



Felixstowe Ferry

SAILING CLUB

Sailing Instructions & Notice of Race for Club Racing

These SIs apply from 5 April 2022 and supersede all previous versions.
Administrative NOR information is also provided in conjunction with event specific notification.

1 Rules

Racing is governed by a hierarchy of rules and directions, in order of precedence:

- 1.1 Schedule and instructions (SSIs) and Notice of Race for the event,
- 1.2 Reasonable requests and instructions from Race officials,
- 1.3 These Sailing Instructions,
- 1.4 COLREGS for the prevention of collision at sea. These must be followed with boats that are not racing, especially vessels limited in ability to manoeuvre. If in any doubt, keep well clear of cruisers and larger vessels.
- 1.5 The **Racing Rules of Sailing**. In particular, Part 2, *When Boats Meet*, always applies to boats racing. Specific instances when RRS do not apply may not be listed.

- 2 **Insurance** - each participating boat shall have third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £2m per incident or the equivalent.

3 Sail Numbers

Every boat shall display a sail number or other clearly visible marking on its main sail, distinct from that of any other boat in the same class entered in the event and different from any number officially allocated to another boat of the same class. The race committee must be informed of that sail number or marking when signing on for racing each day.

4 Changes to Sailing Instructions and Notices to Competitors

Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted on the official notice board at least half an hour before the start of the first race of the day.

Notices to competitors will be posted on the notice board inside the Club and/or outside on the notice board and/or at the signing-on desk.

5 Signing on and Personal Buoyancy

On each day of racing, competitors intending to race shall complete the sign-on form in the Race Office before racing. Personal Floatation Devices must be used by all competitors at all times while afloat, as RRS40.1

6 Signals Made Ashore and Afloat

Signals made ashore will be displayed on the FFSC white flag mast near the Race Office.

Signals made afloat will be displayed on the Committee Boat.

7 Courses and Racing Area

Crow's Nest racing - Courses will be posted on the whiteboard outside Riverside. Marks will be listed by name or initial in order of rounding. Side to be left will be indicated by **P** or red for port and **S** or green for starboard.

Committee Boat racing – Courses and marks will be described in the Event SSIs and displayed on the committee boat.

8 Marks

Permanent - Club Racing marks and Navigation buoys.

Temporary - Dan buoys and inflatables.

Mark position and description will be shown on the published *FFSCmarksMap*, also displayed in the Riverside window. Special marks may be on the map or will be described on the whiteboard.

9 Obstructions

Boats shall pass on the channel side of the posts at the end of **Groynes**.

Boats shall pass on the channel side of the posts at the end of **Jetties**.

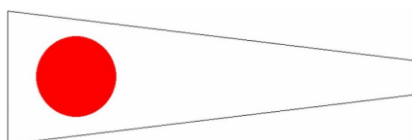
A boat, hull or equipment, even when capsized, making any contact with a **Moored Boat** (excluding mooring buoy) shall immediately retire, unless there she protests that she was wrongfully forced into the moored boat. Sailors may fend off to avoid contact.

10 Class Flags

Multihull Dart Class flag



Monohull Numeral Pennant 1



11 Start Lines

Crow's Nest line lies between the Crow's Nest flagpole displaying an orange flag and a white marker on the shore protection shuttering on the Bawdsey shore. Distance marks will be the shoreline on either side

Committee Boat line lies between a mast or pole on the Committee Boat displaying an orange flag and a spherical "pin" mark with an orange marker, which will also be distance marks.

12 The Starts

The **5 – 4 – 1 – GO** system will be used, as RRS Rule 26, with the warning signal 5 minutes before the starting signal:

	Flags	Sound	Countdown
Warning	Class flag displayed	1 Klaxon (or horn)	- 5 minutes
Preparatory	Blue Peter P displayed	1 Klaxon (or horn)	- 4 minutes
One minute	Blue Peter P removed	1 Klaxon (or horn)	- 1 minute
GO	Class flag removed	1 Klaxon (or horn)	Zero

General recalled starts will be restarted after the last scheduled start, in order of their starts. This alters RRS 29.2. The recalled start warning signal will coincide with the previous start signal.

13 Penalties - a one-turn exoneration penalty is specified, altering RRS 44.1.

14 The Finish lines will be the same as the start lines but orange flags may be replaced with blue. An alternative finish line may be defined in the course description.

The race may be finished at a line between a mark of the course and a boat displaying **Flag S** (Shorten Course) on the rounding side of the mark. Two sound signals will be made on the approach of the leading boat.

- 15 Time Limits** - 120 minutes unless the Notice of Race says otherwise.
Boats failing to finish within 45 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored DNF.
- 16 Retiring boats** shall inform the race committee or a safety boat at the first reasonable opportunity.
- 17 Protests** - Protest forms are available from the Race Office. Protests shall be delivered there within 30 minutes of the last boat finishing the last race of the day or the race committee signalling 'no more racing today', whichever is the later.
Boats intending to protest should inform the race committee either while afloat or at the first reasonable opportunity upon returning to shore.
The Post-Race Penalty, Advisory Hearing and RYA Arbitration procedures of the RYA Rules Disputes Procedures are available.
- 18 Scoring System** will be laid down in the NOR.
Average points will be awarded for any sailor carrying out Race Management or safety Boat duties.
- 19 Support vessels** should be registered with the race officer as support boats to enter the course area. All other support personnel should stay outside the racing area from the time of the preparatory signal until all boats have finished or retired, or the race committee signals a postponement or abandonment.
Crews of authorised support boats may provide coaching to competitors, changing RRS 41.
- 20 Risk Statement**
RRS Rule 3 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 any event governed by these sailing instructions, 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, support boats and other officials and volunteers by the event organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
 - f) The provision of support 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 whether or not drawn to their attention in any rules and information produced for the venue or event, and to attend any competitor briefing held for this event;
 - h) The fact that race officials may conduct inspections of boats does not in any way reduce the responsibilities of each competitor under the rules.