



Sailboat Trailers Firefly Inland Championship

Sailing Instructions 2024

The notation '[DP]' in a rule of the sailing instructions (SIs) means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.

The notation '[NP]' in a rule of the sailing instructions (SIs) means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a).

1. RULES.

- 1.1. All races will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 2021-24* as published by World Sailing.
- 1.2. The prescriptions of the Firefly Class Association, the Notice of Race (NOR), and these Sailing Instructions (SIs) will apply. In the event of conflict between the rules, those of the SIs shall prevail.
- 1.3. The exoneration penalty (and advisory and arbitration hearings) of the RYA Rules Disputes Procedure will be available.
- 1.4. The following Rules will be subject to change: RRS 33; RRS 35; RRS 40; RRS 41; RRS 45; RRS 60.1(a); RRS 64.2; RRS A5.1; RRS A5.2; Race Signal ICF 'L'.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board(s) located in the clubhouse and on the course board located in the boat house at the front of the clubhouse.
- 2.2. The race committee may give additional instructions from the committee boat both verbally and by the white/black board, after displaying ICF 'L'. This changes RRS Race Signals.

3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS.

- 3.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted on the official notice board and on the course board, and will be made no later than 30 minutes before the start of the race to which it first applies, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000hrs on the day before it will take place.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed from a club mast on the foreshore.
- 4.2. When AP is displayed ashore, “1 minute” is replaced with “not less than 15 minutes”. This changes RRS Race Signals.

5. SAFETY REGULATIONS.

- 5.1. Adequate personal buoyancy must be worn by all persons at all times when afloat and on the pontoon jetty, except briefly while adjusting clothing or personal equipment. This changes RRS 40 and the preamble to Part 4, and BBSC Club Byelaw E8. **[DP]**
- 5.2. The wearing of suitable dinghy footwear is **mandatory**. The wearing of yacht boots, wellingtons, or flip flops is prohibited. **[DP]**
- 5.3. Check-Out and Check-In:
 - (a) **Competitors shall sign on** before the start of each race or sequence of back-to-back races. Boats failing to do so will be scored DNS (Did Not Start) without a hearing.
 - (b) **Competitors shall sign off** within thirty minutes of the last boat finishing, or in the case of back-to-back races within thirty minutes of the finishing time of the last boat in the final race of the sequence of races. Boats failing to comply may be deemed to have retired, and in such circumstances will be scored RET (Retired) without a hearing.
- 5.4. A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible.
- 5.5. Action taken by a Safety Boat to repatriate a competitor separated from their vessel is not deemed to be “outside help” as defined in RRS 41 and is not subject to protest from another competitor. This changes RRS 41.

6. SCHEDULE OF RACES.

- 6.1. The schedule of races is as below:

Saturday 05/10/2024	Briefing	1100
	Race 1	1200
	Races 2-5	Back-to-back

Sunday 06/10/2024	Race 6	1100
	Races 7-8	Back-to-back

- 6.2. The Race Committee may change the schedule and/or the number of races to be sailed at its discretion.

7. CLASS FLAGS.

- 7.1. Class flag will ICF ‘F’.

8. RACING AREAS.

- 8.1. The racing area will be displayed on the course board.
- 8.2. Competitors should note that access to the nature conservancy area in the northern end of the lake is forbidden. Marker poles on the shores indicate the limits to this area.
- 8.3. Except in an emergency, landing on the reservoir shores outside the clubhouse foreshore is prohibited.

9. COURSES.

- 9.1. Course details including the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left, and the target time for each race, will be displayed on the course board in the boat house, not less than thirty minutes before the start of racing.
- 9.2. Boats which fail to pass a mark correctly will be scored Did Not Sail the Course (NSC).

10. MARKS.

- 10.1. Course marks will be large orange inflatable buoys. Yellow spherical buoys with flagstaff may be used as additional or substitute course marks.
- 10.2. The Outer Distance Mark (ODM) will be an orange spherical buoy with a flagstaff.
- 10.3. The Finish Mark if used will be a yellow spherical buoy with a flagstaff.
- 10.4. Marks may display red or green flags to indicate on which side they should be rounded or passed. The absence or incorrectness of such flags will not be grounds for a boat to seek redress.

11. AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS.

- 11.1. Boats are required to keep at least 50 metres away from fishermen. Such a margin for fishermen on the shore will be considered a continuous obstruction (RRS 19.2 and RRS 20).

