**amended 20 October 2020 for latest COVID restrictions**

**Notice of Race**

Solo End of Season Championships

Saturday 7 November 2020

The organising authority is Grafham Water Sailing Club (GWSC) and the National Solo Class Association (NSCA)

1. RULES
	1. The regatta will be governed by rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing.*
	2. RRS40 Personal Flotation will apply at all times while afloat. Flag Y will not be displayed ashore. This changes RRS 40.
	3. Wet or dry suits must be worn whilst afloat.
2. ADVERTISING

Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organizing authority.

1. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY
	1. The regatta is open to all National Solo dinghies. Helms must be members of NSCA or of an overseas Class Association recognised by NSCA
	2. Eligible boats may enter by completing the online entry process through the link at <http://www.grafham.org/sailing-racing/open-meetings-3/forthcoming-open-meetings.html> and paying the appropriate fee.
	3. The entry lists will open on Wednesday 21 October and close at midnight on Wednesday 4 November 2020
	4. Late entries from boats sailed by visitors or GWSC members **will not** be accepted.
	5. There will be an overall entry limit of 80 boats, with up to 20 places reserved initially for GWSC members
	6. Restriction on entries due to COVID-19
	Entries from competitors whose travel to or attendance at the event would be in breach of any relevant government regulations or guidelines are not permitted and in accordance with RRS76.1, any such entries may be rejected or cancelled. As of 20 October this would apply to any competitor who lives in an area of England with a COVID alert level of “Very High” or who lives in Wales.
	7. Full refunds will be given to any competitor who enters and subsequently is unable to attend the event pursuant to clause 3.6 above.
2. FEES
	1. The entry fee for boats sailed by visitors will be £24.
	2. The entry fee for a boat helmedby a GWSC sailing member, who has a registered boat at Grafham*,* will be £8.
	3. The entry fee includes a packed lunch.
3. SCHEDULE
	1. **Registration**

Registration will be done on arrival at the site by Meet and Greet personnel.

* 1. **Briefing**

There will be no formal, live briefings, any relevant notices will be posted on the GWSC on-line Notice Board by following the link at <https://www.grafham.org/sailing-racing/open-meetings-3/forthcoming-open-meetings.html>

* 1. **Race Format**

 Three back to back races are scheduled with the first race warning not before 10.55.

5.4 No warning signal will be made after 3pm

1. MEASUREMENTS
	1. Each boat may be required to produce a valid measurement certificate at registration.
	2. Only one measured mainsail may be declared for registration and used during the regatta. The sail shall be measured and stamped by an approved measurer before arrival at the Regatta. All boats shall sail under their registered sail number.
2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The Sailing Instructions will be published on the GWSC Web Site by 2000 on Thursday 5 November. As part of our green initiative and COVID19 procedures we will not be handing out printed copies.

1. THE COURSES

The courses to be sailed will be selected from Sausage/Triangle and Windward/Leeward

1. PENALTY SYSTEM

Appendix P will apply. An observer appointed under Rule P1.1 who sees that a boat is in the “yellow light area” as described by World Sailing Interpretations of RRS42 may warn the boat by, as soon as reasonably possible, making a sound signal, pointing a green/white flag at her and hailing her sail number. There is no penalty. This changes P1. P2.1 is changed by deleting the word “first”. P2.2 and P2.3 are deleted. This changes P2.

1. SCORING
	1. One race is required to be completed to constitute a series.
	2. When fewer than three races have been completed, a boat’s series score will be the total of her race scores.
	3. When three races have been completed, a boats series score will be the total of her race score excluding her worst score.
2. SUPPORT BOATS

Support boats are not allowed.

1. BERTHING

Boats shall be kept in their assigned places while they are in the boat park.

1. RADIO COMMUNICATION

Except in an emergency, a boat that is racing shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available all boats.

1. PRIZES

Prizes shall be awarded to at least:

Top 5 overall

Top Veteran (over 50 years at 1 January 2020)

Top Grand Master (over 60 years at 1 January 2020

Top Septimus (over 70 years at 1 January 2020)

1. RISK STATEMENT

Rule 4 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states: “The responsibility for a boat’s decision to participate in a race or continue racing 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:

1. 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;
2. They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their property whether afloat or ashore;
3. They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;
4. Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate
5. 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;
6. The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances;
7. Their boat is adequately insured, with cover of at least £3,000,000 against third party claims
8. 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.
9. COVID STATEMENT
	1. By taking part in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that they are responsible for complying with any regulations in force from time to time in respect of COVID19 and for complying with the GWSC COVID-19 procedures. A breach of this rule shall not be grounds for protest by another boat. This amends rule 60.1(a).
	2. GWSC COVID19 operating procedures are published on the club web site <https://www.grafham.org/covid-19-operating-procedures.html> and must be read by all competitors. Failure to comply with the requirements of these restrictions may lead to expulsion from the event.
	3. Authorised guests must abide by any COVID19 restrictions and procedures in operation at GWSC.
	4. COVID19 guidelines in operation at the event may restrict the support boat provision, consequently the upper wind limit for racing may be reduced.
	5. The final decision on whether the event can proceed will be made on Thursday 5 November at 1200. If the forecast wind strength, or COVID19 restrictions cause cancellation of the event, full refunds of the entry fees will be given. Notice of cancellation will be posted on the GWSC website no later than 2000 on Thursday 5 November.

**OTHER CLUB INFORMATION**

Campers and camper vans are welcome. and pre booking is available online at <http://www.grafham.org/sailing-racing/open-meetings-3/forthcoming-open-meetings.html> 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).

Changing rooms and showers are not available at any time and the clubhouse is closed overnight. External Portaloo toilets are to be used when the clubhouse is closed.

During the day a ‘one way’ system operates in the toilets and must be used by only two people at a time.

All day cafeteria both days, food will be available on Saturday after sailing and should be pre-booked before going afloat.

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 GWSC 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.

Visitor entrants may participate in GWSC Sunday racing (commences at 11am) on Sunday 8 November for no additional charge but must register with the Office before doing so.

**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

**MOVEMENT OF BOATS FROM GRAFHAM WATER**

A non-native species of fresh water shrimp (commonly known as killer shrimp) 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. The 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