Double Cape Race 2026

Version 3

Version 3 dated 15/10/2026 changes have been highlighted in yellow NoR 1.4 has been added.

The Race: The Double Cape Race is a race from either Cape Town to Simon's Town and back, or Simon's Town to Cape Town and back.

Dates: Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 October 2026

Organizing Authority: Royal Cape Yacht Club

Notice of Race

FOREWORD

Please take note that the minimum safety requirements for the race are a COF Category C with life rafts and the equipment as stated in Schedule 1. Category C only allows boats a maximum of 15NM offshore. Owners who intend their boat to venture further offshore will need to upgrade their COF to comply with the law. The onus remains with the Person in Charge to ensure their boat complies with all laws.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

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

1.2 The latest version of the following will also apply:

a) The International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (IRPCAS) as applicable in terms of this Notice and the Sailing Instructions

b) IMS Rules.

c) The ORC Rating Systems Rules for monohulls

d) The Texel Rating System Rules for multihulls

1.3 Rule changes:

a) The use of self-steering devices and automatic pilots is permitted. This changes RRS 52.

b) RRS 78.2 is deleted. Valid rating certificates must be presented on entry.

c) After 17h00 on Saturday 17 October, the rules of RRS Part 2 are replaced with the right-of-way rules of IRPCAS.

1.4 Appendix WP applies [https://media.sailing.org/sailing/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/13024403/2025-2028-Appendix-WP-Rules-for-Waypoints_V2.0_January-2025-.pdf

COMMUNICATION WITH COMPETITORS

2 The Official Notice Board (ONB) will be the '**Double Cape Race 2026**' WhatsApp Group.

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

3 Sailing instructions will be made available after the closing time for entries.

ADVERTISING

4 Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the Organising Authority.

FLEETS, DIVISIONS and CLASSES

5.1 The race will accommodate a monohull fleet, split into Divisions A, B, & C, and a multihull fleet.

5.2 Fleet Splits:

Class	**Class APHTOD Split**
Class A and Cape 31	< 520
Class B	>= 520 < 593
Class C	>= 593

5.2.1 If a boats APHTOD falls within 517 to 523, they can decide if they want to sail in Class A or Class B.

5.2.2 If a boats APHTOD falls within 590 to 596, they can decide if they want to sail in Class B or Class C.

5.2.3 Any boat that decides to sail in a different class (in accordance with 5.2.1 or 5.2.2), must inform the Sailing Office when entering the series.

ELIGIBILITY

6.1 The race is open to all boats with a valid ORC Club or International Certificate for monohulls, or a TEXEL Rating for multihulls.

6.2 All boats shall have a minimum of a valid COF Category C with life rafts, registered with South African Sailing (SAS), proof of which shall be lodged with the Race Secretary by 17h00 on Friday 09 October 2026. (It should be noted that in terms of the law, all vessels are required to abide by the restrictions of their relevant COF for the duration of the race.)

6.3 Boats shall also carry the additional safety equipment listed in Schedule 1 of this notice.

COURSES & STARTING TIMES

7.1 The course for boats starting in Cape Town is from Table Bay to False Bay and back.

7.2 The course for boats starting in Simons Town is from False Bay to Table Bay and back.

7.3 The full course, including start lines, rounding marks, and finish lines will be described in the Sailing Instructions

7.4 There will be one start for all classes. The scheduled time for the warning signal will be 09h55 on Saturday 17 October 2026.

TIME LIMITS

8.1 The finishing time limit for boats in all fleets is 18h00 on Sunday 18 October 2026. Any boat failing to finish by this time, and not subsequently retiring, being penalised or given redress, shall be scored DNF, without a hearing.
This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5.1

8.2 Before the warning signal, the Race Committee may extend the time limit by announcing the new finishing time limit on the ONB **before** the start of the race.

SCORING

9 The placing of each boat in its Division shall be determined by the boat's corrected time (ORC or TEXEL) adjusted by time penalties or allowances, if any.

PENALTY SYSTEM

10.1 RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

10.2 When the right-of-way rules of IRPCAS apply a boat may take a time penalty when she may have broken a rule while racing. The penalty will be 10 minutes added to the boat's corrected time for each infringement.

10.3 The penalty shall be declared on the boat's Declaration Form and the Race Committee shall be notified at the finish.

