

Sailing Instructions

International One Metre World Championships Datchet Water, Colnbrook, Slough UK 15th to 23rd May 2026

ORGANISING AUTHORITY

The organising authority is the Model Yachting Association (MYA) (in conjunction with Datchet Radio Sailing (DRS)), the International One Metre International Class Association (IOMICA) and the International Radio Sailing Association (IRSA)

1 RULES

1.1 The event shall be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028(RRS). RRS Appendix E will apply.

1.2 The following documents shall also govern the event:

- 2026 IOM Worlds Notice of Race (NoR), (including any addendums).
- The International One Metre Class Rules 2026
- IOMICA Championship Regulations 2024
- Equipment Rules of Sailing
- DR21-02 Test Rule for Umpired Radio Sailing (URS)
- MYA Heat Management System (HMS) – 2022
- World Sailing Call Book for Radio Sailing
- IRSA Race Management Policies
- Accelerated Protest Procedure (APP)

1.3 Chartered or loaned boats may carry the national letters denoting the national authority and/or the sail number of the person or organisation providing the boat. This changes RRS G1.1(b) as modified by RRS E8.

1.4 RRS47, Trash Disposal is changed to read “Competitors and support persons shall not intentionally dispose of trash except in the bins and waste bags provided”

1.5 The RYA National Prescriptions that apply are set out in Appendix A

Note: RYA Prescriptions State:

88.2 Changes to National Authority Prescriptions

Notices of race and sailing instructions shall not change a prescription of the RYA. However, when an international jury has been appointed for an event, only the prescriptions to rules 4, 6, 65.1, 86.3 and 88.2 shall apply.

1.6 Other rule changes are stated within the instruction that changes the rule.

2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

2.1 Notices to competitors shall be posted on the Official Notice Board situated near the Race Office.

3 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

3.1 The International Jury and the IOMICA event delegate shall approve changes to the Sailing Instructions

3.2 Any change to the Sailing Instructions shall be posted on the Official Notice Board and shall take effect from the first heat of a new race. However, changes resulting from a decision taken under Sailing Instruction 4.8, or changes to the Control Area, Launching Area, Marshalling Area and Practice Area shall take effect from the next heat. When a notice is posted, the Race Committee shall make two sound signals followed by a hail announcing that a change has been posted.

3.3 Any change to the scheduled first warning signal of the day shall be posted by 19:00 or earlier on the day before it shall take effect.

4 SCHEDULE OF RACES

4.1 Schedule – Note all times are British Summer Time (BST), which is GMT/UTC +1

Day/Date	Time	Activity
Friday 15 th May	10:00 – 13:00	Equipment Inspection & Registration
	14:00 – 17:00	
Saturday 16 th May	09:30 – 13:00	Equipment Inspection & Registration
	14:00 – 17:30	
	17:30 – 18:30	Competitor Briefing ¹
	19:00 – 22:00	Opening Ceremony & Welcome Dinner
Sunday 17 th May	1000 – 18:00	Warning Signals or varied at the RC discretion
Monday 18 th May	0930 – 18:00	Warning Signals or varied at the RC discretion
Tuesday 19 th May	0930 – 18:00	Warning Signals or varied at the RC discretion
Wednesday 20 th May	All day	Reserve day or varied at the RC discretion
Thursday 21 st May	0930 – 18:00	Warning Signals or varied at the RC discretion
Friday 22 nd May	0930 – 18:00	Warning Signals or varied at the RC discretion
Saturday 23 rd May	0930 – 16:30	Warning Signals
	19:00	Closing Ceremony and Presentation Dinner

4.2 On 17th to 19th and 21st to 23rd May, the first warning signal of a heat will not be made after 18:00. The Race Committee may inform competitors of their intention to continue racing after 18:00 by posting a Notice to Competitors on the official notice board no later than 17:00.

4.3 On 23rd May the first warning signal of a Race will not be made after 15:00

4.4 On 23rd May, the first warning of Heat A will not be made after 16:30.

4.5 On all Racing Days, the racing area shall be available for practice from 08:00 to 09:00. Once Racing has started, a designated practice area may be identified.

4.6 On Racing Days during the period 17th May to 22nd May, a Country Representative's meeting will be

held 30 minutes after all boats in the last race of the day have finished.

