



Saturday 14th October to Friday 20th October 2017

EVENT GUIDE

To be held at the Weymouth & Portland National Sailing Academy,
Osprey Quay,
Portland, DT5 1SA
Telephone 01305 866000

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The Weymouth Speed Week bank account details are:

Account name "Weymouth Speed Week"
Bank: HSBC
Sort Code: 403810
Account Number: 01462288
SWIFT or BIC: MIDLGB22
International Bank Account Number: GB 98 MIDL 403810 0146 2288

Important Notice to all Competitors

The safety of a Boat, Sailboard or Kite board and her entire management, including insurance, shall be the sole responsibility of the Owner/Competitor racing or using the Boat, Sailboard or Kite board for any purpose.

The issue of sailing instructions, or any other directives, either verbal, written, or implied in no way limits or reduces the complete responsibility of the Owner/Competitor for their crew and the management thereof.

The Event Organisers, the Host Club, or any Class Association will not be liable for any loss, damage, death or personal injury howsoever caused to the Owner/Competitor or any of their crew as a result of their taking part in the trials, or races.

Moreover every Owner/Competitor warrants the suitability of his/her Boat, Sailboard or Kite board for the trials, race or races.

All Boats, Sailboards or Kite boards shall be insured against Third Party Liability for a minimum of £2,000,000. This is a condition of entry to Weymouth Speed Week.

All competitors must attend the 09:30 briefing and must, before going on the course, ensure that they have received the Race Officer's brief and been made aware of any safety instructions pertinent to that day.

Competitor Check List for Registration

1. Bring your GT31 (if you have one) to registration. BEFORE the event save any existing data on the memory card and then format the card to start the event with a blank memory card.
2. If you are hiring a GT31 bring a refundable £150 deposit; cheques should be made payable to "Weymouth Speed Week".
3. Collect your printed Event Guide, Event T Shirt, loaned Rash Vest, Car Park Tickets and complimentary Event Tickets and GT31 (if you hired one).
4. Check that the details we hold for you are correct.
5. Open the back of your GT31, turn on your GT31 and select Navilink mode.
6. Go to one of the "self service" tablets and follow the on-screen guidance. This will automatically check your GT31 settings, ensure it has a unique identifier and register your unit to the data that you entered previously on-line. The system will give you your personal event number which is also your tally band number.
7. When you go on the water take your tally band and when you come off the water return your tally band and GT31 **within 30 minutes of course closure**, this is a safety requirement to enable the stand down of the safety boats and also allow prompt completion of the day's results.

Entry to the Event

For practical and safety reasons we aim to limit the total number of competitors on the water at any time to about 100, the event will be oversubscribed so book early to avoid disappointment. **Entry is only secured on payment of the appropriate fee following completion of on-line registration.** The online registration process creates a user account that enables you to log back in and check your entry details.

There are three options for entering the event:

- 1) The full week, for which up to 100 places are available,
- 2) Any 2 days of your choice for which no more than 20 places are available,
- 3) And youths at the weekend only.

The fees are £170, £75 and £40 respectively. These fees include use of the Weymouth and Portland National Sailing Academy and all launching and mooring fees due to the Portland Port Authority. Weymouth Speed Week provides the organisation, the event shirts, rash vests, buoys & anchors, result software and equipment, safety boats, fuel and crews. The event is non profit making. Prizes are provided by our generous event sponsors. Please support them.

Competitors may compete with any wind powered sailing craft.

If you wish to enter with multiple craft types e.g. windsurf and boat then only the one entry fee is needed, however in order to correctly process the results we will require you to have, and register, a different GT31 for each craft type.

The Organisers

Chairman	Nick Povey
Event Manager & Hon Treasurer	Norman Phillips
Promotions Manager	Pete Davis
Race Officer	Paul Sibley
Event Coordination	Paul Hibbert
GPS Timing and Results Software	Manfred Fuchs, Tim Daish
Speed Results and Web Site	Tim Daish, Nick Povey
Graphic Design	www.natural-design.co.uk

Weymouth and Portland National Sailing Academy Peter Allum

Contact details during Weymouth Speed Week

During the Weymouth Speed Week event the following people will have access to 2 way radios and remain in contact with the timing boats, club house, beach and rescue boats.

