

**Fireball Spring Championships
for the Thomas Castle Aviation Heritage Trophy
18th & 19th April 2026**

Organising Authority (OA) is Draycote Water Sailing Club in conjunction with the UK Fireball Class Association (UKFA)

NOTICE OF RACE

1. RULES

- 1.1.** This event is governed by the rules as defined in *the Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028*.
- 1.2.** Competitors shall sail in accordance with the [RYA Racing Charter](#).
- 1.3.** Competitors must abide by the [RYA anti-doping policy](#).
- 1.4.** Standard Class rules apply.
- 1.5.** [DP] Rule 40.1 applies at all times when afloat.

2. SAILING INSTRUCTION

- 2.1.** The sailing instructions will be available electronically at [WEBSITE](#)

3. COMMUNICATION

- 3.1.** The official notice board will be at [WEBSITE](#)
- 3.2.** [DP] While racing, except in an emergency, a boat that is racing shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

4. ELIGIBILITY & ENTRY

- 4.1.** The event is open to all boats of the Fireball Class.
- 4.2.** Eligible boats may enter by completing the [online registration](#) and paying the required fees by 23:59 on 15th April 2026
- 4.3.** Late entries may be accepted at the OA's discretion up to 23:59 on 17th April 2026. These will be subject to £10 surcharge.
- 4.4.** Entries are limited to 100.
- 4.5.** [DP] An online disclaimer must be completed before launching for each visiting boat to state that the Check, Clean, Dry programme has been observed.
- 4.6.** All boats shall sail under their register numbers to comply with RRS 77. Under exceptional circumstances a boat may be permitted to carry sail numbers or letters in contravention of her class rules provided that written application, stating the circumstances, is made to the Race Committee prior to the 1st race. If such permission is granted no further change will be permitted.

5. FEES

- 5.1.** The entry fee is £50.

- 5.2.** If the event is cancelled by the OA a refund less any costs incurred will be issued.
- 5.3.** If a competitor cancels within 7 days of the event no refund will be given. Before 7 days 80% refund will be given.

6. CREW LIMITATIONS

- 6.1.** All visiting competitors (helm and crew) need to be current UKFA members. Where both helm and crew are members of Draycote Water SC, at least one of them must hold a minimum of UKFA Local Membership. If only one of the boat's crew is a Draycote Water SC member, that person must hold a minimum of UKFA Local Membership and the other crew member must be a Full or U26 Member of UKFA.

7. ADVERTISING

- 7.1.** [DP] Boats maybe required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organising authority.

8. QUALIFYING SERIES AND FINAL SERIES

Not Applicable

9. SCHEDULE

- 9.1.** Registration:

18/04/2026	10.30/11.30am	Lounge /bar
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- 9.2.** Briefing:

18/04/2026	11.45am	Patio
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- 9.3.** Racing:

The event will consist of up to 6 races.

Date	Number of scheduled races	Maximum number of races	1 st warning not before
18/04/2026	3	4	12.25
19/04/2026	3	4	10.25

- 9.4.** On the last scheduled day of racing no warning signal will be made after 15.00

10. EQUIPMENT INSPECTIONS

- 10.1.** Boats and equipment may be inspected at any time.

11. CLOTHING & EQUIPMENT

- 11.1.** During the months of November through end of March all competitors shall wear suitable exposure proof clothing. This means adequate expanded neoprene wetsuit or drysuit covering ankles to neck and wrists.

12. VENUE

- 12.1.** The venue is Draycote Water Sailing Club, Draycote Water, CV23 8AB.
- 12.2.** The sailing area will be Draycote Water.

13. COURSES

- 13.1.** The course will be either Triangle/ Sausage or Inner/outer loop.
- 13.2.** Full details will be in the sailing instruction.

14. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 14.1.** Appendix T will apply.

15. SCORING

- 15.1.** One race shall constitute an event
- 15.2.** If 3 or fewer races have been completed a boat's score shall be the total of her race scores
- 15.3.** If more than 3 races have been completed a boat's score shall be the total of her race scores excluding her one worst score.
- 15.4.** RRS 90.3(e) applies.

16. SUPPORT VESSELS

- 16.1.** Support boats will not be allowed.

17. CHARTERED OR LOANED BOATS

- 17.1.** The venue does not have boats for hire for this event.

18. BERTHING.

- 18.1.** [DP] Boats shall be stored in the boat park or boat drop off areas as directed by marshals and/or signs.

19. DATA PROTECTION

- 19.1.** Results,
As part of entering this event your results will be published in the public domain and may be given to the RYA for their Portsmouth Yardstick scheme and to the Class Association. While your results contain personal data, it is normal practice to expect that, when entering an event, your results will be published, and this is a condition of entry. It is therefore part of the contract to provide you with race entry and administration that we will publish the results, which may include such information such as sail number, sailing club, age and gender (if there are age and gender related results).
- 19.2.** Photography,
By competing in this event, competitors grant to the organisers without payment the right in perpetuity to make, use and show any non-identifiable motion pictures, still pictures and live, taped or filmed television of or relating to the event and consent to these being published in class, club, sponsor and other publications and / or the class, club, sponsor or other websites.

20. Not used.

21. Not used.

22. RISK STATEMENT

22.1. 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.

22.2. By taking part in the event, each competitor (and parent/guardian for under 18's) agrees and acknowledges that:

22.2.1. 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;

22.2.2. They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their property whether afloat or ashore;

22.2.3. They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;

22.2.4. It is the responsibility of the competitors and/ or supervising adults to ensure personal hygiene standards are maintained such as showering and hand washing to limit the risk of water born illnesses such as blue green algae and Weills disease.

22.2.5. Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;

22.2.6. The provision of a race management team, patrol boats and other officials and volunteers by the event organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;

22.2.7. The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances;

22.2.8. 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 competitors briefing held for the event.

22.2.9. The organising authority will not accept any liability for loss, material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the event.

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 or the equivalent.

24. PRIZES

24.1. Prizes will be awarded as in 24.3 at prize giving located on the Bar asap after the final race of the final day.

24.2. Additional Prizes maybe awarded at the OA's discretion.

24.3.

Class	Prizes to be awarded
Fireballs	1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd

End of notice of race

Additional information.

Dogs are not allowed onsite, but may be walked in the adjacent country park

Vehicles must only be parked where instructed, usually the car parks.

Under no circumstances shall vehicles be on the slipway, foreshore or grass areas

- The Clubhouse will be open from 08:30 each day.
- Food will be available until 15:00 each day.
- The bar will be open from 12:00 to at least 18:00 each day.

If you are travelling to the club on Friday night and require access, please be aware that the site may be locked after 18:00. Please contact the club beforehand if you might require access after this time.

Visitor information can be found [HERE](#)

There is no camping on site, but campervans may be [booked online](#), parking is in the lower carpark.

Cars may only be parked in the designated car parks: the club's lower car park.

For any further information, please contact the DWSC office: office@draycotewater.co.uk