



## Sailing Instructions

**GP14 Southern Travellers Open Meeting**  
**The Venetian Trophy**  
Saturday, 26th April 2025  
at Welsh Harp Sailing Club

### GENERAL

#### 1) RULES

1.1 Racing will be governed by the current Racing Rules of Sailing ([Sailing Racing Rules : Racing Rules | World Sailing](#)), the rules of the GP14 class association and these sailing instructions.

1.2 Each competitor shall wear a personal flotation device except briefly while changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment. Wet suits and dry suits are not personal flotation devices.

#### 2) NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted in the WHSC Clubhouse.

#### 3) CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

3.1 Competitors will be informed of any changes in the sailing instructions on the day of the event by the Racer Officer (RO) at least 30 minutes before the race(s) concerned.

#### 4) SCHEDULE OF RACES

4.1 The schedule of races is defined in the Notice of Race (NoR) document.

#### 5) CLASS FLAGS

5.1 The following Class flag will be used:

GP14 - White and blue pendant (international flag "A");

#### 6) RACING AREAS

6.1 The racing area will be on the Welsh Harp Reservoir (see APPENDIX 1 – Chart of the Welsh Harp Reservoir)

#### 7) THE COURSES

7.1 The course and the number of laps will be displayed on the committee boat before the warning signal is sounded. .

7.2 Start Line will be between the mast on the committee boat and a white buoy named "PIN" set by the Race Officer.

#### 8) MARKS

8.1 Course marks will be the spherical red buoys and a moveable white pin end mark.

#### 9) AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS

The following areas are designated as obstructions:

9.1 The series of Blue Buoys mark the end of two separate underwater hazards protruding from the South Shore (close to Mark 6) and an imaginary line from each blue buoy directly to the adjacent bank is deemed an obstruction to sea room.

9.2 Boats shall not pass between the Yellow Boom and the Dam. This ranks as an obstruction to sea room, and boats entering without good cause may be disqualified.

#### **10) SIGNING ON (REGISTRATION)**

10.1 All competitors must sign on/register before racing to declare their intention to race. Any boat taking part in a race without signing on may be scored NSO.

#### **11) THE START**

11.1 Races will be started using Rule 26 by using the following signals. Times shall be taken from the visual signals; the absence of a sound signal shall be disregarded.

Signal	Flag and sound	Minutes before starting signal
Warning	Class flag; 1 sound	5
Preparatory	P, I, Z, Z with I, or black flag; 1 sound	4
One-minute	Preparatory flag removed; 1 long sound	1
Starting	Class flag removed; 1 sound	0

11.2 The starting line will be between the mast of the Committee Boat and a white buoy.

#### **12) THE FINISH**

12.1 The finishing line will be between the mast of the Committee Boat displaying a blue flag and a white buoy.

#### **13) SHORTENED COURSE**

13.1. The course may be shortened at any mark by the presence of the committee boat flying a blue flag and flag S. Boats should pass between the mark and the committee boat to finish. Two hoots will be sounded when the lead boat rounds the last mark.

#### **14) PENALTY SYSTEM**

14.1 The scoring penalty Rule 44.3 will not apply.

#### **15) TIME LIMITS**

15.1 The time limit is 60 minutes. When the first boat finishes within the last 20 minutes of that time, the Time Limit will be extended to 20 minutes after the finishing time of the first boat. No boat shall finish after the expiry of the time limit. This changes rules 35, A4 and A5.

15.2 If no boat has passed the first mark of the course within 30 minutes the race will be abandoned. Failure to meet the target time will not be grounds for redress. This changes rule 62.1(a)

15.3 A tail-end boat that has lost contact with the body of the fleet may be informed on the water, towards the end of the race, that she need not complete that lap, but may return to the starting area for the start of the next back-to-back race. An appropriate finishing position will be recorded by the Race Committee. Failure to take advantage of this provision may result in any following back to back race being started before that competitor has returned to the starting area. This shall not be the basis for a redress request under Rule 62(a). This alters Rule 35.

## 16) PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

16.1 The Post-Race Penalty, Advisory Hearing and RYA Arbitration procedures of the RYA Rules Disputes procedures shall apply. The outcome of an RYA Arbitration can be referred to a protest committee, but an arbitration cannot be reopened or appealed. See APPENDIX 4 – Post-Race Penalty, Advisory Hearing and RYA Arbitration procedures for details.

16.2 Protest forms are available in the clubhouse. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit.

16.3 The protest time limit is 30 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day.

16.4 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, located in the WHSC clubhouse. Times will be displayed on the Official Notice Board.

16.5 Notices of protests by the race committee or protest committee will be posted to inform boats under RRS 61.1(b).

16.6 A breach of RRS 55 Trash Disposal may result in a penalty less than disqualification at the discretion of the Protest Committee.

## 17) SCORING

17.1 The series will be scored as provided in Appendix A of the RRS using the Low Point System.

Each boat starting and finishing and not thereafter retiring, being penalised or given redress shall be scored points as follows:

Finishing Place	Points
First	1
Second	2
Third	3
...	Each place thereafter add 1 point

7.2 One race is required to be completed to constitute a series for the event.

7.3 When fewer than four races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her individual race scores.

7.4 When four races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score, i.e., single discard.

17.5 Scores applied by the race committee. See APPENDIX 2 – Scoring Notation and Definitions.

## 18) SAFETY REGULATIONS

18.1 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible.

18.2 A capsized boat, whose mast is stuck in the mud, may receive assistance from the safety boat to right their boat. This alters rule 4

## 19) REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

19.1 Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed unless approved by the Race Committee

## **20) EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS**

A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions. On the water, a boat can be instructed by a race committee equipment inspector or measurer to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.

## **21) RADIO COMMUNICATION**

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.

## **22) 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 inherently involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:

- (i) 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;
- (ii) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;
- (iii) They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;
- (iv) Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to sail;
- (v) The provision of a race management team, patrol/safety boats and other officials and volunteers by the event organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
- (vi) The provision of patrol/safety boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances;
- (vii) It is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks specific to the venue or the event drawn to their attention in any rules and information produced for the event or venue and to attend any safety briefings for the event.

## **23) INSURANCE**

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £3 million per event or the equivalent and competitors are deemed to carry this insurance when registering for the race.