



THE NATIONAL 12 CLASS
BURTON WEEK & National Championships
22nd August – 26th August 2025



The event is also part of the
National Series

The under 21's are sponsored by



and *Blood Red* for the
handicap results

THE NATIONAL 18 CLASS
National Championship
21st Aug – 25th August 2025

Organised by Brightlingsea Sailing Club in conjunction with the Class Association
BSC, Oyster Tank Road, Brightlingsea, Essex CO7 0DY

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1 RULES

- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS).
- 1.2 RRS 40.1 shall apply: When on the water competitors shall wear a personal floatation device except briefly while changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment. Wet suits and dry suits are not adequate personal buoyancy.

2 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 Any change in the sailing instructions will be posted before 09.00 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

3 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Notices to Competitors will be posted on the official notice board located at the BSC Sail Management Centre (SMC). These may be repeated on digital media, details on line or from the SMC
- 3.2 (DP) From the first warning signal until the end of the last race of the day, 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.

4 CODE OF CONDUCT

- 4.1 Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from event officials. Failure to comply may be misconduct. (DP).

5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed at a flagpole which is a halyard on the BSC Sail Management Centre.
- 5.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes' in the race signal AP.

6 SCHEDULE

6.1	Day	Date	Event	Time
	Friday	22 nd August	N18 Briefing	10.30
	Saturday	23 rd August	N12 Briefing	10.30

Day	Class	Start times			Notes
		Race1	Race2 (Approximate timing)	Race 3	
Friday 22 nd HW 11.20	N12 N18	N/A 13.00	N/A 14.00	N/A 15.00	
Saturday 23 rd HW 12.04	N12 N18	N/A 12.00	13.00 13.06	14.30 14.36	Race 2: N12 released from shore Under Code flag D, 45 minutes before start time and not earlier than 12.15
Sunday 24 th HW 12.43	N12 N18		12.00 12.36		N12 Burton Cup N12 released from shore under Code flag D, 45 minutes before start time and not earlier than 11.15
Monday 25 th HW 13.19	N12 N18	11.00 11.06	12.30 12.36	14.00	No N18 Start Later than 15.00
Tuesday 26 th HW 13.52	N12 N18	11.00 N/A	12.30 N/A	N/A N/A	No N12 Start later than 14.00

Prize giving for each fleet will be ASAP after racing on the last day of the regatta for that fleet.

Prize giving for the Burton Cup will be held after the Burton Dinner on Sunday unless the race is delayed.

6.2 Races will be sailed back-to-back.

National 12: 7 Races are scheduled.

National 18: 11 Races are scheduled.

6.3 To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, the orange line flag will be displayed with one sound at least five minutes before the warning signal is made.

6.4 The O.A. and/or the R.C. reserve the right to modify the programme due to weather conditions or other causes.

7 CLASS FLAGS

7.1 The class flag will be:

National 12

Code Flag T

National 18

Code Flag J

8 RACING AREA

8.1 The racing area will be in the Colne Estuary.

9 THE COURSES

9.1 The diagram in the **Course Appendix A** shows the course(s), the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.

9.2 The approximate magnetic bearing of Mark '1' from the Committee Boat may be displayed on the Committee Boat before the warning signal.

9.3 The Course to be used and the number of laps will be displayed on the Committee Boat before the warning signal.

- 9.4 For the Sir William Burton Cup Race, Any Appendix A course may be used. No lap numbers will be displayed. The race will be finished after the minimum time (SI14.3 & 16).

10 MARKS

- 10.1 Rounding marks will be black or orange pyramid inflatable marks, approximately 1m high.
- 10.2 Starting marks will be a race committee boat at the starboard end, including any attached boats or buoys, and either a pink or white spherical buoy approximately 0.5-0.8m in diameter at the port end.
- 10.3 Finishing marks will be a race committee boat, including any attached boats or buoys, at the starboard end and either a pink or white spherical buoy approximately 0.5-0.8m in diameter at the port end.
- 10.4 An Inner limit mark, if used, will be a white spherical buoy approximately 0.6m diameter.

11 LOCAL NAVIGATION REQUIREMENTS AND AREAS OF OBSTRUCTION

- 11.1 Competitors are reminded of their personal responsibilities for complying with International and National Regulations and Local by-laws governing marine navigation.

