

East Region Topper Championship Saturday & Sunday 20th & 21st June 2026.

The Organising Authority is: Grafham Water Sailing Club in conjunction with the
Topper Class Association. (ITCA)

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

1. RULES

- 1.1. The event will be governed by rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing 2025 – 2028*.
- 1.2. Competitors should note that Grafham Water Sailing Club implements the RYA Racing Charter and that they will be expected to sail in compliance with it. The Charter can be found at the front of the RYA edition of the Racing Rules of Sailing (the yellow pages after the definitions), or on the RYA website at www.rya.org.uk/racingrules.
- 1.3. If there is conflict between the NoR and SI, then the SI shall prevail. This changes RRS 63.5(c).

2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1. The Sailing Instructions will be available on the Club Web Site at:
<https://www.grafham.org/online-noticeboard.html> . By 2000 on Thursday 18th June 2026.

3. COMMUNICATION

- 3.1. The online official notice board is located at <https://www.grafham.org/online-noticeboard.html> .
- 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.
- 3.3. The competitors' briefing will take place outside the downstairs café at 1045 On Saturday 21st June.

4. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1. The event is open to all Topper class boats.
- 4.2. Entry will open on Friday 8th May 2026.
- 4.3. Entry is limited to 50 boats.
- 4.4. Eligible boats may enter the event by completing the online entry form at <https://gbrtopper.ourclubadmin.com/event.php?event=1617> by 2359 on Thursday 18th June 2026..
- 4.5. To be considered an entry in the event, a boat shall complete all registration requirements and pay all fees.
- 4.6. Any competitors aged under 18 shall complete an Under 18s Consent Form. This can be found on the entry page.

- 4.7. Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the Organising Authority and subject operational considerations. Late entry will be online only. See NoR 5.2
- 4.8. Acceptance of entries is at the absolute discretion of the Organising Authority.
- 4.9. Boats may enter using either a class Championship number or a sail number that is clearly marked on both sides of the sail.

5. FEES

- 5.1. Entry fees are as follows:
 - 5.1.1. For boats sailed by visitors:- £42
 - 5.1.2. Boats sailed by a GWSC member: - £4

6. CREW LIMITATIONS

- 6.1 As per Class rules.

7. ADVERTISING

- 7.1 Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organizing authority.

8. QUALIFYING SERIES AND FINAL SERIES – Does not apply

9. SCHEDULE

- 9.1. Registration will take place from 0900-1000 in the downstairs café on Saturday 20th June 2026.
- 9.2. There is no scheduled equipment inspection and event measurement.
- 9.3. Dates of Racing:
 - Saturday 20th June 2026: 4 back to back races are scheduled with the first warning signal not before 1157.
 - Sunday 21st June 2026: 4 back to back races are scheduled with the first warning signal not before 1027.
- 9.4. No warning signal will be made after 1430 on Sunday 21st June 2026, unless a general recall has been signalled for the race waiting to be started.
- 9.5. At the discretion of the Race Officer and the Class representative race 5 may be brought forward to Saturday to allow for any inclement weather forecasts. If so decided, this decision will be announced at the briefing and posted on the ONB.

10. EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

- 10.1. Boats shall be available for equipment inspection from at any time except when racing.
- 10.2. Boats shall comply with RRS 78.1 when presented for inspection.
- 10.3. The fact that race officials may conduct inspections of boats does not reduce the responsibilities of each competitor set out in this NoR.

11. CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT

- 11.1. RRS40.1 shall apply at all times when afloat.
- 11.2. Boats need a 3m towline fixed to the bow and stowed so that it can be easily used.

12. VENUE

- 12.1. A site plan showing camping, parking and slipways is shown in Appendix 1.

13. COURSES

- 13.1. The course to be sailed will be a trapezoid.

14. PENALTY SYSTEM

14.1 Appendix T shall apply.

15. SCORING

15.1. One race is required to be completed to constitute a series.

15.2. (a) When fewer than 4 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her races scores.

(b) When 4 or more races have been completed, a boats series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her two worst scores.

