Welcome to the 2016 Evening Racing Series!

Returning sailors will know that we offer enjoyable racing under NHC for handicap cruisers and racing keelboats where crews of all ages and abilities can compete with a reasonable chance of success while our parallel series under IRC provides challenge for more serious competitors. If you’ve not tried evening racing before and you have a reasonable grasp of the racing rules then why not join us.

Your committee has as always been keeping race management issues under review during the winter this time in particular taking into account the results of the Feedback Survey carried out in the autumn. The main changes for 2016 are listed below but do please study the Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions in detail as they are far more detailed will always prevail.

- **Enter Online** – New this year! You have the choice of entering online [www.islandsc.org.uk/isctuesday.aspx](http://www.islandsc.org.uk/isctuesday.aspx) or in the usual way (Paper forms are available in the ISC main lobby). Please enter as early as possible to avoid the late fee. Details in the NOR / SIs.

- **Daily Entries** – Boats doing single races will no longer accumulate series points so will not affect the overall scoring. Entries must be received by 1500 on the day of the race.

- **Ensigns** – although it generally considered bad form to display an ensign while racing this is no longer grounds for disqualification.

- **Abolition of Course Boards** - Clause 6 of the SIs has now been modified so that the courses will be communicated by VHF on channel 37A(M), backed up by text message to your on board mobile.

- **Start Line** – The inner limit mark will be orange this year instead of black. This is to avoid ambiguity.

- **Finish Line** – The outer distance mark will be Snowden instead of Trinity for ease of identification at the finish.

- **Racing Marks** – With the abolition of Course Boards the usual symbols have been replaced with 2 character codes as used in other regattas for radio transmission. There are also a number of buoy name changes associated with sponsorship over which we have no control. Details are printed in the SIs and are also available on the website.

- **XODs & Flying Fifteens** - In order to further encourage larger entries XODs and flying fifteens will have their own starts thereby extending the start sequence by 5 minutes.

- **Exclusion Zone** – The debris surrounding the new Cowes Breakwater should have been cleared by contractors and the Exclusion Zone removed before the start of the season. Competitors are nevertheless required to take account of the SI Introduction with respect to Local Notices to Mariners and SI 7.2 Prohibitions requiring boats to pass north of the Breakwater at all times.

- **Cadets on Board** – The club continues to encourage the participation of ISC Cadets (over 16) crewing on board Evening Race Series boats. Owners that are prepared to help us to achieve this should speak to Sailing Secretary Chris Thomas ([chris@islandsc.org.uk](mailto:chris@islandsc.org.uk)) as soon as possible.

Don’t forget that the ISC welcomes all competitors (members and non members) to return and enjoy our facilities after racing. Weekly prizes will continue to be awarded and food will be available as late as 2200hrs where required. We have taken on board that most of you want to be back on your moorings by 2000 to 2030 and our Race Officers will endeavour to achieve this whenever they can so that you can enjoy a relaxing evening after racing.

All we need now is for the weather to be kind so that we have fewer cancellations as divine compensation for last year.

With best wishes

Peter Dickson
Evening Race Committee Chairman