

THE INTERNATIONAL GP14 CLASS UK NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP 2023

Organised by Looe Sailing Club in conjunction with the
International GP14 Class Association
August 5-11th 2023

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The notation '[NP]' in a rule of the sailing instructions (SIs) means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a).

The notation '[DP]' in a rule of the Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.

1 RULES

- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 1.2 RRS 61.1(a)2 is deleted – display of protest flag.

2 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0900 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

3 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located at the Beachmaster's Office near the head of the slipway and may be available via social media.
- 3.2 The race office is located at the top of the slipway into the river,
- 3.3 [DP] While racing 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 CODE OF CONDUCT

- 4.1 [DP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.
- 4.2 [DP] Competitors shall place advertising provided by the organizing authority with care, in accordance with any instructions for its use and without interfering with its functionality.

5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed at a flagstaff located at the top of the slipway onto the beach.
- 5.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 45 minutes' in Race Signals AP.
- 5.3 Hoisting the class flag ashore with two sound signals means that tallies have been released.
- 5.4 [DP] Boats shall not go afloat until released which will be notified by displaying flag D with one sound signal. The warning signal will not be made before the scheduled time or less than 45 minutes after flag D is displayed.

6 SCHEDULE OF RACES

6.1

Date	Race	Warning Signal	High/Low Water
Sunday August 6 th	Practice Race Points Race 1	11:55 Back to back	HW 09.43 LW 15.50
Monday August 7 th	Points Race 2 Points Race 3 Crews Race	11:55 Back to back	HW 10.29 LW 16.36
Tuesday August 8 th	Points Race 4 Points Race 5	11:55 Back to back	HW LW
Wednesday August 9 th	Alternative race day		HW LW
Thursday August 10 th	Points Race 6 Points Race 7	11:55 Back to back	HW LW
Friday August 11 th	Points Race 8 Points Race 9	11:55 Back to back	HW LW

6.2 One extra race per day may be sailed, provided that the series becomes no more than one race ahead of schedule and the change is made according to SI 2.1 Note the provision of NoR 8.4 on the use of the alternative race day – this is Wednesday Aug 9th.

6.3 The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race each day is 11:55.

6.4 To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, an orange Flag or Code Flag G will be displayed with one sound at least five minutes before a warning signal is made.

6.5 On the last scheduled day of racing no warning signal will be made after 14.55.

7 CLASS FLAGS

7.1 The Class flag is the Black bell insignia on a white background.

8 RACING AREA

8.1 The racing area is described in NoR 10.2.

9 COURSES

9.1 The diagram in Addendum A shows the courses, including the approximate angles between legs, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.

9.2 Mark 1 is the intended windward mark.

9.3 No later than the warning signal, the Committee Boat will display the approximate compass bearing of the first leg and the Course Code.

10 MARKS

10.1 Marks 1, 2 and 3 will be orange cylinder buoys.

10.2 Mark 1a (Spacer Mark) will be a yellow cylinder buoy. The Spacer Mark will constitute a mark of the course on every round.

10.3 The Port end **starting mark** will be a yellow cylinder buoy OR where a vessel is used the vessel shall display an orange flag.

10.4 The Finishing Mark will be a yellow cylinder buoy.

10.5 The Windward Finishing Mark will be a yellow cylinder buoy

10.6 The Free Floating Starting mark (Gate Start) will be an orange spherical buoy.

11 OBSTRUCTIONS

11.1 During the Gate Start sequence the Committee Boat is designated as an obstruction until the Gate is closed.

12 THE START

- 12.1 When an Orange Flag" is displayed on the Committee Boat a fixed line start will be used and instructions 12.4 to 12.6 will apply. When International Code Flag "G" is displayed on the race committee boat a gate start will be used and instructions 12.7 to 12.16 will apply.
- 12.2 Races will be started using RRS 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal.
- 12.3 Races will not be started unless the Race Officer is satisfied that the wind strength over the whole of the course is four knots or greater.

LINE STARTS

- 12.4 The starting line is between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Committee Boat at the starboard end and the port-end starting mark a yellow cylindrical buoy . The buoy may be replaced by a safety boat displaying an Orange flag, in this instance the mast displaying the Orange flag shall indicate the port end of the line
- 12.5 A limit mark may be laid adjacent to the Committee Boat. Boats shall not pass between the limit mark and the Committee Boat after the preparatory signal. Any boat so doing will be disqualified without a hearing. This alters rule 63.1.
- 12.6 A boat starting later than 5 (five) minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.

