



## **The Chase Sailing Club** **Sailing Instructions**



# **Robline UK Polar Chase**

**13<sup>th</sup> December 2025**



**Venue:** The Chase Sailing Club, Pool Lane, Chasetown, Walsall, West Midlands, WS7 3QY

### **1. Organising Authority**

The organising authority is Chase Sailing Club. <https://www.chasesc.org.uk/>

### **2. Rules:**

- 2.1. The event will be governed by the Rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 2025-2028, the appropriate Class Rules, and the Sailing Instructions (SI) of the event. If there is conflict between the Notice of Race (NoR) and the SIs, then the SIs shall prevail.
- 2.2. All boats will be required to sail according to their respective class rules, particularly regarding weight equalizing rules. However, under RRS 87, class rules which permit pumping, rocking and ooching in certain wind conditions and/or change penalty turns (RRS 44.1 and 44.2) are suspended for the purposes of this event.
- 2.3. All boats will be required to display allocated racing numbers on the port and starboard sides/freeboards of the hull, above the waterline, not visually obscured at any time, and positioned not more than 0.8m from the bow. Numbers will be supplied.
- 2.4. By entering this event, competitors grant the Organising Authority, event sponsors and their agents without payment the right in perpetuity to make, use and show any motion pictures or still pictures of, or relating to the competitors, unless otherwise advised in writing prior to the event.
- 2.5. RRS 40 will be changed as follows: Adequate personal buoyancy must be worn by all competitors when afloat. IC Flag Y will not be displayed.

### **3. Changes to Sailing instructions**

Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted on the Official Notice Board before 10:00 on the day it will take effect.

#### **4. Communications with Competitors**

- 4.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board located in the clubhouse adjacent to the galley
- 4.2. A competitor briefing will be held at 10:15 on 13th December 2025 in the clubhouse.

#### **5. Code of Conduct**

Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.

#### **6. Signals made Ashore**

- 6.1. Signals made ashore will be flown from the flagpole located adjacent to the race box in the dinghy park.
- 6.2. When AP is displayed ashore, “1 minute after removal’ is replaced with “not less than 15 minutes after removal”.

#### **7. Schedule**

- 7.1. The Schedule of races is as follows:

Race	Race Type	First Warning Signal	Duration
1	Pursuit	Not before 10:55	90 minutes
2	Handicap Race	As soon as possible after Race 1 - Pursuit	60 minutes approximately

- 7.2. No Warning Signal will be made after 13:30

#### **8. Class Flags**

- 8.1. Class Flags will not be used
- 8.2. For the Pursuit Race IC Flag E will be used as the Warning Signal
- 8.3. For the Handicap Race:
  - 8.3.1. IC Flag E will be used as the Warning Signal for the Fast Fleet
  - 8.3.2. IC Flag F will be used as the Warning Signal for the Slow Fleet

#### **9. Racing Area & Marks**

- 9.1. The racing area will be the full water of Chasewater reservoir excluding the area directly in front of Powerboat Club denoted by the end of the pontoon and the bay to the south of this pontoon.
- 9.2. The racing marks for Race 1 – Pursuit will be yellow cone shaped buoys.
- 9.3. The racing marks for Race 2 – Handicap Race will be orange cylindrical buoys.

#### **10. Courses**

- 10.1. The sequence of marks comprising the course and the number of laps will be displayed on the Committee Boat. The mark rounding direction is indicated by the background colour of the mark number. The number of laps to be completed for the Handicap Race will be displayed with a blue background.
- 10.2. Races will be started from the Committee Boat.

- 10.3. No later than the Warning Signal, the Committee Boat will display the course to be sailed.
- 10.4. Legs of the course will not be changed after the Preparatory Signal. This changes RRS 33.

### **Obstruction – Advisory**

- 10.5. The North Shore (Sailing Club Side) is shallow to approximately 100m from all banks – this is a guide only and competitors are responsible for making their own judgment.
- 10.6. The area around the submerged island is shallow to approximately 50m all round – this is a guide only and competitors are responsible for making their own judgment.
- 10.7. Upon leaving and returning to shore, competitors are responsible for assessing the depth and the clearances required for their craft.

