



SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

32nd Annual WSSYSA Regatta - 2026



Saturday 19th & Sunday 20th September 2026
Organising Authority: Felpham Sailing Club
Blakes Road, Felpham, West Sussex PO22 7EE

1. Rules

1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 2025-2028.

1.2 The Exoneration Penalty, Advisory Hearing and RYA Arbitration of the RYA Rules Disputes Procedures will be available at this event.

1.3 RRS 40, 41 60.2 and 60.5 will be changed as follows:

RRS 40 is amended to: "A competitor shall wear an appropriately fitting personal flotation device, at all times while afloat, except briefly while changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment. Wet suits and dry suits are not personal flotation devices. Flag Y will not be displayed."

RRS 41 is amended to: "when a competitor is seen by a safety boat crew to be significantly astern of the bulk of the fleet, in which case a safety boat crew may offer assistance to enable the competitor to overcome a manifest problem or improve their sailing performance at the time. Such assistance offered *may not* be grounds for a protest."

RRS 60.2 is amended as a separate paragraph: "A boat intending to protest another boat shall notify the Race Committee or a safety or support vessel crew (who shall relay the message to the Race Committee) at the first reasonable opportunity after the protesting boat has finished. Failure to complete such notification will invalidate the protest."

RRS 60.5 is amended to: "At the discretion of the protest committee when hearing a protest concerning certain rules under the RRS, the Protest Committee may consider a breach of the rules to be, in certain circumstances, to be less than disqualification. There will be NO appeal against such a decision."

1.4 If there is a conflict between languages the English text will take precedence.

2. Notices to Competitors

2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board located in the Clubhouse or the vicinity of the Clubhouse.

3. Changes to Sailing Instructions

3.1 Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted at least 90 minutes prior to the scheduled start of the first race on the day on which it will take effect.

4. Signals Made Ashore

4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flagpole on the Balcony

4.2 When Code Flag 'AP' is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 20 minutes' in the race signal.

5. Schedule of Races

5.1

	Saturday 19th September	Sunday 20th September
Race Area 1		
Fast Fleet – red class flag	3 races, maybe 4, flexible	Balance of six races, flexible
First warning signal	10:50am	11:00am
Race Area 1		
Slow Fleet – yellow class flag	3 races, maybe 4, flexible.	Balance of six races, flexible.
	Warning signal same as Fast Fleet start.	Warning signal same as Fast Fleet start.
Race Area 2		
Rookie Fleet – white class flag	Coaching day + maybe some short races	11am first warning signal
Tides (time & height of tide)		
Low Water	04:51 4.4m	06.23 4.1m
High Water	17:13 4.2m	18.55 4.0m

5.2 Six races will be scheduled for all handicap fleets; no more than four races will be sailed on any one day (handicap fleets). The Rookie fleet may sail more than four short races on Sunday, some short races may be sailed on Saturday.

5.3 The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race each day is

10:50 on Saturday 19th September

11:00 on Sunday 20th September.

Subsequent races will be sailed as soon as is practicable after the completion of the preceding race.

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

5.5 No warning signal will be made after 16:30 on Saturday 19th September and 15:30 on Sunday 20th September.



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6. Class Flags

6.1 Flag Class Description

RED FLAG	- Fast handicap monohull, handicap less than 1270 TBC.
YELLOW FLAG	- Slow handicap monohull, handicap greater than 1270 TBC.
WHITE FLAG	- Rookie monohull, crewed entirely by Rookies

Definition: a 'Rookie' is a sailor who has not previously taken part in the WSSYSA Regatta Rookie fleet, or a significant open regatta away from home, as endorsed by the Team Manager.

7. Racing Areas

7.1 Racing will take place on the sea immediately south of the Club. Racing will be divided between two race areas, sailed by the following classes:

Race Area 1: RED & YELLOW

Race Area 2: WHITE

The location will be shown on the Race Board at the Official Race Notice Board.

8. The Courses

8.1 Courses sailed will be chosen from appendix 1.

The Rookie fleet may have a triangular course only.

8.2 Races in Race Area 1 will be started from a Race Committee Boat using flags. Races in Race Area 2 will be started from an anchored RHIB as Committee Boat using hand-held flags.

9. Marks

9.1 Marks for the Rookie Fleet will be orange "Tetra" type marks. Other Race Areas may use orange cylindrical marks. The starting pin and finishing pin may use "pellet" marks, or cylindrical. Details will be published on the Official Race Notice Board.

10. The Start

10.1 (a) Races will be run sequentially. The start signal for the RED fleet will be the warning signal for the YELLOW fleet start.

