PWLLHELI SAILING CLUB

Pwllheli Race Officer

Competitor's Guide

What to expect on the public race-day pages

No login needed - for competitors, crews and spectators

Covers app version 1.020

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BEFORE YOU BEGIN

About this guide

Pwllheli Race Officer publishes live, read-only race information for competitors, crews and spectators on race day - no login, account or app install needed. This guide shows what you'll see on those pages and what each part means, so you know where to look before you leave the dock and while you're waiting to start.

There are two pages you'll use:

- The **competitor home page** - a starting point showing the current series, its races, and the start-hut wind.
- The **race page** - one specific race's start sequence, course and, once finished, its results.

> **NOTE**
>
> These pages are provisional information for competitors. The race officer's decisions and the results published after a race remain the authoritative record - if anything here looks wrong or conflicts with an announcement on the water, always follow the race officer.

Both pages work the same way on a phone as on a laptop - screenshots of both are shown throughout this guide. There is one address for every device: on a phone the wide tables (entries, results, leg analysis, pursuit start times) are shown as **one card per boat** with the column heading beside each value, so nothing is cut off and the page never scrolls sideways.

Turn the phone sideways and it is wide enough for the ordinary tables, the same as a tablet. Where a table is still too wide for the screen - the results are nine columns - **the table scrolls sideways inside its own panel** and the rest of the page stays where it is, so you can drag the columns across without losing your place. Before v0.257 the right-hand end was simply cut off, taking the **Finish video** link with it.

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CHAPTER 1

Finding the pages

Your club will share an address for the competitor pages - typically the club's normal website address, or one given out at registration/briefing. Opening it takes you straight to the competitor home page; no separate app or login is involved.

The race officer may also share a direct link to a specific race - for example when a QR code or link is put up on the club noticeboard for "today's race". Direct race links go straight to that race's page, skipping the home page.

NOTE

There's nothing to configure and nothing you can accidentally change - these pages are read-only. Feel free to leave one open on your phone throughout race day.

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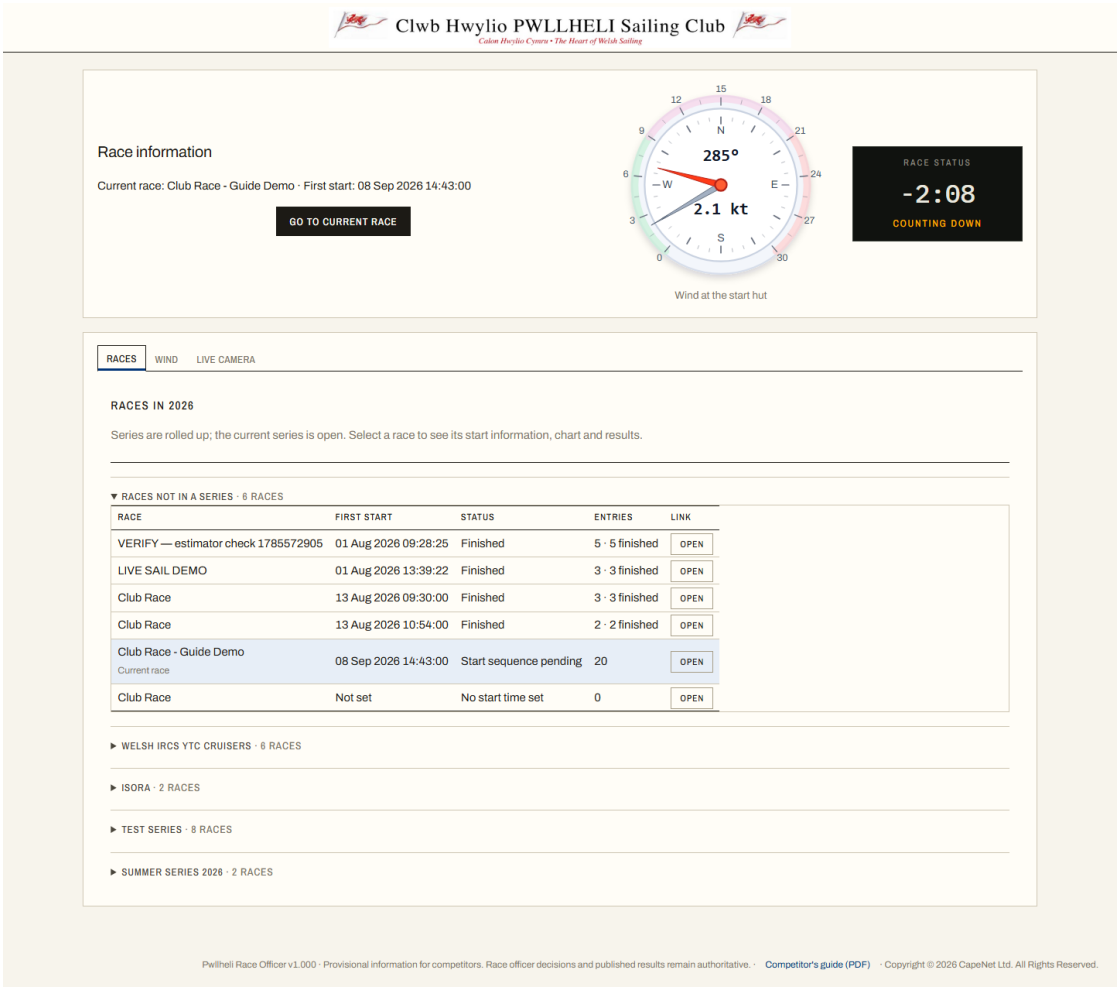
CHAPTER 2

The competitor home page

This is the page you land on first. It always shows the club's current racing at a glance:

