The RS Elite

With finger light balance and effortless speed, the RS Elite is a real sailor’s keelboat – equally at home in evenly matched one-design racing or competitive across the wind range in handicap fleets.

These attributes have created a Class with passionate owners. Many have successful backgrounds in other racing keelboats or larger yachts, while others are less experienced and appreciate the boat’s great manners and Class camaraderie.

Their passion for RS Elite racing is undiluted because the boat requires minimal maintenance, is comfortable to sail and can be enjoyed by men or women of virtually all ages.

“I am high on winning probably the best regatta I have had the privilege of being part of.”

Crauford McKeon - RS Elite National Champion
Design Features

Hull
Long narrow form - easily driven and not sensitive to crew weight.
Long cockpit - comfortable side decks and plenty of crew space.
Self draining cockpit when sailing and when left on a mooring.
Spinnaker chute at the bow for uncomplicated hoists and drops.
Full width mainsheet track on the aft deck – with mainsheet and traveller controls led forward to jammers in centre of cockpit.
Kicker and Cunningham controls led to both sides in the centre of the cockpit.

Sails
Tri-radial Mylar jib with full length battens for shape stability and longevity. Self tacking set-up offers maximum maneuverability, acceleration and tactical options.
Tri-radial Mylar mainsail with full length top battens to give shape stability, longevity and allow a powerful and controllable roach profile.
Tri-radial symmetrical spinnaker with a long pole that allows fast reaching or VMG running to suit both open water and estuary locations.

Construction
Vinylester GRP composite hull construction gives a stiff and strong hull with low water absorption for a long life. Minimal maintenance requirement both in time and expense, which leads to maximum pleasure and time afloat.

Launching
Single lift point built into cockpit floor structure for simple launching by crane.
Slipway launching from the trailer is also a practical option.

“The RS Elite exceeds expectations in terms of performance, handling and appearance”
Mike Tong - Twice IRC Champion
Spars
Carbon fibre mast with swept back spreaders so no backstay or runners are required. Light-weight mast with a pivoting heel plug makes it easy to step by hand. Carbon fibre mast and boom construction produces dynamic gust response for upwind control and pace. Rig tension is applied by a powerful purchase on the forestay strop below the foredeck - led back to the cockpit for easy rig adjustment.

Aluminium alloy boom with outhaul led to forward end. Aluminium alloy spinnaker pole which stows on the boom for fast deployment.

Crew
Normally raced by a crew of three – the cockpit layout and Class Rules also enable racing with two or four sailors.

The easily driven hull shape requires only a modest size rig – leading to manageable sheet loads that can be handled by men & women of most ages.

No hiking rule – allows crews of most sizes to be competitive and comfortable.

Foil
Fin & lead bulb keel - encapsulated in GRP skins with no fairing required or allowed.

High ballast ratio - 62% of all-up weight is in keel bulb. Balanced rudder – coupled with the narrow hull gives finger light steering in all conditions, even when heeled. Shallow draft allows the boat to be raced both in estuaries and on open water.

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Design Features
“On any point of sailing the Elite is a nimble boat and a joy to sail” Matt Sheahan - Technical Editor, Yachting World
Aesthetics

- Graphics pack - custom design waterline stripe + boat name
- Spinnaker colours — wide selection
- Spinnaker logo - designed and screen printed onto the sail
- Team gear — full range of sailing and shore clothing customised with your boat name

Performance

- Hawk mast-head wind indicator
- TackTick speed, depth and compass instruments
- Mast mounting bracket for TackTick display unit
- Tapered mainsheet
- Tapered spinnaker sheets

Transport & Storage

- Full length top cover
- Cockpit cover
- Fenders
- Warps
- Anchor & warp pack
- Galvanised steel road trailer – braked with flush-side wheel bearings and storage box
RS Elite Class Association

Highly active and enthusiastic Class Association, with fleets across the UK and further afield. There is a strong Class racing event programme each year, including National Championships, Cowes Week and regional regattas.

RS Elite sailors are a highly sociable group, who enjoy the fun, and welcome everyone – from front to back of the fleet. There is always much more to an RS Elite regatta than just the racing!

Visit the RS Elite Class Association website for more information:

www.RSElite.org