SAFETY REQUIREMENTS [DP]

11.1 Each boat shall have at least 2 persons on board.

11.2 Persons in Charge shall satisfy the Race Committee, by 17h00 on Monday 12 October 2026, that they hold at least a SAS Coastal Skipper certificate of competence.

11.3 All boats shall submit a signed declaration form, by 17h00 on Monday 12 October 2026, declaring that they satisfy the safety requirements as set out in Schedule 1. Any deficiencies (such as your life raft will only be arriving on a certain date), shall be noted on this form.

11.4 The Race Committee may carry out its own scrutineering of a boat to ensure compliance with Schedule 1.

11.5 If a boat does not comply with these rules (11.1 to 11.3 above) its entry may be rejected or it may be liable to disqualification or such other penalty as may be imposed by the Protest Committee, giving due regard to provisions in the Sailing Instructions.

11.6 Yacht racing is dangerous. The attention of Persons in Charge is drawn to RRS Fundamental Rule 3: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone."

11.7 The Crew List, on the prescribed form provided, shall be submitted to the Race Committee by 17h00 on Monday 12 October 2026.

11.8 Changes to crew after this time require the written permission of the Race Committee.

ENTRIES

12.1 An entry, on the prescribed entry form, shall be submitted with proof of payment of the relevant entry fee (legible copy of the deposit slip or electronic transfer advice) to the Race Secretary, Double Cape Race 2026, not later than 17h00 on 9 October 2026 either via email: sailadmin@rcyc.co.za or via the RCYC Sailing Office.

12.2 Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the Race Committee.

12.3 The entry fee is R500 per boat and is not refundable.

12.4 Entry fees may be paid in cash, by credit card, or by bank transfer into Royal Cape Yacht Club's bank account. **FNB ACC.: 500 500 45316. Branch Adderley Street 250655**.

12.5 In the interests of public relations and the media, it will be helpful to the promotion of the race if each entry is accompanied by a brief biographical note of the owner and/or skipper which may include information on the crew and, if possible, should include photographs of the owner and/or skipper and of the boat. The Organizing Authority shall be authorized to use any such information and photographs in connection with any advertising, publication, promotion, sponsorship or the like relating to the race whether in printed or electronic form or howsoever.

12.6 **DP** || A boat may be required to carry a tracking device, either supplied by the Organizing Authority, or via a cell phone carried on board with the NSRI Safe Trax App loaded.

12.7 The Organizing Authority also reserves the right to place a camera on board any boat for media purposes, and all participants shall agree to operate such camera to the best of their ability.

12.8 Failure to carry and operate a tracking device or to carry and operate a camera when required may lead to the cancellation of an entry, disqualification of the boat from the race or a time penalty (refer RRS 76.1)

REGISTRATION

13 Registration and a compulsory skippers briefing will take place at Royal Cape Yacht Club from 17h00 to 17h30 on Friday 16 October 2026. The Skippers Briefing will take place promptly at 17h30

TROPHIES AND PRIZE GIVING

14.1 The following trophies will be awarded:

- Winner Overall – Double Cape Race (ORC Overall)
- ORC Class A
- ORC Class B
- ORC Class C

- Multihull Trophy
- Double handed (ORC Overall)
- Manex Trophy – Fastest Leg time on ORC - Cape Point to Simon's Bay Mark Leg
- National Wholesale Jewellers Trophy - Fastest Leg time on ORC – Cape Point to Royal Cape Mark leg
- Ian Cochrane Memorial Trophy for perseverance, fortitude, and seamanship.

14.2 The prize giving for all fleets will take place at 18h00 on Friday 23 October 2026 at RCYC.

INDEMNITIES

15.1 The owner and the Person in Charge of each boat entered shall be deemed, on the acceptance of the entry by the Race Committee, on behalf of themselves, their crew, their dependents and their sponsors, to have indemnified the Organizing Authority, the host clubs, the sponsors and all those involved in the running of the event against all claims of any kind arising from any injury to person or property incurred during or in connection with the event, or from any other cause arising whatsoever.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Race Office Details:
Royal Cape Yacht Club
Web: www.rcyc.co.za
Tel: 00 27 21 421 1354

Sailing Manager	Kerry Pryde 064 652 6316
Protest Chairman	Dave Hudson 082 455 3242
Safety at RCYC	Lisa Malherbe 082 419 3334