15.3 It is intended to score the 4.2 and 5.3 as separate fleets.

15.3. RRS 90.3e shall apply.

16. SUPPORT PERSON VESSELS

16.1. Support person vessels are not allowed.

17 CHARTERED OR LOAN BOATS-Does not apply.

18 BERTHING-Does not apply.

19 HAUL OUT RESTRICTIONS-Does not apply>

20 DIVING EQUIPMENT AND PLASTIC POOLS-Does not apply.

21. DATA PROTECTION

21.1. The GWSC data protection policy can be found at <https://www.grafham.org/wp-content/uploads/pdfs/Club%20Documents/Privacy-Notice.pdf>

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.'

22.2 Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:

- (a) 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;
- (b) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;
- (c) They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;
- (d) Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
- (e) The provision of a race management team, patrol boats and other officials and volunteers by the event organizer does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
- (f) The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances;

- (g) 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 safety briefing held for 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. It is intended that prizes will be given for :
- 5.3 fleet-1st, 2nd & 3rd
 - 4.2 fleet - 1st, 2nd & 3rd
- Other prizes may be awarded depending on the number of entries.

25. FURTHER INFORMATION

- 25.1 On Thursday 18TH June 2026 a final decision will be made on whether the event can proceed based on the forecast wind strength. In the event of any cancellation a notice will appear on the GWSC website by 2000 and full refunds of the entry fees will be given less any committed non recoverable costs incurred.

- 25.2 The Grafham Water Sailing Club Safeguarding policy can be found at:
<https://www.grafham.org/safeguarding-2.html>

25.3 GENERAL

25.2.1 Campers and camper vans are welcome and pre booking is available online at <https://www.grafham.org/open-meetings-entry>.

Pre-booking of camper vans is essential. There is a charge of £15 per night for Campervans, £10 per night for Camping (please note – NO caravans – our lease does not allow them, and sleeping in cars counts as a campervan).

Directions to Grafham Water Sailing Club, details of local accommodation, and other information are available on the Club website - <http://www.grafham.org> .

Entrants and authorised guests are temporary members of Grafham Water Sailing Club during the period of the event and shall comply with Club Rules and Regulations. Failure to observe these may result in exclusion from the club premises.

25.4 MOVEMENT OF BOATS TO GRAFHAM WATER

In order to prevent the spread of non-native species there is a requirement to ensure that boats are clean before they visit the site using the principle of Check Clean Dry <http://www.nonnativespecies.org/checkcleandry/index.cfm> . This includes:

CHECK your equipment and clothing for live organisms – particularly in areas that are damp or hard to inspect.

CLEAN and wash equipment, footwear and clothing thoroughly. If you do come across any organisms, leave them at the water body where you found them.

DRY all equipment and clothing – some species can live for many days in moist conditions. Make sure you don't transfer water elsewhere.

Anglian Water ask for boats and equipment, arriving at Grafham Water that are from the following locations, to have been clean and dry for at least two days prior to arrival – if not, then they must not be launched at the Club:

- Wraysbury Reservoir and Wraysbury River near to Staines
- The Queen Mother Reservoir

- Queen Elizabeth II/Bessborough Reservoirs
- Queen Mary Reservoir
- Warwick East Reservoir, Warwick West Reservoir and William Girling Reservoir all located in the Lee Valley

25.5 MOVEMENT OF BOATS FROM GRAFHAM WATER

A non-native species of fresh-water shrimp (commonly known as killer shrimps) have been found in Grafham Water and certain restrictions on boat movement have been imposed by AW, DEFRA or other bodies to prevent the spread of these to other locations in the UK. These requirements are prominently displayed on the club premises and will include washing boats and equipment before removal from the Club premises.

Failure to comply with the requirements of these restrictions may lead to expulsion from the event.

APPENDIX 1 – SITE PLAN



Grafham Water Sailing Club, Perry, Huntingdon, Cambs. PE28 0BU.
 Tel: 01480 810478 Email: office@grafham.org Website: www.grafham.org

