



Datchet Water
Sailing Club

Where membership matters

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS



The Datchet Flyer

Part of the Selden Sailjuice Winter Series

6th & 7th December 2025

The organising authority is
Datchet Water Sailing Club, Queen Mother Reservoir, Horton Road, Horton, Berkshire, 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 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028* (RRS).
- 1.2 Royal Yachting Association (RYA) Exoneration Penalty and Arbitration will be available.
- 1.3 The Racing Rules will be changed as follows:
 - 1.3.1 [DP] RRS 40 is changed so that competitors shall wear a personal flotation device at all times whilst afloat, on the pontoons or near the water's edge, except briefly while adjusting clothing or personal equipment. Flag Y will not be displayed. (DWSC By-law).
 - 1.3.2 [DP] Competitors shall wear a Full body wetsuit or dry-suit at all times whilst afloat. These do not constitute a personal flotation device (DWSC By-law).

2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1 The Series official notice board can be found online (Selden.SailRacer.org)
- 2.2 At the event, notices to competitors will be posted on the event official notice board situated in the club house ground-floor wet-bar area.

3 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted not less than 45 minutes before the warning signal of the first race affected, except that any change to the schedule of races which will be posted by 18:00 on the day before it will take effect.
- 3.2 If a change is made to the Sailing Instructions Flag L will be flown ashore.

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagpole located at the south end of the clubhouse.
- 4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, “1 minute” is replaced with “not less than 30 minutes” in the race signals AP.

5 SCHEDULE

- 5.1 [NP] The times below in bold are fixed (subject to RRS procedures), the remaining entries are for guidance only and may vary considerably, including sailing races on different days. Deviation will not be grounds for redress. This changes rule 62.1(a).

5.2

Event Schedule Plan	Sat 6th		Location
Registration & collection of GPS tracker	09:00 – 10:30		Downstairs wet bar
Competitors' Briefing	10:30		Downstairs wet bar
Warning Signal for first Handicap Race	Not before 11:57		
2 additional Handicap Races back to back	ASAP		
		Sun 7th	
Competitors' briefing		09:30	
Warning Signal for 100 minute pursuit race		Not before 10:57	
Last Permitted Warning Signal		14:00	
Finish of pursuit race 100 minutes after the first start signal.			
Prize Giving		After sailing	Upstairs lounge

6 RACE FORMAT

- 6.1 The event will consist of a handicap series and a pursuit race.
- 6.2 For the handicap series, all boats will race on a single course and be scored together but starts may be split depending on numbers. If split, slower fleets will start first.
- 6.3 Fleets flags & lists will be displayed on the Official Notice Board and may depend on entries.
- 6.4 For the Pursuit Race boats will be split into two fleets, fast and slow; note this split **may** be different to the fleets in the handicap races. There will be separate results for each fleet in the pursuit race.

7 RACING AREAS

The racing area is on the Queen Mother Reservoir.

8 THE COURSES

8.1 Handicap Races

- 8.1.1 The course for the each Handicap Race will be displayed on a whiteboard on the committee boat prior to its start.
- 8.1.2 The diagram(s) in Attachment A show some possible courses, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left. Note the separate start and gate/finish lines.
- 8.1.3 A “Gate” will be formed between the committee boat and a “Pin” mark. On each lap of a Handicap Race competitors shall pass through the “Gate” in the upwind direction shown. No boat shall pass through the “Gate” in the opposite direction.
- 8.1.4 The number of laps is not predetermined. The lap “Gate” will also form the finishing line – refer to section “13 Finishing” below.

8.2 Pursuit Race

- 8.2.1 The course for the pursuit race will be displayed in the club house and on a whiteboard on the committee boat. Refer to the starting & finishing sections below.

9 MARKS

- 9.1 [NP] Course marks will be tall orange or yellow cylindrical marks or marks with flags. The course and marks for each race will be displayed on a board on the committee boat.

10 AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS

- 10.1 The Pier is designated as an obstruction as defined in the RRS; boats shall not pass under the pier.

