



**British Powerboat Racing Club**

## **Section 1 - General**

# **2026 Offshore Powerboat Rules**

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2026 BPRC OFFSHORE POWERBOAT RULES

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## SECTION 1 - General

### **Section 1 – General**

- 101 Cancellation
- 102 Races Recognised
- 103 Non-approved Races
- 104 Event Organisation
- 105 Racing Licenses
- 106 Registration



# 2026 BPRC OFFSHORE POWERBOAT RULES

## SECTION 1 - General

### **Generalities**

The British Offshore Racing Licenses Ltd is an independent license issuer for offshore powerboat racing within the UK.

By the taking of a license for competition within BPRC organised races, the competitor is deemed to be an entitled member of the BPRC and a party to the creation of the rules herein.

Any member of the BPRC having concern over any rules should formally lodge that concern in writing to an active member of the BPRC Board, in order that it may be considered.



# 2026 BPRC OFFSHORE POWERBOAT RULES

## SECTION 1 - General

### **Precedence of rules**

All members are advised that the rules are specifically for the purposes of fair competition. Any safety rules are made purely as a minimum standard to be applied; therefore all competitors shall recognise that their own risk assessment and application of additional recommendations is to be carried out prior to any competition.

For clarity the laws pertaining to Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) and The International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (COLREGS) take precedence at all times over any rule herein or race instruction issued by the organiser.

Similarly, any Local Legislation as published by Harbour, Foreshore or similar authorities will take precedence over any rule herein, or race instruction issued by the organiser.

In recognition should a competitor suffer a competitive loss from adhering to the above, an application to adjust their final position may be made to the race organisers, in search of restitution.

Rules herein may be amended for local conditions by race instruction and in that case will take precedence.



# 2026 BPRC OFFSHORE POWERBOAT RULES

## SECTION 1 - General

### **Racing Values**

Persons racing under these rules agree that discrimination on any grounds are unacceptable in the sport of powerboat racing. They will encourage and welcome the participation of people from all nations, religions and physical ability or differences and creeds without prejudice.

In all competitions and meetings, a fundamental consideration shall be honesty and openness. Each meeting and individual participating shall adopt zero tolerance policy towards alcohol, drug abuse, doping or other enhancements.

For clarity the standards applied will be as those accepted on the public highway and both competitors and race officials will submit themselves on request to medical examination by the medical officer.

All boats, competitors and officials participating shall adopt zero tolerance policy towards any modifications or adaptations that break the rules and regulations of the rulebook. Competitors who are found to knowingly cheat by means of false representations or mechanical or other adaptations outside of the parameters of the rule book shall face an automatic ban of no less than 1 season.

All officials shall be prepared to demonstrate fairness and impartial judgment if necessary.

All persons connected with powerboat racing shall at all times discharge their duties to the best of their abilities without causing harm to any participants, spectators, officials, or any other person.

All persons connected with powerboat racing shall declare any conflict of interest and excuse themselves from any function that may affect competition results.

For the purposes of prevention of conflicts of interest, no officials or other persons shall be permitted to operate any position of authority related to points scoring, jury, scrutineering, or any other meaningful sporting role if they have a family, marital, relationship or business connection with the competitors under that function.



## **General Conduct**

All participants resolve to hold the sport in highest regard and to the standard of their surrounding peers.

In any matter of serious disregard or major sporting confliction, the member or event organiser shall submit to a tribunal formed of four members of the event organising Club. Objection to any member taking the position will be accepted and replaced by an alternative member.

Any matter simply relating to competition is to be managed by the protest procedure and race jury at the event. Race jury decisions are considered to be final and binding except for the provisions above.

## **Environmental**

Competitors and race organisers are at all times to respect the environment and manage their activities to avoid unnecessary pollution or nuisance.



# 2026 BPRC OFFSHORE POWERBOAT RULES

## SECTION 1 - General

### **101- Cancellation**

Cancellation is solely the responsibility of the organisers.

### **102 – Races Recognised**

The BPRC recognise the validity of events sanctioned by other bodies including, but not limited to UIM, BPBA and national offshore authorities outside of the United Kingdom.

### **103 – Non-Approved Races**

Members are not restricted from taking part in any races not organised by the BPRC however a report of serious infraction at one of those events may result in removal of the participant's license.



# 2026 BPRC OFFSHORE POWERBOAT RULES

## SECTION 1 - General

### **104 –Event Organisation**

All BPRC events adhere to the following minimum criteria:

- Experienced officials and organisation.
- Professional medical rescue
- Permission to hold the event from relevant local authorities.
- Events to be run in area with good places for pits and harbour, ample water areas as well as good spectator areas and services.
- Adequate toilets and showers (hot)
- Accommodation and food places must also be located nearby.

### **105 – Racing Licences**

British Offshore Racing Licences Ltd, licences, are issued for the sole purpose of competition within the recognised classes listed.