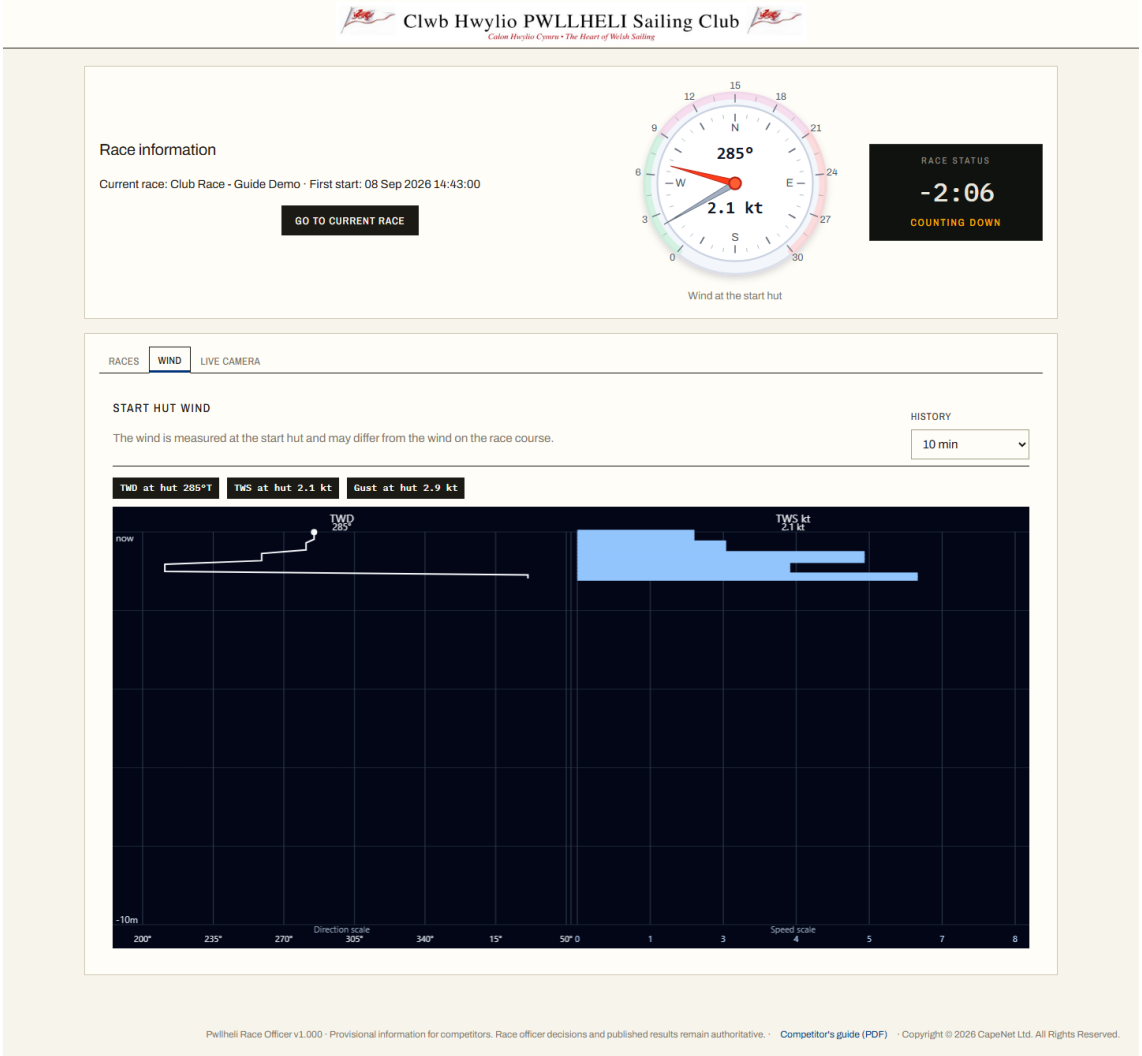
- **Race information** - the current series (if any), the current race's name and first start time, and a **Go to current race** button. That button opens a page which *keeps following* the current race: sail your race, finish, and when the race officer starts the next one the page moves on to it by itself, with no need to come back here. It says so at the top, and offers a link to stay on one race if you would rather. Opening a race from the Races tab pins you to that race instead, which is what you want for a race already sailed.
- **Wind dial and countdown** - at the top of the page, beside the race details: an analog dial showing the wind direction and speed at the start hut (the same instrument the race officer uses), and a countdown to the current race's first start. Both update themselves, so the page can be left open on a phone.
- **Races tab** - every race this year, grouped into its series. Each series is a folded-up section you can tap to open; the **current series is already open** and the **current race is highlighted**. Each row gives the first start, status, number of entries and an **Open** link to that race's page.
- **Published results** - where the race office has published a series' standings, the series shows a link to them. It is the same document the club website carries, and it is updated each time the race office publishes, so it is the one to check for the scores so far rather than the live race pages.
- **Wind tab** - the latest wind direction, speed and gust measured at the start hut, plus a tall wind-history plot covering your choice of the last 5 to 60 minutes. This is the wind at the hut, which can differ from the wind out on the racecourse.
- **Live camera tab** - a view from the start hut, if your club has one configured. It starts as soon as you open the tab and stops when you leave it, so it only uses data while you are watching. You will see still pictures for the first few seconds - the camera stream only runs while somebody is watching, so it takes a moment to start - and then it changes by itself to **live video**, which fills the width of the screen on a phone. On a race page a **Watch live** link in the footer opens the same view in its own tab; if you don't see it, the club isn't streaming live right now.

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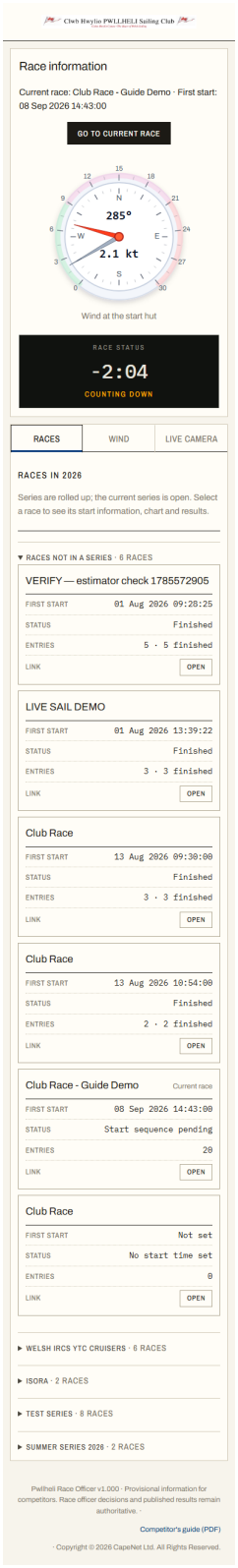
The competitor home page on the Races tab: this year's racing, with the current series open and the current race highlighted.

