	86			4
		35	43	49	55	59	63	67	70	73	75	77	79	80	81	82	83			5
			40	46	52	56	60	64	67	70	72	74	76	77	78	79	80			6
				44	50	54	58	62	65	68	70	72	74	75	76	77	78			7
					48	52	56	60	63	66	68	70	72	73	74	75	76			8
						50	54	58	61	64	66	68	70	71	72	73	74			9
							52	56	59	62	64	66	68	69	70	71	72			10
								54	57	60	62	64	66	67	68	69	70			11
									55	58	60	62	64	65	66	67	68			12
										56	58	60	62	63	64	65	66			13
											57	59	61	62	63	64	65			14
												58	60	61	62	63	64			15
													59	60	61	62	63			16
														59	60	61	62			17
															59	60	61			18
																59	60			19
																	59			20

After place 20 reduce points by 0.5 each place to a minimum of 11

DNF, RET: 10 Points. DNC, DNS, DSQ, DNE, NSC: 0 Points.

RMYC Race Committee



ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB

2025 SHORT HANDED CHALLENGE TROPHY WINNER

VIVACE

ANDREW AGIUS DELICATA & MATTHEW GABRIELE





ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB

2025 COASTAL & OFFSHORE CHALLENGE TROPHY WINNER

TON TON LAFERLA INSURANCE
JONATHAN GAMBIN





ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB

RACE CALENDAR



The Royal Malta Yacht Club's 2026 Race Calendar offers a comprehensive programme of racing that reflects the Club's strong offshore heritage and its commitment to inclusive, competitive sailing across all levels. From winter and midweek series to classic offshore passages and flagship international events, the calendar provides varied opportunities for racers, cruisers and shorthanded crews alike, reinforcing the Club's position at the heart of Malta's sailing community.



ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB

EURILCA MASTERS SERIES |

9 -11 JANUARY



The EurILCA Master Series is a series of regattas run throughout the year in various stunning venues across Europe. The competition is open to sailors aged who attain the age of 30 in 2026 across all rigs (ILCA 7, ILCA 6 and ILCA 4).

Fierce competition on the water paired with a great apres-sail social scene make the EurILCA Master Series regattas extremely popular events on the European sailing calendar and a great opportunity for Maltese sailors to compete in an international event in local waters.

The EurILCA Masters Series event is supported by Yachting Malta





ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB

RMYC WINTER SERIES BY BENETEAU | **17 JANUARY, 28 FEBRUARY, 7 MARCH, 18 APRIL**



The four-race Winter Series forms a core part of the Royal Malta Yacht Club's early-season programme, delivering competitive fleet racing across varied winter conditions.

Beginning on 17 January and continuing through 28 February and 7 March, the series rewards consistency, tactical awareness and sound boat handling as standings gradually take shape. The final race on 18 April provides a decisive conclusion, offering crews a last opportunity to secure overall series honours after several months of closely contested racing.





ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB

DOUBLE HANDED ROUND COMINO | 31 JANUARY



This challenge tests both endurance and teamwork, as double-handed crews race around the island of Comino on a course renowned for its tactical and strategic demands. Despite its challenges, the race remains a firm favourite among seasoned sailors.

Points from this race contribute towards the Short-Handed Challenge Trophy standings.



ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB

THOS. SMITH TRIPLE HANDED GOZO NIGHT RACE | 14TH FEBRUARY



A technically demanding night race to Gozo, sailed with a three-person crew, placing strong emphasis on navigation, watch systems and decision-making after dark. Shorthanded racing continues to grow in popularity, and this event remains a firm favourite among the Club's more experienced and committed sailors. All competing boats must carry exactly three crew.

Points from this race contribute towards the Short-Handed Challenge Trophy standings.



Thomas Smith
Insurance Brokers



ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB

CAMILLERI MARINE GOZO WEEKEND | **28TH - 31ST MARCH**



A firm favourite on the calendar, the Gozo Weekend combines competitive racing with a destination format, featuring both passage races and inshore competition. Taking advantage of the long Freedom Day weekend, the Club also complements the on-water programme with a series of social events, ensuring an engaging and enjoyable experience for crews both on and off the water.

Points from this race contribute towards the Coastal Challenge Trophy standings.





ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB

FIGURE OF 8 RACE | 11 APRIL

One of the Club's most recognisable courses, the Figure of 8 Race is popular for its tactical complexity and scenic coastal route.

Points from this race contribute towards the Coastal Challenge Trophy standings



2023 September - Miame Too
Ralph Landwehr
8hrs 3 minutes 48 seconds

PAYMIX RAGUSA WEEKEND | 1 - 3 MAY

The Paymix Ragusa Weekend Regatta is a highly anticipated race, it being the first offshore race for the season. The Race sees the fleet cross to Sicily before returning to Maltese waters, challenging crews with variable conditions while offering a balanced programme of racing and shore-based social interaction.

Points from this race contribute towards the Offshore Challenge Trophy standings





ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB

RMYC QUEST DINGHY REGATTA |

11-12 MAY, 18-19 MAY, 25-26 MAY



The Quest Dinghy Regatta series spans three dedicated weekends of racing on the Royal Malta Yacht Club's Sailing School Quest fleet, with a strong focus on youth development and competitive dinghy sailing.

Across the Quest Dinghy Regatta Series, participants will be given the opportunity to build skills, confidence and healthy rivalry, culminating in the final weekend where overall winners are decided after multiple rounds of racing.



ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB
Sailing School



ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB

DOCK SHOP MARZAMEMI WEEKEND |

5 - 7 JUNE

Another offshore challenge, the Dock Shop Marzamemi Weekend is a firm favourite and an always-popular fixture on the Royal Malta Yacht Club calendar.

Combining passage racing with a relaxed destination atmosphere, it is as much about the experience ashore as it is about the sailing.

Marzamemi remains a favourite haunt for members, with a strong social programme that regularly attracts family and friends who are not racing to join in the weekend's events.

Points from this race contribute towards the Offshore Challenge Trophy standings.





ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB

TWILIGHT PURSUIT SERIES |

17, 24 JUNE, 1, 8, 15, 22 JULY

Introduced last year, the Twilight Pursuit Series uses a pursuit racing format, with boats starting at staggered times based on handicap—slower boats first, faster boats later. The objective is simple: be the first to cross the finish line. This format promotes close, competitive racing across mixed fleets. Sailed midweek, the series encourages regular participation, tactical after-work racing and concludes with a social gathering after each race.

MALTA - SYRACUSE RACE |

10 - 12 JULY

The Malta–Syracuse Offshore Yacht Race, established in 1952 by Royal Navy sailor John Illingworth, is one of the Mediterranean's oldest and most respected races. Jointly organised by the Royal Malta Yacht Club and the Lega Navale Italiana – Sezione Siracusa, the race links Grand Harbour with Siracusa, challenging crews with variable winds, currents and navigational demands. It remains a valued offshore fixture, with strong Maltese and Italian participation, combining competitive racing with a strong tradition of seamanship and cooperation between two historic maritime centres.

Points from this race contribute towards the Offshore Challenge Trophy standings



2014 July - Dreamer Tech
Massimo Savoca
8hrs 34 minutes 22 seconds





ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB

YACHTING MALTA RACE WEEK |

11 - 13 , 15 - 17 , 19 - 21 SEPTEMBER



Yachting Malta Licata Offshore Race | 11-13 September

Whilst this race will be a good opportunity for local crews aiming to compete in the Rolex Middle Sea Race to put in some offshore practice in, crews who are more inclined towards cruising can enjoy a long sail there and back. The duration of this event also allows for some socialising.

Points from this race contribute towards the Offshore Challenge Trophy standings

Yachting Malta Steering the Course | 15-17 September

A World Sailing initiative supported by the International Olympic Committee, Steering The Course aims to introduce women and girls across the globe to the sport of sailing, as well as encourage alternative pathways for those already within the sport, such as coaching or officiating. The event is held in collaboration with Vikings Sailing Club



Steering
the Course
Women's Sailing
Festival



Yachting Malta Dinghy National Championships | 19-21 September

The National Championships bring together Malta's sailing clubs to the RMYC, who's sailors are vying to compete for national titles across Optimist, ILCA, RS Feva, and Topper Classes.





ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB

YACHTING MALTA RACE WEEK |

11 - 13 , 15 - 17 , 19 - 21 SEPTEMBER





ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB

CANNES TO MALTA RACE | 5- 12 OCTOBER



The Cannes to Malta Race, hosted by the Yacht Club de Cannes and the Royal Malta Yacht Club is a long-distance - 600nm offshore event linking the French Riviera with Malta, aimed towards attracting an international fleet of experienced crews.

