



2026 GREAT SCOT REGATTA

BIRMINGHAM SAILING CLUB

October 24-25, 2026

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES:

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the Flying Scot Class Rules, the Notice of Race (NOR) and these Sailing Instructions (SI). In the event of a conflict between the NOR and the SI, the SI shall prevail.
- 1.2 A boat may take a One-Turn penalty when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 or Rule 31 in an incident while racing. However, when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 while in the Zone around a mark other than a starting mark, her penalty shall be a Two-Turns penalty. This changes RRS rule 44.1 **See 13. Penalties below.**
- 1.3 RRS Appendix T ("Arbitration") shall be in effect.

2. ENTRY and ELIGIBILITY:

- 2.1 Eligible boats may enter by completing online registration by 11:00 AM, Saturday, October 25 with Birmingham Sailing Club. At Registration each Skipper shall indicate whether they are to sail and be scored in the Championship or Challenger Division.
- 2.2 We are using the following rules from the FSSA for sanctioned regattas:
Crew. The same crew (number and persons) shall be carried throughout all races of the event. Each competing boat shall be manned by at least 2 persons.
- 2.3 Challenger skippers will be provided a colored pennant which must be attached to the leech of their mainsail approximately 2 feet above the clew. **See 14. Scoring**

3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS:

- 3.1 A Competitor's Meeting will be held at 11:30 AM, Saturday, October 24 on the patio of the Clubhouse.
Notices will be posted on the official regatta notice board located in the Clubhouse.
- 3.2 Changes to the Sailing Instructions shall be posted and signaled no later than one hour before the first race of the day, except any change in the schedule of races shall be posted either at the end of the Competitor's Meeting or by 6:30 PM on the day before it will take effect.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE:

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flagpole in front of the Clubhouse.
- 4.2 When Code Flag "AP" flag is displayed ashore, "1 minute" is replaced with "not less than 30 minutes".



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4.3 A sound signal made when the Race Committee returns to shore at the end of that day's racing means the beginning of a one hour time limit to file protests has begun.

5. SCHEDULE OF RACE ACTIVITIES:

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24

0900 Check in Opens
1100 Check in Closes
1130 Competitor's Meeting (BSC Patio)
1300 First Warning Signal Race 1

Subsequent races will follow Race 1, No Race Started after 16:30

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

0930 Warning Signal
1200 Latest time to start a race

For subsequent races to be held on the same day, the Warning signal for each succeeding Race will be made as soon as possible after completion of the previous race.

To alert boats that another race is about to start, a series of short sounds may be made by the Race Committee Signal Boat approximately 1 minute before the Warning signal is made.

A series of five total races is planned, however 1 completed race shall constitute a regatta.

6. COURSES and MARKS:

6.1 The Race Committee Signal Boat will display letters designating the marks of the course in the order to be rounded, including the Finishing Mark, but not the Starting Mark.

6.2 "A" shall represent the Windward mark, "B" shall represent an Offset mark, "C" shall represent the Leeward mark, and "X" shall indicate a Downwind Finishing Mark that is other than a 'rounding mark' of the course. **See 16. Course Examples.**

6.3 Marks will be described at the Competitor's Meeting.

6.4 The Starting Line is not an obstruction; there is no closed gate.

6.5 Courses to be sailed by the two fleets may be different.

7. CHECKING IN PRIOR TO START:

7.1 Before the Warning Signal for the FIRST START of each day of racing, each boat is required to sail past the stern of the Committee Boat on starboard tack and verbally check in.



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8. THE START:

- 8.1 Races will be started in accordance with RRS 26.
- 8.2 The Starting Line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the committee boat and an adjacent **port** end pin with orange pennant.
- 8.3 The Starting Sequence for the Championship Fleet will be signaled with class flag, a flag with Flying Scot class logo. The Starting Sequence for the Challenger Fleet will be signaled with a yellow flag.

9. RECALLS:

- 9.1 Individual Recalls will be signaled in accordance with RRS 29.1. The Race Committee will attempt to hail the sail number(s) of boat(s) determined to be OCS at the start.
- 9.2 VHF Marine Radios are allowed and may be used to notify boats determined to be OCS.
- 9.3 A committee support boat may be used to pass along OCS notification but will not identify premature starters without concurrence from the PRO and as signaled from the Race Committee Signal Boat.

10. THE FINISH:

- 10.1 The Finishing Line will be between a blue RC flag on a committee boat and a nearby mark.
- 10.2 If "X" mark is displayed as the finishing mark for a downwind finish, it shall be set to **Starboard** of the committee boat and left to **Port**.

11. TIME LIMIT:

- 11.1 The time limit will be 90 minutes for the first boat to finish.
- 11.2 Boats still racing 30 minutes after the first boat 'Finishes' will be scored TLE (Time Limit Expired) and receive a score equal to the number of boats that have Finished within the time limit Plus 2 Points not to exceed the number of boats Starting that race.
- 11.3 Expiration of the Time Limit shall be signaled with one long sound signal and display of Code Flag "L" if there are Finishers and with Code Flag "N" (Abandonment) if there are none.



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12. PROTESTS:

- 12.1 PROTEST FLAGS are Not required, but a valid protest must be accompanied by a hail of "Protest", in conformance with RRS 61, to the infringing boat at the time of the incident without unnecessary delay.
- 12.2 Protests shall be submitted in writing on forms available at the clubhouse and submitted to the Race Committee within one hour of the Committee Boat docking.

13. PENALTIES:

- 13.1 Any competitor using penalty turns shall report that use to the Race committee promptly upon finishing that race.
- 13.2 The first two sentences of Rule 44.1 are changed to "A boat may take a One-Turn Penalty when she may have broken a rule of Part 2 or Rule 31 while racing. However, when she may have broken a rule of Part 2 while in the Zone around a mark, other than a starting mark, her penalty shall be a Two-Turns Penalty".
- 13.3 After a race, a boat that may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 or Rule 31 in an incident while racing may take a Post-Race Penalty for that incident. A boat takes the penalty by informing the Race Committee that she is accepting a 30% Scoring Penalty and identifying the race number. Such Penalty shall not be afforded after a protest hearing involving the incident has begun.

14. SCORING:

- 14.1 The Regatta shall be scored using US Sailing Low Point Scoring System.
- 14.1.1 Championship and Challenger Fleets will Start and be scored as separate fleets.
- 14.2 One race will constitute the regatta should additional races not be completed.
- 14.3 No Throw-out Score will be allowed.

15. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY:

- 15.1 Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS Rule 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage, personal injury, or death sustained in conjunction with, prior to, during, or after the regatta.

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16. Course Examples: (alternate courses may be ABCABCX or ABCABX at the discretion of the PRO.)

