

ABERSOCH KEELBOAT WEEK

Sunday 23 August – Friday 28 August 2026

SOUTH CAERNARVONSHIRE YACHT CLUB

NOTICE OF RACE

Sponsored by One Sails GBR (South) Ltd

Introduction

South Caernarvonshire Yacht Club (SCYC) is delighted to host Abersoch Keelboat Week 2026, an open event proudly sponsored by One Sails GBR (South) Ltd.

Now established for over 45 years, Keelboat Week has earned a reputation as a regatta that perfectly balances competitive racing with a welcoming, sociable atmosphere. On the water, the racing is serious and rewarding, ashore, the relaxed environment makes it equally enjoyable for crews, families and visitors alike.

SCYC enjoys a truly spectacular setting, with breathtaking views across Cardigan Bay, Snowdonia and the Llŷn Peninsula. The sailing waters are clean and uncrowded, free from commercial traffic, with fair and manageable tidal conditions, ideal for competitive yet enjoyable racing.

For those ashore, Abersoch offers something for everyone. Its sandy beaches boast clear, often surprisingly warm waters and on calm days, dolphins can sometimes be spotted playing close to shore. The village itself provides a vibrant mix of shops, bars and restaurants, while the surrounding countryside offers plenty of opportunities for exploration and relaxation.

Keelboat Week 2026 – Summary

Waterside Classes:

IRC1

IRC2

Small Keelboats (YTC/IRC)

Cruiser Class with spinnaker

White Sails

Key Points:

- IRC1, IRC2, Small Keelboats (YTC/IRC) will race “offshore” with committee boat starts
- Cruiser Class with spinnaker & White Sails will race starting and finishing from the Club line
- Sunday 23rd August will be a practice day
- A limited number of free moorings will be available to visiting yachts

Shoreside

The Cove restaurant will be available for competitors & visitors who should make their own reservations throughout the week on The Cove Website, annaatthecove.com.

Tuesday 25th, Wednesday 26th & Friday 28th August 2026 have been reserved for competitors & competitors guests **only** for the dinners. Note, Friday 28th August will be a curry night. To book onto one of these dinners, please visit scyc.co.uk/club-dinners/ Daily prize-giving will be held in the bar with entertainment and light bites. On Friday, a closing party with live music will be arranged for the Friday evening.

1. Organising Authority

1.1 The Event is organised by and sailed under the burgee SCYC Abersoch, in the waters of Tremadog Bay, Admiralty Chart 1971.

2. Rules

2.1 The event will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing 2025–2028.

2.2 The RYA Prescriptions will apply.

2.3 Class rules for IRC and Small Keelboats and any one-design classes will apply unless changed by this Notice of Race or the Sailing Instructions.

2.4 The Sailing Instructions (SIs) may amend rules where permitted.

2.5 In the event of conflict, the SIs shall prevail.

3. Advertising

3.1 Competitors may be required to display event or sponsor advertising supplied by the Organising Authority.

3.2 Competitor advertising must comply with World Sailing Regulation 20.

4. Eligibility and Classes

4.1 The event is open to the following fleets:

- IRC1
- IRC2
- Small Keelboats (YTC/IRC)
- Cruiser Class with spinnaker
- White Sails

4.2 Boats racing under IRC must hold a valid IRC Certificate or IRC Limited Validity TCC.

4.3 Boats racing under YTC must hold a valid RYA YTC rating.

5. Schedule of Races

5.1 Sunday 23rd August 2026 – Registration & Practice Races

| TIME | ACTIVITY |
|-----------|--|
| 10:00 hrs | Registration – SCYC Commodore's Bar |
| 12:00 hrs | Skippers' Briefing – SCYC Lower Deck |
| 13:45 hrs | Practice Race Warning – Cruiser Class with spinnaker & White Sails |
| 13:55 hrs | Practice Race Warning – IRC 1 |
| 14:05 hrs | Practice Race Warning – IRC 2 |
| 14:15 hrs | Practice Race Warning – Small Keelboats |
| 17:30 hrs | Après-sail & daily prize-giving |

5.2 Monday 24th – Friday 28th August 2026 – Keelboat Week Racing

| DETAIL | NOTES |
|-----------------------------|---|
| First warning signal | Not before 10:55 hrs each day |
| IRC & Small Keelboats | Multiple races per day |
| Cruiser Class & White Sails | One or more coastal / around-the-cans races per day |
| Friday 28th August 2026 | No warning signal after 14:30 hrs |

6. Scoring System

- 6.1 There will be a maximum of 10 races for all IRC classes.
- 6.2 There will be a maximum of 10 races for the Small Keelboats class.
- 6.3 3 races will constitute a series in all classes.
- 6.4 The low point scoring system described in Appendix A of the RRS will apply except that one discard is available once 5 races have been completed and 2 discards once 8 races have been completed.
- 6.5 IRC classes must provide a current certificate for scoring and handicap purposes.
- 6.6 All other classes will be scored under the YTC Handicap System.
- 6.7 Owners/skippers should apply in advance for a YTC handicap rating to swytc.org.uk/applications.asp
- 6.8 A single YTC certificate for a one design fleet will be acceptable.
- 6.9 The overall winner will be chosen from the fleet winners only, using a normalised boats-beaten percentage after discards, so different fleet sizes and race numbers can be compared fairly. Ties will be broken by total boats beaten, then by fleet result profile.

