



At a glance

What is the RS Elite?

A three-person 7.4 metre keelboat designed by Phil Morrison in 2004 with a brief to create a modern version of the classic racing sailboat in the spirit of the X One Design, Sunbeam or Swallow, designed for the 21st century. It is a strict one design, ensuring close and competitive racing.

Where is it sailed?

South Coast

Hayling Island Sailing Club, the original home of the Elite, has a large and active fleet with regular club racing in a variety of formats. The fleet is dry sailed from the club's own facility and the nearby Sparkes Marina.

Cowes has a growing fleet which participates in racing events run by the Cowes Combined Clubs and Classes Association and the Island Sailing Club. The fleet is dry sailed from Cowes Corinthian Yacht club and Cowes Yacht Haven.

East Coast

The Royal Burnham Yacht Club is the second oldest Elite Fleet. Elites sail in regular club racing and are generally kept on swinging moorings.

Northern Ireland

There are two main sailing areas, Belfast Lough and Strangford Lough. In Belfast Lough the Elite fleet is now centred on the Royal North of Ireland Yacht Club but there are also Elites at the Royal Ulster Yacht Club. In Strangford Lough the fleet is based in Strangford Lough Yacht Club.

What are the major events?

The 2019 Southern Area Championship was hosted by Bembridge Sailing Club on 1-2 June. The winners were Russell Peters and crew in Riff Raff.

The 2019 RS Elite UK National Championship was held on 11-14 July as part of the Volvo Dun Laoghaire Regatta. The winners were Mike McIntyre and crew in Foudafafa. In 2020 the event will form part of the RS Elite International Grand Prix at the Royal Yacht Squadron at Cowes.

The 2019 Irish National Championship will be held on 24-25 August at the Royal Ulster Yacht Club.

The Eastern Area Championship (a new event for 2019) will be hosted by The Royal Burnham Yacht Club on 23-26 August at the beginning of Burnham Week.

The RS Elite class has been part of Cowes Week for the last 15 years. With so many boats travelling to Dun Laoghaire this year the entry at Cowes is lower than in 2018. The Tri-Handled Trophy is now awarded for the Cowes Week overall and the RS Elite Association Chairman's Flute is contested over the first four days with three out of four races to count.

Other open regattas and events with racing for RS Elites include the Hayling Island Whitsun Regatta and Chichester Harbour Race Week, together with open winter series at Hayling Island and Strangford Lough.

23 July 2019

Roll of Honour 2018

National Champions	<i>Foudafafa</i>	Mike McIntyre, Simon Childs, Caroline McIntyre
Irish National Champions	<i>Storm</i>	Stephen Polly, John Gunning, David Kelso
Southern Area Champions	<i>Riff Raff</i>	Russell Peters, Tim Peters, James Grant
Cowes Week (First equal)	<i>More T Vicar</i> <i>Riff Raff</i>	Ossie Stewart, Alice Masterman, Tom Stewart Russell Peters, Alistair Dickson, Emily Peters
Grand Slam Trophy	<i>Riff Raff</i>	Russell Peters

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