WPNSA Reception	01305 866000	
Nick Povey	07801 757505	
Norman Philips	07763 224585	
Pete Davis	07795 183243	(press and related enquiries)
Paul Hibbert	07880 555007	

Introduction to Weymouth Speed Week

Weymouth Speed Week began in 1972 under the direction of the Royal Yachting Association. It was seen as the premier event at which boats could demonstrate their prowess, reach world-record breaking speeds and further the advancement of sailing technology. Speed sailing records have been sanctioned by the World Sailing Speed Record Council (WSSRC) since 1972.

The speed trials of the 1970's and 80's attracted many thousands of pounds of sponsorship money and competitors attended by invitation. Several world speed records were set and then broken during these years, firstly with the boats and then, as technologies improved, by the windsurfers.

During the second half of the 80's the increasing popularity and capability of windsurfers came to take and then dominate the speed records. Locations with more favourable and predictable wind conditions became the place to set records, and the importance of Weymouth Speed Week as a record-breaking location began to decline.

Its popularity remained however and, due to the voluntary efforts of a few individuals, Weymouth Speed Week progressed into the 1990s supported by Weymouth and Portland Borough Council, the Weymouth Sailing Centre and the Amateur Yacht Research Society who assisted by donating prizes each year. Such was the enthusiasm for the event that some individuals even made their sailing boats available for use as 'course boats' during the week. The effort of all these organisations and individuals has ensured that Weymouth Speed Week is the enjoyable and exciting event that it is today.

Portland Harbour

Portland Harbour provides a great location for speed sailing. It is bounded on its south western side (the direction from which the prevailing wind blows) by Chesil Bank. Chesil Bank is a huge natural breakwater that stops the waves but not the wind. Shortly after the Autumn Equinox the wind conditions become most favourable; it is at this time that Weymouth Speed Week runs in Portland Harbour to provide the best chance of getting ideal speed sailing conditions, that of smooth, strong winds and flat water.



An open competition

Weymouth Speed Week is a unique event; there are NO restrictions as to who may enter and all types of sailing craft are welcome. If it's wind-powered, it is eligible.

The lack of rules provide the ideal proving ground for both experts and dreamers to build the type of boats which, but for Weymouth Speed Week, would never otherwise see the light of day. Many early boat and board designs have since been refined and some of today's fastest craft owe their origins to designs and ideas that were first seen at Weymouth Speed Week.

Today's competition

Speed, position and distance are recorded by GPS units; each competitor wears an individual GPS data logger that continuously records their location.

Although an Outright World Record may be out of reach at Weymouth Speed Week, the competition is definitely on for breaking the Weymouth Speed Week 500m Harbour Record of 38.48 knots, set by Anders Bringdal on a sail board at the 2008 event.

Courses are laid out in the harbour each day by the event organisers. Depending upon the prevailing wind conditions, they may set one or more courses that are best suited to the competition and the achievement of the highest speeds. Competitors are free to make as many qualifying runs as they can whilst the course is open; a good run normally takes around 25 to 30 seconds.

Accurate measurement of the 500 metre course and plotting of each competitor's movements are performed in software based on the recorded GPS location.

Details of the 2017 Event

The event will be based at the Weymouth and Portland National Sailing Academy located at the Portland end of Chesil Beach. This was the 2012 Olympics sailing venue.

The Academy has all the facilities of a world class sailing club, refreshments are available throughout the day. There is adequate parking for cars and trailers. Campers and motor homes are allowed on the site. For people who want to camp on the site it is important that arrangements are made with the Academy, telephone 01305 866000. Local by-laws, which limit the area for camping, are strictly enforced and the instructions given by the WPNSA must be followed.

Social events are arranged throughout the week, where these require catering arrangements tickets for attending these events must be obtained at least 24 hours before from the event office.

Motor vehicles and trailers should be kept in the designated car parking areas and not in the boat park. Slipways must be kept as clear as possible and launching trolleys moved to the boat park.

Insurance

All competitors must have third party insurance cover for £2,000,000.

Briefing

All competitors must attend the 09:30 briefing and must, before going on the course, ensure that they have been briefed by one of the course managers and made aware of any safety instructions pertinent to that day.

Safety

If you intend to go on the water ensure that you have adequate protection from the weather. Life jackets or buoyancy aids should be worn at all times when on the water. Only buoyant weight jackets are permitted. Always remember to look out for people in the water and if you see someone check that he or she is not in difficulties - do not assume anything. Safety must be of paramount importance. If someone falls overboard from a boat or is seen to be in danger then everything stops until he or she is rescued.

