BLACK ISLE CHALLENGE CUP
Saturday 19th September 2026
NOTICE OF RACE

1. Organising Authority

1.1 The event is organised by Chanonry Sailing Club (CSC), The Harbour, Fortrose, St Andrews Walk, Fortrose, IV10 8TP, www.chanonry.org.uk

1.2 Enquires, further information or advance entry can be sent by email to: diarmid57@gmail.com. Cheques should be made payable to: Chanonry Sailing Club.

2. Rules

The races will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RSS), the prescriptions of the RYA, the RYA Racing Charter and the rules of the classes participating except as any of these are changed by the Notice of Race or the Sailing Instructions.

3. Eligibility and Entry

3.1 The event is open to all keelboats and cruisers.

3.2 All Visiting helms shall be members of an RYA affiliated club or be full personal members of the RYA.

3.3 Competitors shall complete the entry and pay the entry fee to be eligible to race.

4. Fees

The race entry fee is £10.

5. Schedule

There will be one race, which will commence at 11:00 hours BST.

Tidal predictions for Inverness 19th September 2026:

LW	11:07 BST	2.1 metres
HW	18:26 BST	3.2 metres

6. Sailing Instructions

6.1 The sailing instructions and courses will be available on the CSC web site www.chanonry.org.uk and from the Race Officer on the day.

6.2 Any changes may be carried out up to 15 minutes prior to the race start and such changes will be announced by hail or by radio on VHF channel 37 (M1).

7. Marks

The marks of the course will be a combination of CSC marks and NLB navigational buoys as depicted in the document "*2026 BICC – Appendix 1 Courses*" accompanying the Sailing Instructions.

8 Race Area & Courses

The race will take place in the Moray Firth within six nautical miles of Chanonry Point lighthouse. Course marks will be described in the Sailing Instructions and are available on the CSC web site. The courses to be sailed will be announced on VHF channel 37 (M1) prior to the start.

9. Classes & Handicaps

Class 1 for vessels with a CYCA handicap up to and including 21 minutes and Class 2 for vessels with a CYCA handicap of 21.01 and over. The CYCA handicap system will be used based on the latest published CYCA handicap data. If no PY or CYCA Handicap is available, please provide the following additional information requested on the Entry Form so that handicap calculations can be made. Club handicaps can be used if supporting documentation is provided.

Please be advised that for the 2026 season there will be a 'no spinnaker/cruising chute' allowance to these events. This year it will be set at 6% in addition to the boat's CYCA handicap. The boat will remain in the handicap class, as defined above but, where requested, the allowance will be added when calculating the results. **Any boat claiming this allowance in a prior 2026 MYA event must continue to compete in this BICC event without the use of a spinnaker/cruising chute.**

10. Hazards

A number of hazards exist in the immediate vicinity of Fortrose Harbour:

- A yellow buoy marks Craig an Roan rocks ~400 m to the east of the harbour.
- A perch marks a sewer outfall ~200m to the west of the harbour.
- An orange buoy marks a shoal area just to the east of the harbour, while a red buoy marks the end of a substantial shoal running NE from the south wall of the harbour; pass between these when entering and leaving the harbour.
- There is an unmarked rock ~100 m off the starter's box on the harbour; 1m above seabed and does not dry except on extreme spring tide. It may be marked with a small pale-yellow buoy on its seaward side.
- Moored boats and mooring buoys are offshore from the harbour and may have trailing lines at the surface.

The Inverness Firth and Inner Moray Firth Areas are subject to a number of further hazards in particular:

- Strong tides in the narrows
- Creels and associated marker buoys (these may be Submerged in certain tidal conditions) laid in the shallower parts including on Skate Bank Shoal areas
- Boulder strewn shorelines
- Merchant shipping activity and other recreational usage.

Participants are requested to maintain a sharp lookout and navigate with due care and attention.

11. Disclaimer of liability, risk statement and insurance requirement

Competitors participate in the event entirely at their own risk. See 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 event.

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:

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;

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 event and they are fit to participate;

The provision of a race organiser, and other officials and volunteers does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;

This event has no safety boat cover, competitors should have a high degree of self-sufficiency; in the event of serious safety incident communications should be direct between vessel and Aberdeen Coastguard by DSC or Channel 16 as appropriate;

It is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks specific to the event drawn to their attention in any rules and information produced for the event and to attend any safety briefing held for the event.

Their boat is adequately insured (including racing risk), with valid cover of at least £2,000,000 against third party claims.

12. Prizes

Prizes will be awarded after racing at the clubhouse. The Black Isle Challenge Cup trophies will be awarded to the first boats in each class following completion of the race. The overall MYA series prizegiving will also take place.

13. Berthing, water taxi and hospitality

Be advised that the club moorings have been fully de-commissioned so all visiting boats will, where appropriate, need to anchor. Given the timing and range of tide on the day access into the harbour will be very limited. harbourmaster@chanonry.org.uk

Water taxi will be available pre-race and post-race.

Post-race, around the prize giving, a social event will be held with hot food and a licensed bar. All past and present MYA crews and families are welcome to attend this social which is scheduled to start in the clubhouse after racing has finished. It really helps those providing hospitality to have a good idea in advance of how many people are going to attend. Please let us know how many are intending to eat as early as possible - thanks.