

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

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

## **SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

### **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](#).

### **2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTION**

- 2.1.** Changes to the sailing instructions will be posted at least 30 minutes before the first warning signal on the day it will take effect and shall be valid for all subsequent races in the series.
- 2.2.** Changes to the schedule of races will be posted by 20:00 on the day before it takes effect.

### **3. COMMUNICATION WITH COMPETITORS**

- 3.1.** The official notice board will be the event page [online](#).
- 3.2.** The race office will be The Waterside Reception, can also be contacted via the [online form](#).

### **4. CODE OF CONDUCT**

- 4.1.** [DP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with all reasonable requests from race officials, club volunteers, marshals and staff.
- 4.2.** [DP] All Competitors and support person must abide by Draycote water sailing club [rules and regulations](#), failing to comply may result in disqualification without a hearing. This changes RRS 63

### **5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

- 5.1.** Signals made ashore will be made on the club flag pole located on the patio.
- 5.2.** When AP is displayed ashore '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes' in race signals AP. This changes RRS Race Signals.
- 5.3.** Signals ashore made under a class flag only apply to that class.
- 5.4.** Competitors should note, signals may be flown from the flagpole in connection to club racing, these will be flown under a club flag.



## 6. SCHEDULE OF RACES

### 6.1.

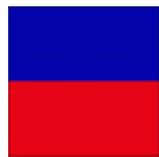
Date	Activity	Time
18th April 2026	Race 1 warning signal	12:25
	Race 2, 3	ASAP after race 1 or 2
19th April 2026	Race 4 warning signal	10:25
	Race 5, 6	ASAP after race 4 or 5

**6.2.** Three races are planned for each day but more or less may be sailed each day at the discretion of the race officer.

**6.3.** To alert boats that a race will begin shortly, the orange start line flag will be raised with one sound signal 2 minutes before the warning signal.

## 7. CLASS FLAGS

**7.1.** Fireball Class flag



## 8. RACING AREA

**8.1.** The racing area is Draycote Water.

**8.2.** Competitors should note club racing may also be taking place on the water.

## 9. COURSES

**9.1.** The diagrams in 'SI addendum 1' show the courses, including approximate angles between legs, the order in which marks to be passed and the side each mark is to be left.

**9.2.** No later than the warning signal the race committee shall display the course letter and number of laps on the back of the committee boat.

## 10. MARKS

**10.1.** All rounding marks will be orange dumpy race marks.

**10.2.** The starting mark will be a boat or danbuoy displaying an orange flag

**10.3.** The finishing mark will be a boat or danbuoy displaying a blue flag.

## 11. OBSTRUCTIONS

**11.1.** Boats shall not sail at any time within 30 metres of the shore except in an emergency or in front of the club compound



- 11.2.** Fishing boats whether engaged in fishing or not, this includes the area the line extends from or being cast in.
- 11.3.** Rescue boats or committee boats when not displaying defined start or finish signals.
- 11.4.** Other areas (inc shallows) are marked by yellow buoys and shall not be entered.

## **12.THE START**

- 12.1.** The start line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the committee vessel and the start mark.
- 12.2.** [DP] Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area.
- 12.3.** Boats failing to start with 4 minutes after her starting signal will be scored DNS without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.

## **13.CHANGES TO THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE**

- 13.1.** The position of marks may be changed by less than 50m during a race, such a change will only be made if no boat is sailing towards the mark. Flag C will not be flown to indicate this change, nor will “+” or “-“. This changes RRS 33.
- 13.2.** If a change of more than 50m in any direction is required this will be signalled in line with RRS 33.

## **14.THE FINISH**

- 14.1.** The finish line will be between the flag pole on the committee vessel and the finish mark.
- 14.2.** At the discretion of the race officer, any competitor failing to finish within a reasonable time period of the first boat finishing that race may be finished on the course by a committee boat or safety boat displaying Flag W.
- 14.3.** Any competitor so finished will score the number of points in accordance to their finishing position in that race. This changes RRS 28.1.

## **15.Not used.**

## **16.TIME LIMITS**

### **16.1.**

Mark 1-time limit	Race Target Time	Finishing Window	Max Race Time
20 minutes	45 minutes	15 minutes	60 minutes

- 16.2.** If no boat passes mark 1 within the mark 1 time limit the race will be abandoned
- 16.3.** Failure to meet the race target time will not be grounds for redress, this changes RRS 62.1(A)
- 16.4.** Boats failing to finish within the finishing window after the 1<sup>st</sup> boat to sail the course and finish or within the time limit, whichever is later will be scored “Did not finish”. This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5.