7. Entries

- 7.1 Entry will be via the SCYC website.
- 7.2 Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the Race Committee.

8. Sailing Instructions

- 8.1 These will be available to each competitor online prior to the event.

9. Courses

- 9.1 IRC1, IRC2 & Small Keelboats: Windward–Leeward courses using laid marks.
- 9.2 Cruiser Class & White Sails: Coastal and/or around the SCYC permanent marks.
- 9.3 Course boards will be displayed on the committee boat or on the bridge deck depending on the Class racing before each warning signal.
- 9.4 Course diagrams will be included in the SIs (Appendices 1 & 2).

10. Mobile Telephones

10.1 The race committee may text/WhatsApp courses and other information to a single mobile telephone number that has been registered to the boat. To enhance this service, telephones should use a UK based service provider.

11. Disclaimer and Responsibility

11.1 Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS Rule 4, Decision to Race. The organising authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

11.2 RRS Appendix J Addendum A (RYA) 'Risk Statement' will also apply.

11.3 Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk. By taking part in the regatta, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:

- 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 regatta
- They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore
- They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions
- Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the regatta and they are fit to participate
- The provision of a race management team, patrol boats and other officials and volunteers does not relieve them of their own responsibilities
- The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances
- The wearing of personal flotation devices is strongly recommended at all times

12. Insurance

12.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £3,000,000 per incident or the equivalent.

13. Health and Safety

13.1 All yachts in IRC and White Sails classes shall have a suitable working engine irrespective of class rules.

13.2 All yachts must ensure that their anchor is NOT positioned forward of the stem.

13.3 IRC yachts shall comply with ORC safety regulations Category 4.

13.4 All yachts in the non-IRC class must comply with the following minimum requirements:

- Adequate sails for heavy weather
- One life jacket for each crew member
- Orange smoke and white flares or VHF
- Paddle
- One bilge pump
- Bailer or bucket
- First aid kit with provision for burns
- Two fire extinguishers
- Anchor with 15 fathoms chain and/or warp
- Marine compass

13.5 All competitors are required to abide by SCYC's Health & Safety Policies and Procedures – full details are available in the SCYC office.

14. Sail Numbers

14.1 Sail numbers which are clearly visible at all times when under sail, must be carried in accordance with RRS Appendix G and where carried on a spinnaker or headsail must correspond with that carried on the main sail.

15. St Tudwals Roads' Moorings

15.1 Swing moorings are available for all sizes of visiting boats. Requests for a mooring, stating requirements, should be submitted on the entry form no later than 31st July 2026. Moorings are limited in number and will be allocated strictly on a 'first-come, first-served' basis.

15.2 A launch service between SCYC and St Tudwal's Roads moorings will operate each day during Keelboat Week.

15.3 Late launches **may** be arranged with the Bosun at SCYC.

16. Prizes

16.1 Daily prizes will be awarded at SCYC after racing.

16.2 Series prizes will be awarded on Friday 28th August 2026.

16.3 Additional trophies may be awarded at the discretion of SCYC.

16.4 Prizes will be awarded to each class. The number of prizes will depend on the number of entries.

16.5 Classes will compete for their own division trophy as well as for the overall trophies which include:

The Kearns Trophy for the boat achieving best performance over the series, **as per point 6.9**

The Sarah Ridgway Trophy for the boat showing best endeavour over the series.

The Hardcastle Trophy for the visiting boat whose skipper is not a member of SCYC and who has not won the Kearns Trophy in 2026.

16.6 The overall winner (the Kearns Trophy winner) will be chosen from the fleet winners only, using a normalised boats-beaten percentage after discards, so different fleet sizes and race numbers can be compared fairly. Ties will be broken by total boats beaten, then by fleet result profile.

17. Changes to Notice of Race

17.1 Changes and additions to the Notice of Race will be posted on the club website.

18. Further Information

18.1 Enquiries and entries should be addressed to The Office, Abersoch Keelboat Week, South Caernarvonshire Yacht Club (SCYC), The Headland, Abersoch, Gwynedd. LL53 7DP.

Telephone: 01758 712338 | Email: office@scyc.co.uk

19. Entry Fees

| CLASS | Fee UNTIL 09/08/26 | Fee AFTER 09/08/26 |
|------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| IRC1 Series entry | £225.00 | £275.00 |
| IRC2 Series entry | £225.00 | £275.00 |
| Small Keelboats Series entry | £150.00 | £180.00 |
| Cruiser Class Series Entry | £150.00 | £180.00 |
| White Sails | £150.00 | £180.00 |

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