GATE STARTS

- 12.7 Flag "G" displayed from the committee vessel indicates a gate start
- 12.8 Races will be started in accordance with Rule 26, with the warning signal given 5 minutes before the starting signal.
- 12.9 The starting area will be to leeward of the course.
- 12.10 The Gate Launch will display International Code Flag "G" and the Guard Launch, if used, will display International Code Flag "U". International Code Flag G will be displayed from the Gate Launch when in position to start the Gate. Starting signals will be made on the Committee Boat.
- 12.11 Pathfinder - The pathfinder and reserve pathfinder for the first race will be nominated by the Race Committee and thereafter will normally be the 10th (tenth) and 11th (eleventh) boats respectively in the final finishing order of the preceding race. However, no boat shall be pathfinder for more than one completed race of the Championship. In the event of a previous pathfinder finishing in 10th place in subsequent race(s), the highest placed competitors finishing in 11th or higher places who have not previously been pathfinders will be nominated as pathfinder and reserve pathfinder respectively. If 2 or more races with gate starts are being sailed on one day, the pathfinder's sail number for the additional races will be displayed on the committee vessel prior to the warning signal.
- 12.12 The sail numbers of the pathfinder and reserve pathfinder will be posted on the Race Notice Board and will be displayed on the Committee vessel. They shall both report to the Committee vessel **5 minutes before** the warning signal. In exceptional circumstances the Race Officer may appoint a boat at sea to act as pathfinder or reserve pathfinder. A pathfinder, or reserve that fails to report will be scored **did not start**. This changes rules A4 & A5.
- 12.13 At least 5 minutes before the warning signal the committee vessel will display a board on the starboard side which will indicate the minimum length of time, in minutes, that the pathfinder will maintain her course.
- 12.14 Approximately 2 minutes before the starting signal the Pathfinder shall come within hail of the Gate Launch and place herself under the direction of the Race Officer. Approximately 15 seconds before the starting signal the Pathfinder will cross the bow of the Gate launch and commence sailing on a close-hauled course on port tack. She will be followed by the Gate Launch and may be preceded off her starboard bow by a Guard Launch.
- 12.15 The leeward end of the starting line will be marked by a free floating orange buoy released approximately 5 seconds before the start signal .The starting line will be between the free floating Starting Mark and the centre of the stern of the Gate Launch.

- 12.16 The Pathfinder shall maintain her course for at least 2 minutes plus any further time the Race Officer considers appropriate. When released by the Race Officer she may tack onto starboard or hold her course as she pleases. The Gate Launch will hold her course and speed for a further period at the discretion of the Race Officer. A sound signal will be made when the gate is fully open at which point the Gate Launch will stop and drift for at least one minute. At the end of this period code flag "G" on the Gate Launch and Committee Boat will be lowered to indicate closing of the gate. No boat shall start after flag "G" has been lowered. A boat failing to start before lowering of flag "G" will be scored "Did Not Start". This alters rule A4.1.
- 12.17 A boat, not having already correctly started, which is on the port side of the Gate Launch while the Gate is opening, shall not cross the start line from the course side.
- 12.18 After the preparatory signal, a boat which interferes with or tries to pass between the Guard Launch, Pathfinder, and the Gate Launch, or that causes another boat to interfere in these ways, will be disqualified without a hearing. If the race is restarted, re-sailed or rescheduled she is not entitled to compete. This alters rule 63.1.
- 12.19 The Gate Launch, Guard Launch and Pathfinder until released rank as starting marks.
- 12.20 A boat that cannot otherwise avoid fouling a starting mark may hail a right-of-way boat for room and then shall immediately retire.

13 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 13.1 To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will move the original mark (or the finishing line) to a new position.
- 13.2 A mark may be moved in any direction by up to 100m without the need to signal a change of course. This changes RRS 33.
- 13.3 Shortening course to the Leeward finish defined in SI 14.1, following a triangle lap
If a Mark boat displaying IC Flag K and making repetitive sound signals is on station in the vicinity of Mark 3, boats shall pass Mark 3 to port and proceed directly to the Leeward finish defined in SI 14.1. The Committee Boat on station at the finish will display Flag S with 2 (two) sounds. This is in addition to Race Signals and changes Rule 32.2 and 33.

14 THE FINISH

- 14.1 The finishing line will be between the mast displaying a blue flag, aboard the Committee Boat and the finishing mark.
- 14.2 A boat that has finished shall then pass completely through the finishing line, and no part of her shall thereafter again cross the finishing line from either direction. This alters Rule 28.1. A boat that infringes this sailing instruction may be scored DNF for the corresponding race [DP]. This alters Rule 63.1.

15 PENALTY SYSTEM Not Used

16 TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIME

- 16.1 The Mark 1 Time Limit, Race Time Limit (see RRS 35), and the Finishing Window are shown in the table below.