At the race office, the launching areas and all rescue boats there will be someone with a radio and a telephone. If you are aware of any safety problem report it to them promptly.

When you go on the water take your tally band from the race office and when you come off the water return your tally band.

A risk assessment has been produced for this event and all competitors are invited to view a copy, youths taking part in the event will require their parent's consent.

Photographs

Photographs and video of the event will be taken by a number of photographers who will be present throughout the week. Competitors entering the event provide their consent to the use of any images in which they may feature.

Vests

To distinguish Weymouth Speed Week competitors from other people on the water you will be asked to wear a Weymouth Speed Week rash vest. These will be available from the event office; a £20 refundable deposit will be required.

Support Boats

Competitor's support boats are included in the entry fee. However all boats need a receipt to be shown to the Portland Port 'traffic warden' in the event that you are asked to do so. If you require a receipt they will be available from the event office.

Registration

We operate a "self service" registration process where laptops will be available to enable competitors to have their GT31 settings checked and for the unit to be registered to their name and data.

The Courses

Courses are set each day and are announced at the morning briefings. On any given day, we may choose to set one or more courses depending upon the prevailing and anticipated wind conditions.

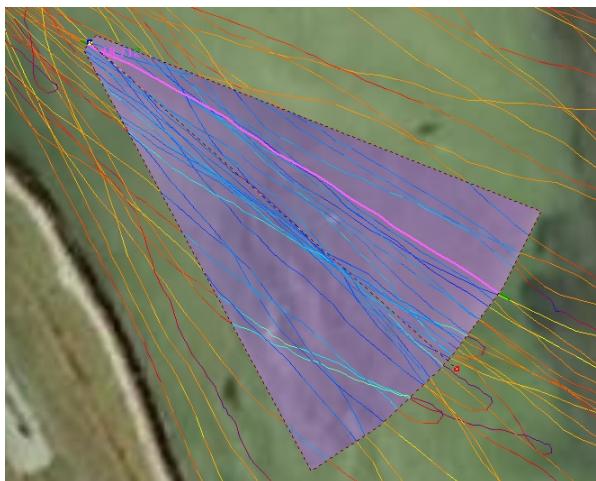
At the start end of the courses there will be a lead-in buoy 100m before the start line denoting the “one competitor at a time” area. The start line is defined by anchored buoys that will display the course open/close flags. To enter the course it is necessary to sail between the buoys.

Beach Course

When using a beach course, the inner buoy may be sat on the beach, depending upon tides, and the outer buoy will be several 100m out. As the competitor crosses this long start line a start point is defined from which they can sail their own course angle until they have sailed a straight line distance of 500m. In this way a catamaran could sail a square course whilst a kite may wish to sail a much broader course. For both competitors they have to sail exactly the same distance, irrespective of their course angle or where they crossed the start line. At the end of the course a line of buoys is positioned to indicate a distance just in excess of 500m as a visual guide to competitors on the course.

Harbour Course

On the harbour course a narrow start gate is used; as in the diagram below.



The end of the course is defined as an arc from the point where the competitor crosses the start line (this is done accurately by software when calculating the results). An arc of buoys is positioned just in excess of 500m as a visual guide to competitors to see when they have completed the course.

It's in your interest to keep sailing fast well beyond the course end marker buoys to ensure the best possible run speed is obtained. Competitors must continue beyond these course markers, so they can safely turn and return to the start line without impeding

other competitors. It is NOT acceptable to go up the active course the wrong way; competitors will be warned and if necessary removed from the competition if they do this.

On a beach course kite boarders have the option of walking back along the shore.

These courses have a number of advantages:

- wind shifts of 20 degrees or so can be accommodated
- different types of craft can sail on their individual fastest wind angle
- competitors sailing different angles to the wind will safely diverge

Sessions

The course(s) are scheduled to open at 10:00 and close at 16:00. Exceptions to this are the first day of Weymouth Speed Week when the course(s) open at 11:00 and the Sunday and Friday when the course(s) will close earlier to allow for prize giving.

If exceptionally good conditions are being experienced the organisers will endeavour to take advantage of these by extending the normal session a further 30 or 60 minutes – In this event yellow flags will be prominently flown by the rescue boats which will endeavour to signal to all on the water, in addition Tannoy announcements will be made in the launch areas. Similarly if the forecast winds and tides look exceptional then an early morning start may be declared, check the event notice board before leaving the academy each night.

