



British Universities and Colleges Sport Fleet Racing Championship 2026

7- 8th November 2026

Rutland Sailing Club

NOTICE OF RACE

The notation '[DP]' means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification. The notation '[NP]' means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. **This changes RRS 60.1(a).**

1. ORGANISING AUTHORITY

1.1. The Organising Authority (OA) is the British Universities Sailing Association (BUSA), in conjunction with Loughborough Students Sailing and Windsurfing Club (LSSWC). The event is hosted on behalf of the British Universities & Colleges Sport (BUCS).

2. RULES

2.1. The event will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).

2.2. Competitors shall sail in accordance with the RYA Racing Charter.

2.3. [DP] Local Byelaws will apply.

2.4. The Post-Race Penalty, Advisory Meeting, and RYA Arbitration of the RYA Rules Disputes procedures will apply. The outcome of an RYA Arbitration can be referred to a protest committee, but an arbitration cannot be reopened or appealed.

2.5. [DP] RRS 40.1 applies at all times whilst afloat. Wetsuits and drysuits are not personal floatation devices.

3. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

3.1. The Sailing Instructions will be available on the Official Notice Board on the BUSA website.

3.2. Individual copies will not be distributed at the event, to save paper. Please print your own if required or view electronically.

3.3. The Sailing Instructions will be available no later than Friday 30th October 2026.

4. COMMUNICATION

4.1. All documents governing this event will be available from the Official Notice Board (ONB) hosted on the BUSA website.

4.2. Communication to competitors during the event will be made via the ONB and the BUSA Fleet Racing Whatsapp Group Chat.

4.3. [DP] While racing, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

5. ELIGIBILITY & ENTRY

5.1. The event is open to all competitors who meet the [BUCS General Regulations](#).

5.2. All competitors must be from an institution which is a current member of the British Universities Sailing Association, or be an individual member of the British Universities Sailing Association and be in good standing.

5.3. The helm and crew of a boat must be from the same institution.

5.4. All competitors shall enter through [BUCS Play](#). This includes any reserves who may be used.

5.5. Help on how to enter through BUCS Play can be found [here](#).

5.6. **Entries will open on BUCS Play on Tuesday 8th September 2026.**

5.7. Entry deadlines for Institution Administrators (IAs) and students are as follows:

Individual Entry Deadline - 23:59 on Tuesday 27th October 2026.

For all students, including competitors and reserves, to enter event categories.

For double handed boats, BOTH individuals must enter the event on BUCS Play and when prompted in the entry form, please name who your helm/crew is.

Institution Administrator Deadline - 23:59 on Thursday 29th October 2026.

For IAs to approve and rank individual entries.

For double handed boats, IAs must rank the individuals in the boats accordingly, i.e. if two double handed boats are being entered, the first pair of competitors in 1 boat should be ranked as 1, 1 and the second as 2, 2.

No entries will be accepted after 23:59 on Thursday 29th October 2026.

5.8. After the entry deadline, and in the event of an institution wishing to change the crew selected to race in a particular boat, it must apply to the Organising Authority for permission to do so through emailing secretary@busa.co.uk. The Organising Authority may only give permission where the replacement crew has entered the event on BUCS Play as per the process above.

5.9. The event is open to boats of the following classes:

a) **Firefly**

b) **ILCA Handicap** (Inc. ILCA 4, 6, 7)

c) **Slow Handicap and Fast Handicap** Fleets – dinghies with Portsmouth Yardstick Numbers between 700 and 1460. The split between the Fast and Slow Handicap fleets will be decided after entries have closed. The decision of the Race Committee as to which division a boat shall compete in shall not be grounds for redress. **This changes RRS 62.1(a)**. Boats with a handicap outside of this range or without a published Portsmouth Yardstick Number may be accepted at the discretion of the OA. *(NB. on BUCS Play entries will be split into single and double handers. This is due to the admin of the online entry system and not how the fleets are split for the event.)*

5.10. Any class which receives less than 8 entries may be cancelled or merged with another class at the discretion of the Race Committee, for the purpose of starting.

5.11. All competitors must produce their University Registration/ Matriculation Card when registering at the event.

5.12. After entry, competitors who wish to request accommodation with Loughborough University students should fill out this Google form (<https://forms.gle/q2DH9eNLXSTVfpSd8>). **NB. applications for accommodation submitted after 23:59 on Friday 30th October 2026 will not be considered.** Accommodation will be confirmed as soon as possible after this date. Please note that accommodation can not be guaranteed and is subject to availability.

5.13. Entries are limited to 150 boats and will be allocated on a first come first serve basis, after which a waiting list will apply.

5.14 To be considered for entry into the event, a boat shall have completed all required entry documentation, met all entry requirements, and have paid the fees in full. Entries will only be accepted from Institutions who are in good standing with BUSA.

5.15. Competitors under 18 years of age shall submit signed Parent/Guardian Declarations before racing.

5.16. All boats shall display their sail number clearly and such number shall not duplicate another boat's sail number. No changes of sail number will be permitted except with the prior written permission of the Race Committee.

6. FEES

6.1. The entry fee will be **£85** per single handed boat and **£115** per double handed boat.

6.2. If the event is cancelled by the OA a refund less any costs incurred will be issued.

7. SCHEDULE

7.1. The table below gives the key timings and schedule, a full schedule will appear in the Sailing Instructions and Event Guide. This is subjective to change. Any change will be communicated on the ONB by 19:00 the day before it applies.

