



## SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

**The Oxford Blue – Saturday 14th February 2026**

Part of the **Seldén SailJuice Winter Series**

Venue: Oxford Sailing Club, Farmoor Reservoir, Gate 3, Cumnor Road, Farmoor, Oxford  
OX2 9NS

*Welcome to Oxford Sailing Club. While you are sailing here you are an honorary member of The Club and are bound by its rules. You should take particular note of the following as contravention risks disqualification from the entire event.*

### **CLUB RULES – Please Read the NoR for full site rules and note amendments below**

1. No animals are allowed on site
2. Vehicles and road trailers must be parked in the designated car park. Only keelboats/disabled boats may unload near the clubhouse/reservoir. This should be limited to 10 minutes after which vehicles and road trailers must be removed to the car park.
3. No one may stay overnight on the site and therefore camping and caravans are not permitted. Vehicles may not be left on site overnight.
4. Paddling and swimming in the reservoir are not allowed.
5. Boats shall keep clear of all Thames Water fixtures and installations, and must remain at least 20 metres from fishermen and fishing boats which may be regarded as obstructions to sea room.

***We wish you good luck and hope you enjoy your sailing at Oxford Sailing Club.***

### **1. Rules**

- 1.1. Racing will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS); the prescriptions of the RYA; these sailing instructions; the appropriate class rules (except as altered by these sailing instructions); Oxford Sailing Club (OSC) Rules, regulations and bylaws and any temporary regulations introduced by OSC or Thames Water.

### **2. Entries**

- 2.1. Eligible boats may pre-enter the event by completing registration online at [www.sailjuiceseries.com](http://www.sailjuiceseries.com). Entry fees: £39 for single-hander dinghies and £49 for other boats. Oxford Sailing Club members with boats berthed at OSC will receive a 50% rebate from the Club. Entries after midnight on Tuesday 10 February 2026 will attract a supplementary entry fee of £10, rising to £20 on event day.
- 2.2. Eligibility requirements for boats are that they comply with their current class association rules. Eligibility requirements for competitors are that they are members of an RYA affiliated organization.

- 2.3. Insurance – all boats shall have a valid Certificate of Insurance covering third party risks providing the minimum cover specified in the declaration of insurance (currently set at £2,000,000 for any one incident).
- 2.4. All boats shall compete under their registered numbers to comply with RRS rule 77. Exceptions as described in Appendix G3 do not apply for this event.

## **2.5. Liability**

Rule 3 of the Racing Rules of Sailing 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 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:

- (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 while taking part;
- (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 race and they are fit to participate;
- (e) The provision of a race management team, safety boats and other officials and volunteers does not relieve them of their responsibilities;
- (f) The provision of safety boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions as it can be practically provided in the circumstances;
- (g) It is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks specific to Farmoor Reservoir or a particular event drawn to their attention in any rules and information produced for the venue or event and to attend any competitor briefing held for the relevant event.

## **2.6. Safety**

- 2.6.1. Personal Buoyancy – adequate personal buoyancy shall be worn at all times whilst afloat or past the concrete wave walls. Dry or wet suits alone do not constitute personal buoyancy. Flag Y will not be flown. This changes RRS rule 40.
- 2.6.2. Dry or wet suits which cover at least the trunk and upper thighs must be worn at all times whilst afloat.

## **3. Boat Identification/Media etc.**

- 3.1. Advertising – no restrictions, but all advertising must comply with ISAF regulation 20.
- 3.2** GPS Tracking Unit: Competitors will be required to carry a GPS tracking unit on board as supplied by the Organising Authority. The tracker should be collected from the registration area before going afloat and returned there after the day’s racing within the protest time. Failure to collect and carry a tracker will result in no Great British Sailing Challenge result. 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 and A5. Failure to return the tracker within the protest time may also result in 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.
- 3.3 Competitors may also use their own camera recording equipment and attachments. A boat shall not be given redress based on a claim involving this equipment. This changes RRS 62.1.

3.4 Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make nor receive text messages or cellular phone calls via personal equipment while racing, with the exception for this event of the GPS tracker provided by the race organisers for the purpose of spectator interest and post-race analysis.

3.5 You must race with the sail number you register with and if different classes enter with the same sail number you may be provided with an X to put next to your sail number Failure to race without the number registered may result in disqualification without a hearing.

## **4 Briefing And Notices to Competitors**

**Notices** to competitors will be posted on the official notice board at the point of registration. Registration will open from 09:00 at the double doors to the Clubhouse training rooms (the southern end closest to the car park). **A briefing will be held at 10am in the main clubhouse.**

### **4.1 Changes to Sailing Instructions**

4.1.1 Any change to these sailing instructions shall be posted at least 45 minutes before the start of the race in which it will take effect and International Code flag 'L' will be flown.

### **4.2 Signals made ashore**

4.2.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the mast situated at the southern end of the clubhouse.

4.2.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 20 minutes' in the RRS Race Signals AP.

## **5 Start Times & Schedule**

5.1 The first start signal will not be made before 10:55.

5.2 It is the intention to run 3 handicap races which will be average lap times with an intended race length of approximately 40 minutes. The race officer may at his discretion run more or less races. The intention is to run the three races back-to-back.

