

**1. RULES**

- 1.1. The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing 2025 - 2028*.
- 1.2. Entrants and authorised guests are temporary members of Grafham Water Sailing Club during the period of the event and shall comply with Club Rules and Bylaws. *Failure to observe these may result in exclusion from the club premises.*
- 1.3. [DP] before a rule indicates that penalty other than disqualification may be applied by the Race Committee
- 1.4. SAIL NUMBERS
  - 1.4.1. A boat shall not race with an incorrect sail number unless she has notified the Race Committee at registration. Even when such confirmation is received the Race Committee does not have the authority to amend the requirements of class rules. As a result, a boat could be protested for failing to comply with class rules.

**2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

- 2.1. Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted not less than 45 minutes before the start of any race affected.

**3. COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS**

- 3.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located at <https://www.grafham.org/online-noticeboard.html>

The race office is located on the first floor of the club house, telephone 01480 810478, email [office@grafham.org](mailto:office@grafham.org)

- 3.2. [DP] While racing, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats

**4. CODE OF CONDUCT**

- 4.1. [DP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.

**5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

- 5.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed on flagpole 2 on the foreshore in front of the Clubhouse.
- 5.2. When flag AP is displayed ashore '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes' in the Race Signal AP.

**6. SCHEDULE**

- 6.1 Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July : The first warning signal is scheduled for 1157. Races 1, 2 & 3 will be sailed back to back.  
Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> July : The first warning signal is scheduled for 1027. Races 4, 5 & 6 will be sailed back to back.
- 6.2 To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, the orange starting line flag will be displayed with multiple sound signals at least one minute before the warning signal is made.
- 6.3 On Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> July no warning signal will be made after 1500.
- 6.4 There will be a briefing at 1030 outside the café on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July.

**7. CLASS FLAG**

- 7.1 The class flags will be: A class-Flag R Spitfire-Flag K

**8. RACE AREA**

- 8.1 The race area will be the western end of the lake.

**9. COURSE**

- 9.1 See Addendum A.

**10. MARKS**

- 10.1 See Addendum A

**11. [DP] AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS**

- 11.1. The following areas are designated as obstructions:
  - 11.1.1. The prohibited area at the West end of the water is an obstruction. Its boundary is a line of small yellow buoys forming its eastern boundary.

- 11.1.2. When stationery, a fishing boat, and an area extending 20 metres in any direction from the fishing boat is a prohibited area and an obstruction.
- 11.1.3. A safety boat in close attendance to a craft or competitor in difficulty is an obstruction and a prohibited area. Boats must not sail between the safety boat and the craft or competitor in difficulty.

## **12. THE START**

12.1 Races will be started using a modified sequence:

- 3 minutes- Warning signal
- 2 minutes- Prep flag displayed
- 1 minute- Prep flag removed
- 0 - Start

12.2 The warning signal for the next fleet will be at least one minute after the preceding start.

12.3 The intended start order is A class followed by Spitfire class. However, this may be changed if circumstances appear favourable.

12.4 In the event of a general recall the starting order will not be changed, unless there are repeated recalls for the same fleet in that race.

12.5 The starting line is between a staff displaying an orange flag on the committee boat at the starboard end and the on course side of the port-end starting mark which will be an orange dan buoy displaying an orange flag.

12.6 A boat that does not start within 3 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.

## **13. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE**

13.1 Legs of the course will not be changed after the preparatory signal.

## **14. THE FINISH**

14.1. The finishing line will be between the staff of the committee boat displaying a blue flag over flag S and the on course side of the finishing mark which will be dan buoy displaying a blue flag. .

14.2. Each race will be approximately 40-50 minutes duration, at the discretion of the race committee. When a race is to finish, the Race Committee will signal a shortened course at the committee boat in accordance with RRS 32.2. Boats will then round mark 2P and proceed to the finish line irrespective of how many laps they have sailed.

## **15. PENALTY SYSTEM**

15.1. RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

## **16. TIME LIMITS**

16.1 The time limits are:

- Mark 1-20 minutes
- Race time -75 minutes
- Target time-40-50 minutes.

16.2 Failure to meet the target time will not be grounds for redress under RRS 61.4(b)(1).

## **17. HEARING REQUESTS**

17.1. The protest time limit for on water incidents is 45 minutes after the last boat finishes the last race of the day or the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later. The time will be posted on the official notice board. This changes RRS60.3(b)(1).

17.2. Hearing request forms are available from the race office. .

17.3. Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses and the location of the hearings. Alternatively hearings may be held remotely and may be after the event. The parties involved will be advised by email of the arrangements.