Flags

The meaning of the flags flying on the course buoys or rescue boats are as follows:

- **Red** flag - the course is closed.
- **Green** flag the course is open.
- **Yellow** flags flying means that the course is staying open beyond the advertised time.

Definitions

Youth Fleet, Definition:

- Sailboard; first weekend only, less than 18 years on the 31st October.

Sailboard Fleet, Craft definition:

- has a sail, or sails, with a pivot at the base such that the rider supports the sail.

Due to the large number of competitors in the Sailboard Fleet, the class is sub-divided as follows:

Status: Amateur

- not a Youth;
- has no sponsorship and receives no financial support from others e.g. their employer or local shop;
- and hasn't won an Amateur prize at Weymouth Speed Week before;
- and does not race regularly.

Status: Gold Fleet

- not a Youth;
- has won an Amateur prize at a previous Weymouth Speed Week competition;
- or receives some assistance from a sponsor, such as discounted equipment or financial support, to attend events;
- or they race regularly.

Status: Pro Fleet

- not a Youth;
- someone who derives financial benefit from taking part in the sport, e.g. is a paid instructor, paid by sponsors or promotes their own products;
- or has won the top prize in the Gold Fleet.

Status: Women's Fleet

- all women sailboard competitors excluding those in the Pro-Fleet

Status: First time, Amateur Sailboarder

- first time in a Weymouth Speed Week competition and meets the Amateur Status above

Kite Fleet, Craft definition:

- a board propelled by kite(s) attached to the rider who then stands on the board.

Status: Kite Fleet

- not the first time in a Weymouth Speed Week competition on a kite board.

Status: First time Kite Boarder

- first time in a Weymouth Speed Week competition

Boat Fleet, Craft definition:

- anything that sails which is not a Kite board or Sailboard; it may have sails, kites or rotors to propel it and only uses non-stored wind energy as the power source.

Status: Boat Fleet

- not the first time in a Weymouth Speed Week competition in a boat

Status: First time Boater

- first time in a Weymouth Speed Week competition in a boat

Prizes

There are three ‘traditional’ Weymouth Speed Week prizes each day. These are engraved tankards donated by the Amateur Yacht Research Society and are for the fastest boat, the fastest sailboard and the fastest kite board. These are presented the following morning at the 09:30 briefing. In addition sponsors are presenting prizes that will be awarded at the end of the week and to the Youth Fleet following their two days of competition. These will include as a minimum:

- Youth Fleet Sailboard (first weekend only) - 1st 2nd 3rd Prizes
- First Time Sailboard Fleet (first time competing at Weymouth Speed Week and meets Amateur criteria) – 1st Prize
- Amateur Sailboard Fleet (not First Time, Gold, or Pro) - 1st 2nd 3rd Prizes
- Gold Fleet Sailboard - 1st 2nd 3rd Prizes
- Pro Fleet (Sailboard, derives financial benefit from the sport or a previous Gold Fleet Sailboard prize winner) – 1st Prize
- Women’s Fleet (Sailboard, not Professional) – 1st Prize
- First Time Kite Board Fleet (first time competing at Weymouth Speed Week, not Professional) – 1st Prize
- Kite Board Fleet – 1st Prize
- First Time Boat Fleet (first time competing at Weymouth Speed Week in a boat, e.g. could have previously competed as Kite or Sailboard) – 1st Prize
- Boat Fleet (not First Time Boat) – 1st Prize
- Overall Fastest Lady – Trophy
- Overall Fastest Kite – Trophy and WSW framed Certificate
- Overall Fastest Boat – Trophy and WSW framed Certificate
- Overall Fastest Sailboard – Trophy and WSW framed Certificate

The Amateur Yacht Research Society award "fastest of the day" tankards to the three craft categories. And Weymouth Speed Week provide framed "fastest of the week certificates" for the boats, windsurfers and kites. All competitors are eligible for these.

