

'A' Class Catamaran World Championships September 2015



UK Proposal - Weymouth & Portland National Sailing Centre



<http://www.wpnsa.org.uk>



A world-class sailing event deserves to be held at a world-class sailing establishment and the 2012 Olympic venue of Weymouth on England's South coast, is just such a place.



The British 'A' Class Catamaran Association (BACCA) would like to invite the IACA to the Weymouth and Portland National Sailing Centre in 2015 and to hold the 'A' Class Catamaran World Championships there from 20th – 27th September.



The sailing area is protected from the full force of Atlantic by Chisel Beach, an 18-mile natural shingle barrier, allowing the passage of smooth prevailing South Westerly winds but stopping the big ocean waves. This also results in weak tides. Weymouth is the host to many high profile sailing events; and has been, for many years, the home of world record-breaking speed sailing due to it's smooth water and steady winds.

The average wind conditions at that time of year are 13.6mph winds and 18 degrees C. Check out http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/media/pdf/b/0/MO-ODS-weymouth-portland_amend-web.pdf . Although curiously, it can be windier within the inner harbour than outside.

The National sailing centre on Portland was setup by collaboration between the RYA, Sport England, the local development agency and other local organizations. The result is a superb purpose built venue on the site of the old Royal Naval Air Station, just across the harbour from the old town of Weymouth. It was the premier choice for the 2012 Olympics and Paralympic sailing events and was the first of the Olympic venues to be completed.



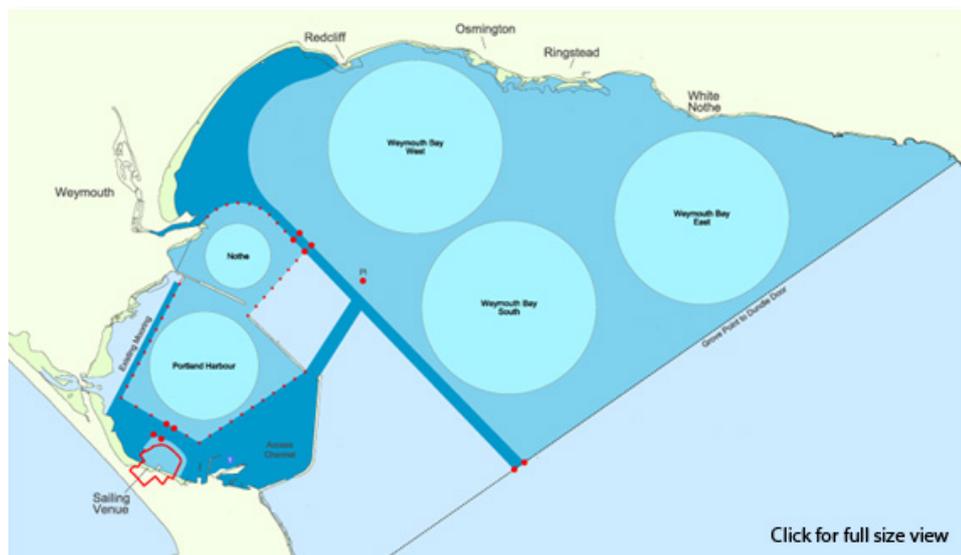
Doubling as the base for GBR Team sailing, it boasts a large boat park, with over 200m of all tide usable slipway/water frontage in sheltered launch areas. The facility also offers a purpose built clubhouse and changing areas together with function rooms and lecture theatres, a café open every day offering hot and cold food and there is a boat repair facility.

There is parking for over 300 cars, all-entering via an electronic gates system that guarantees a safe and secure area. There is also an onsite medical facility. For the social functions, final presentation gala dinner etc. There are two rooms available, both with licenced bar and catering facilities; one with a capacity of 150 people with a large balcony view over the harbour, the other hosting up to 450 people and can have a stage installed if desired. The facility also includes a dedicated motorhome parking area with electric hookup. Simply put, it is one of the very best purpose built sailing facilities available anywhere in the world.



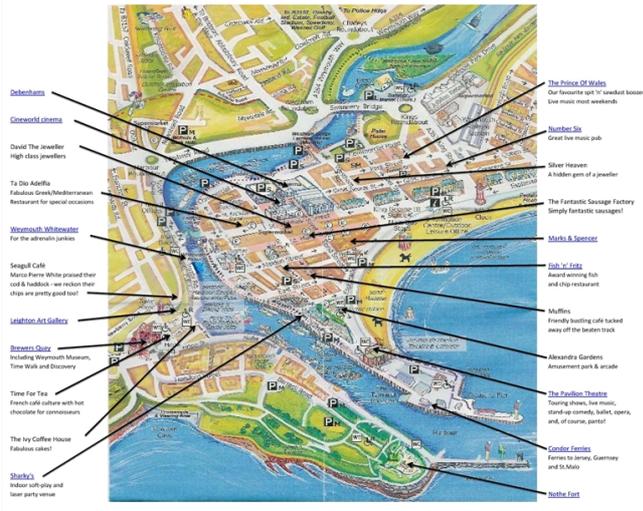
Logistically, 40 shipping containers can be accommodated onsite. The BACCA is supported by Pinnacle International Freight Ltd and as one of our partners they are able to offer discounted container shipping from worldwide locations together with customs and haulage facilities.

The sailing areas are easily reached outside the outer harbour and fleets could be split, if numbers or organisers dictate or desired. Race officials and assistance can also be provided by the dedicated centre staff, together with adequate safety cover in all the sailing areas.