17.4. Arbitration

17.4.1. Appendix T Arbitration shall apply.

## **18. SCORING**

18.1. The scoring system is APPENDIX A, with A5.3 applied.

18.2. Two races are required to be completed to constitute a series.

18.3. When fewer than four races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.

18.4. When four or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores, excluding her worst score.

18.5

18.5.1 The A class classics and foilers will be scored as separate classes according to their finishing position taking into account the number of laps completed.

18.5.2 The Great Lakes Handicap system and average lap times will be used for the Spitfire class.

## **19. SAFETY REGULATIONS**

- 19.1. [DP] A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity. Promptly after returning to shore, the boat shall notify the race office and no later than 30 minutes after the last boat finishes that race (or the last race before going ashore if races are sailed back-to-back).

## **20. REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT**

- 20.1. Unless otherwise specified in class rules, for the series of races comprising this event only the helm named on the entry form will be eligible.
- 20.2. Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed unless authorized in writing by the Race Committee. Requests for substitution shall be made to the committee at the first reasonable opportunity, which may be after the race.

## **21. EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS**

- 21.1. A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the relevant class rules, notice of race and sailing instructions.
- 21.2. [DP] When instructed by a race official on the water, a boat shall proceed to a designated area for inspection.

## **22. SUPPLIED BOATS-Not used**

## **23. OFFICIAL VESSELS-Not used**

## **24. (DP) SUPPORT TEAMS**

- 24.1. Support teams vessels are not allowed.

## **25. TRASH DISPOSAL**

- 25.1. Trash may not be placed aboard official vessels. It must correctly be disposed of ashore.

## **26. BERTHING**

- 26.1 Kit must not be placed on club members' boats.

## **27. HAUL OUT RESTRICTIONS – Not used**

## **28. DIVING EQUIPMENT AND PLASTIC POOLS – Not used**

## **29. PRIZES**

- 29.1. Prizes for the overall event will normally be given to the square root of the entry numbers.
- 29.2 Individual class prizes will be awarded depending on the entry numbers.

## **30. RISK STATEMENT**

Rule 3 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone.'

Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:

- (a) They are aware of the inherent element of risk involved in the sport and accept responsibility for the exposure of themselves, their crew and their boat to such inherent risk whilst taking part in the event;
- (b) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;
- (c) They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;
- (d) Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
- (e) The provision of a race management team, patrol boats and other officials and volunteers by the event organizer does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
- (f) The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances;
- (g) It is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks specific to this venue or this event drawn to their attention in any rules and information produced for the venue or event and to attend any safety briefing held for the event.

## **31. INSURANCE**

- 31.1. Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £2 million per incident or the equivalent.

## **32. OTHER INFORMATION**

- 32.1. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 32.1.1. The safety flags below are flown in the flag pole near the coxswains shed.
- 32.1.2. A RED FLAG – no launching, if afloat together with a long sound signal from shore the lake is closing in 30 minutes and you must be ashore within this period. Repeated sounds, come ashore immediately.
- 32.1.3. A RED YELLOW FLAG means the water is closed with exceptions, see the monitor or notice boards in the Café about exceptions
- 32.1.4. A BLUE AND WHITE flag- experienced windsurfers only (wind at 28kts or higher)
- 32.1.5. A BLACK flag indicates that wet or dry suits must be worn at all times whilst afloat
- 32.1.6. A BLUE AND GREEN flag indicates the presence of BLUE GREEN ALGAE in the reservoir and care should be taken whilst afloat and during launching and recovery of boats.

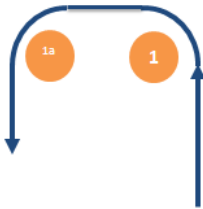
### 32.2. EMERGENCY MEETING POINT

- 32.2.1. If you are involved in an emergency and you need to go to or direct others (including an emergency service such as an ambulance) to the Emergency Meeting Point at the Coxswain's Shed' 52° 17.49 N, 000° 18.85 W. Should aid be needed elsewhere on site, club staff and/or volunteers will divert resources there.
- 32.2.2. If you call an emergency service, you must inform a Staff Member (Coxswain or Office) so that GWSC can invoke its Emergency Protocol. [Telephone 01480 810478].

### ADDENDUM A

**Course : Start—1-1a-2P/2S**

**Repeat until race is shortened as in SI 14**



**Marks:** All course marks will be orange pillar buoys.

Starting marks will be a committee boat displaying an orange flag at the starboard end of the line and a dan buoy displaying an orange flag at the port end.

Finishing marks will be a committee boat displaying a blue flag over flag S at the starboard end of the line and a dan buoy with a blue flag at the port end.