Use of GT-31 GPS Units

At Weymouth Speed Week there are two options - a) use your own unit or b) rent one from the organisers.

a) If you are using your own unit then the following applies:

1. Before the event check the firmware and check if an update is necessary, then check the settings.

See www.weymouthspeedweek.com/index.php/eventinformation/gt31-settings

2. Ensure the unit is fully charged and you are sure it is able to write data to a good formatted SD card.
3. Turn on the unit and leave outside for 10 minutes before going on the water.
4. Go sailing – **Do not turn the unit off during the day.**
5. Bring the unit back to the "data collection point" No later than 30 minutes after the course closes. **Return the unit still switched on, and in its waterproof bag.**
6. WSW will turn the unit off and read your data.
7. The unit and SD card will be returned to you and it is your responsibility to charge the unit and ensure sufficient memory capacity remains for the next day.

b) If you are renting a unit then please read the following:

1. Bring a deposit for £150 (preferably a cheque made out to "Weymouth Speed Week") this is fully refundable. The cost to rent a unit and Aquapac will be £20 for the week or £10 for two days.
2. Collect the unit each morning from the "data collection point" The GT-31 will have been prepared, turned on and placed in an Aquapac ready for your use.
3. Go sailing - **Do not turn the unit off during the day.**
4. Bring the unit back to the "data collection point" No later than 30 minutes after the course closes. **Return the unit still switched on and in its waterproof bag.**
5. WSW will turn the unit off and read your data.
6. WSW will charge the unit overnight and prepare it for use the following day.
7. Don't forget to return the unit and collect your deposit before leaving Weymouth.

Results

The results are reviewed and approved by the official adjudicator whose decision is final. As Weymouth Speed Week is not controlled by any other organisation or governing body, any decisions taken by the committee are final and not subject to review by third parties. The ISWC, UKWA and BKSA will separately adjudicate any results utilised by these organisations.

Results are processed based upon the contents of the GPS Data files recorded by each competitor's GT-31 Data Logger and with the published gates; the position of which is defined by the use of the same GT-31 technology.

The Organisers are not responsible for the quality of the data recorded by the GT-31 and any variances or exclusions caused by loss of satellite signal. We have seen a number of GT-31 specific issues that can affect the amount and quality of data recorded.

It is always in your best interests to ensure that your GT-31 is in good working order prior to sailing. This includes, but is not limited to the following:

- that the SD card is of a size recognised by the unit;
- DO NOT rely upon the internal memory of the data logger; the internal logging is a backup against card failure;
- that the SD Card is formatted and properly recognised by the unit;
- that the unit is fully operational, including the toggle button;
- that the battery maintains charge and starts the day with a sufficient level of charge to last throughout your sailing day;
- that the unit acquires multiple satellite locks and maintains a high-quality signal at all times;
 - a minimum of 5 satellites is required (the more satellites the unit can lock onto, the higher the signal quality)
 - the maximum Horizontal Dilution of Precision is 5 (higher HDOP values indicate a lower quality signal and less accurate positional data).
- that the unit is worn in a way during sailing that maintains a good and strong satellite signal;
- that the unit is always used within a good waterproof pouch whilst sailing.

Itinerary for the Week

Saturday 14th October

- Briefing 09:30
- Course(s) opens 11:00 close 16:00.
- Welcome party with complimentary meal in the WPNSA Restaurant 18:00 – 20:00.

Sunday 15th October

- Briefing 09:30
- Course(s) opens 10:00 close 16:00.
- 18:00 Youth Prize giving.
- Evening meal. Venue to be announced. From 19:00 onwards.

Monday 16th October

- Welcome & Briefing 09:30
- Course(s) opens 10:00 close 16:00.
- Skittles evening at The Admiral Hardy, Chickerell Road, Weymouth, DT4 0QU.
- Food available 6pm onwards, skittles at 8pm approx. More competition!

Tuesday 17th October

- Briefing 09:30
- Course(s) opens 10:00 close 16:00.
- "Tuck In Tuesday" Pizza/Pie Salad & Drink from 19:00 onwards at the Stable (upstairs), Custom House Quay, (near Royal Dorset Yacht Club) DT4 8BGD. A great venue - not to be missed!

Wednesday 18th October

- Briefing 09:30
- Course(s) opens 10:00 close 16:00.
- Amateur Yacht Research Society. Meeting at the Weymouth Sailing Club (Nothe Parade) in Weymouth 19:00 for 20:00 all welcome. Evening talks on a variety of speed sailing topics. The Club has a bar.

Thursday 19th October

- Briefing 09:30
- Course(s) opens 10:00 close 16:00.
- Event Dinner, The Ship, Custom House Quay, Weymouth, DT4 8BE, booked for 40 from 19:30. Choose and pay individually.

Friday 20th October

- Briefing 09:30
- Course opens 10:00 close at 16:00 or earlier if conditions are not improving.
- 18:00 Grand Prize giving - WPNSA main restaurant/meeting room.
- "Last Supper", Venue to be announced - from 20:30.