4.7 Wednesday 20th May is a reserve day. Racing may be scheduled on this day, if less than 6 races have been completed at the end of racing on Tuesday 19th May.

4.8 In the event of a prolonged postponement, a revision to the Sailing Instructions may be posted in accordance with Sailing Instruction 3.2.

5 COMPETITORS AS OBSERVERS

5.1 The race committee shall appoint competitors as observers as required for each heat.

5.2 A competitor unable to serve as an observer for a heat shall obtain prior approval from the race committee. Approval shall normally only be granted if a competitor's boat requires immediate repairs or on medical or safety grounds. Alternatively, they may notify the Race Committee the Name and Sail Number of a Substitute Observer.

5.3 [DP] An observer (or substitute) appointed for a heat who is not present in the control area from the Warning Signal until released by the race committee, or who fails to act diligently as an observer, may be penalised by the Race Committee without a hearing. The penalty shall be a Two-Turn penalty to be taken according to RRS E7(b). This changes rules RRS 63.1, RRS 64.1 and RRS A5.1.

6 RACING AREA

6.1 The Racing Area and any Practice Area(s) shall be located as shown on the Official Notice Board.

6.2 Boats may be launched and sailed at any time in the Practice Area except when a boat is being marshalled for a heat at which time the boat must remain in the Marshalling Area. Boats practicing shall remain within the practice area. The limits to the practice area shall be posted on the official notice board (see also SI's 6.3 to 6.5).

6.3 A boat not racing in the heat being sailed shall not sail within 50 metres (160 feet) of either a boat racing or any mark of the racing course.

6.4 Changes to the Practice Areas or their bounds, shall be posted on the Official Notice Board according to Sailing Instruction 3.2.

6.5 [DP] A boat infringing Sailing Instruction 6.2 or 6.3 may be penalised by the Race Committee without a hearing. The penalty shall be a Two -Turn penalty to be taken according to RRS E7(b). This changes rules RRS 63.1, RRS 64.1 and RRS A5.1.

7 CONTROL AREA AND LAUNCHING

7.1 The limits to the Control Area shall be posted on the Official Notice Board. Competitors shall not leave this area when controlling boats that are racing, except briefly to handle and then release or re-launch their boat

7.2 The Launching Area and Marshalling Area will be defined by a notice posted on the Official Notice Board.

7.3 Boats scheduled to sail in a heat shall not enter the Marshalling Area until authorized by the Race Committee. Boats shall not enter the Launching Area from the Marshalling Area until authorized by the Race Committee.

7.4 [DP] A boat infringing Sailing Instruction 7.3 may be penalised by the Race Committee without a hearing. The penalty shall be a Two-Turn penalty to be taken according to RRS E7(b). This changes RRS 63.1, RRS 64.1 and RRS A5.1.

7.5 Launching and re-launching

- a) A boat scheduled to race in a heat may be launched, held in the Launching Area, taken ashore or re-launched at any time during the heat. However, she shall not be launched for the first time during a heat after the first boat in that heat has *finished*.
- b) Boats shall be launched or recovered for racing only from the Launching Area.
- c) Boats that are disabled or in danger when outside the launching area shall only be recovered by either:
 - i) a race committee vessel and then promptly relaunched or returned to the Launching Area if permanently disabled..
 - ii) a race committee recovery person positioned on the reservoir side, who will promptly relaunch or recover to the Launching Area.
- d) Competitors shall only access the Launching Area via the slipway or steps provided. They shall not access the Launching Area or water's edge via the sloping sides of the Reservoir.
- e) While ashore or within the Launching Area, boats may be: adjusted; drained of water; repaired; have their sails/rigs changed; have entangled objects removed; or have equipment repaired or changed.

7.6 [DP] A Competitor infringing SI 7.5(d) may be penalised by the Race Committee without a hearing. The penalty shall be a Two-Turn penalty to be taken according to RRSE7(b). This changes RRS 63.1, RRS64.1 and RRSA5.1.

7.7 Changes to the Control Area, Launching Area and Marshalling Area shall be notified as required by SI 3.2

8 COURSES

8.1 The course, including a description of the marks, starting and finishing line, the order in which marks are to be rounded, and the side on which each mark is to be left, shall be displayed on the Course Board as provided in RRS E3.3 before the warning signal of each heat.