Renowned for its length and strategic complexity, the race tests endurance, navigation and offshore preparation, particularly as it takes place before the Rolex Middle Sea Race.

The Cannes to Malta Race is supported by 20Twenty and Visit Malta.





ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB

YACHTING MALTA COASTAL RACE | 14 OCTOBER



A tactical coastal course delivering fast-paced and closely contested racing in familiar waters, the event sharpens boat handling, teamwork and decision-making. Positioned just days before the Rolex Middle Sea Race, it serves as an ideal final test for systems, crew coordination and race readiness ahead of the Club's flagship offshore challenge.

Points from this race contribute towards the Coastal Challenge Trophy standings.





ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB

ROLEX MIDDLE SEA RACE |

17 - 24 OCTOBER



The Royal Malta Yacht Club's flagship offshore event, the Rolex Middle Sea Race is internationally recognised as one of the most challenging and rewarding races in the Mediterranean.

The 606-nautical-mile course starts and finishes in Malta, sending the fleet on a demanding circumnavigation of Sicily and its surrounding islands. The race tests seamanship, endurance and tactical judgement, consistently attracting a world-class field and delivering competition of the highest standard.

Points from this race contribute towards the Offshore Challenge Trophy standings

Further support is provided by Visit Malta and Yachting Malta





ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB

BOV GOZO WEEKEND REGATTA | 13-15 NOVEMBER

The BOV Gozo Regatta is a long-established highlight of the Royal Malta Yacht Club calendar, bringing together a strong fleet of Racers and Cruisers for a weekend of racing in Gozo's coastal waters.

Combining competitive racing with a strong social programme the BOV Gozo Weekend remains a popular and highly valued late-season event.

Points from this race contribute towards the Coastal Challenge Trophy standings.

BOV





ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB

ZHIK DOUBLE HANDED FIGURE OF 8 RACE | 28 NOVEMBER



If racing double handed is not challenging enough, traditionally this race has seen its fair share of dramatic conditions over the years. Described as an iconic event where the sailing is tough and the scenery spectacular, the 85nm course is not for the faint hearted.

Points from this race contribute towards the Short Handed Challenge Trophy standings.



2022 December - Elusive 2
Aaron, & Christoph Podesta
8hrs 26 minutes 45 seconds





ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB

MEDCOMMS ROUND MALTA | **13 DECEMBER**

The Medcomms Round Malta Race marks the competitive season finale on the Royal Malta Yacht Club sailing calendar. An ultimate test of endurance and seamanship, the race sends the fleet on a full circumnavigation of the Maltese Islands.

Its growing popularity was evident in the 2025 edition, which attracted a record entry of 30 boats across both racing and cruising divisions.

Points from this race contribute towards the Coastal Challenge Trophy standings.



2019 December - Artie III
Lee Satariano
4hrs 44 minutes 55 seconds

medcomms
MARINE ELECTRONICS





ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB

BOXING DAY RALLY |

26 DECEMBER



The Boxing Day Rally in aid of the Malta Community Chest Fund Foundation is a festive fixture that perfectly captures the spirit of the season.

Combining fun on the water with a meaningful cause, crews are encouraged to dress up, decorate their boats and enjoy a relaxed sail, followed by mince pies and mulled wine at the finish.

A light-hearted and generous way to close the year, all in support of a worthy cause.



THE MALTA COMMUNITY
CHEST FUND
FOUNDATION



ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB

RMYC PARTNERS



THANK YOU

The Royal Malta Yacht Club extends its sincere thanks to all sponsors, volunteers, staff, and photographers whose continued support and commitment make the delivery of this racing calendar possible.

Your contribution, both on and off the water, plays a vital role in the success and ongoing growth of the Club's sailing programme.

Photo Credits:

Sandra Agius Darmanin, Andrea Azzopardi, Deea Buzdugan, Edward Flores, Luiza Passow, Alex Turnbull, Mark Vella, Rolex / Kurt Arrigo





ROYAL MALTA YACHT CLUB

CONTACT INFORMATION



+356 2133 3109



RC-SAILING@RMYC.ORG



<https://rmyc.org/races/>