

12th September 2026

Sailing Instructions

The notation 'NP' in a rule of the Sailing Instructions (SI) means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1

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. SAIL NUMBERS
 - 1.3.1. [DP] 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>
- 3.2. The race office is located on the top floor of the club house, telephone 01480 810478, email office@grafham.org
- 3.3. 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.
- 3.4. There will be a competitors briefing at 1015 on Saturday 12th September 2026, outside the downstairs café.

4. CODE OF CONDUCT

- 4.1. [DP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.
- 4.2. [DP] Competitors and support persons shall handle any equipment provided by the organizing authority with care, seamanship, in accordance with any instructions for its use, and without interfering with its functionality.

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 OF RACES

- 6.1. Scheduled Race times
 - 6.1.1 Saturday 12th September 2026- 3 races sailed back to back with the first warning signal not before 1115.
- 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 Saturday 12th September 2026, no start signal will be made after 1530.

7. CLASS FLAGS

- 7.1. The Class flag is: Flag F

8. RACING AREA

- 8.1. The racing area will be announced at briefing.

9. THE COURSES

9.1. The diagrams in SI Addendum A shows the course, including the approximate angles between legs, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left. The number of rounds to be sailed will be displayed on the starboard side of the committee boat.

10. MARKS

10.1. Marks are described in Addendum A.

11. 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 boats shall not pass between the craft in difficulty and the safety boat.

12. THE START

- 12.1. Races will be started as follows using RRS 26 with the warning signal 5 minutes before the start.
- 12.2. The starting line is between the mast displaying an orange flag on the committee boat at the starboard end and the course side of the port-end starting mark which will be an orange dan buoy displaying an orange flag.
- 12.3. A boat that does not start within 4 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. To change the next leg of the course the race committee may move the original mark or the finishing line to a new position by up to +/- 15 degrees or up to 20% length without signalling. This changes RRS 33 (a) and (b).

14. THE FINISH

- 14.1. The finishing Line will be the same as the start line.
- 14.2. The Race Committee may also award a finishing position to a boat that is still racing by displaying to her from a committee vessel (which may be in motion) flag W with one sound signal. A boat so notified is no longer required to sail the course and finish (changing RRS 28.1), shall stop racing and shall return to the starting area, or return ashore if there is no more racing. A boat's finishing position under this sailing instruction will be the position she would have received had she sailed the course and finished within any time limit, without gaining or losing any place. However, when two or more boats that are overlapped are notified, they will be scored as if they were tied.
- 14.3. [DP] Boats that are ahead of boats finished under flag W, and have not retired from the race, but subsequently fail to finish, shall be awarded the average of the points for places available to them had they finished. This changes RRS A5.2.

15 PENALTY SYSTEM

15.1 As per RRS

15.2 Boats that fail to pass through the upwind gate (see Addendum A) will not be disqualified but will be credited only with the number of laps they have sailed correctly.

16 TIME LIMITS.

16.1 The Mark 1 Limit, Race Time Limit (see RRS 35), and the Target Time are shown in the table below.

Mark 1 Time Limit	Race Time Limit	Race Target Time
20mins	75 mins	40-50 minutes.

16.2 If no boat has passed the first mark within the Mark 1 Time Limit, the race will be abandoned.

16.3 Failure to meet the Target Time will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

17 HEARING REQUESTS

17.1 The class protest time limit for on the 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 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. Hearings may be held in the protest room, located at the Club Office, beginning at the time posted. 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 Appendix T shall apply.

18 SCORING

18.1 The scoring system is APPENDIX A

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

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

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

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 inform office 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 Boats must sail with the nominated helm entered for the event. Any change to the nominated helm constitutes a new entry and must be requested in writing to the Race Office and their written approval given prior to leaving the shore.

20.3 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 – Does not apply

23 OFFICIAL VESSELS- Does not apply

24. (DP) SUPPORT TEAMS.

24.1. Support Teams are not be allowed.

25. TRASH DISPOSAL

25.1. Trash may NOT be placed aboard Official Vessels

26. BERTHING

26.1. (DP) Boats must not block access to slipways and members dinghy spaces.

26.2. (DP) Equipment and kit must not be placed on members boats.

27. HAUL OUT RESTRICTIONS – Not used

28. DIVING EQUIPMENT AND PLASTIC POOLS – Not used

29. PRIZES

29.1. Prizes will normally be awarded down to the square root of the entry numbers.

30. RISK STATEMENT

30.1 RRS 3 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

31. INSURANCE

31.1. Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £3 million per incident or the equivalent.

32. OTHER INFORMATION

32.1. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

32.1.1. 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.

32.1.2. A RED and YELLOW FLAG means the water is closed with exceptions, see the monitor or notice boards in the Café about exceptions

32.1.3. A BLUE and WHITE experienced windsurfers only (wind at 28kts or higher)

32.1.4. A BLACK flag indicates that wet or dry suits must be worn at all times whilst afloat

32.1.5. 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

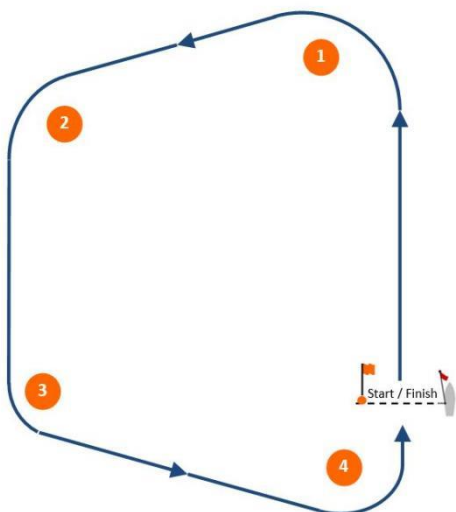
32.2.1. If you are involved in an emergency and you need to go to or direct others (including an emergency service such as an ambulance) to the Emergency Meeting Point at the Coxswain's Shed **52° 17.49 N, 000° 18.85 W**. Should aid be needed elsewhere on site, club staff and/or volunteers will divert 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.

32.2.3. Grafham Water Sailing Club, Chichester Way, Perry, Cambridgeshire PE28 0BU

32.2.4. Telephone 01480 810478

ADDENDUM A – COURSE(S) AND MARKS



MARKS

Marks 1,2,3 & 4 will be yellow pillar buoys with dark bands

The port end start/finish mark will be an orange dan buoy with an orange flag.

The start/finish line is a gate (G) that must be passed through each lap.

Signal	Course
1	1-2-3-4-finish
2	1-2-3-4-G-1-2-3-4-finish
3	1-2-3-4-G-1-2-3-4-G-1-2-3-4-Finish