



Sailing Instructions

Flying Fifteen Open Meeting, Wayfarer Western Championship, Wanderer Open Meeting

14th & 15th March 2026

The organising authority is
Datchet Water Sailing Club,
Queen Mother Reservoir, Horton Road, Slough, SL3 9NT

Notation [NP] denotes a rule that shall not be grounds for protests by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a).
[DP] denotes a rule for which the penalty is at the discretion of the protest committee.

1 RULES

1.1 See notice of race.

2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official club notice board which will be located in the Clubhouse Wet Bar.

3 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

3.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted at least 45 minutes before the start time of the first race to which it applies.

3.2 If changes are made to the published sailing instructions during the event Flag Lima will be flown ashore.

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagpole in front of the clubhouse.

4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, "1 minute" is replaced with "not less than 30 minutes" in Race Signals AP.

5 SCHEDULE OF RACES

5.1 It is intended to have a championship series of six races over the two days with separate starts for each class.

Saturday 14 th March	Time
Briefing	1130
Race 1	Warning signal scheduled for 1257
Race 2	ASAP after Race 1
Race 3	ASAP after Race 2
Sunday 15 th March	
Race 4	Warning signal scheduled for 1027
Race 5	ASAP after Race 4
Race 6	ASAP after Race 5

5.2 The Race Committee may, at its sole discretion, alter the number of races sailed in each day but may not sail more than four races on either day. If an additional race is to be sailed it shall be signalled by displaying Flag L on the committee boat at the end of the preceding race.

6 CLASS FLAG

6.1 The Flying Fifteen Class flag will be Naval Numeral 6.



The Wayfarer Class flag will be Naval Numeral 2



The Wanderer Class flag will be Naval Numeral 4



7 COURSES

7.1 No later than the warning signal, the race committee signal vessel will display the course on a board affixed to the committee vessel..

8 MARKS

8.1 Rounding marks shall be orange cylindrical marks or buoys with flags or windsocks

8.2 The outer start and finishing marks shall be buoys with or without a flag.

9 OBSTRUCTIONS

- 9.1 After starting a race on a course with a **windward leg gate** formed by the start/finish line, the gate shall be treated as an obstruction at all times except when passing through in the upwind direction as required by the course.
- 9.2 The area underneath the pier is designated as an obstruction.

10 THE START

- 10.1 Races shall be started by using the following signals. Times shall be taken from the visual signals; the absence of a sound signal shall be ignored. This changes RRS 26.

Minutes before starting signal	Visual Signal	Sound Signal	Meaning
4	Orange displayed or Postpone removed	One long	One minute to first warning signal
3	Class Flag	One	Warning Signal
2	P, I, Z, Z with I, U, or Black Flag	One	Preparatory signal
1	Preparatory flag removed	One long	One minute
0	Class flag removed	One	Starting signal

- 10.1 The warning signal for a succeeding class start shall be made **at least one minute** after the starting signal of the preceding start.
- 10.2 If a postponement flag is not displayed the Race Officer shall provide additional warning of the first start by raising the orange, “on station at the start” flag, with one long sound signal, one minute before raising the first fleet flag. This changes RRS 26 and Race Signals.
- 10.3 The starting line shall be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the race committee vessel and the course side of the starting mark.
- 10.4 A boat starting later than three minutes after her starting signal shall be scored “Did Not Start” without a hearing. This changes RRS Appendix A4 & A5.

11 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 11.1 After a mark has been rounded by any boat it will not be moved for the remainder of that race, except to reinstate the mark to its original position.

12 THE FINISH

- 12.1 The finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag aboard the finishing vessel and the outer finishing mark. Should racing be finished from another position, the finishing line will be between an outer finishing mark and a staff displaying a blue flag positioned to form a line.
- 12.2 After sailing the number of laps specified for a race, competitors shall leave the leeward rounding mark on its required side and then sail directly to the finishing line. If no lap number is displayed for a race it will be finished by shortening course as in 12.3 below.
- 12.3 When a race committee boat which is on station at the finishing line displays Flag or Symbol S (with two sound signals) as the leading boat is approaching, the course is shortened such that boats shall thereafter leave the rounding mark on its required side and sail directly to the finishing line. Note that if the shorten course symbol is accompanied by a class flag(s) the race is **only shortened for that class (or classes)**.

13 TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES

- 13.1 Mark 1 time limit for first boat: 30 minutes
Finishing Window after first boat to finish: 10 minutes
- 13.2 If no boat of a start has passed Mark 1 within the Mark 1 time limit, the race for that start fleet shall be abandoned.
- 13.3 [NP] The race officer (at their discretion) may allocate finishing positions to boats that are deemed not to be able to complete the course within the finishing window. This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5. Boats finished in this way will be advised of the fact by a safety boat and should return to the start area.
- 13.3 Boats failing to finish within the finishing window after the first boat in their start fleet may be scored "Did Not Finish". This changes RSS 35.

14 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 14.1 RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.
- 14.2 For infringements of rules other than in Parts 1, 2, or 3 of the RRS, the penalty for a breach of a rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.
- 14.3 The RYA Appendix T Arbitration disputes procedure will apply.

15 HEARING REQUESTS

- 15.1 Hearing Request forms are available at the club office. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit.
- 15.2 For all starts, the protest time limit shall be 60 minutes after the last boat of the last race of the day finishes.
- 15.3 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.
- 15.4 Notices of protests by the race committee or protest committee will be posted on the Official Notice Board to inform boats under rule 61.1(b).

- 16 **SCORING** See the Notice of Race
- 17 **SAFETY REGULATIONS [NP][DP]**
- 17.1 A boat shall not interfere with nor obstruct a patrol boat that is in the vicinity of a boat that is capsized, or otherwise needing assistance, nor pass between a person in the water and an attending patrol boat. Sailors racing and contravening this requirement may be disqualified without a hearing. This changes Rule 60.5 and Appendix A5.1.
- 17.2 Personal Flotation Device: Rule 40.1 applies at all times whilst afloat, on pontoons or near the water's edge. Full wetsuits or drysuits with appropriate thermal undergarments shall be worn by all competitors while sailing.
- 17.3 [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 declare retirement on the sign-on form in the clubhouse wet bar.
- 18 **REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT** Not Used
- 19 **TRASH DISPOSAL**
- 19.1 [NP] [DP] Trash may not be put overboard; however, it may be put in support or safety boats.
- 20 **PRIZES** See the Notice of Race.
- 21 **RISK STATEMENT** See the Notice of Race.
- 22 **INSURANCE** See the Notice of Race.
- 23 **FURTHER INFORMATION**
- 23.1 [NP] Datchet Water Sailing Club implements the RYA Racing Charter and competitors are expected to sail in accordance with this charter. This can be found at the start of the RYA Rule Book or from www.rya.org.uk/racingrules
- 23.2 The use of anchors at the reservoir is prohibited due to the installed aeration system. Boats are therefore not required to carry anchors.
- 23.3 Site opening and closing times are available on the club website.
- 23.4 Further information can be obtained through the club website or the following contact details.

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www.dwsc.co.uk