

'Thames North & Eastern Counties FC 2026 Guernsey Open Race - Rules'

1. The open race is to be named the "Thames North & Eastern Counties FC 2026 Guernsey Open Race".
2. 'The Committee' of this open race consists of the Thames North & Eastern Counties Committee members.
3. The open race license number is: LN/26/01
4. The open race will take place from Guernsey – RPRA Liberation Site Code 4245.
5. There will be just one liberation but two results: Thames (Thames members only) & Thames Open Race.
6. Entry is open to all RPRA members with CPH numbers, flying over 135 miles.
7. The Entry Fee for will be £3.00 (three pounds) per pigeon, (no limit) plus a £2 (two pound) administration fee per loft. Marking stations may charge a discretionary marking fee to cover their costs.
8. All entries and nominations must be paid for on the day of marking. Payment can be made to the marking station as Cash, Cheque, Paypal or Bank Transfer.
PayPal Rachael.bacon@hotmail.co.uk
Bank Transfer: Thames North & Eastern Counties FC, 20-21-73 20807486
Cheques are to be made payable to 'Thames North & Eastern Counties Flying Club'.
9. Manual clock users, these must be sealed with a '3 way –tested' paper inside (RPRA Rules 202/216).
10. All competitors marking sheet (ETS or Manual Clocks) must be signed by the competitor plus two other marking station officials. Where competitors are using manual clocks, their race rubber stubs must then be put into an envelope and stapled to the back of their marking sheet.
11. Optional £10 Single bird nom pigeon should be clearly marked on the members race entry sheet (ETS/Manual Clock Sheet) as 'NOM'.
12. All crates must be labelled and each marking station must complete a Weigh Bill.
Label must contain the marking stations name, seal number of the crate, number and sex of pigeons in each crate.
Weighbill must contain the marking stations name, seal number of the crate, number and sex of pigeons in each crate. Totals of the number of birds and crate numbers.
13. Each marking station must complete a 2026 Guernsey Open Race Money Sheet.
Marking stations must provide the conveyer with; ETS Sheets, Manual Clock Sheet&Rubber Stubs, Money Sheet, Birdage & Nom money (if not paying via a electronic method) and Weigh bill on marking night.
Please note, any Race Entrys not provided to the conveyer on race marking night will be strictly void.
14. Crates should contain no more than 25 pigeons per crate.
15. The floor of all crates should be lined with corrugated paper.
16. Competitors can use any of the listed marking stations.
17. All pigeons must be inoculated by their owners against Paramyxovirus, with a DEFRA authorised paramyxovirus vaccine. A vaccine form must be provided to the marking station.
18. Entered pigeons must be either wing stamped on at least three flights or carrying a ring in either case clearly showing the telephone number of a person or Organisation to whom the pigeon should be reported if it becomes a stray. Any pigeon not so rung or wing stamped will not be accepted for racing under any circumstances whatsoever and marking stations must ensure that this is strictly adhered to. (RPRA Rule 121).
19. All pigeons entered into the race must be the property of the person in whose name they are entered, and the ring(s) they carry must be registered as such in the records of the appropriate recognised Association/ Union. In the case of partners, the ring(s) shall be registered in their joint names (RPRA Rule 94A)
20. The committee have the authority to change the liberation site and or delay the race if weather does not permit a liberation at Guernsey 4245.
21. The conveyer and race advisor will be the persons to make the final decision regarding the liberation/release of the pigeons.
22. News of the race (such as a liberation time) will be updated on Thames North & Eastern Counties Website www.thamesnec.co.uk and Facebook page.
23. The race will close at closes at 8.50pm on day of liberation & reopens at 5.30am the next day should it end up being a two day race.
24. Clocks must be struck on the day of clocking in either at a Thames clock station (marking station) or at your local club by prior agreement if not a Thames marking station. ETS Sheets or Race Rubbers in an envelope stapled behind the sheet must be signed by the competitor plus two other marking station officials. A marking station result or images of competitors ETS sheets / manual clocks, to be sent to the Thames North & Eastern Counties Club Secretary Rachael Bacon on race day so a provisional result can be completed.

25. Member or marking stations must post the race entry return sheets (ETS return sheets or Race Rubbers (in an envelope) stapled behind it, to the Thames North & Eastern Counties Club Secretary Rachael Bacon: 33 Mornington Avenue, Rochford, Essex, SS4 1DW so that the post mark is dated no later than three working days after liberation.
26. Provisional result will be uploaded to Thames North & Eastern Counties Website & Facebook page as soon as is possible then the full result will be published following clock and paperwork checking.
27. Objections must be sent in writing to the Thames North & Eastern Counties Secretary within 7 days of publication of the result on www.thamesnec.co.uk Where objections to the results are upheld, the amended result will be published on www.thamesnec.co.uk as soon as possible, and again, objections must be lodged with the Thames North & Eastern Counties Club Secretary in writing within 7 days of publication.
28. We use information submitted on race entry sheets to administrate the race and publish results.
29. All prizes and nominations will be awarded to the highest velocity lofts matching the criteria.
30. Thames prize money: 1st £250, 2nd £150 & 3rd £100 per loft (not pigeon). Awarded to the first three highest velocity lofts.
31. Open Race prize money: If birdage is 1200+ then open race prize money will be paid out, 1st, 2nd & 3rd per loft (not pigeon). Prize money amount TBC. Awarded to the first three highest velocity lofts.
32. If there are not enough lofts clocked in race time to take the allocated prize money, then there will be no prizes and this will be retained by Thames N&EC FC.
33. £10 (ten pound) Single Bird Nom is optional. Pool money of £200 will be awarded to the first highest velocity single bird nomination. If there are insufficient pigeons in the single bird nom to win the pool money, the pool money of £200 will be retained by Thames N&EC FC.
34. All prizes, pools and refunds will be paid out after the objection period.
35. The decision of the Committee is final.