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The Wind tab: hut wind now, and the history plot behind it.

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The home page on a phone.

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CHAPTER 3

The race page: before the start

Opening a race - either from the home page or a direct link - shows that race's own page. Before racing starts, you'll see the start sequence in progress:

- **Race name and summary** - first warning-signal time, first start time, course number and series.
- **Course board** - the marks in order, each with the hand you leave it on: **p** for port, **s** for starboard. A dark **x2** or **x3** chip at the end means sail that lap that many times before finishing.
- **Flag panel** - shows only the flags currently flying at the start line: your class's numeral pennant once the warning signal has gone up, and the blue-and-white **P** (preparatory) flag once that follows. An empty panel reading **No flags up** means the sequence hasn't started yet, or has finished.
- **Race status clock** - a countdown to the start (shown as a negative time, e.g. **-02:35**) once the sequence has begun.
- **Entries tab** - the list of boats in the race, with each boat's name, sail number, class, IRC and YTC rating and current status. It's a quick way to check you're entered and that your rating looks right.
- **Chart tab** - the course chart with the marks, the sailing direction and the wind arrow.
- **Course analysis tab** - a predicted leg-by-leg timing table (distance, bearing, suggested sail and target speed) calculated from the current wind.
- **Start photo tab** - the hut camera's photo at each start signal, with the start line drawn from the pole to the outer distance mark, up a few seconds after the gun. Tap it to open it full size and zoom in on your bow. It is an early guide only: the race officer's calls stand.

What you will hear on the water

The start hut broadcasts the sequence on VHF as well as sounding the horn. Every gun is run the same way, so you can work your approach off the count rather than off your watch: a stand-by fifteen seconds out, a count from ten, then the signal itself.

BEFORE THE START	WHAT YOU HEAR
10:00	“Warning signal in five minutes. Course announcements in one minute and three minutes.”
9:00 and 7:00	The course for the race, read out twice
5:15 / 5:11 / 5:00	“Stand by 15 seconds” – the count from ten – horn, “Five minutes. Warning signal.”
4:15 / 4:11 / 4:00	“Stand by 15 seconds” – the count from ten – horn, “Four minutes. Preparatory signal.”
1:15 / 1:11 / 1:00	“Stand by 15 seconds” – the count from ten – horn, “One minute.”
0:15 / 0:11 / 0:00	“Stand by 15 seconds” – the count from ten – horn, “Start.”

NOTE

The count is timed so that “One” lands on the horn. The class flags are not read out - they are flown at the line and shown in the flag panel on the race page. The horn and the flags are the signals; the speech is a convenience, and if the two ever disagree the flags and the horn win.

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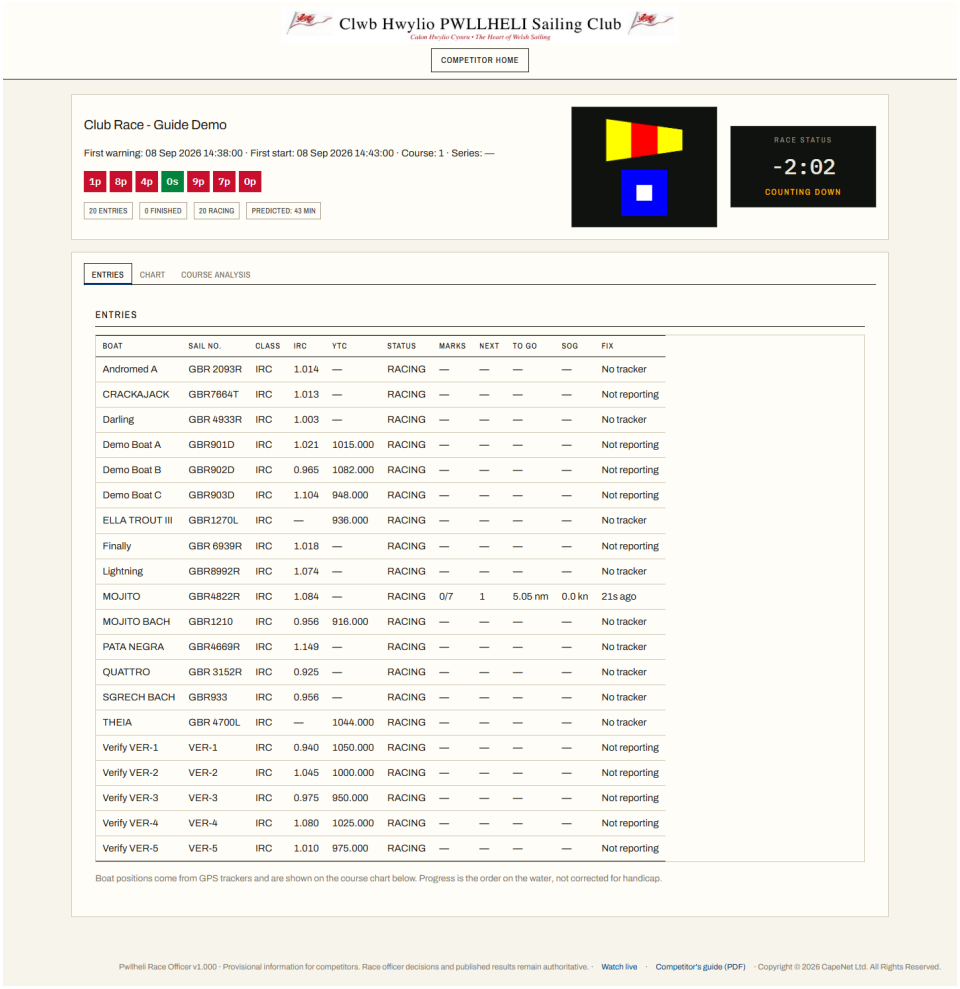
NOTE

The page is split into tabs below the race header — **Entries** (or **Start times** for a pursuit race), **Chart**, **Course analysis** and **Start photo**, joined by **Leader board** once the race has finished. Tap a tab to switch; the race name, times, flags and countdown stay visible above them. On a phone each table is shown as one card per boat, so nothing is cut off.

