

RYACW ONBOARD FESTIVAL



22ND-23RD AUGUST 2026, BALA
EVENT MANUAL



Clwb Hwyllo'r
Bala Sailing Club
A family club on the largest lake in Wales



A Guide for Sailors, Parents, Race Management and Safety Fleets

RYA Cymru Wales and Bala Sailing Club are looking forward to welcoming you to Bala for the 2026 OnBoard Festival. The information below will help guide you in terms of logistical information and schedule so that the weekend can run as smoothly as possible.



Arrival

Boat Drop Off

Boats can be dropped off on Friday, if you are arriving after 5pm you will be able to access the club site with the gate code **3883**.

If you are arriving Saturday morning, boats need to be unloaded as soon as possible and trailers and cars moved as instructed by Bala volunteers.

Where possible, please keep large stacking/ box trailers at campsites or accommodation.

As space on the foreshore is limited, please follow instructions from Bala volunteers and park in accordance with the site map above and directions for each fleet below.

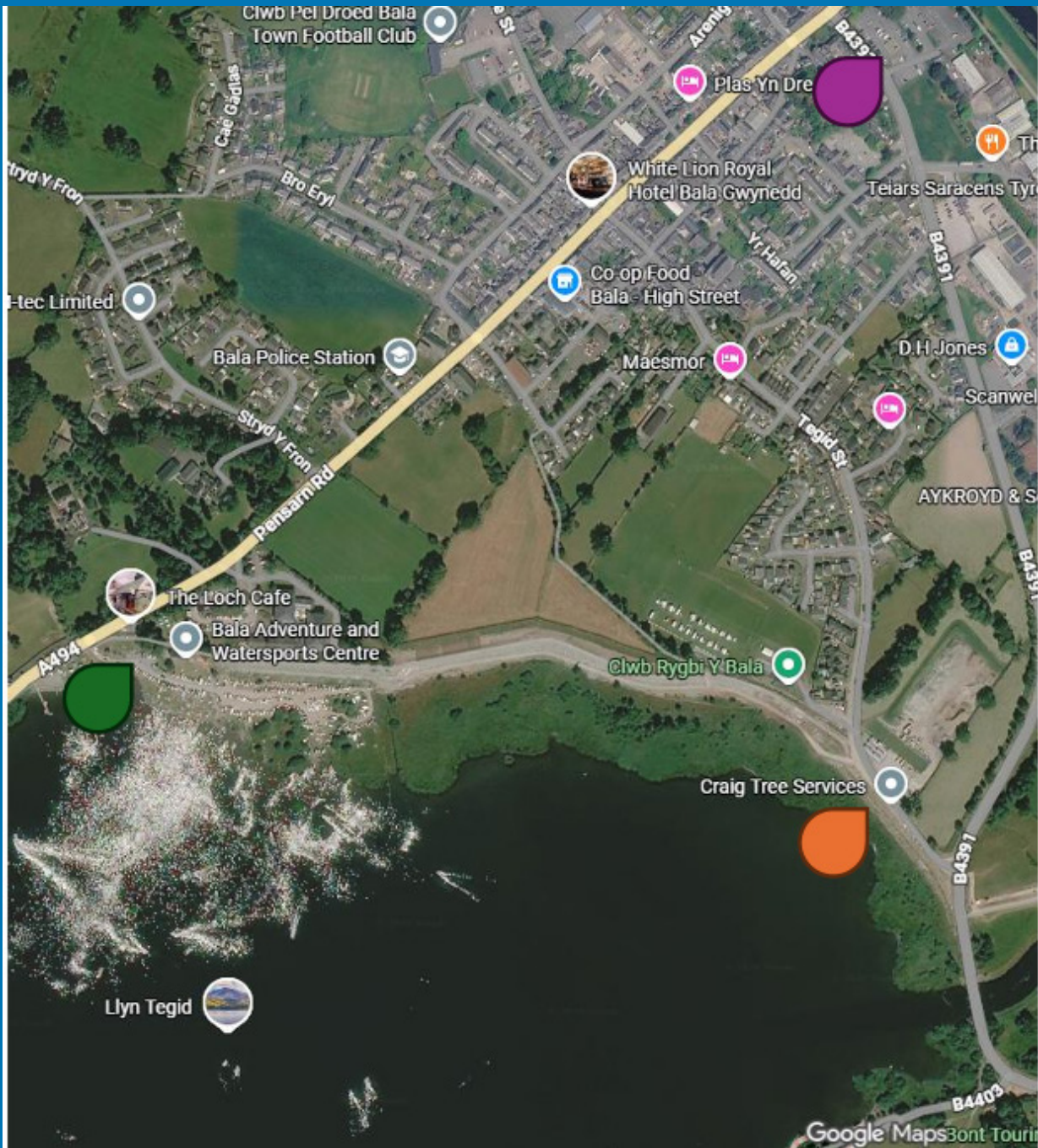
Training Fleet

Boats to be parked on the waters edge before the first jetty. Cars need to be sensibly parked on the left hand side along the trees. You will be given a **yellow** sticker to display in your car to help Bala volunteers in organising the foreshore.