Mark 1 Time Limit	Race Time Limit	Finishing Window
<i>30 minutes</i>	<i>90 minutes</i>	<i>30 minutes</i>

- 16.2 If no boat has passed the first mark within the Mark 1 Time Limit, the race will be abandoned.
- 16.3 At the discretion of the race officer the race committee may give a finishing place to a boat. The boat will be notified by a race committee vessel displaying IC flag W. A boat so notified is no longer racing and shall sail directly to the starting area, or sail ashore if there is no more racing.
- 16.4 [NP] Boats will be scored according to the finishing place as given by the race committee.
- 16.5 The Finishing Window is the time for boats to finish after the first boat sails the course and finishes.

Boats failing to finish within the Finishing Window, and not subsequently retiring, penalized or given redress, will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) without a hearing. A boat scored TLE shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the points scored by the last boat that finished within the Finishing Window. This changes RRS 35, A5.1, A5.2 and A10.

- 16.6 Failure to meet the Target Time will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a). The Target Time for each points race is 60 minutes.

17 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 17.1 The protest time limit is 90 minutes after the last boat finishes the last race of the day or the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later. The time will be posted on the official notice board.
- 17.2 Hearing request forms are available from the Beachmaster's Office near the head of the slipway and may be available via social media.
- 17.3 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. The location and time of these hearings will be displayed at this time.
- 17.4 A list of boats that have been penalized for breaking RRS 42 under Appendix P will be posted.
- 17.5 RRS 62.2(a) and 66.2(a) shall apply.

18 SCORING

- 18.1 See NoR 12

19 SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 19.1 [DP] **Adequate Personal Buoyancy** shall be worn at all times whilst on the water. Neither a wetsuit nor a dry suit constitutes adequate buoyancy. Inflatable type buoyancy aids will not be considered adequate unless fully inflated. Rule 40.1 applies.

19.2 Tally System

[DP] A Tally Number will be allocated to each boat, launching trolley and allocated space. A Tally Board will be situated near the launching area before each race. There will be a Tally wristband for each helm and crew with the boat's Tally Number. Both helm and crew shall take their Tally wristband afloat visibly displayed on their right wrist. Timing for the release of Tallies prior to going afloat will be on the instruction of the Race Officer. Tallies shall be returned to the appropriate Tally Board within 30 minutes of returning ashore or not later than 60 minutes after the last boat finishes the last race of the day, whichever is earlier.

It is the sole responsibility of the crew to ensure that he / she has tallied correctly. Failure to comply with this Sailing Instruction will result in disqualification without a hearing and / or a fine of £10 payable to the benefit of the local (Looe) branch of the RNLI,. Failure to pay this fine prior to the first race on the following day, or by the start of the Prizegiving on the final day, will result in disqualification from the race in question without a protest hearing.

This alters Rule 63.1

- 19.3 [DP] A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity. Promptly after returning to shore, the boat shall complete a retirement declaration form, which is available at the Beachmaster's Office.

20 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

- 20.1 [DP] Substitution of crew – See NoR 6

21 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

- 21.1 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules, notice of race and sailing instructions.
- 21.2 [DP] When instructed by a race official on the water, a boat shall proceed to a designated area for inspection.

22 OFFICIAL VESSELS

22.1 Official vessels will be identified as follows:- The Committee Boat will display the burgee of the Looe Sailing Club. Safety Vessels will display a yellow flag.

23 **TRASH DISPOSAL**

23.1 Trash may be placed aboard official vessels.

24 **BERTHING**

24.1 [DP] Boats shall be kept in their assigned places while in the boat park.

25 **PRIZES**

25.1 Notice of Race 19

26 **RISK STATEMENT**

See NOR 16

27 **INSURANCE**

27.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £3 million (three million pounds) per event or the equivalent. Competitors shall sign a declaration to that effect at registration. Insurance is the sole responsibility of the competitors.

SI Addendum A

COURSE	
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CODE	
ST2	Start – 1 – 1a – 3 – 1 – 1a – 2 – 3 – finish
ST3	Start – 1 – 1a – 3 – 1 – 1a – 2 – 3 – 1 – 1a – 3 – finish
ST4	Start – 1 – 1a – 3 – 1 – 1a – 2 – 3 – 1 – 1a – 3 – 1 – 1a – 2 – 3 – finish
COURSE CODE	
TS2	Start – 1 – 1a – 2 – 3 – 1 – 1a – 3 – finish
TS3	Start – 1 – 1a – 2 – 3 – 1 – 1a – 3 – 1 – 1a – 2 – 3 – finish
TS4	Start – 1 – 1a – 2 – 3 – 1 – 1a – 3 – 1 – 1a – 2 – 3 – 1 – 1a – 3 – finish

Where W is added to the signalled course the windward finish line will be used

