

RS 400/500/700/800 Inland Championships 2026

Sat Oct 3 & Sun Oct 4 2026

Pre-Event Information

Welcome to Grafham Water for the 2026 RS Inland Championships

Your team from Grafham for the weekend is:

PRO John Aston

Club Office: Heather Dance

Coxswain: Charly Bower (Sat), Dave Betch (Sun)

Camping and overnight:

The Clubhouse toilets will be available over the weekend. There is also a Portaloo toilet for use on the East side of the clubhouse.

Car & Trailer Parking:

Campers can proceed directly to their booked space. All other parking will be in the visitors' car park located on the right after passing the entrance barrier. (See site map below). Please rig boats there, and wheel them past the roundabout to the launching areas.



Event communications: The ONB is at <https://www.grafham.org/online-noticeboard.html>.

There will be a competitor briefing at 1030 on Saturday morning on the shore side of the Clubhouse. (in the café if wet).

Registration Saturday

0900 to 1030 in the café, (Clubhouse Ground Floor)

Wash down:

Boats must be washed down before leaving the Club to comply with non-native species guidance. There will be wash down hoses or pressure washers on the west side of the clubhouse.

Catering:

The café on the ground floor of the Clubhouse will be open both days of the event. Breakfasts will be available each day. There is a Saturday evening meal and the bar will be open.

Safety & Security:

Please do not walk through fenced off areas: they are fenced off for your safety.

Take particular care of Slipway 3 and Slipway 4 immediately to the East of the Clubhouse as there are regular tractor movements on these slipways. The small gate onto this slipway from the camping area will be locked over the weekend so that people do not walk inadvertently onto the coxswain slipway: please go around the top of the drive to get to the Clubhouse.

The fire exits from the Clubhouse are marked – the fire muster point is on the grass of the roundabout on the land side of the Clubhouse.

Please do not leave valuables in the changing rooms: there are lockers (green) in the café area which take a £1 coin.

SAILING**Launching**

Water levels (as you will see on arrival) are very low. There is a lot of mud! For efficient launching please follow these guidelines:

- Launch only from Slipways 5, 6 & 7 or the beach areas adjacent to these slipways. The beach areas have harder mud in places and very soft mud in other places. We have marked the better beach launch areas with metal stakes and there will be a beach master on hand to help direct you to these better launch areas.
- Do not attempt to launch from the slipways to the East of the Clubhouse (1, 2 & 3): the mud here makes launching next to impossible.
- Do not use slipway 4: this is being used for launching ribs and Committee Boats.
- Try to distribute yourselves over all available slipways to avoid congestion.
- Be prepared to team up to help fellow sailors launch and retrieve.

First race of the day:

Our aim is to start on time on both days: please allow adequate time for launching and sailing out to the Race Area; take into account the launching conditions (see above), the number of competitors trying to launch (and also Club members on Sunday who start Club racing at 1100) and plan accordingly.

Race Area:

This is likely to be the West end of the Lake but will be confirmed at the briefing. To aid identification before the first race, the Committee Boat may display the Class Flags (to be removed prior to the first Start sequence)

Courses:

These will be displayed on the Starboard side of the Committee Boat. Make sure you check for a) changes between races and b) different courses set for each class

Starting:

Orange will be displayed a minimum of 1 minute before the first warning signal (SSI6.2). It is intended that we will use "P" (Pappa) as the preparatory flag, at least initially, moving to "Black flag" in the event of a General Recall. If there are frequent General Recalls or if we are under time pressure we may use "U" (Uniform) in place of "P", or even use the Black flag throughout.

Note the start sequence (3,2,1,Go), and the minimum interval between start sequences (SSI 12.2).

The expected order of starts is shown in the SSIs (SSI 12.3) but note that the RO has discretion to change this: keep an eye on the flags.

Finishing

When finishing, we will probably only give a sound signal to the first 3 legal finishers in each class. If you are in a bunched finish, and possibly not easily visible to the finish line spotters, please note the boats ahead or behind.