## **6 Fleet Splits and Class Signals**

6.1 For each race there will be one race but the start will be split into either 2 or 3 fleets (results worked on average lap times). This amends RRS Appendix A. The fleet flags and composition of each fleet will be posted on the Official Notice Board.

## **7 Courses**

7.1 It is intended to use a Trapezoid course – see Appendix 1

7.2 The Trapezoid

7.2.1 The number of laps will be displayed on a board on the starboard side of the committee boat. If no laps are displayed 9 laps will be sailed.

7.2.2 All marks are to be rounded to (i.e. left to) port.

7.2.3 The gate will be between the committee boat and either a BLACK cylinder mark OR a white committee boat.

7.2.4 If more than one round is to be sailed, the order of rounding of marks will be:

- First round: Start, A, B, C, D, Gate
- Subsequent rounds (if any): A, B, C, D, Gate
- YOU MUST PASS THROUGH THE GATE EACH LAP

### **7.3 Description of Course Marks & Lines**

- 7.3.1 Marks A, B, C and D are tall orange cylinders. Any letters on marks may not refer to that mark's position on the course.
- 7.3.2 The start mark and finish mark will be a tall black cylinder or a white committee boat.
- 7.3.3 The Gate is the finish line & is the start line
- 7.3.4 Additional or alternative marks may be used as described on the Official Notice Board.

### **8. Change of position of Marks during a Race**

In alteration to rule 33 the course will not be adjusted after the race has started.

### **9. The Start**

- 9.1.0 The starting line is defined as the line between the forward mast of the Start Boat, and the start mark.
- 9.1.1 After the first warning signal has been made: boats whose warning signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting line and of all boats whose warning signal has been made.
- 9.1.2 Start sequence.  
The start sequence will be a 3 minute rolling sequence. For the first start a 3 minute start sequence will operate whereby the 0 minute is the 3 minute for the following fleet:
  - 3 minute - Warning signal raised
  - 2 minute - Preparatory signal raised
  - 1 minute - Preparatory signal lowered
  - 0 minute - Warning signal lowered = Start and Warning Signal raised for next fleet.
- 9.1.3 It is intended that the start signal for the first fleet will be the warning signal for the second fleet. However, the race officer may alter this at their discretion.
- 9.1.4 A boat starting later than 4 minutes after her starting signal may be scored DNS without a hearing. This changes RRS A4 and A5.
- 9.1.5 Individual recalls will be signalled in accordance with RRS rule 29.1 except that flag X will be flown for no longer than 2 minutes. This changes RRS rule 29.1.
- 9.1.6 General recalls will be signalled in accordance with RRS rule 29.2 except that 'the first substitute' will remain flying for no more than 1 minute. The race officer will make every effort to keep the fleet starts in the appropriate order (slowest first) by progressing with one restart of the recalled fleet. If the 2<sup>nd</sup> start for any fleet is also recalled that fleet will move to the end of the starting sequence. The intention is that the first substitute will fly for exactly 1 minute with the subsequent (3 minute) warning signal being made 1 minute after the first substitute is lowered. Any recalled fleet will use a 3 minute start sequence in their restart. This changes RRS rule 29.2.

### **9.2 The Finish**

- 9.2.0 The finishing line will be between the mast displaying a blue flag aboard the finish boat and the gate mark.
- 9.2.1 Shortly before the finish, Flag S will be displayed on the committee boat and the finish boat accompanied by two sound signals. Their finish positions shall be determined on an average lap basis.
- 9.2.2 After crossing the finish line all boats must sail clear of the racing area and not return until the last boat has finished the race. Any boat failing to stay clear of the race area

between races may be penalized 10 places on their result in the previous race for every incursion into the race area.

- 9.2.3 Boats not crossing the finish line within a reasonable time after a race has finished may be awarded a place based on their position on the water. This reasonable time will be decided by the race committee. This changes RRS rules 35 and RRS appendices A4 & A5.

### **9.3 Time Limit**

- 9.3.0 The time limit for the leader in each race will be 1 hour. Any boat not finishing within half an hour of the leading boat or within the time limit, whichever is later will be scored 'Did not finish'. The Race Officer may extend this time limit at his discretion. The end of the finishing period will be signalled by the lowering of the blue flag with one sound signal.

## **10 Protests and requests for redress**

- 10.1 Protest forms are available from reception. Protests shall be delivered there within 30 minutes of the last boat finishing the last race of the day. The actual Time Limit will be posted on the Notice Board at the conclusion of racing.
- 10.2 The Protest Committee will meet as soon as possible after the day's racing.
- 10.3 Notices will be posted within 10 minutes of the expiry of the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be heard by the jury in the Protest Room. Parties to each protest are requested to remain in the vicinity.
- 10.4 Protests will be heard as soon as possible, in approximately the order of receipt. It is the responsibility of the Protestor, Protestee and Witnesses to make themselves available for the hearing.

## **11 Scoring**

- 11.1 A series will consist of at least one race.
- 11.2 The low points scoring system RRS appendix 2 will apply, modified so that each boat's series score will be the total of her race scores with her worst score discarded if 3 or more races are completed.
- 11.3 The "Great Lakes SWS" handicap numbers will be used in scoring for the event.

## Appendix 1 – Course Diagram showing relative position of marks but not the angle between the marks