NOTE

The flag panel mirrors what the race officer's system is displaying - it is a helpful reference, not a replacement for watching the actual flags at the start line. If your class isn't shown, it hasn't been signalled to start yet.

If the course is shortened (for example when the wind drops), the race page shows a **Shortened course** banner naming the mark to finish at, the flag panel flies International Code flag **S** (a blue square on a white background), and the course chart is redrawn so it ends at that mark with a dashed line straight to the finish. Round the named mark and then head directly for the finish line - listen for the two horn blasts and the spoken announcement on the water as well.

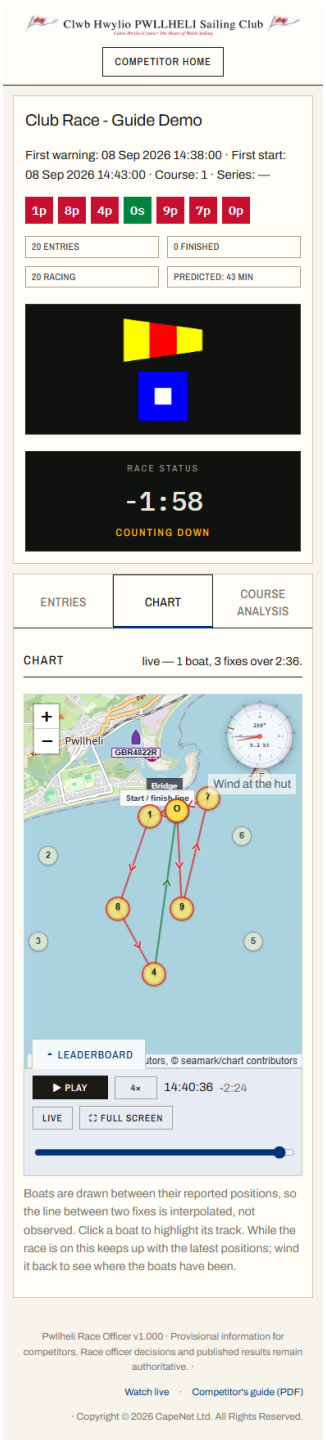


A race page during the start sequence: class flag and preparatory flag up, countdown running, and the course chart with predicted leg timing.

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The same race page on a phone: the Entries tab, one card per boat.

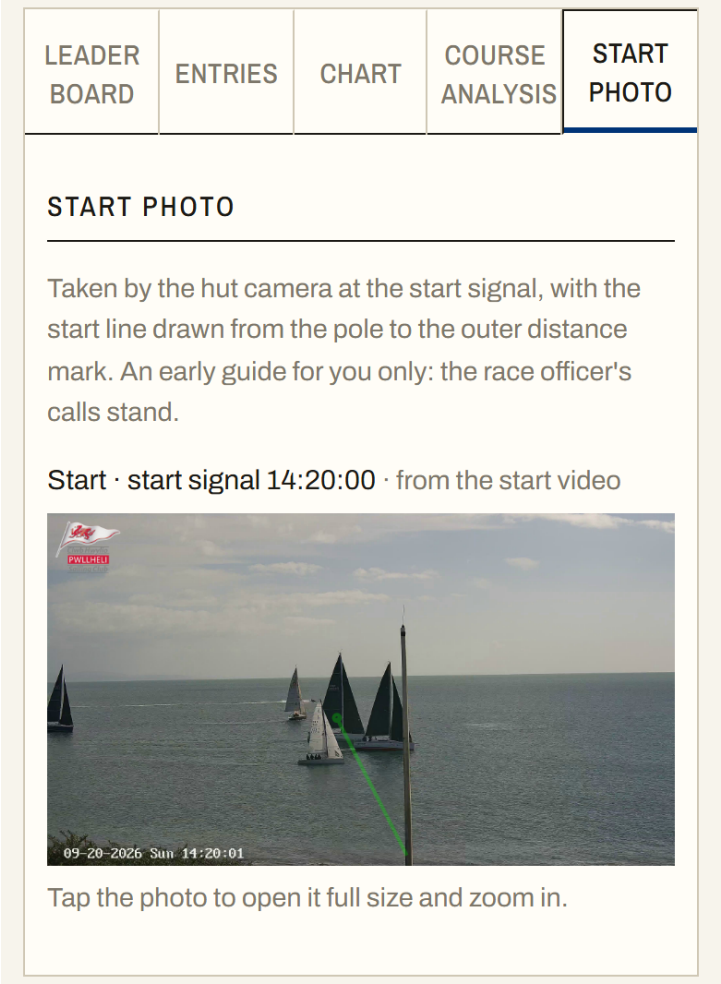


The Chart tab on the same phone.

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The start photo

A few seconds after each start signal, the **Start photo** tab shows the hut camera's photo of the line at the gun, with the start line drawn from the pole to the outer distance mark. Leave your phone on the tab before the start and the photo appears by itself; tap it to open it full size and zoom in on your bow. When the fleet hides the buoy at the gun, the line is drawn where the buoy was in the minute before - it is anchored, and barely moves - and if it cannot be found at all, the photo is shown without a line rather than with a guessed one.



The Start photo tab on a phone. At the gun the buoy is behind the dark sails; the line goes to where it was in the minute before.

> **NOTE**
> The start photo is an early guide for you, not a decision. The race officer decides who was over the line, and those calls stand.

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CHAPTER 4

The race page: results

Once every entered boat has finished, retired or otherwise stopped racing, a **Leader board** tab appears and opens first. The race status clock changes to **Finished**, and the leader board holds a results table for each configured class:

- **Rank** - the boat's placing in that table once corrected; a dash means it didn't finish.
- **Elapsed / Corrected** - the boat's raw sailing time, and its time after the class's IRC or YTC handicap has been applied. Rankings are always by corrected time.
- **Status** - shows a code instead of a time for anything other than a normal finish (see the table below).
- **Finish video** - a link to a video clip of the finish, where the club records and publishes one.