(b) On Race Area 1, the starting order will be: RED, then YELLOW.

(c) In the event of a General Recall, subsequent starts for that course shall be delayed such that the starting order is maintained.

10.2 The starting line for the RED fleet will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Committee Boat and a red/orange pin mark to the left of the Committee Boat. The starting line for the YELLOW fleet will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Committee Boat and a yellow pin mark to the right of the Committee



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Boat. (Left & right to be as viewed when looking from the Committee Boat to windward.)

10.3 A boat starting more than 4 minutes after her starting signal may be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This changes RRS A4.

10.4 The start sequence for the Rookie Fleet may be a simple 3,2,1, Go at Race Officer's discretion. The coaching on the previous day will use the same sequence.

11. Change of the Next Leg of the Course

11.1 If the Race Officer changes the next leg of the course, the Race Committee will move the original mark to a new position.

12. Lap Roundings and the Finish

12.1 Boats must pass through the start/finish line on every lap. RED fleet boats will pass through the start/finish line to the left of the Committee Boat. YELLOW fleet boats will pass through the start/finish line to the right of the Committee Boat.

Racing will be run on an 'average lap' basis. Boats will sail an indefinite number of laps until code flag 'S' is displayed from the Committee Boat. When code flag 'S' is displayed boats shall finish upon the conclusion of that lap by passing by the Committee boat on the correct RED/YELLOW side.

12.2 At the discretion of the Race Officer, boats may be scored as a finisher at any point on the course by an official boat and hailing their sail number. Boats so finished will be instructed to head directly to the start line area, or to the shore if there are no further races that day. Her finish time will be taken from the preceding completed lap(s) or a place judged by the Race Committee, without recourse. This may be done to keep the race programme on schedule and reduce sailor fatigue.

12.3 After boats have finished their race, they must sail away and completely clear the finish line after each race. YELLOW fleet boats must keep clear of the RED fleet boats preparing to start.

12.4 The Rookie fleet will use a single start/finish gate. All boats must pass through the gate on every lap.

13. Time Limits and Target Times

13.1 Target times and time limits may be as follows:

	Fleet target time for mark 1	Finishing window time limit
RED	35	60
YELLOW	40	60
White	15	30

Failure to meet the target time will not be grounds for redress.

Other boats failing to finish within 15 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, A5.1 and A5.2

14. Arbitration, Protests and Requests for Redress

14.1 Protest forms are available from the Office. Arbitration, Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered to the Office within the appropriate time limit.

14.2 For each class, the protest time limit is 30 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day and returned to the club or the race committee signals no more racing for the day, whichever is later.

14.3 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. Hearings will be held in the protest room, the location of which will be detailed on the Official Notice Board.

14.4 Breaches of SIs 11, 17 to 19: Penalties for these breaches may be less than disqualification if the protest committee so decides.

14.5 On the last scheduled day of racing a request for redress based on a protest committee decision shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the decision was posted. This changes RRS 61.4

15. Scoring

15.1 Two races are required to be completed to constitute a series.

15.2 The scoring system is as follows:

- (a) When fewer than three races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores
- (b) When three to five races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score
- (c) When six races have been completed a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst two scores.

16. Safety Regulations

16.1 Tallies, Check-Out and Check-In:

At registration, Team Managers will be issued with labelled trolley tags for every trolley; the trolley tag must be attached to the handle of the trolley. Team managers will also be issued with coloured fleet bands for each competitor signifying the registered fleet. The band is to be fitted around the mast above the kicker fitting. Competitors will be given a strip of PVC coloured tape according to fleet to be wrapped around the arm as a reminder of class flag colour.

At the top of the slipway each competitor will be issued with a personal tally wristband which will be listed by competitor name on the Tally sheet. When returning after racing the personal tally wristband must be surrendered when passing through the tally control.

Be aware that at the slipway each competitor, dinghy and trolley will be checked for trolley tag, rig size, sail number and fleet coloured wristband, prior to issuing a personal tally wristband.

If any of the checks fail, the competitor will be sent back to the Team Manager.

16.2 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the Race Committee or a Safety Boat (who shall relay this to the Race Committee) as soon as possible.

17. Replacement of Crew or Equipment

17.1 Substitution of competitors will not be allowed without prior written approval of the Organizing Authority.

17.2 Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will be permitted so long as the Race Committee is informed of any changes to sail numbers and this designation remains unique.

18. Support Boats & Coaching

18.1 Team leaders, coaches and other support personnel shall stay outside areas where boats are racing from the time of the preparatory signal for the first class to start until all boats have finished, or retired, or the race committee signals a postponement, general recall, or abandonment.