## **17. HEARING REQUESTS**

- 17.1.** The Protest time limit will be 30 minutes after the last boat in her class finishes the last race of the day or 'no more racing today' is signalled by the race committee, whichever is later.
- 17.2.** The protest time will be displayed on the official notice board (see SI 3.1).
- 17.3.** Hearing request forms are submitted [online](#) or to the race office.

**18.** Not used.

## **19. SAFETY REGULATIONS**

- 19.1.** [DP] A boat retiring from a race shall inform the race committee or safety boat before returning to shore.

## **20. REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT**

- 20.1.** [DP] Substitution of damaged or lost equipment is not allowed unless authorised by the race committee in writing. The request must be at the first reasonable opportunity, this may be after the race.

## **21. EQUIPMENT MEASURES AND CHECKS**

- 21.1.** A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with class rules, NOR or SI.
- 22.** Not used.
- 23.** Not used.

## **24. SUPPORT TEAMS**

- 24.1.** Support teams and vessels will not be allowed on the water.

## **25. TRASH DISPOSAL**

- 25.1.** Trash must not be placed on support vessels and must be carried by competitors until returning to shore.

## **26. BERTHING**

- 26.1.** [DP] Boats shall be kept in their assigned places while they are in the dinghy park for the duration of the regatta unless instructed otherwise.

**27.** Not used.

**28.** Not used.

**29.** Not used.

**30.** Not used.

## **31. INSURANCE**

- 31.1.** 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.



SI addendum 1

<b>TSX</b>	<b>COURSE: Triangle-Sausage with spreader mark and windward finish</b>
<b>Signal</b>	<b>Mark Rounding Order</b>
<b>TSX2</b>	<b>Start - 1 - 2 - 3 - 1 - 1a - 3 - Finish</b>
<b>TSX3</b>	<b>Start - 1 - 2 - 3 - 1 - 1a - 3 - 1 - 2 - 3 - Finish</b>
<b>TSX4</b>	<b>Start - 1 - 2 - 3 - 1 - 1a - 3 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 1 - 1a - 3 - Finish</b>

The diagram illustrates the Triangle-Sausage course layout. It features a start/finish line on the right side, marked with a spreader mark. The course is defined by four red circular marks: 1 (top right), 1a (top left), 2 (middle left), and 3 (bottom). Arrows indicate the direction of travel between these marks and back to the start/finish line.



<b>STX</b>	<b>COURSE: Sausage-Triangle with spreader mark and windward finish</b>
<b>Signal</b>	<b>Mark Rounding Order</b>
<b>STX2</b>	<b>Start - 1 - 1a - 3 - 1 - 2 - 3 - Finish</b>
<b>STX3</b>	<b>Start - 1 - 1a - 3 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 1 - 1a - 3 - Finish</b>
<b>STX4</b>	<b>Start - 1 - 1a - 3 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 1 - 1a - 3 - 1 - 2 - 3 - Finish</b>



<b>LR</b>	<b>COURSE: WINDWARD / LEEWARD with reaching finish</b>
Signal	Mark Rounding Order
LR2	Start - 1 - 2s/2p - 1 - 2p - Finish
LR3	Start - 1 - 2s/2p - 1 - 2s/2p - 1 - 2p - Finish
LR4	Start - 1 - 2s/2p - 1 - 2s/2p - 1 - 2s/2p - 1 - 2p - Finish

The diagram illustrates the LR course layout. It starts with a 'Start' line and ends with a 'Finish' line. The course includes mark 1 at the top, and two double roundings of marks 2s and 2p. Arrows indicate the direction of travel for each leg of the course.

<b>IX</b>	<b>COURSE: INNER TRAPEZOID with reaching finish</b>
Signal	Mark Rounding Order
IX2	Start - 1 - 4s/4p - 1 - 2 - 3p - 5 - Finish
IX3	Start - 1 - 4s/4p - 1 - 4s/4p - 1 - 2 - 3p - 5 - Finish

The diagram illustrates the IX course layout. It starts with a 'Start' line and ends with a 'Finish' line. The course includes marks 1, 2, 3s, 3p, 4s, 4p, and 5. Arrows indicate the direction of travel for each leg of the course.

End of Sailing Instructions