BPRC Event Management Classes:

- Class 120
- Class 100
- Class 80
- Class 75
- Class 65
- Class 60
- Class 55

All craft competing in the above classes will carry a minimum of two fully licenced individuals either of which is fully capable of taking control of the craft at any stage of the race.

Licence applicants that have no previous racing experience are to approach the British Offshore Racing Licences Ltd and they will be provided with assessment by experienced racer trainers prior to issuance of any licence.



# 2026 BPRC OFFSHORE POWERBOAT RULES

## SECTION 1 - General

### **105.01– Compulsory Licence**

No one can take part in a race, or test drive at any BPRC titled event as a driver or crew without being in possession of a licence from the British Offshore Racing Licenses Ltd .

Licence holders from an alternative governing body outside of the UK will be granted a BPRC extension to their licence for the sole purpose of competing within a BPRC organised event.

#### **105.01.01**

In order to obtain a licence, the following disclaimer must be signed by the licence holder:

“The undersigned ... licensed driver (licence n° ...), participating in this event, yields the media rights of any coverage by the promoter taken during the event, for further use, press, radio or television. The right however remains the property of the undersigned.

In addition, I herewith agree and acknowledge the following:

The sport and technical rules are intended to minimise risks, but they cannot provide the highest possible safety standards at all times. Residual risks will inevitably remain and any person entering is aware that by signing on or entering they waive all rights to litigate for failure or other activity, except when caused by actions directed by pre-meditated malice.

Enforcement of the rules by race officials and in particular but not limited to the technical scrutineering does not guarantee the safety of racing or the safety of the scrutineered boat. Scrutineering is not intended as a construction/ condition survey. The racing license issued by the BPRC does not guarantee that a driver is physically able to race safely nor that he has sufficient experience or education.

Teams and drivers are solely responsible for their own safety including but not limited to their physical and educational ability to race in the relevant class, the safety of their boats and other gear and the safety of their racing activity. This responsibility includes racing with prudence and taking technical measures which are not mandatory in the rules but deemed necessary.

The organisers shall not be liable for any damage, injury or death due to inadequate rules, breach of existing rules by participants or failure to enforce rules by the race officials.

The signed disclaimer must be signed at all events. Should a disclaimer be lost or not signed then acceptance of the rules of the organisers shall be assumed to constitute a contract and acceptance of consent for the disclaimer. Acceptance shall begin at the moment an entry is accepted or competitors and officials enter the areas under the organisers control.



## 2026 BPRC OFFSHORE POWERBOAT RULES

### SECTION 1 - General

#### **106.01 - Registration**

The British Offshore Racing Licenses Ltd establishes a list of people to whom licences have been delivered. Any person wishing to obtain a licence must apply to the British Offshore Racing Licenses Ltd directly or via the BPRC.

The list must include: the name and surname, the address, the class(es) and the Appendix Anti-doping consent form duly signed per acceptance.

These lists may be sent to any National Authority upon request.

The digital version of the currently valid Offshore rulebook will only be made available by The BPRC.

The BPRC has the right to deliver licences to:

- its nationals
- Individuals with a Racing License may enter a BPRC Event so long as the licence is for the relevant class and they are not under suspension from their National authority. A release letter from their National Authority will be required.
- nationals of another country. As long as the competitor provides relevant release documents from the national authority

You are NOT allowed more than one driver's licence.

The British Offshore Racing Licenses Ltd may refuse to give a licence without having to state the reason. Notification of this is sent to other Clubs and Authorities upon request.

#### **106.02 – Validity of Licences**

Licences are valid for the calendar year they are taken out within, unless local circumstances require other dates, but validity should always be shown on the licence itself.

#### **106.03 – Cost of Licence**

The cost of the yearly licence is to be fixed by the BPRC.

#### **106.04 – Examination of Licences**

At any meeting, the holder must produce their licence at the request of any official of the meeting.

This is waived for those taking electronic licences.



## 2026 BPRC OFFSHORE POWERBOAT RULES

### SECTION 1 - General

#### **106.05 – Cancellation of Licence**

Anybody who takes part in an unauthorised meeting will not automatically lose their licence.

Cancellation shall be the decision of the British Offshore Racing Licenses Ltd . Cancellation shall disqualify the holder from racing for the period designated.

The information regarding the cancellation of a license will also be sent to their national authority.

#### **106.06 - Pseudonym**

The use of a pseudonym must be requested from The National Authority and The National Authority marks the pseudonym on the licence.

A licence holder, so long as he is listed under a pseudonym, may take part in any sports event under any other name provided the licence holder provides the BPRC with the real details of identification in advance.

Changing a pseudonym is subject to the same formalities as the adoption of it. Anyone who has chosen a pseudonym may not return to his actual name until the BPRC has agreed and has delivered a new licence.

#### **106.07 – Election of Drivers Representative**

Driver's Representatives will be elected for the period of one season, rolling. Licence holders are automatically members of the BPRC and should make other representations at official meetings and AGM.

