

Blithfield Sailing Club - Sailing Instructions

SUPERNOVA INLAND CHAMPIONSHIP 22 – 23 AUG 2026

1 Rules

- 1.1 *The series of races will be governed by the 'rules' as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) in force at the time of the race. The prescriptions of the RYA, the Notice of Race, these Sailing Instructions, the rules of Blithfield Sailing Club and the requirements of South Staffordshire Water PLC.*
- 1.2 *Blithfield Sailing Club supports the RYA Racing Charter and that when entering, competitors undertake to sail in compliance with the Charter.*

2 Notice to competitors

- 2.1 *Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located near the Race Box.*
- 2.2 *A briefing for competitors will be held near the Race Box at approximately 10:30 on 22 Aug 26.*

3 Changes to Sailing instructions (SIs)

- 3.1 *Any changes to the SIs will be posted at least 30 minutes before the warning signal of a race that it will affect. The Race Committee reserves the right to amend the racing programme subject to prevailing conditions.*

4 Signals Made

- 4.1 *Flag Signals may be displayed on either the flagstaff adjacent to the Race Box or on the Committee Boat of Blithfield Sailing Club.*
- 4.2 *Flashing Light: - If the amber flashing light on the Club House is activated, all boats and shall return to the Club House shore immediately. If a race is in progress, this light shall have the same meaning as Flags 'N' over 'H' - Race Abandoned, further signals ashore.*
- 4.3 *House Flag flying - means that boats may be launched. Boats launching when the House Flag is not flying may be scored 'Disqualified' by the Race Committee in the race sailed closest in time to the incident. This amends RRS 60.5 & Appendix A5.*

5 Schedule of Races

5.1 *The race start times are scheduled as follows with the warning signal being 5 minutes prior to the start time.*

Date	Race	Warning Signal
22 Aug	1 - Supernova Championship Fleet	Not before 11:25
	2 - Supernova Championship Fleet	
	Likely lunch break – see para 5.7	To follow Race 1/ lunch
	3 - Supernova Championship Fleet	To follow Race 2
	4 - Supernova Championship Fleet	
23 Aug	5 - Supernova Championship Fleet	Not before 09:55
	6 - Supernova Championship Fleet	To follow Race 5

5.2 *The number of races is indicative only and will depend upon weather conditions.*

5.3 *Safety cover will be in position when the Club pennant is flying from the flagstaff on the Clubhouse.*

5.4 *Boats are only allowed to launch when this flag is raised.*

5.5 *Race timing will target approximately 45-50 mins after the start for the first finisher.*

5.6 *No warning signal shall be made before 11:25 on 22 Aug.*

5.7 *The Principal Race Officer will advise, at the briefing on 22 Aug, whether races are to be sailed back-to-back and the timing of the Saturday lunch break.*

6 Class Flags

6.1 *The code flag for the Supernova start will be the Supernova class flag.*

7 The Course

7.1 *The course will be displayed on the Committee Boat no later than the warning signal. The mark numbers or letters shall be displayed in sequence, their background colour 'Red' or 'Green' indicating whether marks are to be passed to port or starboard respectively. A white number on a black background will indicate the number of laps to be sailed.*

8 The Marks

- 8.1 *Course marks – Course marks are spherical blue buoys, numbered in white. Spherical blue buoys labelled 'Y' and 'W' may be re-positioned at any time during the regatta. 'Y' will normally be in the sailing area nearest the dam. 'W' will normally be in the sailing area closest to the Causeway.*
- 8.2 *Start Line Mark - The mark used for the starting line will be 'X', a white spherical buoy with a pillar and will carry an orange flag.*
- 8.3 *Finish Line mark - The mark used for the finishing line will be 'X' (the same used for the start line) unless 10.2 applies.*
- 8.4 *An orange inflatable mark labelled '0' may be used as the windward mark on the course. The mark is to be rounded to port. An orange card with the number '0' will be displayed on the course board.*
- 8.5 *Boats may be required to sail through the starting - finishing line on the first leg of each lap, this will be displayed using a white board with the letter 'L' on it. Any boats failing to do so will not be credited with that lap. Boats may seek redress from this action.*

9 STARTING AND RECALLS

- 9.1 *Races will be started using RRS 26. When signalled by the Race Committee, the provisions of RRS 30 will apply.*
- 9.2 *If there is a General Recall, the sequence will recommence 1 minute after the General Recall flag is lowered.*
- 9.3 *The starting line is defined as the line between the mast on the Committee Boat and the designated Outer Distance (OD) mark. The OD mark will be white with a pole and orange flag. A limit mark may be laid adjacent to the Committee Boat. Limit marks are marks of the course. No boat shall pass between the limit mark and any part of the vessel it guards after the preparatory signal.*
- 9.4 *The Outer Distance mark is a white spherical buoy and will carry an orange flag.*
- 9.5 *A boat starting later than 4 minutes after her starting signal shall be scored 'Did Not Start' without a hearing. This changes RRS Appendix A, A4 & A5.*

10 The Finish

- 10.1 *Boats shall finish between a windward mark and a committee boat displaying a blue flag. The timing of this shall be approximately 45 minutes for the lead boat.*
- 10.2 *Shorten Course - the course may be shortened in accordance with RRS 32.2. This may take place at the Finish Line or at a mark of the course.*
- 10.3 *Sound Signal – Boats crossing the Finishing Line may be acknowledged with a sound signal.*

