



Welsh Club Championships 2026

Sailing Instructions



SI's In A Nutshell

This page "SI's In A Nutshell" is not a rule, does not form part of the NoR's/ SI's, and is intended solely as an aid to competitors. Competitors should fully read the Sailing Instructions and Notice of Race. Any discrepancy on this page will not be ground for redress. This page can be updated without a notice for competitors.

Noticeboard

The Official Noticeboard will be in the Coronation Hall. An online information board with the event documents can be found on the Welsh Sailing Hwb.

Saturday

- Registration @08:30-09:30 in the Coronation Hall.
- Competitor Welcome Briefing @10:00 in the Coronation Hall, followed by Regatta Fleet & Windsurf Briefing.
- Main Fleet first race @11:30
- Try A Youth Boat & In It To Win It & Sail Rail & Diolch Hour after racing

Sunday

- Regatta Fleet & Windsurf Briefing @09:00
- Main Fleet first race @09:45
- Prize giving ASAP after racing

Courses

- Courses will be published in Attachment B of the Sailing Instructions.
- All starts are 3 minute sequences (3, 2, 1, GO).
- The course code will be shown on the committee boat before the start.

Don't forget to TALLY!

See you on the water/ welwn ni chi ar y dwr!





Sailing Instructions

Welsh Club Championships

20th–21st June 2026

Dale Yacht Club & Windswept Watersports

*The Organising Authority is RYA Cymru Wales in conjunction with
Dale Yacht Club & Windswept WaterSports*

1. Rules

- 1.1 The Event will be governed by the 'rules' as defined in the *Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 1.2 Competitors' attention is drawn to the local rules as detailed in the Notice of Race.
- 1.3 For infringements of rules other than in Parts 1 and 2 of the RRS, the protest committee may award a penalty less than disqualification. [DP]

2. Notice To Competitors

- 2.1 Notices will be posted on the official notice board, which is situated in the Coronation Hall.
- 2.2 The race office will be located in the Coronation Hall. A Telegram group that is broadcast only will be used to send out notifications and will be used as a supporting tool and not an official communication. The link to the group is in the Race Manual sent out to competitors. <https://t.me/+O0gV4UnLnyFkMDU0>
- 2.3 Failure to post notices shall not be grounds for request for redress under RRS 62.1(a).



3. Briefing

- 3.1 There will be a Competitor Welcome Briefing on Saturday 20th June at 10am in the Coronation Hall.
- 3.2 Coached Regatta Fleet and Windsurfers will have a sailor briefing immediately following the 10am Competitor Welcome Briefing.

4. Changes to Sailing Instructions

- 4.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted on the Official Notice Board at least one hour before the advertised warning signal of the race or races concerned, and signalled by displaying flag L ashore (SI 5.2).

5. Signals Made Ashore

- 5.1 Signals displayed over a class flag apply to that class only.
- 5.2 If Flag L is displayed (A notice to competitors has been posted) it will be flown with a numeral pennant indicating the latest notice posted.

L



Flag	Description
D	Boats may not launch until Flag D is displayed over their class flag with a sound signal. The start of the race will be no less than 30 minutes after Flag D is displayed and not before the scheduled time, whichever is later.

	Flag AP may be displayed ashore to signify racing is postponed. Should AP be displayed with a Class Flag, the postponement will apply only to the fleets whose Class Flags are displayed. When Flag AP is displayed ashore race signal AP is changed in that, Flag AP displayed without a numeral pennant means Racing is postponed indefinitely. D flag will be displayed soon after AP is removed. This changes race signal AP
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6. Format of Racing

- 6.1** The championship will consist of a Single Series for all fleets.
- 6.2** The General Handicap fleet will be scored using a boat's average lap time and the Portsmouth Yardstick.
- 6.3** The Coached Regatta fleet will be scored using a boat's average lap time and the Portsmouth Yardstick.