11 THE START

- 11.1 The starting line will be between a mast displaying an orange flag on the committee boat and a “Pin” mark.
- 11.2 [DP] Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races.
- 11.3 The orange starting line flag will be displayed with one long sound **at least five minutes** before the first warning signal in the sequence of the day.

11.4 The starting procedure for all races will use the sequence below. This changes Rule 26.

Mins to Start	Signal	Notes
5 or more	Orange Flag Displayed	Only for the first start in a sequence.
4	Answering Pennant (AP) removed	Only if AP has been required.
3	Fleet Warning displayed	Fleet Flag for 3min warning of start
2	Preparatory displayed	P, U or Black Displayed for handicap; P Displayed for the Pursuit race.
1	Preparatory removed	Rule 30 applies
0	Fleet flag removed	First Fleet started, If more than one fleet start the second fleet warning signal will be one minute later.

11.5 A boat that does not start within four minutes after her starting signal may be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A4 and A5.

11.7 Pursuit Race starting

11.7.1 The sequence above will be use for the pursuit start. The preparatory flag will be Papa.

11.7.2 Class start times for the two pursuit fleets will be displayed on the Official Notice Board.

11.7.3 At the end of the 3 minute sequence the Fleet Warning flag will be removed and the starting signal numeral 00 will be displayed on the committee. This is the start for the slowest boat class in each pursuit fleet.

11.7.4 The numeral displayed will be changed at one-minute intervals to 01,02, 03 etc. indicating the number of minutes since the start of the race. The start signal for each class shall be the display of their time on the number boards.

11.7.5 [NP] Each change of numeral will, if possible, be accompanied by a sound signal.

12 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

12.1 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.

13 THE FINISH

13.1 Handicap Races - Finish

13.1.1 The finishing line will be between the mast displaying a blue flag on the committee boat and the course side of an inflatable "pin" mark.

13.1.2 Shortly before the finish, **Flag (or SHAPE) S** will be displayed on the committee boat accompanied by two sound signals. All boats will finish when they next pass through the gate / finish line at the end of their current lap, regardless of the number of laps that they have completed.

13.1.3 [DP] After crossing the finish line all boats must sail off the race course and not return until the last boat has finished the race.

13.1.4 Boats not crossing a finish line within 15 minutes after the first competitor has finished may be awarded a place based on their position on the water. This changes RRS rules 35 and RRS appendices A4 & A5.

13.2 Pursuit Race - Finish

13.2.1 The pursuit race will last for a duration of 100 minutes from the first start, at the expiration of which a long sound signal will be made to indicate the finish time of the race. Each boat will thereafter finish at the next finish line. After the end of the 100 minute race, but before boats have crossed a finish line, all boats must make every attempt to hold their positions in the fleet. i.e. **no overtaking**.

13.2.2 The pursuit finishing lines will be EITHER between a mark of the course and a moving or stationary RIB or Committee boat displaying a blue flag, OR between two moving or stationary RIBs or committee boats displaying a blue flag.

13.2.3 [DP] Boats having finished must sail clear of the race course by the shortest route, avoiding other finishing lines before returning to the beach.

13.2.4 [DP] After finishing, no boat should cross any other finish line; if this does happen, the competitor must inform the committee boat at any subsequent "finish line" crossed that they have already finished.

13.2.5 Trackers may be used to assist in calculating boat positions at the exact finish time of the race.

14 PENALTY SYSTEM

14.1 Appendix P will not apply.

15 TARGET TIMES

15.1 [NP] The target race durations are as follows:

	Duration
Handicap Races	45 minutes (Target)
Pursuit Race	100 minutes (Absolute)

16 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

16.1 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.