WEYMOUTH

Things to do & places to go



The local area boasts a huge number of good eateries, from high class restaurants to traditional British tea shops and cafes. The town and surrounding area of Weymouth also provides a wide variety of accommodation ranging from simple and economic Bed and Breakfast establishments right up to 4 star hotels. There is also a dedicated 24 twin room apartment facility owned by the RYA. Visit

<http://www.rya.org.uk/contactus/portland/Pages/facilities.aspx>

All are vetted by the local tourist board. The town is also full of the usual shops and services as expected in a classic British seaside town.



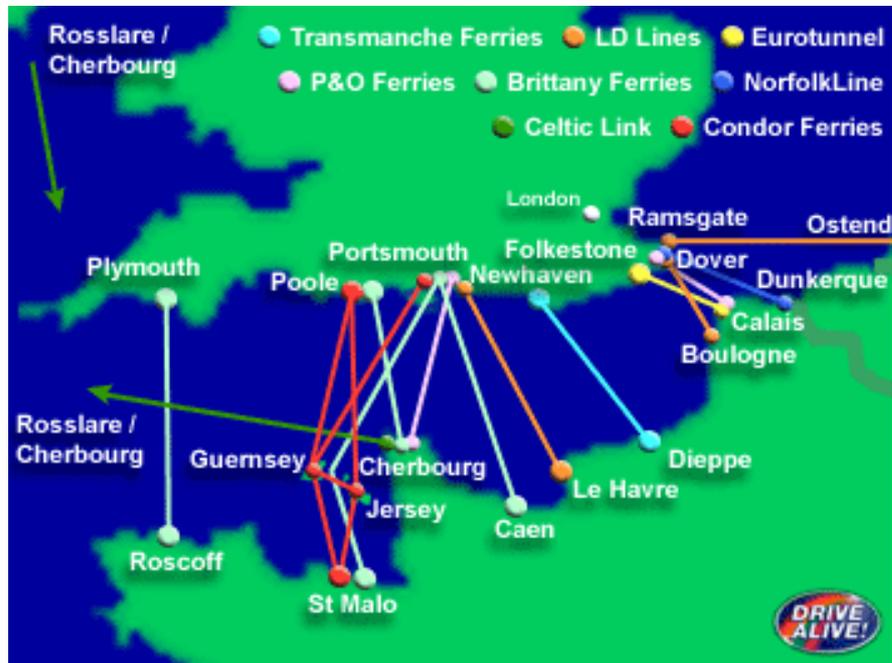
Situated on part of the World Heritage Jurassic Coast, Weymouth is also a popular family holiday destination with good and safe sandy beaches. It is a traditional British seaside holiday place. For children, sandcastles, ice cream, candy floss and candy rock are virtually compulsory in such places. For adults, pubs abound, from the traditional fisherman's inns to more raucous bars and nightclubs.

There are many interesting and historic areas to explore on

foot or using public transport. For nature lovers, Chisel beach is home to a large bird population and the area is rich in walks for all abilities. The local cliffs to the west towards Lyme Regis are rich in fossils and are famed for their spectacular sea views. Inland is the largest Iron Age hill fort in Europe, Maiden Castle, near Dorchester, offering walkers superb views of the unspoilt Dorset countryside. Beach fishing is also popular here. Weymouth is home to a commercial fishing fleet of small to medium sized fishing vessels, lending it a busy and bustling feel, as well as providing the fish for the many superb Fish and Chip shops in the town. It is also the base for one of the RNLI's largest class of lifeboat and this can be seen moored alongside the special quay in the main harbor.



Readily accessible by a newly built road network, improved for the Olympics, Weymouth is a ferry port with connections to St Malo. Local south coast ports such provide daily ferry connections to Spain and France. All North European and Scandinavian ports are also connected.



Discount ferry bookings can be arranged with our travel partner.

The BACCA bid is fully supported by UK 'A' Class supremo, Chris Field. Alongside him are Olympic Team GBR Gold and Silver medalist Paul Goodson OBE, and Silver medalist Stuart Bithell. Both are very keen and willing to participate in helping to organise and possibly race in the event. Being a local residents, their input will be most helpful. Their high UK sailing profile will also help with media coverage for the event. Both sailing press and TV interest cannot be ruled out.



The 'A' Class Cat is growing in popularity in the UK, as sailors from other classes have finally taken note of the beauty, simplicity and convenient shore handling of boats. BACCA has been promoting the class over the last few years with stands at the RYA London Dinghy Exhibition and regular travelling skippers frequently appearing at Cat open meetings. Many have realized the connection the class has with the big boys of the Americas Cup scene and would relish the chance to learn from these sailing aces.



The suggested event format would be as follows

Sunday 20th	Arrivals, registration & measurement 9.00 – 18.00
Monday 21st	Registration & measurement 8.00 – 12.00 13.00 Practice races. 17.00 Skipper's Meeting 19.00 Opening Ceremony and Hot Buffet.
Tuesday 22nd	Races 1 & 2 First gun 13.00
Wednesday 23rd	Races 3 & 4 First gun 13.00
Thursday 24th	Races 5 & 6 First gun 13.00
Friday 25th	Races 7 & 8. First gun 13.00 19.00 Gala Evening Dinner
Saturday 26th	Reserve day
Sunday 27th	Race 9 First gun 11.00 Presentation, Closing Ceremony, Goodbye Drinks and Buffet.

It's not often the opportunity to race at a premier Olympic venue comes around.

BACCA together with The National Sailing Centre at Weymouth offers IACA and the World's top 'A' class sailors just that very opportunity in 2015!

Prepared by Gordon Upton. Hon. Sec. BACCA

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