7. Schedule of Races

Racing is scheduled as follows:

Day	Fleets & Races	Time of Warning Signal
Saturday	Main Fleet- Up to 10 races	11:12am
Saturday	Coached Regatta Fleet & Windsurfing	This will be described in the Coached Regatta Fleet and Windsurfing briefing, there will be no start before 10:30am.
Sunday	Main Fleet- Up to 10 races	09:42am
Sunday	Coached Regatta Fleet & Windsurfing	This will be described in the morning briefing at 9am. There will be no start before 10am.

- 7.1** There will be no maximum number of races per fleet across the weekend.
- 7.2** It is intended that the races for the Main Fleet will be sailed back-to-back, each day, with no opportunity for competitors to return to shore between races. Designated Coach ribs will carry Croeso bags and there will be a longer break for lunch which will be indicated by a Croeso flag flying from the committee boat. Coached Regatta fleet will come ashore for lunch.
- 7.3** To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon an orange flag will be displayed with multiple sounds at least two minutes before a warning signal is displayed.
- 7.4** No warning signal will be made after 15:00 on the final day.

8. Class Flags & Identification

Class	Description	Picture
Topper (5.3 & 4.2)	Code Flag T	
Optimist	Code Flag O	

RS Tera Sport	Rs Tera Sport Flag		
RS Tera Pro	RS Tera Pro Flag		
ILCA (4, 6 & 7)	ILCA Flag		
General Handicap (RS Feva, 29er)	Code Flag G		
Coached Regatta	Pirate Flag		

9. Racing Area

9.1 The racing areas are identified in Attachment A

10. The Courses for Main Fleets

- 10.1** The diagrams in Attachment B show the courses, including the course letters, the order in which marks are to be rounded or passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.
- 10.2** If there is only one leeward mark (Mark 3,4 for course O and I, Mark 2 for course LR) the mark shall be passed to port
- 10.3** To designate the course to be sailed in each race, the Race Committee boat shall display the course letters and the number of beats to be sailed on a board at the back of the Committee boat.
- 10.4** When sailing course LR, the course may be amended by the display of flag S on the committee boat with two sound signals. When displayed, the signal will be the “proceed to finish signal for the average lap racing” so all boats will go to the finish after passing mark 2P no matter what lap they are on. The finish line will be off the bow of the committee boat, between the LR course finishing mark and the staff displaying a Blue flag on the committee boat. This amends RRS 32.
- 10.5** When sailing courses I or O, RRS 32 is unamended and the Race Committee may shorten the course before a rounding mark by displaying Flag S with two sound signals on an Official Boat. In this case the finishing line shall be between the centreline of the rounding mark and the staff displaying Flag S on the Official Boat.
- 10.6** It is the intention that:
- a) Optimist’s and Tera Sports will sail I
 - b) Topper’s and Tera Pro’s will sail O
 - c) ILCA’s and General Handicap will sail O
- 10.7** The course for Coached Regatta Fleet will be described in the morning briefing.
- 10.8** The course for the Windsurf Fleet will be described in the morning briefing.

11. Obstructions

- 11.1** A safety boat or competitor in difficulty is an obstruction.

11.2 All Cardinal Marks and the speed limit marks abeam of the Fort are designated obstructions as defined in the RRS.

11.3 Additionally, boats shall keep more than 100 metres away from vessels over 100m in length, vessels at anchor, or vessels displaying Flag A (indicating divers in the water). These areas are also obstructions as defined in the Rules.

11.4 The attention of all competitors, race management personnel and spectators afloat are drawn to the fact that Milford Haven is a working port and that harbour regulations must be observed. Any directions given by Milford Haven Port Authority must be complied with without delay. Failure to comply with this instruction may result in a penalty.