16.2 The protest time limit is 40 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day.

16.3 Notices will be posted no later than 20 minutes after 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.

17 SCORING

17.1 Handicap races will be scored on average corrected lap times.

- 17.2 Corrected times and pursuit start times will be calculated using the Great Lakes Handicap System See <http://greatlakes.org.uk>
- 17.3 One race is required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 17.4 The low point scoring system Points System of RRS Appendix A will apply.
- 17.5 A boats series score will the sum of her scores in the handicap series - excluding the worst score if 3 handicap races are sailed - plus **double** her score in the pursuit race, which cannot be excluded.
- 18 SAFETY AND TRACKING [DP]**
- 18.1 Competitors will be issued with a tracking device (1 per boat), which must be carried at all times when afloat. Competitors must return the tracking device on coming ashore after the final race of **each day** by the end of protest time.
- 19 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT [DP]**
- 19.1 Substitution of competitors will not be allowed without prior written approval of the race committee.
- 19.2 Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed unless authorised by the race committee. Requests for substitution shall be made to the committee at the first reasonable opportunity.
- 20 MEASUREMENT [DP]**
- Each boat shall be fully equipped with sufficient buoyancy to enable it to float and to support its crew if capsized or holed (DWSC By-law).
- 21 ADVERTISING [DP]**
- Boats may be required to display advertising in accordance with World Sailing Regulation 20.
- 22 OFFICIAL BOATS**
- All boats assisting with the management or safety of the event will be considered official boats.
- 23 SUPPORT BOATS [DP]**
- Support Boats will not be permitted.
- 24 LITTER [DP]**
- Litter may be placed aboard support or official boats and shall not be disposed of in the water.
- 25 BERTHING [DP]**
- 25.1 Boats and trailers may be parked on the gravel of the south side of the clubhouse keeping the south launching slipway clear for club keel boats.
- 25.2 All cars will be asked to park down on the lower level unless otherwise instructed by DWSC Officials.
- 26 RADIO COMMUNICATION [DP]**
- 26.1 Except in an emergency, a boat that is racing shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.
- 26.2 Boats will be required to carry GPS trackers provided by the organising authority.

27 PRIZES

- 27.1 Prizes will be awarded at the discretion of the organising authority. It is intended a prizegiving will be held at Datchet after racing has finished. Note that a Sailjuice Series Prizegiving is also planned for the RYA Dinghy & Watersports Show on 21-22 February 2026.

28 RISK STATEMENT

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 involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, 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, patrol vessels, umpires and other officials and volunteers by the organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
- f) The provision of patrol vessel 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 drawn to their attention in any rules and information produced for the venue or event and to attend any briefing held at the venue;

30 INSURANCE

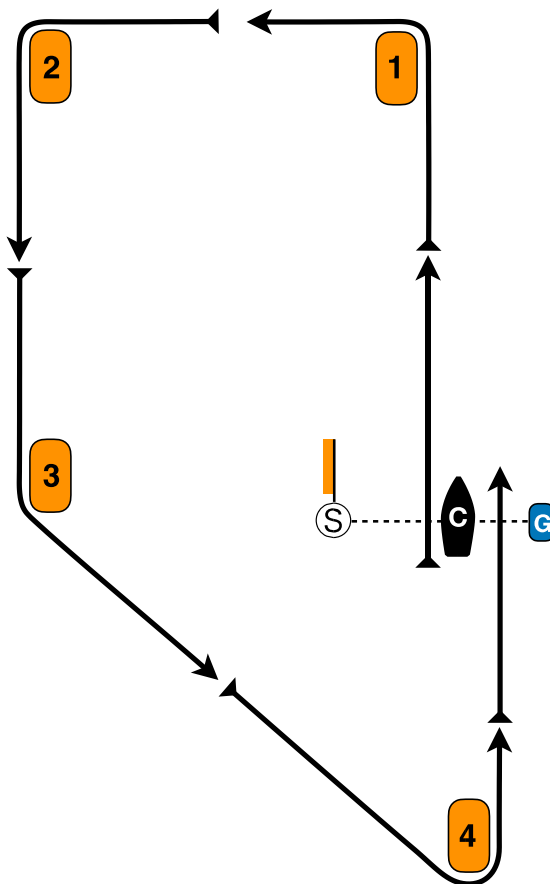
Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £3,000,000 per incident or the equivalent.

Attachment A - Courses

Handicap Course 1

Mark Rounding Order

Start – 1p – 2p – 3p – 4p – Cp & Gs



Pursuit Course

This will be published on the day of racing on the official notice board. The course will also be displayed on the stern on the committee boat.