The **Entries**, **Chart** and **Course analysis** tabs stay where they are after the race, and the last two become a **record of the conditions**: instead of the wind right now, they show the **average wind over the race**, measured at the start hut between the warning signal and the last boat finishing. The wind chips change to **Average TWD**, **Average TWS** (with the range it varied over) and **Peak gust**, and the chart's wind arrow points the average way. It is a useful thing to look back at when comparing your race with a result sheet weeks later.

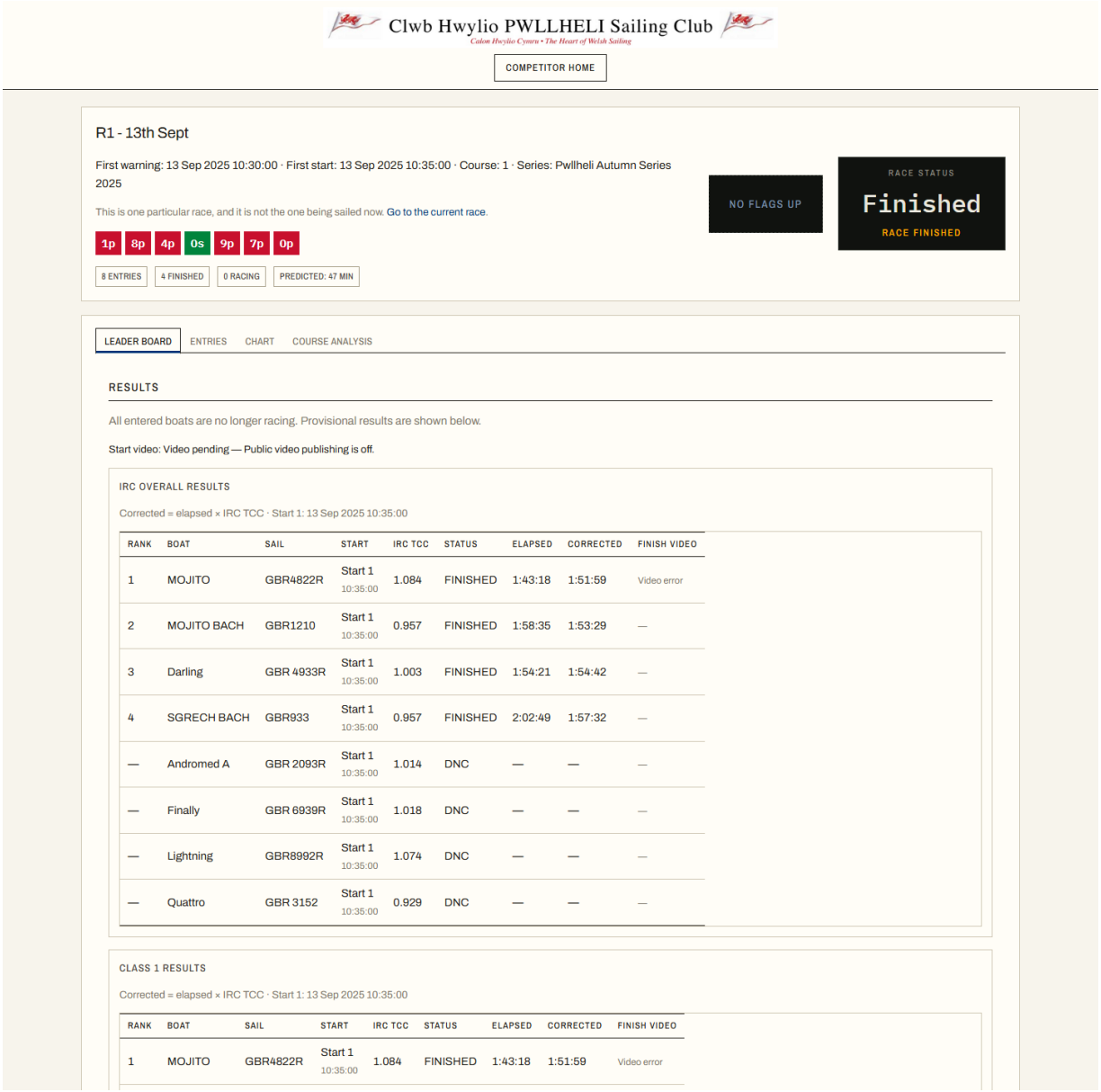
Status codes you may see in the Status column:

CODE	MEANING
PRESTART	Entered and waiting for the warning signal
RACING	Started and still racing
FINISHED	Crossed the finish line
DNC	Did not compete - did not come to the start
DNS	Did not start
OCS	On course side - over the line early at the start
RET	Retired during the race
DNF	Did not finish
DSQ	Disqualified