- 11.2 Abridged extract from the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at sea, 1972:

"A boat shall not impede the passage of a vessel which can safely navigate only within a narrow channel or fairway. A boat shall not cross a narrow channel or fairway if such crossing impedes the passage of a vessel which can safely navigate only within a narrow channel or fairway. The latter vessel may use five short and rapid blasts of her sound signal if she is in doubt as to the intention of a crossing boat."

- 11.3 Competitors are asked to note that the beach known as Second Beach which lies to the East of the estuary is a Nature Conservation area with landing restricted to an area designated between the two arrows.

12 THE START

- 12.1 Races will be started in accordance with RRS 26 with the Warning Signal 5 minutes before the start.
- 12.2 The starting line will be between a staff flying an orange flag on the Race Committee boat at the Starboard end and the Port end start mark.
- 12.3 An Inner Limit mark may be laid adjacent to the Race Committee boat, which will be a mark of the course. No competitor shall pass between the limit mark and any part of the vessel it guards after warning signal.
- 12.4 A boat that does not start within 5 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1. & A 5.2
- 12.5 (DP) Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races

13 CHANGING THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE & SHORTENING COURSE

- 13.1 To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will either lay a new mark of

a different colour or move the original mark. In the case of a new mark, they will remove the original mark as soon as practicable. If there is a subsequent change the “new mark” will be replaced by an original mark.

13.2 RRS 33 (a) (2) is modified in that the shape of the flag or board shall have no significance.

13.3 Courses may be shortened:

- a) Either in accordance with RRS 32.2(a).
- b) Or when the leading boat approaches the Leeward Mark by the Committee Boat displaying flag S with two sounds. Boats shall pass the Leeward Mark on the correct side and sail directly to the Finish Line as defined in SI 14. For the convenience of competitors, another boat appointed by the Race Committee may repeat the display of flag S near the Leeward Mark with repeated sound signals to draw attention to the shortened course, but this does NOT change the requirement to finish as defined in SI 14.1. This changes RRS 32.2 (a), (b) and (c).

14 THE FINISH

14.1 The finishing line will be between a staff flying a blue flag on the Race Committee boat at the Starboard end and the port end finishing mark.

14.2 The race committee may score boats based on their relative positions at a mark of the course or on a leg of the course as follows:

14.2.1 When an official boat displays flag W with two sounds, boats still racing may be scored as their observed position on the racecourse.

14.2.2 When a boat is scored in accordance with this instruction, she shall be given a score for a place after all boats that have sailed the course and finished. This changes RRS A4 and A5.

14.3 **SIR WILLIAM BURTON CUP RACE FINISH**. When the minimum race time limit has been reached the finish will be signalled by the Committee boat hoisting Code Flag T with two sound signals. The finish line will then be open. The leading boat and following boats will continue to sail the course to the finish line.

The finish line will be:

- A: At the next mark the leading boat would round (excluding any spreader mark) between a RC boat displaying a blue flag and the mark.
or
- B: At a finish line positioned along the leading boat's current or next leg of the course between a RC boat displaying a blue flag and the Finish mark
or
- C At the Committee boat after the lee mark (3 or 4) on the standard finish line
The finishing line will remain open for 45 minutes when boats will be finished as per 14.2.

These decisions and actions shall be at the absolute discretion of the RO whose decision shall be final.

15 PENALTY SYSTEM

15.1 The Scoring Penalty, RRS 44.3, will not apply.

15.2 RRS Appendix 'P' will not apply.

16. TIME LIMITS

- 16.1 The Mark 1 Time Limit, Target Time, Race Time Limit (see RRS 35), and Finishing Window are shown in the table below.

N12 Mark 1 Time Limit	Race Target Time	Race Time Limit	Finishing Window
40 minutes	55 minutes 50 minutes when racing with N18	120 minutes	20 minutes
N18 Mark 1 Time Limit	Race Target Time	Race Time Limit	Finishing Window
30 minutes	45 minutes 50 minutes when racing with N12	120 minutes	20 minutes

- N.B.** The Target time for the National 12 Sir William Burton Cup race is a minimum of 120 minutes. The time limit for the first mark is max 50 minutes

- 16.2 If no boat has passed the first mark within the Mark 1 Time Limit, the race will be abandoned.
- 16.3 The Finishing Window is the time for boats to finish after the first boat sails the course and finishes. Boats failing to finish within the Finishing Window, and not subsequently retiring, penalised or given redress, will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF) without a hearing. A boat scored DNF shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the points scored by the last boat the finished within the Finishing Window. This changes RRS 35, A5.1, A5.2 and A10.
- 16.4 Failure to meet the Target Time will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.4. (b) (1).

