NOTICE OF RACE (NoR)

RNLI NESS CUP RACE

Long distance race for Cruisers and Dinghies

Saturday 18th JULY 2026

The Harbour, St. Andrew's Walk, Fortrose, IV10 8TP
www.chanonry.org.uk

1. RULES

The event is governed by the 'Rules' as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).

2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

2.1 The sailing instructions will be available two weeks before the event.

2.2 The sailing instructions will consist of the instructions in RRS Appendix S. Standard Sailing Instructions, and Supplementary Sailing Instructions. The latter will be on the official notice board in the Race Office at the Clubhouse and at chanonry.org.uk/ness-cup.

3. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

3.1 All competing Helms shall comply with Rule 75 "ENTERING A RACE"

3.2 Visiting Helms who do not comply with Rule 75 can take out and pay for temporary membership of Chanonry Sailing Club – see chanonry.org.uk/visitor.html.

3.3 Eligible boats may enter by completing the online entry form and paying by Saturday 18th JULY 2026. These are available using chanonry.org.uk/ness-cup.html.

3.4 To be considered an entry in the event, a boat shall complete all entry registration requirements and pay all fees.

4. FEES

Entry fees per boat: £15 single hander and £25 double hander or cruiser and £5 discount if helm <18yrs. [Note: Entry Fees will be donated to the RNLI]

5. SCHEDULE

5.1 Registration, to confirm a boat's intention to start, opens on the day of the event at **11:30** in the Race Office at the Clubhouse and may be achieved in person with social distancing or by radio channel M1.

5.2 A briefing will take place at the clubhouse at **12:15**.

5.3 One race is planned with a combined start for Cruisers and Dinghies. The warning signal for the race is **13:05** and the start **10** minutes later.

5.4 There shall be no warning signal after **14:45**.

5.5 Predicted High water time is **16:02 BST / 4.3 m**.

6. COURSES

6.1 Racing will take place in the Inner Moray Firth between Fortrose Harbour and Kilmuir. The race will start and finish at Fortrose Harbour using the marks listed below. The detail of the Course to be sailed will be provided in the Sailing Instructions.

6.2 The race distance will be approximately 14 miles and the race could take up to 5 hours for slower boats.

6.3 The marks that may be used are as follows:

Descriptions and Approximate Positions
Orange Buoy normally marked "A" off Fortrose Harbour.
Orange Buoy normally marked "C" off the Caravan Site
Munlochy Buoy – south Channel
Petty Bank Buoy 57°31.58'N, 04°08.98'W
Orange Pyramid Buoy laid to the west of Munlochy Bay and east of Kilmuir, off the north shore of the Inverness Firth.

7. PRIVACY STATEMENT

7.1 The personal information you provide to the organizing authority will be used to facilitate your participation in the event. If you have agreed to be bound by the Racing Rules of Sailing and the other rules that govern the event (the rules), the legal basis for processing that personal information is contract. If you are not bound by the rules, the legal basis for processing that personal information is legitimate interest. Your personal information will be stored and used in accordance with the organizing authority's privacy policy. When required by the rules, personal information may be shared with the RYA, your national authority and/or World Sailing. The results of the event and the outcome of any hearing or appeal may be published.

8. RISK STATEMENT

8.1 Rule 3 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.'

8.2 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:

(a) 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;

(b) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;

(c) They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;

(d) Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;

(e) The provision of a race management team, patrol boats and other officials and volunteers by the event organizer does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;

(f) The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances;

(g) It is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks specific to this venue or this event drawn to their attention in any rules and information produced for the venue or event and to attend any safety briefing held for the event;

8. INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £2,000,000 per incident or the equivalent.

9. PRIZES

9.1 The prize giving will take place outside the Clubhouse as soon as possible after the race. **The Ness Cup will be awarded to** the first placed boat overall owned (or helmed) by a member of the Club. This excludes Temporary Memberships. Prizes will be awarded to the first, second and third placed cruisers, and for the first, second and third placed dinghies, depending on the number of entries and at the discretion of the Race Committee.

