![Grafham Water Sailing Club logo]

Sailing Instructions
Junior Summer Series 14th July to 1st September 2024

Note: *Regular Sunday* refers to the races run under the appropriate Sailing Instructions for Spring/Early Summer series, Summer Sprint series and Late Summer/Autumn series.

1. RULES

1.1. The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing 2021-2024*.

1.2. SAIL NUMBERS

1.2.1. A boat shall not race with an incorrect sail number unless she has notified the office when entering. 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 no later than 0900 on the day it will take effect.

3. COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

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

3.2. From the first warning signal until the end of the last race of the day, 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] Grafham Water Sailing Club implements the RYA Racing Charter and competitors will be 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 www.rya.org.uk/racingrules.

5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

5.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed on flagpole 1. Signals may be announced on the tannoy as well.

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 OF RACES

6.1. Scheduled race times. The Junior fleet is Start 5.

Scheduled starting signal	Start 1	Start 2	Start 3	Start 4	Start 5
Race 1		1100	1102	1104	1106	1108
Subsequent races	Back to back after race 1				

6.2. The first warning signal for start 1 shall not be before 1058.

6.3. 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 first warning signal is made.

7. CLASS/FLEET FLAGS

7.1. The Junior fleet flag is pennant 5 (see Addendum C)

7.2. No class or fleet flags will be used for starting signals.

8. RACING AREA

8.1. The racing area will be where the committee boat anchors.

9. THE COURSE

9.1. On the sprint race day on 4th August, the course will be as shown in Addendum A2. On this day only, SI 9.2 to 9.7 below do not apply

9.2. Except for the sprint race day on 4th August the Race Committee Boat will be stationed upwind of the leeward mark. It will remain in this position for the duration of the race.

9.3. An indicator board on the starboard side of the Committee Boat will show the initial letters of course marks for the course. 'Special' or temporary course marks are shown as a white disc. The background colour of the boards indicates whether marks are to be left to port (red) or starboard (green).

9.4. Boats which fail to start or finish correctly or to sail the course as set and thus fail to comply with RRS28 will be disqualified without protest or a hearing.

9.5. The upwind gate and the finish line will be between the mast of the Committee boat displaying an orange flag and the on course side of a Dan buoy carrying an orange flag.

9.6. Boats must pass through the upwind gate, described in SI 9.5, on each lap.
Boats that fail to pass through the relevant gate will not be disqualified but will be credited only with the number of laps they have sailed correctly. The Race Committee shall record the finishing time or place as appropriate as well as noting on which laps that the gate was missed. Boats may apply for redress if they believe an error has been made. This changes RRS63.1

9.7. Boats shall not sail through the upwind gate described in SI 9.5 on the way to a leeward course mark, therefore this line shall be treated as an obstruction to all boats sailing to their leeward course mark.

10. MARKS

10.1. Marks used will be the fixed marks as shown on the lake map, or 'special' marks.

10.2. 'Special' marks are either inflatables or Dan buoys fitted with a coloured flag other than orange or blue and white checks.

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. Each 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.

11.1.4. The line described in SI 9.5 is an obstruction in a downwind direction, except for the sprint race day on 4th August.

12. THE START

12.1. Races will be started by displaying numeral boards to indicate elapsed minutes, with fleets starting at 2 minute intervals. This modifies RRS 26. Details of the start sequence and signals are shown in Addendum B.

12.2. The starting line will be between the mast displaying the orange flag on the committee boat and the on course side of a Dan buoy displaying an orange flag.

12.3. [DP] Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races.

12.4. **The sound signal is the starting signal**, not the numeral board. This changes RRS26.

12.5. Individual recalls will be signalled by displaying flag X with one sound signal as detailed in RRS29, except that the flag will be removed on the next sound signal in the sequence.

12.6. General recalls

12.6.1. A general recall will be signalled by displaying flag First Substitute with two sound signals as detailed in RRS29, except that the flag will be removed on the next sound signal in the sequence.

12.6.2. The recalled start will be 2 minutes after the last start in the sequence.

12.6.3. RRS 30.4 (Black Flag) shall apply to all recalled starts, except the Black Flag will not be displayed and will only apply for thirty seconds before the start.

12.7. In the event of a postponement after the Preparatory Signal by displaying pennant AP, the numeral board is removed for re-use. The sequence will be restarted one minute after the removal of AP by re-displaying the numeral board and resuming the one minute sequence.

13. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

13.1 Marks will not be moved during a race.

14. THE FINISH

14.1. On the sprint race day on 4ᵗʰ August, the finish will be as shown in Addendum A2. On this day only, SI 14.3 to 14.4 below do not apply

14.2. [DP] After finishing, boats shall keep clear of the finishing gates and of all boats that are continuing to race

14.3. Except for the sprint race day on 4ᵗʰ August the finish line will be the gate described in S.I. 9.5.

14.4. The remaining boats will finish after approximately 30 minutes (or at the Race Officer's discretion). A shorten course signal will signify that the race is to be finished - see below and Addendum C. All boats that have not passed through the finishing gate when the signal is made will be finished as they do so. This changes RRS32.

14.4.1. If all fleets that are racing are to be finished once the signal is made this shall be signified by the display of flag S and two sound signals.

14.4.2. If only the Junior fleet is to be finished once the signal is made this shall be signified by the display of flag S over pennant 5 and two sound signals

15. PENALTY SYSTEM

15.1. No boats need display a protest flag.

15.2. Rule 44.3 shall not apply.

16. TIME LIMITS

16.1. The target time for a race is 30 minutes.

16.2. Failure to meet the target time will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

17. HEARING REQUESTS

17.1. For each fleet, the protest time limit is 60 minutes after the last boat [in that fleet] finishes the last race of the day or the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later.

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

17.3. Hearings may be held in person at the sailing club or online as soon as practical after the request. The parties involved will be advised by email of the arrangements.

17.4. Post-Race penalty

17.4.1. A boat that may have broken a rule of Part 2 of the Racing Rules of Sailing or rule 31 may, after finishing the race concerned and before the start of any related protest hearing, notify the race committee that she accepts a Post-Race Penalty – a 30% scoring penalty (SCP) calculated as stated in rule 44.3(c), except that the minimum penalty is three places and she shall not be scored worse than the number of boats that came to the starting area. However, if the boat caused injury or serious damage or, despite taking a penalty, gained a significant advantage in the race or series by her breach her penalty shall be to retire.

17.4.2. When a Post-Race Penalty is accepted:

(a) Neither the boat nor a protest committee may then revoke or remove the penalty.
(b) The boat shall not be penalised further in a protest hearing when the protest committee decides that it was appropriate to the facts found and the applicable rules.

17.5. Advisory Hearing.

17.5.1. When there is an incident that will not result in the lodging of a protest or a request for redress, a boat may request an advisory hearing and notify any boat involved in the incident. An adviser will then call a hearing to learn what may have happened and, provided all parties are willing to attend, will state whether any rule appears to have been broken, and by which boat. A boat may as a result notify the race office that she accepts a Post-Race Penalty when it applies to the incident, or choose to retire, but is not required to do so.

17.6. RYA Arbitration

17.6.1. When a protest is lodged, a boat may at the same time request RYA Arbitration, or the protest committee or race committee may offer it.

17.6.2. If the parties and a member of the protest or race committee agree that RYA Arbitration is suitable, an arbitrator (who may be that member of the protest committee) will call an Arbitration Hearing. When it is the arbitrator's opinion that a boat that is a party to the arbitration hearing has broken a rule for which the Post-Race Penalty is available, the party will be invited to accept that penalty and, if accepted, the protesting boat will be allowed to withdraw the protest, changing rule 63.1.

17.6.3. When there is not agreement to use RYA Arbitration or when, after RYA Arbitration, a protest is not withdrawn or the Post-Race Penalty is not applicable to the facts, there will be a normal protest hearing at which the arbitrator may be a member of the protest committee. Rules 66 and 70 (reopening and appeal, respectively) do not apply to arbitration since this is not a protest committee decision or procedure. A boat may still accept a Post-Race Penalty at any time before the start of a protest hearing and receive its protection from further penalisation. She may also retire.

18. SCORING

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

18.2. The number of races to count in each series shall be 1 + 30% of the number of races (fractions will be rounded up) available in that series.

18.3. Handicap fleets will be scored using the average corrected lap times.

19. SAFETY REGULATIONS

19.1. [DP] A boat that retires from a race should notify the office.

20. REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

20.1. Each helm-boat combination counts as a separate entry in the series.

21. EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

21.1. Boats shall follow their class rules. 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. In the ILCA/Laser class all boats must confirm to either ILCA or The Laser Class (TLC) class specification. Replica parts outside licensed manufacturers for these classes are not allowed, all parts must either be class legal or class compliant.

22. SUPPLIED BOATS – Not used

23. OFFICIAL VESSELS – Not used

24. (DP) SUPPORT VESSELS

24.1. Support vessels shall not be allowed.

25. TRASH DISPOSAL

25.1. Trash must be taken ashore and may not be placed aboard official vessels.

26. BERTHING-Not used

27. HAUL OUT RESTRICTIONS – Not used

28. DIVING EQUIPMENT AND PLASTIC POOLS – Not used

29. PRIZES

29.1. Prizes will be given as stated in the NoR.

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.

