



Cock of the Broads Passage Race

Briefing Notes 2026

Entries

- We would encourage you to enter online using WebCollect for the weekend which will include this race. However, entries will be accepted on the day.
- All river cruisers, production cruisers, half decked keel boats, allcomers, centreboard or dagger board dinghies over 18ft in boat length can enter.

Exclusions

- No single hander crews will be allowed, due to safety.
- There is a minimum of a crew of two limit.
- All **helms** should be **16** years or over on the racing day.

Select start time

- Boats will confidentially nominate their start time at Race Control from 09:00 to 11:00 on Monday.
- There will be starts every **5 minutes** from 11:30 am to 13:00
- A maximum of **6** boats per 5 minutes start time.
- Skippers will be given a form on which they will nominate **three** start times in order of preference. This will be confidential, and they will not be able to find out when anyone else is starting.
- Race Control will inform each helm which of their times has been allocated. If all their choices are already taken, they will be given three further choices which will be repeated until an available slot is found.
- It is run on a first come, first served basis. The earlier you enter the more likely you are to get the entry time of your choice.

Race duration

- Approx. 1.5 to 2 hours. The cut off time for finishing is 14:30. Anyone on the course at this time, will be timed out.

Safety

- Personal Buoyancy must be worn by all dinghy sailors at all times.
- All other competitors must wear personal buoyancy if the Y flag is flown (yellow & red diagonal stripes) which is at the discretion of the Officer of the Day.
- Please note that all aspects of safety are the sole responsibility of participating skippers and crew. The EACC team will try to assist if any competitor has a problem.
- The EACC safety boats will be on the water.

East Anglian Cruising Club

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Rivers & Boats Users

- **A boat that is racing shall not request, instruct or otherwise cause a non-competing craft that is keeping close to the right-hand bank (from the perspective of the non-competing craft), such that there is insufficient room between the craft and the bank for the racing boat to pass safely between them, to move away from that bank.**
 - **All non-competing craft are to be treated as obstructions.**
 - **Competitors shall show courtesy and consideration to all other river users. Any breach of this rule is liable to be dealt with in accordance with EACC Rule 69 Misconduct.**

Handicaps

- All boats will sail to a percentage handicap. Equivalent handicaps will be allocated for boats which normally sail to a Portsmouth Yardstick handicap.
- If a vessel does not have a handicap, one will be allocated.
- A River Cruiser on a provisional handicap **WILL NOT** be entitled to win any trophies but will be timed.

Guard Ships

- There will be two guardships placed at each of two turning marks. These will be manned by EACC members.
- The guardships are not rescue boats but will be able to relay safety messages to race control.
- They will supervise the turning marks.
- Please inform them of any competitor who has a significant problem or that has had to retire from the race. This can also be done through the WhatsApp group.
- They will be moored as near as possible to the turning marks.

Emergency situations

- You can join TMOR WhatsApp group, and information can be found on the Announcement channel.
- If you have an emergency and are not near a safety boat or guard ship, please put a message on the WhatsApp group which will be monitored during the race.
- Or contact Phill Martin – EACC TMOR Support on 07973 710461

The course

- The course will not be decided until Monday morning.
- The course will be from the start line at Thurne Mouth, around two marks and then finish at the Thurne Mouth line.
- The position of the marks will be decided on the day by the starting team but are likely to include a turning mark at or near Acle, and a mark towards St Benets Abbey. It is highly unlikely that this mark will be beyond Cockshoot Broad.
- The positions and the side of rounding of the marks will be published on the WhatsApp Group and course board on the point, when they have been decided by the OOD, on the day of the race, but the intention is to produce a race of up to 2 hours.
- Competitors may choose to round the marks in any order.
- Please note that you will not race towards Potter Heigham.

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The start

- This will be in the direction indicated on the course board.
- The normal X zone rules will apply.
- Flags:
 - A special Cock of the Broads flag (black with a cock on it), will be hoisted at the first 10 minute hooter.
 - The Blue Peter will be hoisted at the 5 minute hooter.
 - The COB flag will be dropped and then re-hoisted at the first start and at subsequent starts.
 - It will be re-hoisted at the dip for up to a minute if anyone is over the line at their start until they have cleared.
 - The vessel that is over the line will be hailed.
- Competitors may ask the starting team to confirm their start time, but **NO** other verbal assistance will be given to competitors from the starting team.
- Having started, if a yacht then wishes to go to a mark that is directly from the direction they have just started, then they will have to **clear the line** before turning to go to the mark of their choice.
- Normal racing rules will apply at this time, but other skippers are asked to be accommodating to yachts that wish to turn 180 degrees immediately after crossing the start line.
- The finish line will be the same as the start line but competitors may pass through it in any direction.
- All competitors must finish by 14:30 for their result to count.

Prize Giving

All race results will be announced after the Cock of the Broads, in line with the TMOR Race Weekend results. Please will all competitors assemble in the Marquee after this race.