10. CANCELLATION PRE-EVENT DAY

10.1 A decision to cancel will be taken jointly by the Event Organiser and the Race Officer by 11:00 on the day before the event. The event is likely to be cancelled if, at 10:00 hours on the day before, the Met Office weather forecast for Fortrose (Highland) shows a mean wind speed and/or gusts exceeding F5 during the period of 12:00 to 18:00 hrs on Saturday 18th JULY.

10.2 Cancellation due to expected strong winds will be notified by **13:15** on the day before the event as follows:

- Club website home page – chanonry.org.uk and the event page.
- Email to those that have entered and provided an email address.

11. SAFETY INFORMATION

Refer to the Notice of Rave and the Safety & Event Management Plan.

12. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please contact the Club via sailing@chanonry.org.uk.

NoR - COMPETITOR SAFETY ADDENDUM

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A. The Ness Cup is a longstanding event on the Club calendar. It's a long-distance race for both cruisers and dinghies with the entry fee supporting the RNLI. The race is a bit different from our usual races at around 14 nautical miles long. It's for experienced sailors looking for something different and challenging. All sailors entering must be confident that they and their vessel can sail the course in the weather/sea conditions of the day without requiring any assistance under normal circumstances. We welcome entries from those who are willing to engage in the longstanding seafaring traditions of self-sufficiency and have made plans and provisions for self-rescue if need be.

B. Safety cover is limited and may not be in close contact with competitors. Safety boats will not be able to engage in protracted towing until the event is over and boats that can no longer be sailed may have to be abandoned.

C. It is expected that competitors will give assistance if there is any possibility that it is required; RRS 1.1 "Helping Those in Danger" applies. Requests for redress will be favourably considered.

D. The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone; RRS 4 "Decision to Race" applies.

E. Parents/Guardians are reminded that competitors may be sent ashore at any time during the day if conditions, gear breakages or illness so dictate. Please ensure that you or another designated person known to the Race Officer is always available ashore. The Race Officer will generally be in the starter's box on the Harbour.

F. It is recommended that participants ensure that their boat equipment and sailing gear are in good working order for the weather/sea conditions of the day and consider fog, no wind and strong tides, strong wind, and breakages, capsizes entrapment, food and drink etc. Boats participating should carry adequate gear to enable them to be self-sufficient under all likely circumstances.

G. Each participant boat is encouraged to carry a means of communication with the Race Office (vhf and/or mobile) for emergency use and to provide details on their Race Entry form.

H. In an emergency shelter and relatively safe landfall for dinghies may be found at the following locations shown on a chart displayed at the Race Office in the Clubhouse:
   - Kilmuir beach shown as a red circle on the chart (westerlies through to northerlies)
   - Munlochy Bay on the pontoon on the south shore near the entrance shown as red square on the chart (southerlies through to westerlies)
   - Alturlie beach shown as a red triangle on the chart (easterlies through to southerlies)
   - Avoch Harbour shown as a red star on the chart (westerlies through to northerlies). Also suitable for cruisers at high water

I. The Race Officer will generally be monitoring VHF Channels M1 and 16 apart from during starting procedures.

J. **HAZARDS:** Craigan Roan Rocks to the east of the Harbour and a sewer outfall marked with a perch to the west of the Harbour. When leaving and approaching the harbour pass to the north east of a shoal area running from the south wall of the harbour and to the west of a shoal area ~200m to the east of the harbour. Both shoal areas may be marked with small buoys - normally orange.

   There is a rock about 100 metres directly off the starter's box on the harbour. It is approximately 1m above seabed and does not dry except on extreme spring tide. It may be marked with a small yellow buoy.

K. **CATERING:** We'll have tea and coffee ready in the clubhouse before the event. Afterward, stick around for soup, sandwiches, and some bakes (plus more tea and coffee!). If you want anything else to eat or drink, feel free to bring it along.