18.2 Exceptionally, only if the Race Officer deems it necessary for the safety of the fleet, the Race Officer may summon support boats onto the Race Course at his sole discretion.

18.3 For Race Area 1, a coach boat will be recording video of racing for subsequent replay. The coach boat will not be providing coaching during racing. Safety boats and support boats shall not provide coaching during racing, other than if a competitor is manifestly having difficulty.



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18.4 For Rookie Fleet, coaching is to be offered to all on the first day. Coaching during racing may be offered to those struggling at the back of the fleet.

19. Trash Disposal

19.1 RRS 47 applies. Trash may be placed aboard support or official boats when not racing.

20. Radio Communication

20.1 Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.

21. Prizes

21.1 Prizes will be given as follows:

(a) The first, second and third boats of each class Fast, Slow and Rookie with the lowest accumulated series score after discard.

(b) The boat with the lowest accumulated series score after discard in any class, depending on fleet size.

(c) The following perpetual trophies:

Jim Ellis Shield
Russell Moore Trophy
NSSA Trophy
WSSYSA Team Trophy*
WSSYSA Rookie Team Trophy**

*The WSSYSA Team Trophy shall be calculated by summing the top four individual rankings (as taken from the Sailwave results) of a team entry, accounting for entries in all three handicap fleets.

**The WSSYSA Rookie Team Trophy shall be calculated by summing the top three individual rankings (as taken from the Sailwave results) of a team entry.

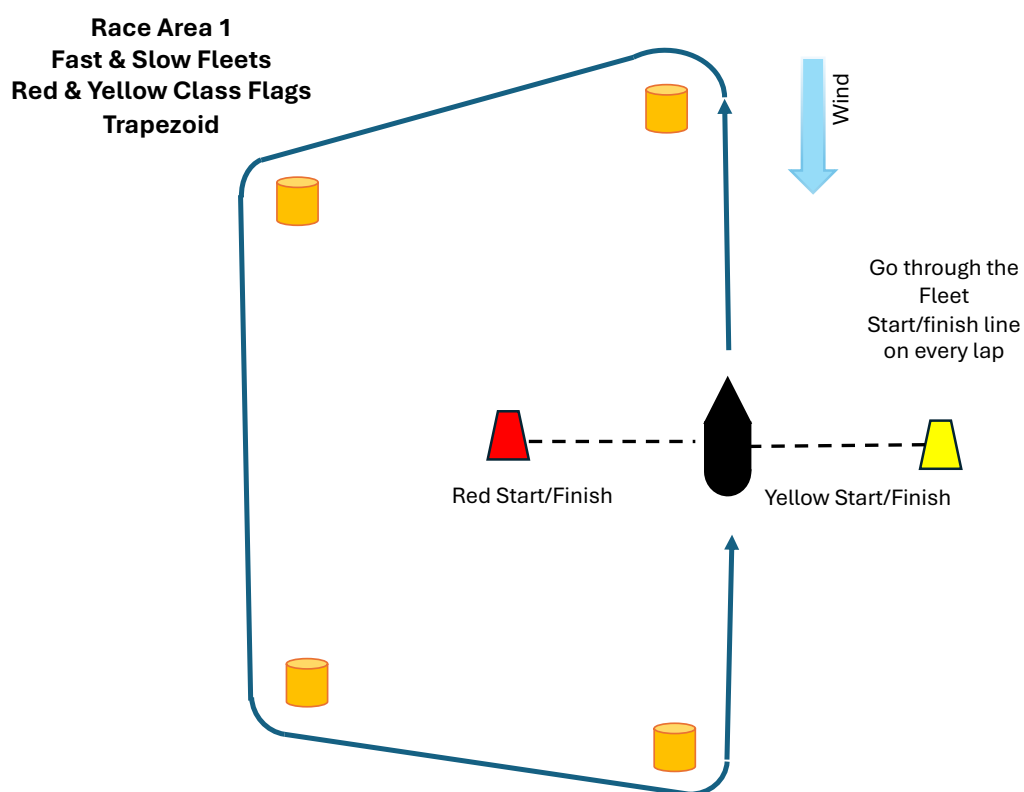
22. Disclaimer of Liability

22.1 Competitors are reminded of RRS 4, Decision to Race. The Organising Authority and WSSYSA will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta. The decision for a competitor to take part is the sole responsibility of their Team Manager.

23. Insurance

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

APPENDIX 1 – COURSES



Race Area 1
Fast & Slow Fleets
Red & Yellow Class Flags
Triangle