NOTE

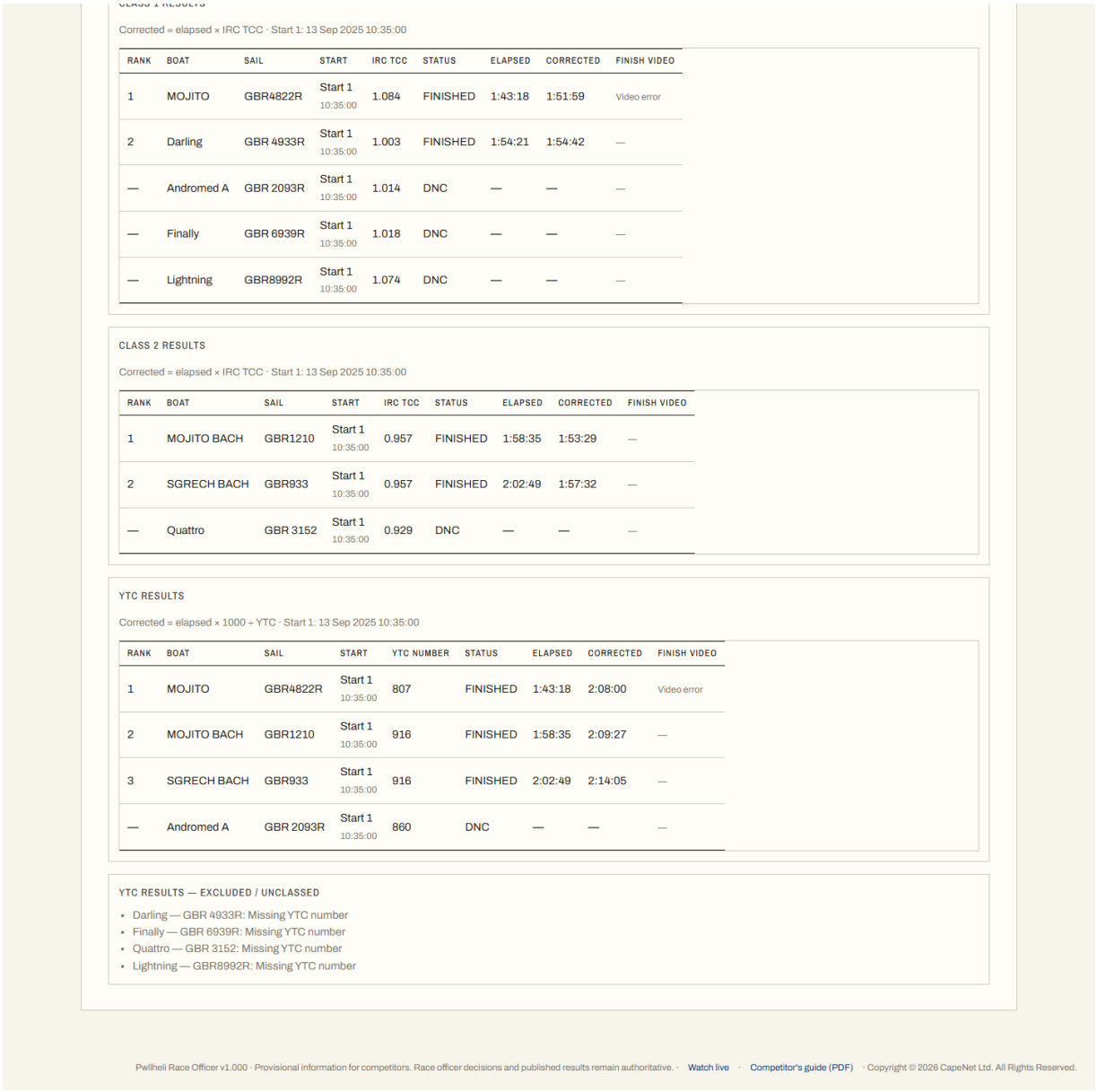
Results shown here are provisional. Final, official results for a series are published separately by the race officer, typically on the club website.

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Race results (1 of 2): race status and the first results table.

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Corrected = elapsed × IRC TCC · Start 1: 13 Sep 2025 10:35:00

RANK	BOAT	SAIL	START	IRC TCC	STATUS	ELAPSED	CORRECTED	FINISH VIDEO
1	MOJITO	GBR4822R	Start 1 10:35:00	1.084	FINISHED	1:43:18	1:51:59	Video error
2	Darling	GBR 4933R	Start 1 10:35:00	1.003	FINISHED	1:54:21	1:54:42	—
—	Andromed A	GBR 2093R	Start 1 10:35:00	1.014	DNC	—	—	—
—	Finally	GBR 6939R	Start 1 10:35:00	1.018	DNC	—	—	—
—	Lightning	GBR8992R	Start 1 10:35:00	1.074	DNC	—	—	—

CLASS 2 RESULTS

Corrected = elapsed × IRC TCC · Start 1: 13 Sep 2025 10:35:00

RANK	BOAT	SAIL	START	IRC TCC	STATUS	ELAPSED	CORRECTED	FINISH VIDEO
1	MOJITO BACH	GBR1210	Start 1 10:35:00	0.957	FINISHED	1:58:35	1:53:29	—
2	SGRECH BACH	GBR933	Start 1 10:35:00	0.957	FINISHED	2:02:49	1:57:32	—
—	Quattro	GBR 3152	Start 1 10:35:00	0.929	DNC	—	—	—

YTC RESULTS

Corrected = elapsed × 1000 ÷ YTC · Start 1: 13 Sep 2025 10:35:00

RANK	BOAT	SAIL	START	YTC NUMBER	STATUS	ELAPSED	CORRECTED	FINISH VIDEO
1	MOJITO	GBR4822R	Start 1 10:35:00	807	FINISHED	1:43:18	2:08:00	Video error
2	MOJITO BACH	GBR1210	Start 1 10:35:00	916	FINISHED	1:58:35	2:09:27	—
3	SGRECH BACH	GBR933	Start 1 10:35:00	916	FINISHED	2:02:49	2:14:05	—
—	Andromed A	GBR 2093R	Start 1 10:35:00	860	DNC	—	—	—

YTC RESULTS — EXCLUDED / UNCLASSED

- Darling — GBR 4933R: Missing YTC number
- Finally — GBR 6939R: Missing YTC number
- Quattro — GBR 3152: Missing YTC number
- Lightning — GBR8992R: Missing YTC number

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Race results (2 of 2): remaining classes and any boats excluded from a table for missing a rating.

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On a phone, the same results are shown in the same order:



Results on a phone. Each boat is shown as its own card with the column heading beside every value, so nothing is cut off.

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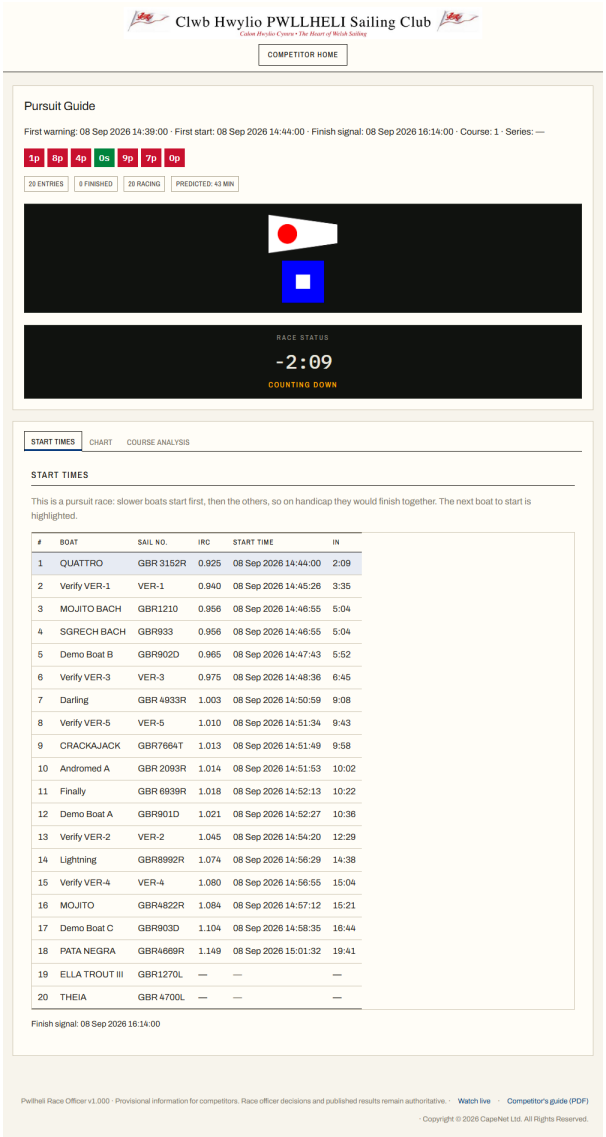
CHAPTER 5