Main Fleet

Boats to be parked on the waters edge between the first and third jetty. Cars need to be parked on the left hand side along the wall and boats. You will be given an **orange** sticker to display in your car.

Due to the large number of entries and sharing the space with the Waszp fleet, large campervans will not be able to park on site. Please use alternative parking outlined below:



For campervans and extra parking:

-  Free road parking along North East end of the lake. Approx 5 min walk.
-  Pay and Display car park next to Bala Fire station. Approx 15 min walk.
-  Pay and Display Bala Lakeside car park. Approx 15 min walk.

Overnight parking/ camping is strictly forbidden by Yr Eryri National Park.

Vehicles must be removed from the foreshore when you leave in the evening.

Registration

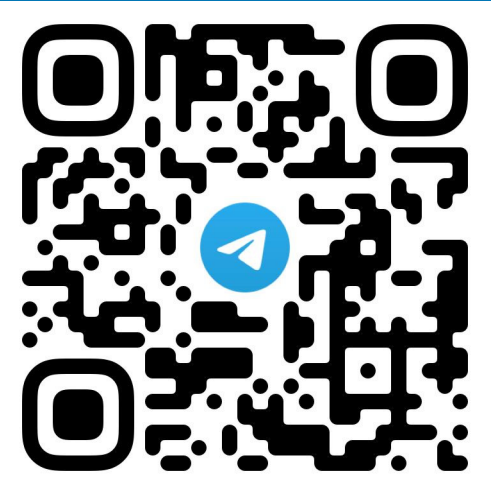
Registration will take place upstairs in the Main Club House. We will be running a paperless system. Sailors will be asked to confirm name, sail number and to verbally agree to the 'Sailor Declaration'.
 Registration will be open on Saturday at 08:30-09:30.
 Please try and register as soon as possible.
 Sailors and volunteers/ coaches also need to register.

Tallies

All sailors will be allocated a tally number at registration. Both helm and crew in double handed boats will be allocated a number. Tallies will be the Welsh Sailing/ Hwyllo Cymru bibs with numbers on.

Communication

A broadcast only Telegram group will be used to communicate to sailors and parents. There is a separate Telegram group for volunteers. Scan the QR codes below to access the groups.



Sailors & Parents

Volunteers



Briefing

There will be a 'Competitor Welcome' on Saturday morning at 09:30 on the grass outside the Main Club House (weather permitting). A Training Fleet briefing will be held immediately after.

Official Noticeboard

The Official Noticeboard will be located in the Main Club House. Here you will find any changes to Sailing Instructions, jury notices, and results. An online information board can be found on the Welsh Sailing/ Hwyllo Cymru Hwb.

Toilets and Changing Facilities

This year the OnBoard Festival is teaming up with the Welsh Waszp Championships. This means that there will be lots of sailors of all ages. To help keep children and adults separate in the changing rooms, **please come changed to the 'Competitor Welcome' at 09:30.**

Please keep an eye on the Telegram throughout the weekend for any instructions on changing room facilities.

Launch/ Recovery of Fleets

Parents are asked to help launch and recover. Please follow the Beach Master's instructions.

Parents will be informed via the Telegram group an ETA for sailors coming back ashore. If a sailor retires and comes ashore early this will be posted on the Telegram group. Parents/ guardians will be contacted directly in case of injury/ emergency.

To save time we will be operating an 'any trolley' when you come back ashore. Please ensure your trollies are in good working order and well marked.

Catering

Bala Sailing Club have a galley which will be serving hot drinks and food across the weekend. There is also a BBQ on Saturday night- tickets available [here](#).

First Aid

The shore first aid point will be the Event Gazebo on the grass outside the Main Club House.

Sustainability

We are working to make our events and activities more sustainable. To find out more see the RYA Environmental Policy and Sustainability Strategy: <https://www.rya.org.uk/about-us/policies/environment-and-sustainability>

- Help us to reduce the impact of our event by bringing your own re-usable bottle and flask that can be re-filled.
- Please use shore side recycling facilities wherever possible, please ensure the item you are putting in the bin is recyclable.
- The 'Sail Rail' will be in action over the weekend- bring your unwanted kit to sell and buy second hand from others.
- RYA 'Wetsuit Bins' will be on site for you to recycle wetsuit that are no longer fit for purpose.