Addendum A-COURSES

A1 - Regular Sunday course

A1.1 The course is signalled using the coloured letters and 'special' symbols as per SI 9.3 and is at the race officer's discretion.
A1.2 Courses are more usually trapezoidal, allowing a true run and two different reaches per lap, but can be triangular or windward/leeward (sausage). When sailing a sausage course competitors need to remember they are not allowed to sail the wrong way through the upwind gate (SI9.6).
A1.3 Fleets may also be set sausage triangle (ST) or triangle sausage (TS) courses, with the former being preferred, as in the following examples:

Display board TS
Display letters   PJX

This means: Beat to P
              Reach P-J
              Reach J-X
              Beat to P
              Run to X
              Repeat

Display board ST
Display letters PXJ

This means: Beat to P
              Run to X
              Beat to P
              Reach P-J
              Reach J-X
              Repeat

If used, all boats in the fleet must sail the same number of legs. A triangle is not equal to a sausage.

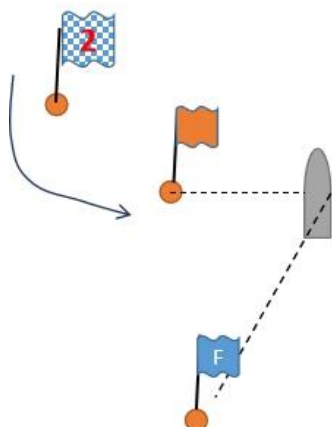**A2 - Sprint race course**

A2.1 The start line is between the orange flag on the committee boat and a dan buoy with an orange flag.
A2.2 Mark number 1 is an inflatable yellow pillar buoy
A2.3 Mark number 2 is a dan buoy with with a blue and whit check flag
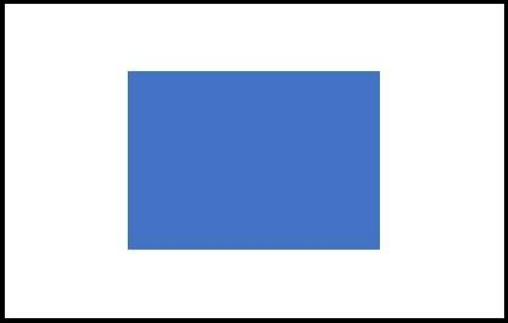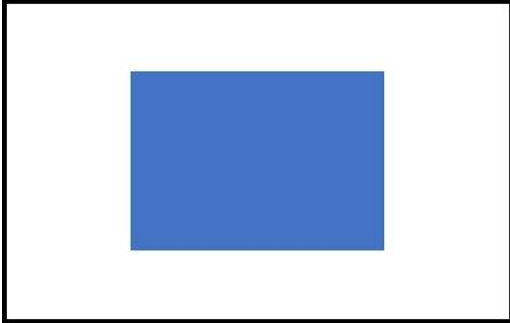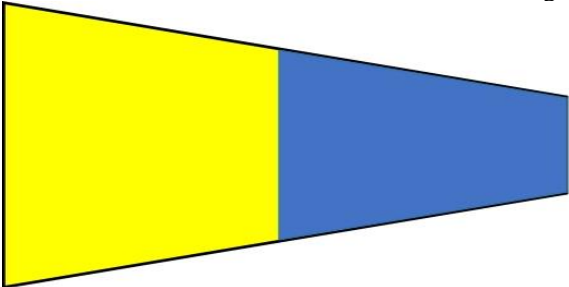A2.4 The finish line is between the committee boat and a dan buoy with a blue flag
A2.5 The course is: start - 1 - 2 - finish, leaving marks 1 and 2 to port.

Addendum B- START SEQUENCE

Display	\[Start Number\] 1 Means	1 Time to start (mins)	2 Means	2 Time to start (mins)	3 Means	3 Time to start (mins)	4 Means	4 Time to start (mins)	5 (Junior) Means	5 (Junior) Time to start (mins)	1st Recall Means	1st Recall Time to start (mins)	Display
0	Warning	2											0
1	Prep/ minute	1											1
2	Start	0	Warning	2									2
3			Prep/ minute	1									3
4			Start	0	Warning	2							4
5					Prep/ minute	1							5
6					Start	0	Warning	2					6
7							Prep/ minute	1					7
8							Start	0	**Warning**	**2**			8
9									**Prep/ minute**	**1**			9
10									**Start**	**0**	Warning	2	10
11											Prep/ minute	1	11
12											Start	0	12

Addendum C - Shorten Course Flags

All fleets stopping - this flag + two hoots

flag S

Juniors only stopping - these two flags + two hoots

flag S

pennant 5