Pursuit races

Some events are run as a **pursuit race**. Instead of everyone starting together and results being worked out on handicap afterwards, the slower boats start first and the faster boats later, so if everyone sails to their handicap they would all finish at about the same time. The first boat across the line at the end wins.

On the race page you'll see a **Start times** list instead of the usual course analysis:

- Every boat is listed with its own **start time**, earliest first.
- The **next boat due to start is highlighted**, and each row counts down to its start — so you can see exactly when it's your turn.
- The single **finish-signal** time is shown below the list.
- After the finish, the page shows the **finishing order** (the positions the race officer recorded from the boats' order on the water) rather than a corrected-time table.



A pursuit race on the competitor page: each boat's start time, with the next boat to start highlighted.

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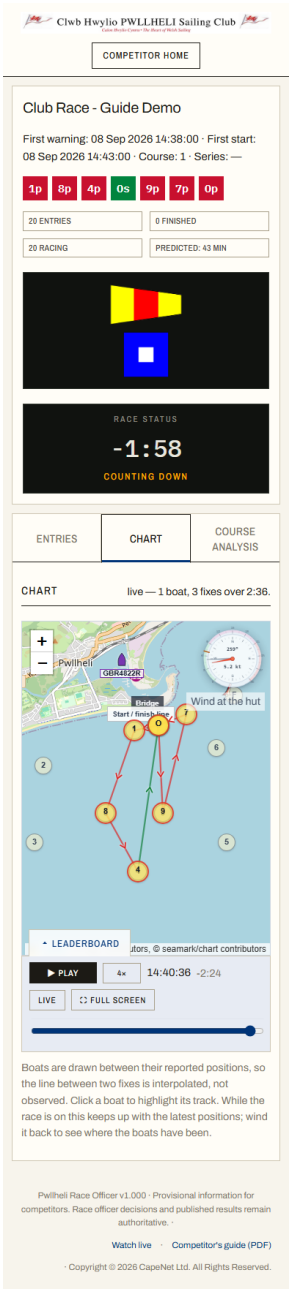
CHAPTER 6

Following the fleet (GPS tracking)

When the club is running GPS trackers on the boats, the race page's **Chart** tab shows where everyone is. You don't need to do anything to switch it on — if tracking is running for that race, it simply appears.

- Each tracked boat is drawn as a **hull seen from above**, turned the way it is actually heading, in its own colour, with its sail number beside it and a trail of where it has been for the last ten minutes.
- The chart **opens at the latest positions** — during a race that is simply the live view. Drag the timeline underneath it, or press play, to wind back through the race so far and watch it again at up to 60x. **Live** returns you to the front.
- **Full screen** gives the chart your whole display, which is worth doing on a phone.
- The **Entries** table also gains columns for each boat: **Marks** (how many of the course marks it has rounded, e.g. 6/10), **Next** (the mark it is heading for), **To go** (how far it still has to sail), **SOG** (its speed over the ground) and **Fix** (how long ago its tracker last reported).
- A boat the app cannot place still appears in the list, with dashes across the row and the reason in the **Fix** column: **No tracker** if there is no tracker on the boat, or **Not reporting** if there is one and nothing has been heard from it in the last hour.
- It all keeps up by itself — just leave the page open.

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The Chart tab on a phone: the fleet on the course, the timeline to wind back through the race, and the Leaderboard tab that rolls up over the chart.

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Who is actually winning

Underneath the chart is a **Leaderboard** tab. Tap it and a panel rolls up over the chart; tap it again and it rolls away. It offers more than the order on the water:

- **Line honours** — the order on the water, by how far round the course each boat is.
- **IRC corrected** and **YTC corrected** — the order on handicap, overall or for one class. Only the systems your fleet is actually rated in are offered.

For a boat that has already finished, the corrected board uses its real elapsed time. For one still racing the app has to **estimate** when it will finish, and you can choose how:

- **Average pace since the start** (the one it opens on) — how much of the course the boat has covered, and how long that has taken. Nothing else comes into it: no wind, no polar.
- **Recent pace** — how fast the boat has actually been closing on the finish over the last twenty minutes, carried over the distance it has left. This is the one that notices a boat parking, and the one that jumps about most.
- **Polar pace factor** — how the boat's time so far compares with the target time for the legs it has sailed, applied to the legs it has not. The only one that knows the legs ahead are a different point of sail from the legs behind. It needs to know the wind, and the only wind the club measures is at the hut.

Whichever you pick drives the **order and the times printed beside it**, so the board cannot contradict itself as you read down it.

> **NOTE**
>
> The simplest method is the default, and not because it is the most accurate - it is not. Its error is much the same for every boat at any moment, because the whole fleet has just sailed the same slow beat or the same fast reach. A leaderboard ranks boats against each other, so an error they all share cancels out, while a per-boat one shuffles the order. Over the night race of 8 August it had the finishing order right for 99% of the race against 63-83% for the others, despite being further out on each individual boat.

> **NOTE**
>
> Nothing is estimated for the first ten minutes of racing — before the first mark a boat's pace is mostly which end of the line it started. After that the estimate settles quickly, but it remains an estimate and is labelled as one on the page. It is not a result.

