



STANDARD SAILING INSTRUCTIONS 2026

for UK National Tour events and Inland, Spring, Summer, Winter, Southern, Northern, Scottish, Youth, Junior and other Championships / Regattas

STANDARD SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

To be read in conjunction with the Supplementary Sailing Instructions for each event.

ORGANISING AUTHORITY

Events will be organised by clubs in conjunction with the RS Class Association. See individual event Notice of Race for details.

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.

1 RULES

- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing 2025 - 2028*.
- 1.2 Supplementary Sailing Instructions will be issued for each event.
- 1.3 Racing rules Race Signals AP, 31, 32.2, 33, 34, 35, 44.1, 60.1, 60.3(b), 61.1(a), 61.2(b), 61.4(b)(1), A2, A5, A5.1 and A5.2 will be changed. The changes appear, in full, in the notice of race and/or in these sailing instructions.

2 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to the Notice of Race, Sailing Instructions or Supplementary Sailing Instructions will be posted before 0900 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the time of the first start will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

3 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board. The location of the Official Notice Board will be described in the Notice of Race and/or the Supplementary Sailing Instructions.

4 CODE OF CONDUCT

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

5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed at the location detailed in the Supplementary Sailing Instructions.
- 5.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than the time stated in the Supplementary Sailing Instructions' in Race Signals AP. This changes race signals AP.
- 5.3 Other signals made ashore (if any). See Supplementary Sailing Instructions.

6 SCHEDULE OF RACES

6.1 See NoR 9 for schedule.

6.2 To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, the orange starting line flag will be displayed with one sound signal at least two minutes before a warning signal is made.

6.3 An additional race to the published schedule may be run on any day at the discretion of the Race Committee. To indicate this intention, the committee boat will display flag F at the start of the last scheduled race of that day.

7 CLASS FLAGS

See Supplementary Sailing Instructions.

8 RACING AREA

See NoR 12.

9 COURSES

See Supplementary Sailing Instructions.

10 MARKS

10.1 Marks are described in the Supplementary Sailing Instructions.

10.2 For all classes except the RS 200 class, hitting a mark other than the start or finish marks will not be penalised. This changes RRS 31.

10.3 When gate marks are laid, if one or other of the gate marks is missing, the remaining mark shall be left to port. This changes RRS 34.

11 OBSTRUCTIONS

See Supplementary Sailing Instructions.

12. THE START

12.1. The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the race committee vessel or starting mark at the starboard end and the course side of the port end starting mark.

12.4 A boat that does not start within 4 minutes of her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.2.

13 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

13.1 To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will move the original mark (or the finishing line) to a new position.

13.2 Minor course changes may not be signalled. This changes RRS 33.

14. SHORTENING COURSE

See Supplementary Sailing Instructions.

15 THE FINISH

The finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on the committee boat at the starboard end and the course side of the port-end finishing mark.

16 PENALTY SYSTEM

See NoR 14.

17 TIME LIMITS

- 17.1 The time limit for all fleets is 75 minutes.
- 17.2 Boats failing to finish within a 15-minute finishing window after the first boat in her class sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This adds to RRS 35, A5.1 and A5.2
- 17.3 In addition to RRS 32, the race committee may also award a finishing score 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, shall stop racing and shall return to the starting area, or return ashore if there is no more racing. A finishing score under this sailing instruction will be the score 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. The decision by the race committee to use this procedure or not to use it shall not be grounds for requesting redress. This changes rules 61.1(a) and 61.4(b)(1).

18 HEARING REQUESTS

- 18.1 The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day or the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later. This changes RRS 60.3(b) and 61.2(a).
- 18.2 Hearing Request forms are available from the race office.
- 18.3 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.

19 SCORING

As per NoR 15.

20 SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 20.1 [DP] [NP] A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible.
- 20.2 If a tally system is to be used, it will be described in the Supplementary Sailing Instructions.

21 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

- 21.1 [DP] [NP] Substitution of competitors is not allowed without prior written approval of the race committee.

22 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

[NP] A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules, notice of race and sailing instructions.

23 SUPPLIED BOATS

Does not apply.

24 OFFICIAL VESSELS

See Supplementary Sailing Instructions.

25 [DP] [NP] SUPPORT TEAMS

As per NoR 16.

26 TRASH DISPOSAL

Trash may be placed aboard official or support person vessels.

27 BERTHING

As per NoR 18.

28 HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS

Does not apply.

29 DIVING EQUIPMENT AND PLASTIC POOLS

Does not apply.

30 PRIZES

As per NoR 24.

31 RISK STATEMENT

As per NoR 22.

32 INSURANCE

As per NoR 23.