17 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 17.1 The end of protest time is 30 minutes after the last boat, of either fleet, that has raced reaches the shore. This time will be recorded by the race office and posted on the official noticeboard.
- 17.2 Protest forms are available at the BSC Race Management Centre. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the protest time limit.
- 17.3 Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. This notice will include the time and place of the hearing.
- 17.4 Notices of protests by the race committee or protest committee will be posted to inform boats under RRS 60.2 (b) 4 (d).
- 17.5 A list of boats that have been penalised for breaking RRS 42 under Appendix P will be posted.
- 17.6 Breaches of sailing instructions 10.1 – 10.4, 11, 15, 19, 22, 23, 24 and 26 will not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a). Penalties for breaches of these and the class rules may be less than disqualification if the protest committee so

decides. The scoring abbreviation for a discretionary penalty imposed under this instruction will be DP.

17.7 For the purposes of RRS 63.5 (d) the “authority responsible” shall be the Technical Committee appointed by BSC.

18. SCORING

NATIONAL 12

- 18.1 3 races are required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 18.2 When fewer than 4 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- 18.3 When 4 to 7 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
- 18.4 The results of races that are shortened to fewer than four legs, will not count towards the Yachting World Silver National Points Trophy. The short leg from the final mark to the finish line, or any leg shortened by more than 50% shall not count as legs for this purpose.
- 18.5 **SIR WILLIAM BURTON CUP** If this programmed race has to be shortened to less than two hours the results will not count towards this Cup but will be awarded to the next scheduled point's race. The Cup race will, if possible, be rescheduled. If the Cup race has not been completed by 18.00 on the final day, the Cup will not be awarded but may be sailed for at an event later in the year. If a seventh points race has been sailed the Cup place prizes will be given for that race.

NATIONAL 18

- 18.6 3 races are required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 18.7 When fewer than 4 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- 18.8 When 4 to 8 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
- 18.9 When 9 or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her two worst scores.

19 SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 19.1 **Boats shall ‘tally out’ before launching by removing a tally band from the tally board and ‘tally in’ by returning the tally band to the appropriate hook on the tally board as soon as practicable on returning ashore.** Failure to comply with this SI will result in a 5-point penalty in the race closest to the infringement; other boats will not be rescored. This penalty can be mitigated by payment of a £10 fee to the club which will be donated to the RNLI. RRS 60.5. (b). (3) & 64.
- 19.2 The tally board will be located in the area at the head of the club launching ramp or at the Sail Management Centre. Individual tally numbers will be issued at registration; one per boat for N18 and one per competitor for N12.
- 19.3 A boat that has taken a penalty or retired shall make a declaration to this effect at the same time as tally off (see SI 19.1).
- 19.4 National 12 only: Flag D will be hoisted not less than one hour before the first warning signal on day 2 and day 3. When lowered, boats may proceed afloat. See notes to schedule of races SI6.

20 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

- 20.1 Substitution of competitors will not be allowed without prior approval of the race committee. Requests shall be submitted to the race office in writing not less than 1 hour before the start of the first race of the day (for N12 this is altered to “before going afloat”) and will be posted on the official notice board.
- 20.2 Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed unless authorised by the race/technical committee. Requests for substitution shall be made to the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

21 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

- 21.1 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions.
- 21.2 The Race Committee or their instructed Technical Committee may weigh, measure or inspect a boat and/or her equipment before, during or after any race. The OA reserve the right to contact the relevant authority to check details of certificates etc.
- 21.3 Under exceptional circumstances, the Race Committee may permit a boat to carry a distinguishing number other than that required by RRS 77 and Appendix 'G' or her class rules. Requests shall be submitted to the race office in writing not less than 1 hour before the start of the first race of the day (for N12 this is altered to “before going afloat”)

22 OFFICIAL BOATS

- 22.1 Official vessels will either display BSC signage or be listed on the official notice board.

23 SUPPORT BOATS

- 23.1 Except when acting in a direct and immediate safety capacity, team leaders, coaches and other support personnel shall stay outside areas where boats are racing from the time of the warning signal of the first race until all boats have finished or the race committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment. The penalty for failing to comply with this SI will be applied to the competing boat associated with the infringing support boat and a scoring penalty calculated using the formula in RRS 44.3 (c) will be applied to the race sailed nearest in time to the incident.