The wind gauge on the chart shows the wind at the moment you are looking at, not the wind now: wind the timeline back to the start and the gauge winds back with it. Direction and speed are the two readings on the dial, and a gust shows as a marker further round the speed scale when it is actually gusting. It is the wind measured **at the hut**, which is not the wind where the boats are once a course goes round a headland - the gauge says so underneath itself. If nothing was recorded near the moment on screen the gauge simply disappears, rather than showing you an old reading as though it were current.

Boats are compared as at the same moment. The trackers do not all report together - one boat's may speak every two seconds and another's once a minute - so putting each boat's last known position against the others compares them at different times. At 6 knots, two minutes of that is 400 metres, which is enough to put the order the wrong way round, and it is why the board could be seen swapping boats about while nothing on the water was changing. Each boat is now carried forward from its last

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report on its last known course and speed to the moment on screen. A boat not heard from for three minutes is left where it last actually was, and shown as stale.

Two other things to keep in mind. The chart shows the order **on the water**, which is not the result: on handicap a boat behind on the water may still beat one ahead of it — which is exactly what the corrected boards are for. And trackers report over the mobile network, so a boat can drop out for a while if it loses signal; the **Fix** column tells you how fresh each position is.

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CHAPTER 7

Good to know

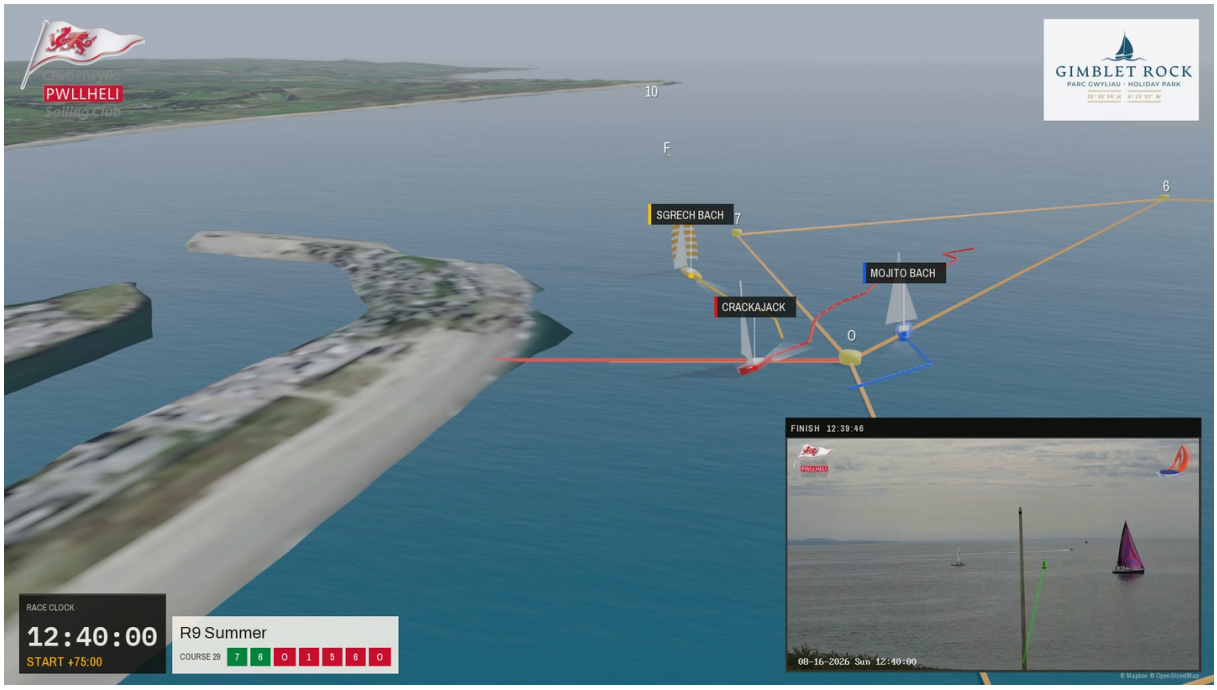
- **Everything updates automatically.** Leave the page open and it will refresh itself - there's no reload button you need to press.
- **Hut wind, not course wind.** The wind reading and history come from a sensor at the start hut, and can differ from conditions out on the course.
- **Nothing here needs a login.** If a page asks you to sign in, you've reached the race-office side of the app by mistake - go back and use the competitor link instead.
- **Results are provisional until published.** The figures on the race page are live working numbers. Your club's official series results are published separately, usually on the club website, after the race officer has checked them.
- **Live camera only runs while you watch it.** The start-hut view starts when you open its tab and stops when you leave, so the page stays light on data the rest of the time.
- **There may be a screen in the club.** Some clubs put this same race up on a television in the bar - the chart following the boats still racing, the leaderboards in turn, and the start-hut camera at the start, at each rounding of the outer mark and as each boat finishes.
- **“Course not set yet” means exactly that.** A race sheet carries a course number from the moment it is created, purely so the app has some geometry to work from - which is not the same as the race officer having chosen one. Until they do, the page says so, and shows no course board and no course on the chart, rather than naming a course you might go and sail.

If something looks wrong - a missing entry, a rating that looks off, or a result you want to query - raise it with the race officer rather than the page itself; these pages simply display what has been recorded in the race-office system.

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Watching the race again, in 3D

Some races are turned into a **3D replay film**: the whole fleet on the water in three dimensions, sailing the course you actually sailed, over the real coastline, with the start-hut camera cut in at the start and at each finish. It is built from the GPS tracks, the course, the wind log and the club's own videos, so it is a record of the race rather than an impression of it.



A finish, from a film of a club race.

When a race has one, a link appears by itself:

- a **3D replay** button beside **Open** in the races list on the competitor home page;
- **Watch the 3D replay** at the top of that race's own page;
- a line in the race's section of the club's published results.

Nothing shows until the film exists, and a film is made in the days after a race rather than on the water, so there is nothing to look for on race day. The film plays from the club's video storage rather than from the hut, so it works at any time and is worth watching on a big screen: it is a full-size video and a long one, so use wifi rather than mobile data if you can.

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