12. Marks

Course Orange – Optimist, Topper, RS Tera, General Handicap (RS Feva, 420, 29er, ILCA 4,6,7)

12.1 Marks 1,2,3,4 will be orange cylindrical marks

12.2 Starting marks will be a race committee boat displaying an orange flag at the starboard end and dumpy mark at the pin end

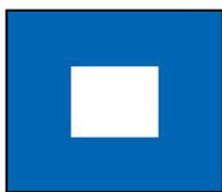
12.3 Finishing marks will be a race committee boat displaying a blue flag and dumpy mark

Course Blue – Coached Regatta Fleet – the mark colour will be described in the Coached Regatta fleet briefing on Saturday morning.

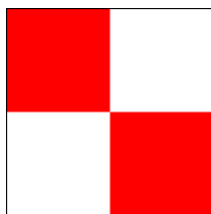
13. The Start

13.1 Races will be started in accordance with RRS 26.

Title	Minutes Before Starting Signal	Flag & Sound
Warning	3 minutes	Class Flag Displayed; 1 sound signal
Preparatory	2 minutes	Either Flag P, Flag U or Black Flag Displayed; 1 sound signal
1 minute period	1 minute	Either Flag P, Flag U or Black Flag Removed; 1 long sound signal
Starting	0 minute	Class Flag Removed ; 1 sound signal



P Flag



U Flag



Black Flag

13.2 There will be a gap of not less than one minute after a start before the warning signal for the subsequent class. If there is a General Recall, then the subsequent classes' start will be delayed in order to maintain the start sequence.

13.3 The starting line will be between staffs displaying Orange flags on the Race Committee boat and the starting mark.

13.4 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall not sail within an area extending 50m from the start line and its marks.[DP]

13.5 A boat starting later than 4 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start.

14. Change Of Course After The Start

14.1 The race committee may move a mark (or the finishing line) up to 100m without signaling the change. No other changes will be made during racing. This changes RRS 33.

15. The Finish

The Finishing line will be between a staff on the Race Committee boat displaying a Blue flag and a dumpy mark.

16. Alternative Finishes

16.1 The Race Committee may finish boats in accordance with SIs 10.4 & 10.5 by displaying Flag S on the Race Committee or an Official Boat.

16.2 After the first boat has finished the Race Committee may finish other boats at a mark of the course or on a leg of the course.

16.3 When an Official Boat displays flag W with two sounds, boats may be finished by this Official Boat on the race course.



16.4 When a boat is finished by an Official Boat flying flag W she shall be given a finishing place in her position on the course and will usually be finished at a mark. This changes RRS 28, 35, A4 and A5.

17. Time limit.

17.1 Boats failing to finish within 20 minutes of the first boat in their class will be scored as DNF. This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5.

Class	Target Time	Time Limit for First boat to Finish
Main Fleet Dinghies	30 Minutes	45 Minutes
Coached Regatta Fleet Dinghies	30 Minutes	45 Minutes
Course Q (short course)	10 Minutes	15 Minutes

18. Radio Communication

18.1 Except in an emergency, a boat that is racing shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

19. Post Race Penalty, Advisory Hearings & Arbitration Hearings.

19.1 The Post Race Penalty, Advisory Hearing and RYA Arbitration of the RYA Rules Disputes procedure shall apply. The outcome of an RYA Arbitration can be referred to a protest committee, but an arbitration cannot be reopened or appealed.

20. Protests

20.1 Protest forms are available at the race office.

20.2 The protest time limit will be posted on the Official Notice Board. The protest time limit will be 60 minutes after the last boat of each class has finished the last race of the day or the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later. The same time limit applies to protests by the Race Committee. This time limit also applies to requests for redress. This changes RRS 62.2.

20.3 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. Hearings will be held in the designated jury room. Hearings may start before the scheduled time with the agreement of all parties.

20.4 Notices of protests by the race committee or protest committee will be posted on the official notice board to inform boats under RRS 61.1(b).

20.5 On the last day of scheduled racing, a party to a hearing may ask for a re-opening no later than 30 minutes after being informed of the decision. This changes RRS 66.

20.6 Protests under sailing instruction points 22,23 & 24 maybe be brought only by the Race Committee or Protest Committee and not by a competitor. This changes RRS 60.1.

