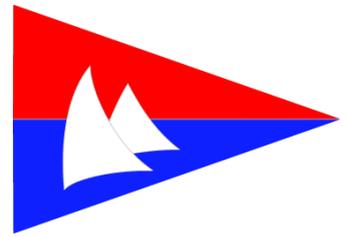


Notice of Race

BSDRA Thames Valley Championship 2026

25 April 2026

Datchet Water Sailing Club, Slough



The Organising Authority is **RGS Guildford** and **Eton Collage** in conjunction with Datchet Water Sailing Club on behalf of the British Schools Dinghy Racing Association.

1. Introduction

- 1.1. The BSDRA Thames Valley Championship will take place on Saturday 25 April at Datchet Water SC: Queen Mother Reservoir, Horton Rd, Horton, Slough, SL3 9NT.
- 1.2. The event will consist of a firefly division and is for three boat teams, and will be sailed in Firefly type dinghies by sailors who are in full time secondary education. The boats will be supplied by the organising authority. Each boat shall be sailed by two people.

2. Rules

- 2.1. The Event will be governed by the Rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)* including *Appendix D*, and local byelaws.
- 2.2. The Sailing Instructions will be based on the standard UKTRA Sailing Instructions. These change some Rules in the RRS and will be available before registration.
- 2.3. Races will be umpired.
- 2.4. The right of appeal is denied in accordance with RRS 70.3(b)
- 2.5. RRS 40.1 (Personal Floatation Devices) applies at all times while afloat or on the club pontoons.
- 2.6. The notation [NP] in a rule in this NoR or the Sailing Instructions denotes a rule that shall not be grounds for protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1.
- 2.7. The notation '[DP]' in a rule means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.

3. Entry Requirements [NP]

- 3.1. The entering organisation shall be a current member of the BSDRA. Memberships status is available using the BSDRA WebCollect Portal at <https://webcollect.org.uk/bsdra>.
- 3.2. The competitors in a team shall be bona-fide members of the Organisation they represent and should not change during the event.
- 3.3. Where more than one team is entered by an Organisation, each team shall be identified by an appropriate suffix (ideally colour) but shall not be identified by numbers or letters.
- 3.4. All organisations must be accompanied by a designated adult chaperone.
- 3.5. All organisations are required to make at least one person available who can assist the OA with conducting the regatta, either on or off the water. Organisations that have three or more entered teams are required to make at least two people available.

4. Invitations and Entries

- 4.1. Entry to the Event will be by invitation only. A request for invitation can be made by completion of the form available at: [BSDRA Thames Valley \(25 April, 2026\) - Request for Invitation Form – Fill in form](#)
- 4.2. Deadline for entry requests is **0900 Friday 20 March 2026**
- 4.3. From the requests for invitations received, an initial round of up to 20 invitations will be issued based on the following criteria.
 - a) Teams representing organisations from the OA and based at Datchet Water SC.
 - b) Teams representing organisations based in the Thames Valley Region of the BSDRA

- c) In order above, each organisation will be invited to make one entry per division before it is invited to make a second entry to that division.
- d) Teams representing any other organisation.
- e) and in all other respects, based on the date and time of receipt of the request for invitation.

4.4. Requests for Invitation which did not receive an initial invitation will be placed, in order, on a waiting list using the criteria above.

4.5. An Organisation shall confirm their team(s) entry by accepting their invitation(s) by the closing date as stated on the invitation (27 March 2026) . Invitations not accepted by this time will be assumed to have been declined and the invitation will be allocated to the next team on the waiting list.

4.6. Decisions of the Organising Authority about entry or eligibility shall not be cause for redress. This amends RRS 76.3.

4.7. By accepting an invitation, the organisation and any team(s) representing it, agree to the damage process as detailed in Attachment X to this NoR.

5. Entry Fees

5.1. The entry fee per team is £252 (VAT inclusive – this will be outlined on the invoices so VAT be claimed back where appropriate)

5.2. The Entry Fee will be invoiced for by the Organising Authority and unless expressly agreed by the Organising Authority must be paid no later than one week before the start of the event.