- 10.4 *Boats may be awarded a finishing position on the course. Flag W will be displayed and the boat's sail number called. This changed RRS 35. Boats finished under this rule will be given a finishing place after all boats which have finished or are ahead of her on the course at the time.*

11 Race Time Limit

- 11.1 *The time limit on each race is 30 minutes after the first boat finishes. Any boat still racing will be recorded "Did not finish". This amends RRS 35 & Appendix A.*
- 11.2 *The Race Committee may, in its absolute discretion, allocate a finishing position to any boat that appears to be unlikely to finish in the time limit, or to facilitate the management of the racing. Boats affected will be hailed. The right of a competitor to seek redress under the RRS is withdrawn under these circumstances. This amends RRS 61.*

12 Protests, Requests for Redress & Hearings

- 12.1 *Protests or Requests for Redress shall be written on forms available from the Race Office at Blithfield Sailing Club. This amends RRS 60 & 61.3.*
- 12.2 *Completed protest forms shall be lodged with the Race Officer or their representative at the race office at Blithfield Sailing Club within the protest time limit.*
- 12.3 *The protest time limit is 30 minutes after the last boat finished the race or if back-to-back, the last race of that day. Appendix T (Arbitration) will apply.*
- 12.4 *A request for reopening a hearing shall be lodged within 30 minutes of being informed of the original hearing decision. This amends RRS 63.7.*
- 12.5 *Notices of hearings and protests by the race committee or protest committee will be posted 20 minutes after expiry of the time limit.*
- 12.6 *All protest or redress hearings must include a member of the Supernova Committee or nominated representative.*

13 DECLARATIONS

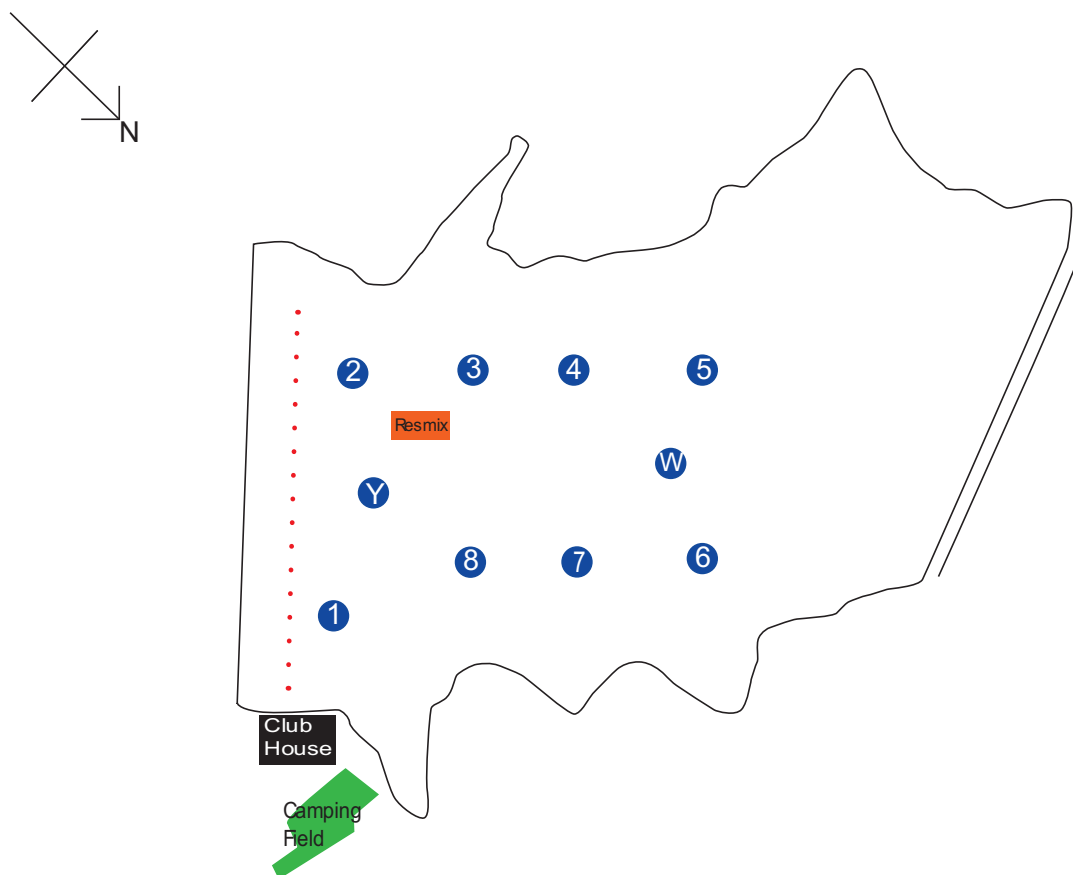
- 13.1 *When a boat has retired, a declaration shall be made within 30 minutes from the finish time of the last boat. This shall be reported to the Race Officer or Safety Crew.*
- 13.2 *Back-to-back races - If races are sailed consecutively the time limit shall be from the last race sailed before coming ashore.*
- 13.3 *A boat not reporting a declaration within the declaration time limit, shall be scored 'DNC' by the Race Committee. This amends Appendix A.*

14 SCORING

- 14.1 *The event will be scored using the Low Points System in RRS Appendix A. RRS A5.3 will apply.*

15 Appendix

15.1 Blithfield Sailing Club Marks



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Supernova Inland Championship 2026 V1