7.2. The number of races scheduled is 7. Races will be sailed back to back.

7.3. The following is an indicative schedule:

Day	Event	Time
Friday 6th November 2026	RSC will be open to drop off boats with RSC members present Please note, NO BOATS are to be stored overnight in Loughborough, unless organised separately with your host.	TBC in Event Guide
	Registration Opens The Blacksmiths, 47 Ward's End, Loughborough LE11 3HB Parking nearby at Loughborough Leisure Centre · Browns Ln, Loughborough LE11 3HE	18:00
	Registration Closes	21:00
Saturday 7th November 2026	Registration Opens [@RSC - in the clubhouse]	08:30
	Registration Closes	09:15
	Competitors Briefing [@RSC - in the clubhouse]	09:30

Day	Event	Time
	1st Warning Signal Not Before	10:55
	Number of Scheduled Races	4 (Maximum of 5)
Sunday 8th November 2026	Competitor Briefing [@RSC - in the clubhouse]	09:15
	1st Warning Signal Not Before	10:25
	Number of Scheduled Races	3 (Maximum of 4)
	No Warning Signal After	15:00

Prize giving ASAP after racing on Sunday.

8. ADVERTISING

8.1. In accordance with the World Sailing Advertising Code, all advertising on supplied equipment will be made available to the Organising Authority

8.2. [DP] Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the Organising Authority.

9. EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

9.1. Boats may be inspected at any time for compliance with class rules.

10. CLOTHING & EQUIPMENT

10.1. [DP] All competitors will be required to wear wetsuits or drysuits, unless otherwise stated RSC on the day, at the Club's discretion.

11. VENUE

11.1. The venue is Rutland Sailing Club, Gibbet Ln, Oakham, LE15 8HJ..

11.2. The racing area will be in Rutland Reservoir.

11.3. Venue information is available at Rutland Sailing Club website.

11.4. Overnight boat storage will be available from Friday 6th November at Rutland Sailing Club. Extra information regarding location of where to leave boats will be detailed in the Event Guide. **NB. NO BOATS are to be stored overnight in Loughborough, unless organised separately with your host.**

11.5 If you want to store your boat outside of event dates, there is a charge of £15 per week to do so. Please reach out to LSSWC (lboro.sswc@gmail.com) if you wish to do so.

12. CHARTER BOATS

12.1 Firefly Class Charter Boats can be available for hire from LSSWC and RSC, by application through the Google form here (<https://forms.gle/LGMkc8eEYGhaXd5k7>). This form will work on a first come, first serve policy, but please note that availability is limited. **NB. applications for charter boats submitted after 23:59 on Friday 23rd October 2026 will not be considered.**

12.2 There will be an additional cost for hiring charter boats. Using the Google form, LSSWC will contact you to confirm the cost and relevant booking process.

13. COURSES

13.1. The courses to be sailed will be described in the Sailing Instructions.

14. PENALTY SYSTEM

14.1. The post-race penalty and RYA arbitration of the RYA Rules Disputes Procedures will be available. The post-race penalty will be 30%.

15. SCORING

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

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

15.3. When four or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

16. SUPPORT VESSELS

16.1. [DP] Support vessels are not permitted.

17. PRIVACY STATEMENT

17.1. The personal information you provide to the organising authority will be used to facilitate your participation in the event. If you have agreed to be bound by the Racing Rules of Sailing and the other rules that govern the event (the rules), the legal basis for processing that personal information is contract. If you are not bound by the rules, the legal basis for processing that personal information is legitimate interest. Your personal information will be stored and used in accordance with the organising authority's privacy policy. When required by the rules, personal information may be shared with the RYA, your national authority and/or World Sailing. The results of the event and the outcome of any hearing or appeal may be published.

18. MEDIA, IMAGES AND SOUND [DP]

18.1. When required supplied media personnel, equipment or dummies shall be carried on board while racing.

18.2. Any member of a Crew;

a) May be required to wear provided media devices that may record, transmit or provide two way communication.

b) Will make themselves available for interviews when requested by the Organizing Authority or Event Director.

18.3. Competitors shall not interfere with the normal working of supplied media equipment.

18.4. Competitors automatically grant the OA, host venue and their sponsors without payment the right in perpetuity to make, use and show any motion pictures, still pictures and live, taped or filmed television of and/or relating to the event.

19. RISK STATEMENT

19.1. RRS 3 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone". Sailing by its nature is an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk.

19.2. 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 organiser 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 or information produced for the venue or event and to attend any safety briefing held for the event

19.3. The Organising Authority will make every reasonable effort to ensure that this event is run in a safe environment. It is the responsibility of all participants to consider any known medical conditions or disabilities before entering or competing in this event. If you know or are aware of a medical condition that might interfere with you exercising or participating safely, please consult a medical professional before participating. All participants assume full responsibility for any, and all, injuries, losses and damages that are incurred while participating in this event.

20. INSURANCE

20.1. [DP] Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £3 million per incident or the equivalent.

21. PRIZES

21.1. BUCS Points and Medals will be awarded in accordance with [BUCS Sailing Regulations](#), [BUCS Appendix 1](#) and [BUCS Regulation 6](#). In relation to 5.10, if a class has less than 8 entries and is merged with another class, individual BUCS Points and Medals will still be awarded for the former class as if it had not been merged with another class.

21.2. Firefly Class Prize (Awarded by the National Firefly Association): Two Firefly Nationals Golden tickets; one to the highest-placed male helm and one to the highest-placed female helm, both of whom have never previously competed at a Firefly National Championships. Full details of the prizes can be found [here](#).

Further Information

Parking arrangements and dinghy park allocations will be released closer to the competition date, within the Event Guide, no later than the 31st October 2026, alongside the Sailing Instructions. Social event information will also be released around that time.

Main Event Contacts:

Rose Ling (BUSA Fleet Racing Officer)

fleet-racing@busa.co.uk

07576 584780

Lucy Cox (LSSWC's Fleet Racing Event Director)

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07808 028816

END OF NOTICE OF RACE