9 HEAT COMPOSITION

9.1 The heat composition shall be posted on the physical Fleet Board. Information concerning heat composition may be posted on-line. A failure to post information, or any error, shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.4(b).

9.2 Heat Composition for Race 1

- a) Boats will be ranked according to their finishing positions, if any, in the previous IOM World Championships.
- b) Boats without a finishing position in the 2024 IOM World Championships will be assigned a rank by adding their ranking relative to other boats from the same country (as advised by the National Class Association [NCA] at time of entry) to the other 76 boats in the 2024 IOM World Championships.
- c) Where more than one boat has the same ranking following the calculation at (2) above, those boats shall be ranked according to the alphabetical order of the competitor's surname.
- d) From this list of ranked boats sorted in descending order, boats will be placed into heats in the order: A, B, C, D, E, E, D, C, B, A and so on.

10 THE START

10.1 The Race Committee shall hail the heat and race number of the next heat. It is the competitor's responsibility to hear this call and for the boat to compete in her assigned heat. Failure to hear and comply with the Race Committee's hail shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.

10.2 The race committee shall inform a boat that she has broken rule 30.3 or 30.4. The boat shall then decide whether to protest and continue to race, seek redress or retire. This changes RRS E3.7; U Flag and Black Flag Rule

10.3 Following a general recall, the next warning signal shall be made as soon as possible.

10.4 The Race Committee may supplement sound signals with visual signals such as flag's and/or countdown clock displays. At all times, however, RRS E3.4 and E3.8 shall apply and the absence of a visual signal shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.4(b)(1).

10.5 A competitor who has just been promoted or who has just completed an observer duty may request time for a rig change. This request must be made at the earliest opportunity and prior to the warning signal for the next start. The Race Committee will then delay the warning signal for a period of eight(8) additional minutes.

11 TIME LIMITS

11.1 No boat shall start after the first boat in the heat has finished.

11.2 Boats starting more than one minute after the starting signal shall hail and receive acknowledgement from the Race Officer that they have started.

11.3 The time limit for the first boat to finish after having sailed the course in accordance with RRS 28 shall be 30 minutes.

12 TIME OUT LIMIT

12.1 Except as in Sailing Instruction 12.4, the Time Out Limit for racing after the first boat finishes shall be 5 minutes.

12.2 At the expiry of the Time Out Limit:

- If 6 or fewer boats are still *racing* they shall be recorded according to Sailing Instruction 12.3.
- If more than 6 boats are still *racing* the Time Out Limit shall be extended until only 6 boats remain *racing*, at which point they shall be recorded according to Sailing Instruction 12.3.

12.3 Boats failing to finish within the Time Out Limit shall be recorded as DNF, RET, OCS, DNS or DNC in that order, as appropriate. DNF boats still racing at the end of the Time Out Limit shall be recorded with finishing places according to their order on the water. These boats shall be scored according to their finishing places.

12.4 There shall be no Time Out Limit in Race 1.

13 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

13.1 Under the APP, a boat intending to protest or to request redress about an incident during a heat shall inform a member of the Umpire Team of that intention at the first opportunity and certainly no more than three minutes after the last boat in that heat finishes. This changes RRS E6.4. . Any decision or redress arising from a protest or request for redress received more than three minutes after the last boat finishes shall not change the race schedule for any subsequent heat. This changes RRS 64.1 and 64.2. No earlier than three minutes after the last boat finishes, the race committee may make the warning signal

for the next heat.

13.2 Protests and requests for redress need not be in writing. This changes RRS 61.2. The protest committee may take evidence in any way it considers appropriate and may communicate its decision orally.

13.3 Parties to a protest shall be informed orally by hailing that a protest hearing is opening. It is the responsibility of the parties to come to the hearing without delay, accompanied by any witness. No other notice of the hearing shall be given. This changes RRS 63.2.

13.4 Protests may be heard under RRS N1.4(b). The time limit for requesting a hearing by a full International Jury is 5 minutes after the parties have been informed of the panel's decision. However, after the warning signal of any heat to which a party to the hearing may be promoted, any decision or redress shall not change the race schedule for that race. This changes RRS 64.1 and 64.2

13.5 For the purposes of RRS 64.3(b) the 'authority responsible' is the IOMICA Technical Sub-Committee or its official delegate at the event.

