



# Grafham Skiff Challenge

[incorporating the B14, Buzz and Cherub Inland Championships]

11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> July 2026

## Notice of Race

The organising authority is Grafham Water Sailing Club .

The notation [NP ] in a rule of the notice of race ( NoR ) means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1

### 1. RULES

- 1.1. The event will be governed by rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028.
- 1.2. Competitors should note that Grafham Water Sailing Club implements the RYA Racing Charter and they are expected to sail in compliance with it. The Charter can be found at the front of the RYA edition of the Racing Rules of Sailing (the yellow pages after the definitions), or on the RYA website at Racing Charter (rya.org.uk)
- 1.3. If there is a conflict between the NoR and SI, then the SI shall prevail. This changes RRS 63.5(c).

### 2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1. Sailing Instructions will be available on the Club Web Site at <https://webcollect.org.uk/grafham/category/open-events-1> by 2000 Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2026

### 3. COMMUNICATION

- 3.1. The online official notice board is located at <https://www.grafham.org/online-noticeboard.html>
- 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
- 3.3 There will be a competitors' briefing held outside the café at 1045 on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July.

### 4. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1. The event is open to all asymmetric boats in the Great lakes handicap range 697 to 1095 inclusive.
- 4.2. For the Cherub inland championship the helm and crew must be a member of the Cherub Class Association. Membership for the event is available, see class website.
- 4.3. For the B14 inland championship either the helm or the crew must be a member of the B14 Class Association.
- 4.4 . Boats may enter the event by completing the online entry form at <https://webcollect.org.uk/grafham/category/open-events-1> together with the required fee by midnight on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2026.
- 4.6. To be considered an entry in the event, a boat shall complete all registration requirements and pay all fees.
- 4.7. Late entries will be accepted only at the absolute discretion of the Club. If permitted late entries will be subject to a £10 late entry fee.

### 5. FEES

- 5.1. Entry fees are as follows:
  - 5.1.1 boats sailed by visitors: double handed £83.  
single handed £60.
  - 5.1.2 boats helmed by a GWSC member, who has a registered boat at GWSC:  
double handed £35  
single handed £18

5.1.3 The entry fee includes a one course meal to be served after sailing on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July.

5.2. Boats competing in the event may sail on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2026 at no extra cost but must register at the Office before doing so.

## **6. CREW LIMITATIONS**

6.1 Class rules apply.

## **7. ADVERTISING**

7.1 [DP][NP]Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organizing authority.

## **8. QUALIFYING SERIES AND FINAL SERIES – Does not apply**

## **9. SCHEDULE**

9.1. There is no registration and no event documentation will be issued during the event.

9.2. Dates of Racing

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July -4 races back to back with the first warning signal not before 1157.

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July - 4 races back to back with the first warning not before 1027.

The first warning signal time refers to the first fleet to start.

9.3 On the last scheduled day of racing no warning signal will be made after 1500.

## **10. EQUIPMENT INSPECTION**

10.1. Equipment and measurement checks may be carried out at any time.

## **11. CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT**

11.1. [DP][NP] RRS40.1 shall apply at all times when afloat.

## **12. VENUE**

12.1. A site plan showing camping, parking and slipways is shown in Appendix 1.

## **13. COURSES**

13.1. The course to be sailed will be windward -leeward.

## **14. PENALTY SYSTEM**

14.1. RRS Appendix T shall apply.

14.2 For the B14 only, RRS 42 is changed as follows;

When an incident occurs where a penalty applies while the head of the spinnaker is above the main-boom gooseneck, the penalty may be taken immediately after the next time the head of the spinnaker is lowered below the main-boom gooseneck but shall always be taken prior to rounding the next mark or crossing the finish line. This changes RRS 44.2.

## **15. SCORING**

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

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

(b) When four or more races have been completed, a boats series score will be the total of her race score excluding her worst score.

15.3 For all but the B14 class the event will be scored using average lap times corrected by Great Lakes handicap numbers. Individual class positions will also be provided where appropriate.

