

Lt Col AJ Layden RA



CI TDW
RSA
Royal Artillery Barracks
Larkhill
SP4 8QT

Mobile: 07469 204610

Email: anthony.layden713@mod.gov.uk
Rear Commodore (Offshore)

See Distribution

16 July 26

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTION: 77th ROYAL ARTILLERY OFFSHORE REGATTA, YARMOUTH, ISLE OF WIGHT - SAT 12 SEP 26

1. **General.** The Royal Artillery Offshore Regatta (RAOR) is an annual event and the pinnacle of the RA Yacht Club calendar. This year it will take place at Yarmouth on Sat 12 Sep 26. This AI for the event enables funding and yacht charters to be arranged, particularly from RA units. Participation from the serving Regiment has fallen away in recent years (only one unit took part in 2025), and it is hoped that this can be increased.
2. **Aim.** The aim of the RAOR, organised by the RA Yacht Club (RAYC), is to provide an opportunity for members of the RAYC – serving and retired – to get onto the water in a competitive environment, improving seamanship and building team cohesion in a challenging and fun situation.
3. **Eligibility.** The regatta is open to serving members of the Royal Artillery, former members of the Royal Artillery, members of the Royal Artillery Yacht Club and invited guests at the discretion of the Organising Committee. Crews may comprise a mixture of serving personnel, veterans and civilian sailors. At least one representative from each competing yacht is to be a current member of the RAYC.
4. **Finances.** The RAOR is classed as a Cat 2 event and is therefore eligible to attract public funding (applicable to RA units only) in accordance with current Army sport regulations and local budgetary procedures. Additional costs remain the responsibility of participating units or individuals.
5. **Cost of Entry.** The race entry fee is £50 per boat. All participants must be members of the RAYC. Temp membership for the event costs £10pp, if not already a RAYC member. Entries are made on the RAYC webpage www.gunnersailing.com. Entry deadline: Fri 28 Aug 26.
6. **Boats and charters.** Units and individuals are responsible for sourcing a boat to race – there are some Service boats that can be chartered (eg the RAC boat costs £200 per day); if unit/team leads need assistance with sourcing a boat then the RAYC Bosuns and Committee can endeavour to assist. Teams requiring assistance should contact the Captain of Boats SSgt Max Wilkinson on 07875 728 653, Senior Bosun Bdr Jack Harrison

on 07428 383659, or the undersigned on 07469 204 610.

7. **The RAYC Committee.** The RAYC Committee are available for advice and assistance:

- a. Cdre: Col N C Webber MBE RA Nathan.Webber480@mod.gov.uk Mobile: 07971 267232
- b. Vice-Cdre: Lt Col Jean Sebastien Cormier Jean-Sebastien.Cormier260@mod.gov.uk
- c. Treasurer: Mr Colin Walsh Colin.Walsh122@mod.gov.uk
- d. Secretary: Mr Michael Simpson michael@ideasfirstinnovation.com
- e. Website: Mr Roger Shapland
- f. RC(O): Lt Col AJ Layden RA Anthony.layden713@mod.gov.uk Mobile: 07469 204 610
- g. Captain of Boats: SSgt Max Wilkinson Max.Wilkinson671@mod.gov.uk Mobile:
- h. Membership Secretary: Capt Tom Walsh RA Thomas.Walsh104@mod.gov.uk
- i. Rear Commodore (Dinghies): Maj S Deakin RA

8. **Racing.** Racing will take place off Yarmouth, under the control of Mr Jeremy Willcock, the Royal Solent Yacht Club Race Officer. The anticipated programme is registration and briefing at 0830, first warning signal at 1000, racing between 1000 and 1600, return to harbour at 1600 and prizegiving at 1830. Lunch should be taken on board in between races. Sailing Instructions will be issued nearer to the event.

9. **RAYC Prizegiving and Dinner.** There will be Prizegiving at the Royal Solent Yacht Club on Sat 12 Sep 26 at 1830hrs, followed by dinner (dress smart casual). Payment for dinner is to be made in advance at www.gunnersailing.com, alongside race entry. Attendance at dinner is not compulsory, but it is certainly highly encouraged and all ranks are very welcome. Historically it has been a most enjoyable occasion.

10. **Communications.** The RC(O) will set up a WhatsApp group for skippers nearer the time of the regatta. Therefore once booked into the race, skippers/crew organisers are requested to message the undersigned on 07469204610.

11. **Key dates:** NLT end Jul 26: AI issued. 28 Aug 26: Entry deadline. Early Sep 26: Sailing Instructions issued. 12 Sep 26: Regatta and prizegiving dinner.

AJ Layden
Lt Col
For Cdre

Annex:

A. Suggested Packing List

Distribution:

All RA units

Copy to:

SUGGESTED PACKING LIST. *This is a civilian event, as such no military clothing is to be worn.*

Hat

Waterproofs/oilskins

Gloves (Waterproof) or sailing gloves (can be bought at low cost from eg Amazon)

Underwear

Socks

T-Shirt

Shorts or trousers (not jeans) – something that will dry quickly, eg walking trs

Mid Layer

Non-slip footwear – non-marking trainers or sailing shoes.

Warm Jacket (Civilian)

Towel

Wash Kit

Flip Flops

Sunglasses

Suncream

First Aid Kit

1 x Smart Casual Attire (for dinner and prizegiving) – jkt and tie optional.

Sleeping System