



## Organising Authority

# SOLING NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 2023 FORT WILLIAM



## SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The organising authority is the Lochaber Yacht Club and Soling Class Association.

### 1 RULES

This regatta will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 2020-2024. This regatta is designated Category C.

Rule G1.3 – Identification on sails – does not apply to this regatta.

### 2 ENTRIES

#### 2.1 Declarations

2.1.1 **Signing on** Competitors must enter by completing the appropriate entry form.

2.1.2 **Signing off** Signing off will only be necessary if you have retired either during the race or after finishing. A sheet for retirements will be on the Official Notice Board and must be signed within 45 minutes of the last boat finishing in each race or within 45 minutes of the last boat finishing the last race if back-to-back races have been sailed.

#### 2.2 Eligibility

2.2.1 The designated helm shall be a member of the British Soling Association.

2.2.2 **Insurance** - Boats must be insured against Third Party Liability with cover for racing for a minimum of £2,000,000.

2.2.3 **Buoyancy** - Personal Buoyancy or **automatically inflating lifejackets** shall be worn by all competitors while afloat. This changes RRS 40.

2.2.4 **Measurement** There will be no formal measurement checks, but random checks may be carried out at the discretion of the Race Committee.

2.2.5 **Equipment** Boats must carry the equipment specified in the Class Rules - ie at least one paddle, one anchor minimum weight 6kg with at least 30m of warp, one hand-pump and three bailers of at least 4 litres capacity.

#### 2.3 Conditions of entry

The safety of a boat and her entire management, including insurance, shall be the sole responsibility of the owner/person in charge who must ensure that the boat and crew are adequate to face the conditions that may arise in the course of the race. Neither these Sailing Instructions nor any inspection of the boat, limits or reduces the absolute responsibility of the owner/person in charge for the crew, the boat and her management. The race organisers shall not be responsible for any loss, damage, death or personal injury howsoever caused to the owner/person in charge or crew, as a result of their taking part in the race or races. Moreover, every owner/person in charge warrants the suitability of the boat for the race or races.

Bulkhead hatches must be properly fastened to the hull before racing.

### **3 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS**

Notice to Competitors will be posted on a Notice Board in the clubhouse.

### **4 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

Any changes to these Sailing Instructions will be posted on the Official Notice Board at least one hour before the advertised start time of the race or races concerned. A Change to the Sailing Instructions will be indicated by displaying Code flag L on the clubhouse flag pole.

### **5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the Flag Pole from the clubhouse race office

5.2 Flag AP with 2 sound signals (1 sound signal when lowered) means “the race is postponed”. The warning signal will be made not less than 30 minutes after AP is lowered. This alters the Race Signals within the RRS.

### **6 SCHEDULE OF RACES - is as follows: Saturday 9 September 2023**

Briefing 09.30

Race 1 10.30

Race 2 As soon as possible after Race 1 Ashore for lunch

Race 3 14.30

Race 4 As soon as possible after Race 3

Race 5 As soon as possible after Race 4

### **Sunday 10 September 2023**

Race 6 0900

Race 7 As soon as possible after Race 6

Race 8 as soon as possible after race 7

The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race each day is Saturday 10.25

Sunday 08.55

When Back-to-Back races are to be sailed Flag W will be flown to indicate that competitors are requested to stay out on the water.

### **7 CLASS FLAGS**

The Soling Class Flag will be Omega.

### **8 RACING AREA**

The racing area will be indicated on the chart on the Official Notice Board.

### **9 THE COURSE**

See Appendix. The course type will be shown on a board, with the number of laps, on the committee boat.

## **10 COURSE MARKS**

The course marks will be described at the briefing  
The start and finish line marks will be as described below.

## **11 THE START**

11.1 Races will be started by using **Rule 26**.

11.2 **Starting line:** The starting line will be between a staff displaying an ORANGE flag on the Committee Boat at the Starboard end of the line and an outer distance yellow mark at the Port end of the line.

11.3 A boat shall not start later than 10 minutes after her starting signal.

## **12 THE FINISH**

The finish line will be between a staff displaying an BLUE finishing flag on the Committee Boat and a yellow mark OR a rounding mark of the Course

**13 SCORING** - Appendices, Section I - Appendix "A" Low Point system will apply.

13.1 The number of races scheduled is 8.

2 races are required to be completed to constitute a series.

13.2 When less than 5 races have been completed, a boat's score will be the total of her race scores.

13.3 Series Ties - Ties will be broken in accordance with A8.1 & A8.2.

## **14 TIME LIMITS**

14.1 The limit for each Race will be 2 hours.

14.2 Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat, will be scored Did Not Finish.

*This changes RRS 35.*

## **15 PROTESTS**

15.1 Protests shall be written on forms available from the Office and delivered within 1 hour after the time of the last boat finishing that race, or races if Back to Back racing has taken place.

15.2 The same protest time limit applies to all protests by the race committee and to requests for redress. *This changes RRS 61.3 & 62.2.*

## **16 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT**

Substitution of competitors will not be allowed without the prior written approval of the race committee. Forms for this purpose are available in the race office. NB changes in crew will

only be allowed if a valid reason is given. Change in weather conditions will not be deemed a valid reason.

A change in crew may be permitted but only if all crew members for each boat are specified for each day on the entry form stating the specific days each crew member will take part and providing that form reaches the LYC Office no later than 17.00hr on Friday 8 September 2023. It is up to the skipper of such crews to make sure the form has been received by the LYC office on time.

## **17 RADIO COMMUNICATION**

A boat shall neither make radio transmissions whilst racing, nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction applies to mobile telephones. All communication will be on Channel 37 (M)

## **18 PRIZES**

Prizes will be awarded to at least the top 3 finishers, dependant on entries. The Winner will receive the BSA Soling trophy to hold for one year. Other prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the British Soling Association.

## **19 LOCAL VARIATIONS**

### **19.1 Hazards**

Please note that the local cruise boat will be making regular trips on the loch and has been requested to give the Soling sailors a clear berth.

There might be cargo vessels in transit to Corpach Harbour. These vessels have Right of Way on Loch Linnhe.

## **20 COMMITTEE BOAT RADIO COMMUNICATION**

Race Committee Boat may transmit on VHF Channel 37 or one identified on the notice board with the call sign "Race Committee Boat". Yachts should communicate with "The Race Committee Boat" on Channel 37 (or other designated) to signal retirement or in an Emergency.