21. Scoring

- 21.1** The Low Point scoring system of Appendix A will apply.
- 21.2** One race is required to be completed to constitute the series for all classes.
- 21.3** Each boat's series score will be the total of her race scores with her worst score discarded if three or more races are completed. A second discard will be applied if six or more races are completed. A third discard will be applied if nine or more races are completed.
- 21.4** To request correction of an alleged error in posted race or series results, a boat shall complete a scoring enquiry form available from the race office.
- 21.5** Competitors in the Topper (using either the 5.3m² or 4.2m² rigs) and RS Tera Pro fleets will race as a combined fleet but will be scored as separate fleets.
- 21.6** Competitors in the RS Tera Sport and Optimists fleets will race as a combined fleet but will be scored as separate fleets.
- 21.7** The General Handicap fleet will be scored using a boats average lap time and the Portsmouth Yardstick.
- 21.8** Competitors in the coached Regatta fleet will be scored using a boats average lap time and the Portsmouth Yardstick, unless there are enough boats in one fleet to make a class (6 or more boats).

22. Safety

- 22.1** All competitors shall wear a personal flotation device at all times when afloat, except briefly when changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment. RRS 40.1 Applies.[DP]
- 22.2** A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible.[DP]
- 22.3** Boats wishing to sail ashore before the end of the day's racing shall not do so unless authorized by a safety boat. The safety boat will instruct boats in the procedure for returning ashore. Boats shall follow the instructions of the safety boats. Failure to do so will be reported to the race committee, which may protest the boat. Boats penalised under this instruction may be scored DNE, or such other penalty that the protest committee may decide.

23. TALLIES

- 23.1** Sailors will be required to tally out and tally in on each scheduled racing day.
- 23.2** Tallies for the Main Fleet and Coached Regatta Fleet comprise of a race BIB with a tally number on the BIB.
- 23.3** The tally point will be at the top of the slipway.
- 23.4** Both helm and crew shall individually tally out and in. The helm will be given a BIB with a number, the crew will be given a blank BIB and tally band with a number to go on your wrist.
- 23.5** Helm and crew must tally in before the end of the protest time limit.
- 23.6** The penalty for not returning the race BIB will be £10 payable to RYA Cymru Wales to replace the BIB.

24. Replacement of Crew or Equipment [DP]

- 24.1** Substitution of competitors will not be allowed without prior written approval of the Race Committee. Requests shall be through the race office.

24.2 Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed unless approved by the Race Committee. Requests for substitution shall be submitted in writing using forms available from the Race Office. Failure to do so, the refusal of the request, or the replacement equipment not complying with the class rules, may result in the boat being penalised.

24.3 Only one sail may be used during the event except if lost or damaged beyond repair.

24.4 Toppers must nominate sail size (4.2 or 5.3) at the beginning of the Championship.

25. Official Boats

25.1 Official boats will be as follows:

Race Committee Boats
Safety/ Coach Boats
Jury Boats
Medic Boats / CROESO

26. Support Boats

26.1 Only official boats (those invited by and registered with the organisers) will be permitted to enter the race area. There shall be no communication with competitors while afloat except by official boats.

27. Boats and Competitors in Difficulty

27.1 When the race committee considers that a boat or competitor is in difficulty it may instruct the boat or competitor to accept outside help, retire or sail ashore. This changes RRS 41.