12. THE START.

- 12.1. Races will be started by using RRS 26.
- 12.2. The starting line will be between a mast/staff on the race committee boat displaying an orange-flag, and the course side of the Outer Distance Mark (ODM).
- 12.3. Boats, marks or other items attached to the committee boat for the duration of the starting sequence are deemed to be part of the committee boat and not temporary attachments.
- 12.4. When two or more races are to be sailed back-to-back, the Race Committee may at its discretion signal a 'postponement' Race Signal AP for a minimum period of 1 minute before commencing the start in accordance with the race signal rule and RRS 26.
- 12.5. A boat starting later than four minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.
- 12.6. A boat shall not be penalised for leaving the shore after its preparatory signal. This changes RRS 45.

13. CHANGE OF COURSE

- 13.1. If the position of a mark is changed, a committee boat will be stationed at the start of the preceding leg displaying ICF C and any combination of red, green, + and/or – to signify the new position of the mark, accompanied by repetitive sound signals.
- 13.2. The race committee may move a mark up to 20m in any direction without signalling the change. This changes RRS 33.

14. THE FINISH.

- 14.1. The finishing line will be between a mast/staff on the race committee boat displaying an orange flag, and the course side of the Outer Distance Mark (ODM).
- 14.2. If a separate finish line be used, the finish line will be between a mast/staff on the race committee boat displaying a blue flag, and the course side of a finish mark.

15. TIME LIMITS.

- 15.1. The target time for Saturday 'sprint' races will be 30 minutes. The target time for Sunday races will be fifty minutes.
- 15.2. Boats failing to finish within 10 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes, will be scored 'Did Not Finish' (DNF) without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.2.
- 15.3. The Race Committee may at its discretion give boats a finish position. This changes RRS 35.

16. HEARING REQUESTS.

- 16.1. The protest time limit is thirty minutes after the time the last boat in their class finishes. In the case of “back-to-back” races the protest time limit is thirty minutes after the time of the last boat finishes in the final race of the sequence of races.
- 16.2. Hearing forms are available at the race office, located on the first floor of the club house. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit. In addition, boats intending to protest are requested to notify the race committee on the committee boat upon finishing.
- 16.3. Notices will be posted on the official notice board no later than thirty minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Unless otherwise stated, hearings will be held in the race office located on the first floor of the club house. Hearings will begin at the time posted and it is the responsibility of competitors to check the notice board.
- 16.4. Notices of protest by the race committee will be posted on the official notice board to inform boats under RRS 61.1(b). Such protests will be subject to the time limit as in SI 17.1.
- 16.5. Breaches of SIs 18, 19, 22, and 23 will not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a). Penalties for these breaches may be less than disqualification, at the protest committee’s discretion. **[DP]**
- 16.6. The protest committee may award discretionary penalties instead of disqualification. This changes RRS 64.2.

17. SCORING.

- 17.1. The scoring system of RRS Appendix A.4 will apply (see RRS 90.3).
- 17.2. The number of discards to be allowed and the number of races required to be completed to constitute the regatta series will be set out in the NOR.

18. REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT.

- 18.1. Crews may only be changed following written application and approval by the Race Committee.
- 18.2. Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed unless authorised by the Race Committee. Requests for substitution shall be made to the committee at the first reasonable opportunity, which may be after the race. **[DP] [NP]**
- 18.3. Helms wishing to use a sail that does not bear the boats registration number, must obtain prior written approval from the race committee. **[DP] [NP]**

19. EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS.

- 19.1. A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions. On the water, a boat can be instructed by a race committee equipment inspector or measurer to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.

20. ADVERTISING.

- 20.1. Boats shall display advertising if supplied by the Organising Authority.

21. OFFICIAL BOATS.

- 21.1. Official boats will include all safety boats and committee boats of Bough Beech SC and the crews of such are designated members of the Race Committee.

22. SUPPORT BOATS.

- 22.1. Team leaders, coaches and other support persons shall stay outside areas where boats are racing from the time of the preparatory signal, until all boats have finished or retired, or the Race Committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment. **[DP] [NP]**

23. TRASH DISPOSAL.

23.1. RRS 47 applies. Trash may be placed aboard official or support boats. **[DP] [NP]**

24. RADIO COMMUNICATION.

24.1 Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones. **[DP]**

25. PRIZES.

25.1. Prizes will be awarded as detailed in the NOR.

26. RISK STATEMENT.

26.1. RRS 3 states: **'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.'** By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.

26.2. The Organising Authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

27. INSURANCE.

27.1 It is a condition of entry that each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a level of cover adequate to cover all third-party claims.

28. CODE OF CONDUCT

28.1 Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials. **[DP]**

BBSC Firefly Inlands Organising Committee, August 2024