13.6 Decisions of the International Jury shall be final as provided in rule 70.5.

14 SCORING SYSTEM

14.1 The MYA Heat Management System (HMS) 2022 shall apply and use Schedule A6 & B6.

14.2 Five races are required to be completed to constitute a Championship series.

14.3 A boat finishing in a heat to which she has not been assigned, shall be scored DNS for the heat to which she was assigned. She shall not sail in her assigned heat.

14.4 RRS 90.3(e) shall apply, except that '24 hours' is replaced by '30 minutes'.

15 REPLACEMENT OF EQUIPMENT

15.1 Substitution of damaged or lost equipment shall not be allowed unless authorized by the race committee. Requests for substitution shall be made to the committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

15.2 Replacement Batteries may only be used if they have been passed and stamped for use by an Equipment Inspector.

16 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

16.1 The Race Committee shall perform the functions of the Technical Committee.

16.2 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the Class Rules and Sailing Instructions. On the water, a boat can be instructed by the Race Committee, Equipment Inspector or Measurer to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.

17 TRANSMITTERS

17.1 Unless the Race Committee prohibits their use, competitors not racing may use their transmitters at any time for the purpose of tuning or practice sailing.

18 PRIZES

18.1 Prizes shall be awarded to the first 10 positions in the final results. Other prizes will be awarded as follows:

- a) First position overall shall be awarded the IOMICA Perpetual Trophy to be held until the next IOM World Championships.
- b) Highest placed position, where not already awarded a prize under 18.1 above, in the following age categories (based upon Age as of 15th May):
 - U26 (under 26),
 - Open OP (26 - 55),
 - Master M (56 - 65),
 - Grand Master GM (66 – 70),
 - Great Grand Master GGM (71 – 75),
 - Legend L (76– 80)
 - Fantastic Legend FL (above 81).

19 LIABILITY

19.1 All those entering or taking part in this event, do so at their own risk and responsibility. (See RRS 3). The International One Metre International Class Association (IOMICA), the Model Yachting Association (MYA), Datchet Radio Sailing (DRS) and any other parties involved in the organisation of this event disclaim: “Any and every responsibility whatsoever for loss, material damage, personal injury or death, or inconvenience that might occur to persons and goods, both ashore and on the water, prior to, during or after the regatta, as a consequence of entering or participating in this event.”

20 CONDUCT

20.1 Major regattas offer significant public exposure to our sport however inappropriate competitor behaviour can reflect negatively on our sport. All participants are advised that their actions shall be under scrutiny, not only by the public, but also by the race officials. Kindly behave with dignity and respect.

20.2 Any behaviour that breaches good manners or sportsmanship or that brings our sport into disrepute shall result in a hearing under RRS 69 (Allegations of gross misconduct).

20.3 Penalties may include umpire-given penalties (under URS 5.1), disqualifying a boat from the race in question or subsequent races, exclusion from the regatta, or other action within the International Jury's jurisdiction.

Appendix A – RYA Prescriptions

Rule 4 Acceptance of the Rules

Add new rule 4.6:

Each competitor and boat owner shall ensure that their *support persons* comply with the *rules*.

Add new rule 4.7:

The penalty for a breach of rule 4 shall be at the discretion of the protest committee.

Rule 6 Anti-Doping

The national authority procedural rules required to implement the World Anti-Doping Code through World Sailing Regulation 21 are the RYA Anti-Doping Rules, as published on the RYA website.

Rule 65.1 Legal Liability and Costs

1. Any issue of liability or claim for damages arising from an incident while a boat is bound by The Racing Rules of Sailing shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the courts and not considered by a protest committee.
2. A boat that takes a penalty or retires does not thereby admit liability for damages or that she has broken a rule.

Rule 86.3 Rule Changes

An organizing authority wishing to develop or test alternative racing rules, other than Development Rules approved by World Sailing, shall obtain prior approval from the RYA. An application form is available from the RYA. The notice of race shall include the approved alternative rules. The organizing authority shall promptly report the results of the development or test to the RYA.