

# SAILING INSTRUCTIONS 2026

## SECTION "B" (Dinghies)

The notation '(DP)' in a rule in the SI 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 racing will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028 (RRS), and the Crouch Harbour Byelaws. <https://crouchharbour.uk/byelaws/>
- 1.2 The helm or crew must be a sailing member of the Burnham on Crouch Sailing Club (BSC).
- 1.3 One-design class rules will apply and valid association membership is needed where applicable.
- 1.4 All in a dinghy will wear a personal flotation device in accordance with rule 40.1. Rule 40.1 will apply at all times.

### 2 Notices to Competitors

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located in the clubhouse and on the BSC website and social media channels when possible.

### 3 Changes to Sailing Instructions

- 3.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 09:00 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 20:00 on the day before it will take effect.

### 4 Signals Made Ashore

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed at the BSC clubhouse using the appropriate flags or flag boards displayed on the upper storey balcony.
- 4.2 IF the V flag flies from the flag halyards by the Club Burgee all boats and support vessels need to maintain radio watch on CH37 and 16 to potentially assist with a search and rescue.

### 5 Schedule of Races

- 5.1 Dates as in the BSC Programme 2026.
- 5.2 The scheduled warning signals for each class on Tuesday are as follows:-

Class	First Warning Signal	Start
Fast Handicap	18:15	18:20
Slow Handicap	18:20	18:25
Regatta	18:30	18:35

- 5.3 One extra race per day may be sailed at the RO's discretion.

ALL TIMES ARE **BST**

### 6 Class Flags

- 6.1 Class Flags will be:

Fast Handicap	F
Slow Handicap	C
Regatta	O

### 7 Racing Area

- 7.1 The racing will take place on the Rivers Crouch and Roach

### 8 The Courses

- 8.1 The courses will be displayed on a notice board located on the pontoon.
- 8.2 The BSC line is a mark of the course when a boat passes through it on any leg of their course.

## 9 **The Start**

- 9.1 Races will be started by using RRS 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal and then at 4, 1, GO.
- 9.2 The starting and finishing line shall be between the triangles mounted on the Clubhouse and a Pin Marker.
- 9.3 [DP] Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races.
- 9.4 A boat that does not start within 30 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A4 AND A5.

## 10 **The Finish**

- 10.1 The finish line is the same as the start line, between the Pin Marker and a transit on the Race Box.
- 10.2 If the race committee is absent when a boat finishes, she should report her finishing time, and her position in relation to nearby boats, to the race committee at the first opportunity.

## 11 **Shortening Course**

- 11.1 Courses may be shortened in accordance with RRS 32.
- 11.2 If the H flag is displayed on its own or over an individual Class Flag at a rounding mark, the course changes. Pass the mark on the correct side from the direction of the previous mark and sail to the finish line.
- 11.3 The finishing line is to be crossed from the direction of the last mark. This changes rule 32.

## 12 **Penalty System**

- 12.1 For dinghy classes RRS 44.1 is changed so that a two-turn penalty is replaced by a one turn penalty.

## 13 **Time Limits**

- 13.1 The time limit for each race is 2 hours after the start time for the first boat. If no boat finishes within the time limit the race committee will abandon the race. Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes or within the time limit, whichever is later will be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes RRS 35 A4 and A5.

## 14 **Protests and Requests for Redress**

- 14.1 Protest forms are available from the Race Box.
- 14.2 For each class the protest time is 90 minutes after the last boat has finished.
- 14.3 Notices must 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 race box as soon as practicable. Where possible arbitration will be used.

## 15 **Scoring**

- 15.1 Scoring will be under the low points system as per RRS Appendix A where A5.3 is in effect.
- 15.2 A boat's series score is the total of her race scores excluding every 1 race out of 4 that are completed in the series.

## 16 **Safety Regulations**

- 16.1 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race box as soon as possible.
- 16.2 All dinghies are required to sign on and off regardless of where they launch.

## 17 **Waste Disposal**

- 17.1 All waste must be taken ashore and disposed of properly.

**18 Radio Communication**

- 18.1 Except in an emergency a boat that is racing shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data transmissions that are not available to all competitors.

**19 Prizes**

- 19.1 Prizes will be awarded at the annual prize giving event.

**20 Disclaimer of Liability**

- 20.1 Competitors participate in the racing entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3 Decision to Race  
The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone. For under 18s the parent or Guardian takes the responsibility.  
The organising authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the sailing event.

**21 Insurance**

- 21.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with minimum cover of £3,000,000.