## **11. The Start**

### **Pursuit Race**

- 11.1. The elapsed start time from the Start Signal for each class of boat will be displayed on the Official Notice Board. This will also be supplied to competitors at registration on entry to the club grounds.
- 11.2. The race will be started using RRS 26 with the Warning Signal made 5 minutes before the Start Signal.
- 11.3. The elapsed time from the Start Signal to the next class start time will be displayed on at the rear of the Committee Boat. This is a guide only and competitors are responsible for tracking the time from the race start to their own starting time.
- 11.4. The starting line is between the mast on the Committee Boat displaying an orange flag and an orange cylindrical buoy.
- 11.5. RRS 29.2 General Recall will not apply
- 11.6. RRS 29.1 Individual Recall is amended to be as follows: When at a boat's start any part of her hull is on the course side of the starting line, she must comply with RRS 30.1. The Race Committee shall promptly display IC Flag X with one sound. The flag shall be displayed for no more than 30 seconds even if a boat over the line has failed to return or comply with RRS 30.1.
- 11.7. RRS 30.1 I Flag Rule will apply to all Pursuit Race starts

### **Handicap Race**

- 11.8. There will be two starts:
  - 11.8.1. Fast Fleet
  - 11.8.2. Slow Fleet
- 11.9. The classes of boat entered in each start, will be displayed on the Official Notice Board. This will also be supplied to competitors at registration on entry to the club grounds.
  - 11.9.1. Racing will take place in any monohull, non-keel craft (Great Lakes Handicap 900 to 1280) that comply with their class rules.

- 11.10. Races will be started using RRS 26 with the Warning Signal made 5 minutes before the Start Signal.
- 11.11. The Start Signal of the Fast Fleet will be the Warning Signal for the Slow Fleet.
- 11.12. In the event of a general recall of the Fast Fleet, the start for the Slow Fleet will be postponed until the Fast Fleet start is a "good start" line clear.
- 11.13. The starting line is between the mast on the Committee Boat displaying an orange flag and an Orange cylindrical buoy.
- 11.14. RRS 30.4 Black Flag Rule will apply to all Handicap Race starts.

## **12. The Finish**

### **Pursuit Race**

- 12.1. The finish line will be between two RIBs, flying blue flags, motoring contrary to the direction of the race leaders on, and approximately perpendicular to, the direct line between course marks in reverse sequence. The two RIBs will be approximately 50 meters apart. To be awarded a finish place, boats must pass between these two RIBs.
- 12.2. The race will finish 90 minutes after the Start.
- 12.3. At the Finish Time, two long sound signals will be made by the Race Committee Boat, and/or the finishing RIBs. NOTE: each finisher should make a record of the boat immediately in front and behind at the prescribed finish time for verification in the event of a query with the assigned finishing position.
- 12.4. After the finish of the race, boats must not overtake others and shall remain in their relative positions, continuing to sail the course to the finish line, as near as possible to the straight line between the marks delineating the leg of the course on which they are sailing.
- 12.5. Trackers will be used to assist in validating boat positions at the finish time of the race.
- 12.6. Boats which have crossed the finish line shall avoid passing through the finish line again on their way back to shore to avoid being recorded twice.
- 12.7. In the event of a query about your finishing position, you will be asked to confirm the class and race number of the boat in front of you and behind you at the finish.
- 12.8. You do not need to sign-off.

### **Handicap Race**

- 12.9. The race will be finished using RRS 32 Shortening or Abandoning After The Start as close to the race duration as possible or at the discretion of the Principle Race Officer.
- 12.10. Boats which have crossed the finish line shall avoid passing through the finish line again on their way back to shore to avoid being recorded twice.
- 12.11. You do not need to sign-off.

## **13. Penalty System**

- 13.1. RRS 44.1 Taking a Penalty applies.
- 13.2. RRS 44.2 One-Turn and Two-Turns Penalties applies.

#### **14. Time Limits**

- 14.1. The Pursuit Race time limit will be 90 minutes
- 14.2. The Handicap Race duration will be approximately 60 minutes
- 14.3. If no boat has passed Mark 1 within 30 minutes of the Start Signal the race will be abandoned. Failure to meet the race duration will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.1(a).