5.3. The Entry fee will be forfeit if a team is withdrawn within three weeks before the start of the event.

6. Event Schedule

6.1. Registration will be in the Clubhouse from 0830.

6.2. The competitors briefing will be at 0910 by the race office marquee, next to the clubhouse.

6.3. The first warning signal will not be before 0927.

6.4. There will be no warning signal, for any stage other than Knockouts after 1615.

7. Clothing

7.1. All competitors will be required to wear wet suits or dry suits, unless indicated by the race committee on each racing day [DP].

8. Prizes

8.1. The Championship Cup will be awarded to the overall winner of the event.

8.2. Additional Prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the Organising Authority.

9. Data Protection, Rights to use Name and Likeness

9.1. The personal information you provide to the Organising Authority will be used to facilitate your participation in the event and may be shared with third party organisations; a list of whom may be obtained by contacting the Organising Authority. 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.

9.2. By participating in this event competitors automatically grant to the Organising Authority the right in perpetuity to make use and show at their discretion any photography, audio and video recordings and other reproductions of them made at the venue or on the water from the time of their arrival at the venue until their final departure, without compensation.

10. Risk Statement

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.

10.1. 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) the provision of a race management team, patrol boats, umpires and other officials and volunteers by the OA does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
- e) the provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances.
- f) it is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks specific to the host venue or the 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.
- g) it is their responsibility to ensure that they are familiar with the type of boat used, and the supplied equipment and are suitably experienced with its operation.
- h) it is their responsibility for ensuring all supplied equipment is carried on board.
- i) they are fit to sail and that they believe the crew and the boat and crew is capable of competing in the anticipated conditions.

11. Cancellation

11.1. The Organising Authority reserves the right to cancel the event. The entry fee and any deposits will be refunded less any unavoidable costs.

Attachment X –Damage

It is expected that all competitors show due care and attention to the boats that are provided for their use during the Event. Damage to boats causes conflict, delay and impacts everyone involved at the event. This attachment intends to help minimise damage; ultimately providing more racing at less cost for everyone.

In the unfortunate case of damage occurring, this attachment provides guidance to competitors and officials on how damage may be assessed, penalised and costs allocated as equitably as possible.

X1. DAMAGE AGREEMENT

X1.1 By entering the event, the team expressly agrees to follow and comply with this system without delay or dispute. A failure to comply with an instruction or invoice issued may result in disqualification from the event without a hearing.

X1.2 Each team is liable for up to <<<£600>>> of damage associated costs per incident (this includes boats, equipment and property).

X1.3 Any decision on the allocation and quantum of any damage associated costs is solely for the Organising Authority to determine. Subject to RRS 61, the decision of the Organising Authority is final and teams agree to accept it without dispute.

X2. DAMAGE ASSESSMENT

X2.1 An initial assessment of damage will be made as soon as possible following an incident.

X2.2 Onward assessment of the damage after further inspection will have no effect on a penalty given in accordance with RRS 14 but may affect any damage associated costs.

X3. DAMAGE ASSOCIATED COSTS

X3.1 The Race Committee may require a team to make an intermediate payment, to the amount defined in this attachment; against allocated damage costs before the team may sail another event boat.

X3.2 If a team is allocated damage associated costs, and these are not paid at the event, the Organising Authority will issue an invoice to the team. Invoices must be paid (without set off or deduction) within 14 days unless an extension is agreed with the Organising Authority.

X3.3 Failure to comply with a damage invoice within 14 days (or any extension period) is a breach of this agreement and the Organising Authority may:

- (a) disqualify the team without a hearing,
- (b) reject any future entries from the team's organisation,
- (c) Suspend the BSDRA membership rights of the team's organisation.

X3.4 The Organising Authority may amend or cancel a damage notice at any time and may reinstate a team disqualified.