15.4 The B14 class will be scored as a separate fleet.

15.5 RRS 90.3e shall apply.

## **16. SUPPORT TEAMS**

16.1. Support Teams are not be allowed.

**17. CHARTERED OR LOAN BOATS – Does not apply.**

**18. BERTHING – Does not apply.**

**19. HAUL OUT RESTRICTIONS – Does not apply.**

**20. DIVING EQUIPMENT AND PLASTIC POOLS – Does not apply.**

## **21. DATA PROTECTION**

21.1. The GWSC data protection policy can be found at

[https://www.grafham.org/wp-content/uploads/\\_pdfs/Club%20Documents/Privacy-Notice.pdf](https://www.grafham.org/wp-content/uploads/_pdfs/Club%20Documents/Privacy-Notice.pdf)

## **22. 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 to race is hers alone.'

Sailing is by 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 to themselves, their crew, their boat to such inherent risk whilst taking part;
- (b) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their 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 organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
- (f) The provision of a 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

## **23. INSURANCE**

23.1. Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £2,000,000 per incident or the equivalent.

## **24. PRIZES**

24.1. The number of prizes will normally be approximately the square root of the entry numbers. Individual class prizes may be given depending on entry numbers.

## **25. FURTHER INFORMATION**

25.1. On Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2026 at 1500 a final decision will be made on whether the event can proceed based on the forecast wind strength. In the event of any cancellation a notice will appear on the GWSC website by this time and full refunds of the entry fees will be given less any committed non recoverable costs incurred.

25.2 Grafham Water Sailing Club Safeguarding policy can be found at:

<https://www.grafham.org/safeguarding-2.html>

#### 25.2. GENERAL

Campers and camper vans are welcome and pre booking is available online at <https://webcollect.org.uk/grafham/category/open-events-1>. Pre-booking of camper vans is essential. There is a charge of £15 per night for Campervans, £10 per night for Camping (please note – NO caravans – our lease does not allow them).

Directions to Grafham Water Sailing Club, details of local accommodation, and other information are available on the Club website - <http://www.grafham.org> .

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 Regulations. Failure to observe these may result in exclusion from the club premises.

#### 25.3 CAFETERIA and BAR

25.3.1 All day cafeteria both days serving hot drinks and a variety of food.

25.3.2 Saturday evening meals are available and must be pre booked on the entry page.

#### 25.4 MOVEMENT OF BOATS TO GRAFHAM WATER

In order to prevent the spread of non-native species there is a requirement to ensure that boats are clean before they visit the site using the principle of Check Clean Dry

<http://www.nonnativespecies.org/checkcleandry/index.cfm> .

This includes:

CHECK your equipment and clothing for live organisms – particularly in areas that are damp or hard to inspect.

CLEAN and wash equipment, footwear and clothing thoroughly. If you do come across any organisms, leave them at the water body where you found them.

DRY all equipment and clothing – some species can live for many days in moist conditions. Make sure you don't transfer water elsewhere.

Anglian Water ask for boats and equipment, arriving at Grafham Water that are from the following locations, to have been clean and dry for at least two days prior to arrival – if not, then they must not be launched at the Club:

- Wraysbury Reservoir and Wraysbury River near to Staines
- The Queen Mother Reservoir
- Queen Elizabeth II/Bessborough Reservoirs
- Queen Mary Reservoir
- Warwick East Reservoir, Warwick West Reservoir and William Girling Reservoir all located in the Lee Valley

#### 25.5 MOVEMENT OF BOATS FROM GRAFHAM WATER

A non-native species of fresh-water shrimp (commonly known as killer shrimps) has been found in Grafham Water and certain restrictions on boat movement have been imposed by AW, DEFRA or other bodies to prevent the spread of these to other locations in the UK. These requirements are prominently displayed on the club premises and will include washing boats and equipment before removal from the Club premises. Failure to comply with the requirements of these restrictions may lead to expulsion from the event.

#### 25.6 PHOTOGRAPHS

Professional Photographs Our photography partner, Paul Sanwell of OP Photography will be taking action photographs of the event. These images can be viewed and purchased the day after the event on the Grafham Water SC photo-gallery at [www.grafham.org/photos](http://www.grafham.org/photos)

## APPENDIX 1 – SITE PLAN



Grafham Water Sailing Club, Perry, Huntingdon, Cambs. PE28 0BU.  
Tel: 01480 810478 Email: [office@grafham.org](mailto:office@grafham.org) Website: [www.grafham.org](http://www.grafham.org)

