



**Grafham Water
Sailing Club**



**Notice of Race: Gill Fireball Open Meeting
Saturday and Sunday 27th & 28th April 2024.**

The Organising Authority is Grafham Water Sailing Club and the UK Fireball Class Association.

1. RULES

- 1.1. The event will be governed by rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing 2021 - 2024*.
- 1.2 Competitors should note that Grafham Water Sailing Club implements the RYA Racing Charter and that they will be expected to sail in compliance with it. The Charter can be found at the front of the RYA edition of the Racing Rules of Sailing (the yellow pages after the definitions), or on the RYA website at www.rya.org.uk/racingrules.
- 1.3 If there is conflict between the NoR and SI, then the SI shall prevail. This changes RRS 63.7

2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1. The Sailing Instructions will be available on the Club Web Site at <https://webcollect.org.uk/grafham/category/open-events-1> by 20:00 on Thursday 25th April 2024.

3. COMMUNICATION

- 3.1. The online official notice board is located at <https://www.grafham.org/online-noticeboard.html>.
- 3.2. From the first warning signal until the end of the last race of the day, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

4. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1. The event is open to all Fireball Class boats with a valid measurement certificate and the helm and crew are members of the UK Fireball Association.
- 4.2. Eligible boats may enter the event by completing the online entry form at <https://webcollect.org.uk/grafham/category/open-events-1> together with the required fee by midnight on Wednesday 24th April 2024.
- 4.3. To be considered an entry in the event, a boat shall complete all registration requirements and pay all fees.
- 4.4. Any competitors aged under 18 shall complete an Under 18s Consent Form.
- 4.5. Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the Organising Authority and subject operational considerations. Late entry will be online only.

5. FEES

- 5.1. Entry fees are as follows:
 - 5.1.1. For boats sailed by visitors:- £50

5.1.2. Boats helmed or crewed by a GWSC member, who has a registered boat at GWSC:-
£5

5.2. An additional late entry supplement of £10 per boat will apply for entries or payments received after midnight on Wednesday 24th April 2024.

6. CREW LIMITATIONS

6.1 Class rules apply.

7. ADVERTISING

7.1 Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organizing authority.

8. QUALIFYING SERIES AND FINAL SERIES – Does not apply

9. SCHEDULE

9.1. There will be no registration, and no event documentation will be issued during the event.

9.2. There is no scheduled equipment inspection and event measurement.

9.3. There will be a competitor briefing on the foreshore outside the café at 1045.

9.4. Dates of Racing:

Saturday 27th April: Three back to back races are scheduled with the first warning signal not before 1155.

Sunday 28th April: Three back to back races are scheduled with the first warning signal not before 1030.

9.5. No warning signal will be made after 15:00 on Sunday 28th April 2024.

10. EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

10.1. Each boat may be required to produce or verify the existence of a valid certificate.

10.2. Boats shall be available for equipment inspection from at any time except when racing.

11. CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT

11.1. RRS40.1 shall apply at all times when afloat.

12. VENUE

12.1. A site plan showing camping, parking and slipways is shown in Appendix 1.

13. COURSES

13.1. The course to be sailed will be selected from ST and WL.

14. PENALTY SYSTEM

14.1. As per RRS.

15. SCORING

15.1. One race is required to be completed to constitute a series.

15.2. (a) When fewer than 3 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her races scores.

(b) When 3 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

15.3. RRS 90.3e shall apply.

16. SUPPORT PERSON VESSELS

16.1. Support person vessels are not allowed.

17,18, 19, 20 DO NOT APPLY

21. DATA PROTECTION

21.1. The GWSC data protection policy can be found at https://www.grafham.org/wp-content/uploads/_pdfs/Club%20Documents/Privacy-Notice.pdf

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:

- (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 boats and other officials and volunteers by the event organizer does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
- (f) The provision of patrol boat 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 safety briefing held for the event.

23. INSURANCE

23.1. Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £2,000,000 per incident or the equivalent.

24. PRIZES

24.1. Prizes will be given according to the square root of the entry number.

25. FURTHER INFORMATION

25.1 CANCELLATION

On Thursday 25th April 2024 at 20:00 a final decision will be made on whether the event can proceed based on the forecast wind strength and any change in COVID-19 restrictions. In the event of any cancellation a notice will appear on the GWSC website by this time and full refunds of the entry fees will be given less any committed non recoverable costs incurred

25.2 GENERAL

Campers and camper vans are welcome and pre booking is available online at <https://webcollect.org.uk/grafham/category/open-events-1>. Pre-booking of camper vans is essential. There is a charge of £15 per night for Campervans, £10 per night for Camping (please note – NO caravans – our lease does not allow them).

Directions to Grafham Water Sailing Club, details of local accommodation, and other information are available on the Club website - <http://www.grafham.org> .

Entrants and authorised guests are temporary members of Grafham Water Sailing Club during the period of the event and shall comply with Club Rules and Regulations. Failure to observe these may result in exclusion from the club premises.

25.3 Meals are available Saturday evening at £17 for 2 courses [cheaper than outside establishments!]. These need to be pre –booked with the entry process.

A minimum of 25 need to be booked for our caterers to provide them. Note that there is a second who are likely to book meals.

25.4 MOVEMENT OF BOATS TO GRAFHAM WATER

In order to prevent the spread of non-native species there is a requirement to ensure that boats are clean before they visit the site using the principle of Check Clean Dry <http://www.nonnativespecies.org/checkcleandry/index.cfm> . This includes:

CHECK your equipment and clothing for live organisms – particularly in areas that are damp or hard to inspect.

CLEAN and wash equipment, footwear and clothing thoroughly. If you do come across any organisms, leave them at the water body where you found them.

DRY all equipment and clothing – some species can live for many days in moist conditions. Make sure you don't transfer water elsewhere.

Anglian Water ask for boats and equipment, arriving at Grafham Water that are from the following locations, to have been clean and dry for at least two days prior to arrival – if not, then they must not be launched at the Club:

- Wraysbury Reservoir and Wraysbury River near to Staines
- The Queen Mother Reservoir
- Queen Elizabeth II/Bessborough Reservoirs
- Queen Mary Reservoir
- Warwick East Reservoir, Warwick West Reservoir and William Girling Reservoir all located in the Lee Valley

25.5 MOVEMENT OF BOATS FROM GRAFHAM WATER

A non-native species of fresh-water shrimp (commonly known as killer shrimps) have been found in Grafham Water and certain restrictions on boat movement have been imposed by AW, DEFRA or other bodies to prevent the spread of these to other locations in the UK. These requirements are prominently displayed on the club premises and will include washing boats and equipment before removal from the Club premises.

Failure to comply with the requirements of these restrictions may lead to expulsion from the event.

25.6 PHOTOGRAPHER

Professional Photographs - Our photography partner, Paul Sanwell of OP Photography may be taking action photographs of the event.

These images can be viewed and purchased the day after the event on the Grafham Water SC photo-gallery at www.grafham.org/photos .

APPENDIX 1 – SITE PLAN



Grafham Water Sailing Club, Perry, Huntingdon, Cambs. PE28 OBU.
Tel: 01480 810478 Email: office@grafham.org Website: www.grafham.org