Afloat

Coaches

We have a number of RYA Cymru Wales Coaches on hand this weekend. They will be introduced in the 'Competitor Welcome Briefing' and are there to support all sailors. Please feel free to ask them any questions on or off the water.

Retiring

If a sailor retires from a race and it is safe to do so the sailor will be escorted back to shore.

If the safety fleet is busy with a few sailors then a sailor's boat may be de-rigged and anchored behind the start line. The sailor will then be moved to the safety boat until the fleet is ready to sail ashore after racing. The anchored boats will then be collected and towed back in.

W flag

We have a relatively young/ new fleet of sailors this year which is fantastic to see. Our aim is to ensure all sailors get a finish even if they do not complete the whole course. We will be using the W flag to shorten the course for sailors who have found themselves quite far behind the rest of the fleet. Sailors may also be asked to only complete some of the course. Any guidance will be from the coaches/ mark layers.

Post Racing Activity

BBQ

There is a BBQ after racing on Saturday. Don't forget this is a Pirate themed fancy dress all day!!

Result and Race Office

The race office will be in the Event gazebo. Please only come to the race office for general enquiries, first aid or to receive race documents such as 'protests' forms or 'scoring enquiry' forms etc

Results will be posted online on the Welsh Sailing/ Hwyllo Cymru Hwb.

Protests

The intention is for protests to be resolved through arbitration. All jury notices will be posted on the Official Notice Board. Should a full protest procedure be needed we will contact the individuals to let you know where the protest room will be.

Prize Giving

The prize giving will be run as soon as possible after racing on Sunday outside the Main Club House (weather dependent).

Departure

Once packed up and ready to set off home please take a few moments to make sure you have everything and that the area around your boat is litter free.



RYA
CYMRU - WALES

SAIL CLEAN

Make sure you are playing by the rules

Check your medications and supplements regularly for any banned substances

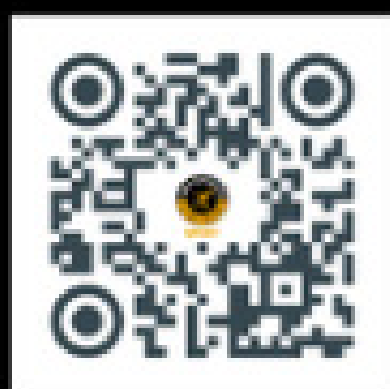


Download the 100% ME App for more information



www.globaldro.com

Use to check your medications



sport.wetestyourtrust.com

Use to check your supplements

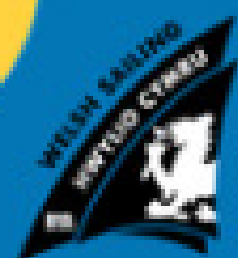


RYA Sail Clean

Check out the RYA Sail Clean Strategy

UKAD
Protecting Sport

WWW.WELSHSAILING.COM



NEED TO TALK

RYA
CYMRU • WALES

RYA CYMRU WALES IS COMMITTED TO MAKING SURE CHILDREN
AND YOUNG PEOPLE FEEL **HAPPY, SAFE AND RESPECTED**

YOUR RIGHTS...

- YOU SHOULD ALWAYS FEEL **SAFE** AT OUR TRAINING AND EVENTS.
- YOU SHOULD BE TREATED KINDLY AND FAIRLY.
- NO ONE SHOULD MAKE YOU FEEL **SCARED, SAD, OR UNCOMFORTABLE.**

REMEMBER...

- NO PROBLEM IS TOO SMALL
- YOU WON'T BE IN TROUBLE FOR SPEAKING UP
- WE'RE HERE TO HELP

IF SOMETHING FEELS WRONG...

IT'S OK TO TELL SOMEONE. TALK TO -

-  YOUR COACH
-  YOUR MUM, DAD OR CAREER
-  A TEACHER
-  OR ANOTHER GROWN UP



childline

ONLINE, ON THE PHONE, ANYTIME

 0800 1111

 childline.org.uk

NSPCC

 0808 800 5000

 nspcc.org.uk

RYA

 02380 01 2796

 safeguarding@rya.org.uk
rya.org.uk/go/safeguarding

RYA CYMRU
WALES

 02380 01 2796

 safeguarding@rya.org.uk
rya.org.uk/go/safeguarding



Dealing with bullying...
kidscape.org.uk



Mental health
and wellbeing...
youngminds.org.uk



Health concerns...
[healthtalk.org/
young-people-
experiences](https://healthtalk.org/young-people-experiences)

YOUR EVENT SAFEGUARDING CONTACT

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PHONE: 07824 990696