#### **15. Protests and Requests for Redress**

- 15.1. Protest forms are available at the Race Box in the dinghy park and completed forms should be submitted there. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the Protest Time Limit.
- 15.2. The Protest Time Limit is 30 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 time limit will be extended by 30 minutes for all protests by the Race Committee relating to incidents observed in the racing area.
- 15.3. Notices will be posted on the Official Notice Board within 30 minutes of the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the Protest Room, located adjacent to the Galley in the Clubhouse as soon as possible after Notices are posted.
- 15.4. Notices of protests by the Race Committee or Protest Committee will be posted on the Official Notice Board to inform boats under RRS 61.1(b).
- 15.5. Breaches of Instruction [19. Safety Regulations](#) and will not be grounds for a protest by a boat and RRS 60.1 Right to Protest does not apply. For protest by the committee, penalties may be less than disqualification if the Protest Committee so decides.

#### **16. RYA Arbitration**

- 16.1. The RYA Arbitration system will be available.
- 16.2. For the purpose of RYA Arbitration, the Post Race Penalty will be 30%.

#### **17. Scoring**

- 17.1. The "Great Lakes" PY numbers will be used for the event.
- 17.2. Scoring for the Pursuit Race will be the recorded position of each boat based on its finishing position as described in SI 13. The Finish.
- 17.3. The Handicap Race will be scored on average lap times.

#### **18. Safety Regulations**

- 18.1. Lifejackets, buoyancy aids or other adequate personal buoyancy shall be worn by all competitors when afloat. Wet suits or dry suits must be worn but are not adequate personal buoyancy.
- 18.2. A boat that retires from a race shall notify the Race Committee members on the Committee Boat or one of the patrol boats as soon as possible.

## **19. GPS Trackers – Selden SailJuice Series**

- 19.1. To be included with the Selden SailJuice series results, competitors must carry trackers onboard supplied by the Organising Authority. The tracker should be collected at Registration before going afloat and returned after the day's racing to the collection point in the clubhouse within the protest time limit.
- 19.2. Failure to collect and carry a tracker will result in no Selden SailJuice ranking points awarded. It may also result in a scoring penalty without a hearing of 10% on the first race of the day sailed - calculated as stated in RRS 44.3(c). This changes RRS 63.1 Rights of Parties and A5 Scores Determined by the Race Committee.
- 19.3. Failure to return the tracker within the protest time limit may also result in a scoring penalty without a hearing of 10% on the last race of the day sailed - calculated as stated in RRS 44.3(c). This changes RRS 63.1 and A5.
- 19.4. Tracker finishing positions will be used to validate recorded finishing positions in both races.

## **20. Replacement Crew**

- 20.1. Substitution of helmsperson during the event is not permitted.

## **21. Official Boats**

- 21.1. Official boats will be identified at the briefing

## **22. Radio Communication**

- 22.1. Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

## **23. Prizes**

- 23.1. The Prize Giving will be held in the clubhouse Lichfield Room on finalising the results
- 23.2. Prizes will be awarded for the top 6 boats in each race.
- 23.3. Prizes will be awarded to the top under 18 helm, or under 18 helm and crew, in each race.

## **24. Support Boats**

- 24.1. No support boats are permitted on the water.

25. **Risk Statement:** RRS 3 states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing 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.**

By taking part in the event, each competitor (and their parent(s) or guardian(s) in the case of a competitor under 18 years of age) agrees and acknowledges that:

- 25.1. They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore.
- 25.2. They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions.
- 25.3. Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate.
- 25.4. The provision of a race management team, safety boats and other officials and volunteers by the event organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities.
- 25.5. The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances.
- 25.6. It is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks specific to Chasewater or a particular event drawn to their attention in any RRSs and information produced for the venue or event and to attend any competitor briefing held for the relevant event.

**26. Insurance**

- 26.1. All craft on the club premises (on land & on the water) must have full insurance cover including third party liability to £3,000,000. All craft intended to be used for racing must have appropriate insurance cover.

**27. Further Information**

- 27.1. For further information please contact: [thechasesailingclub@gmail.com](mailto:thechasesailingclub@gmail.com)

**End of Sailing Instructions**