24 TRASH DISPOSAL

- 24.1 Trash may be placed aboard support or official boats.

25 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 25.1 Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3, Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.
Rule 3 of the RRS states “the responsibility for a boat’s decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone”.
Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk. 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 while taking part in the event.
- (b) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and other property whether afloat or ashore.
- (c) They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss 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.

N.B When applicable, parents or guardians of competitors under 18 years old will be required to take full responsibility for their dependents throughout the event and to sign the parental permission form provided at registration.

26 PRIZES

26.1 Trophies and/or prizes will be as detailed in the Notice of Race or as agreed with the classes.

27 INSURANCE

27.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with adequate valid third part insurance with a minimum cover of £3,000,000 (or its equivalent thereof in any currency) per incident or the equivalent.

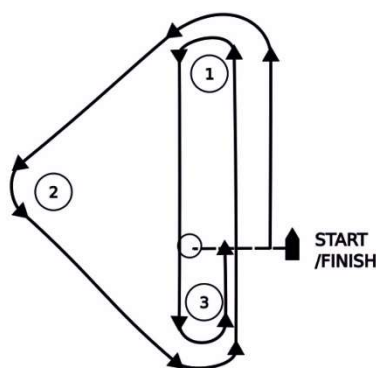
Appendix A

Nomenclature

- The number designates the number of windward legs
- The letter designates the course configuration

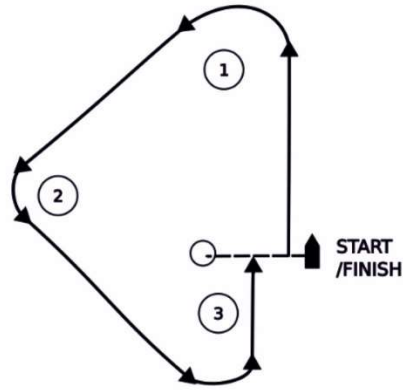
COURSE A

First and all subsequent odd rounds
Mark 1 to port
Mark 2 to port
Mark 3 to port
Second and all subsequent even rounds
Mark 1 to port
Mark 3 to port
Finishing leg
Mark 3 to Finish



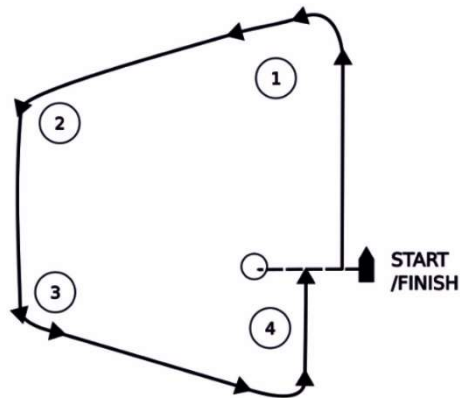
COURSE B

First and all subsequent rounds
Mark 1 to port
Mark 2 to port
Mark 3 to port
Finishing leg
Mark 3 to Finish



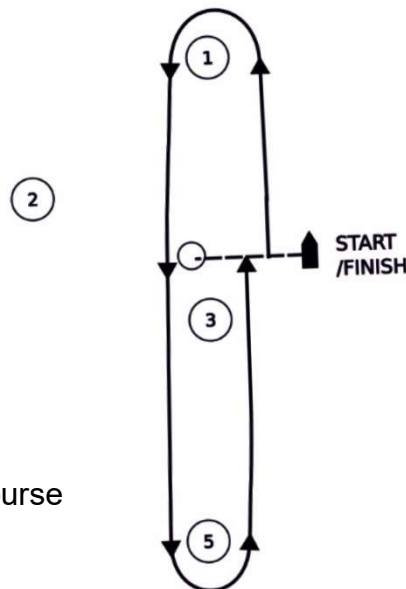
COURSE C

First and all subsequent rounds
Mark 1 to port
Mark 2 to port
Mark 3 to port
Mark 4 to port
Finishing leg
Mark 4 to Finish



COURSE D

First and all subsequent rounds
Mark 1 to port
Mark 5 to port
Finishing leg
Mark 5 to Finish



Note

Marks 2 and 3 are NOT part of the course

There is NO requirement to pass through the Finish line on each round