28. Prizes

28.1 Prizes are detailed in the Notice of Race.

29. Disclaimer of liability

29.1 Risk Statement

Rule 3 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing 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:

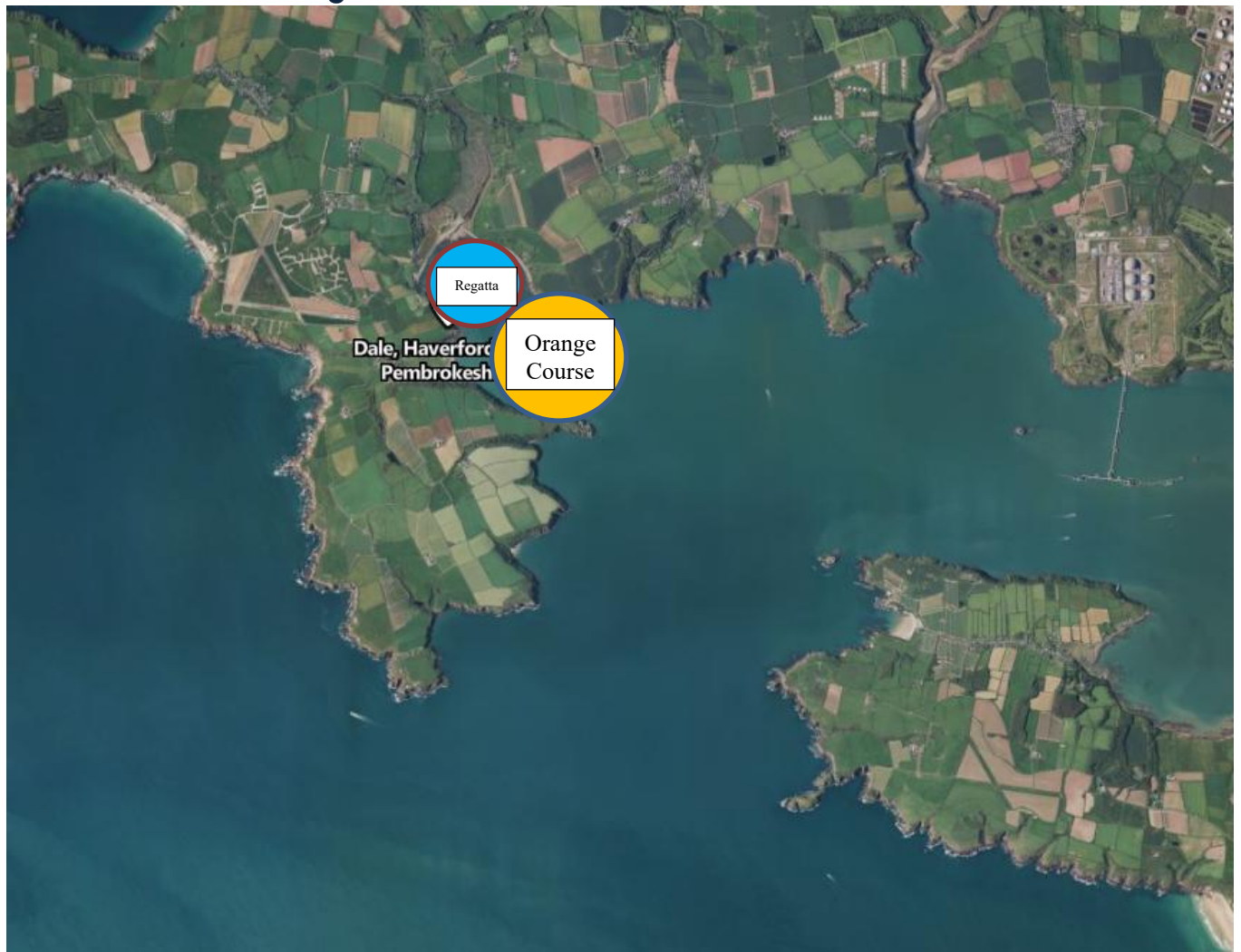
- a) They are aware of the inherent element of risk involved in the sport and accept responsibility for the exposure of themselves, their crew and their boat to such inherent risk whilst taking part in the event;
- b) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;
- c) They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omission;
- 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;
- g) It is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks specific to this venue or this event drawn to their attention in any rules and information

produced for the venue or event and to attend any safety briefing held for the event;

30. Insurance

30.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £3 million per event or the equivalent.

Attachment A – Racing Area



Blue Course – Coached Regatta, Windsurfing

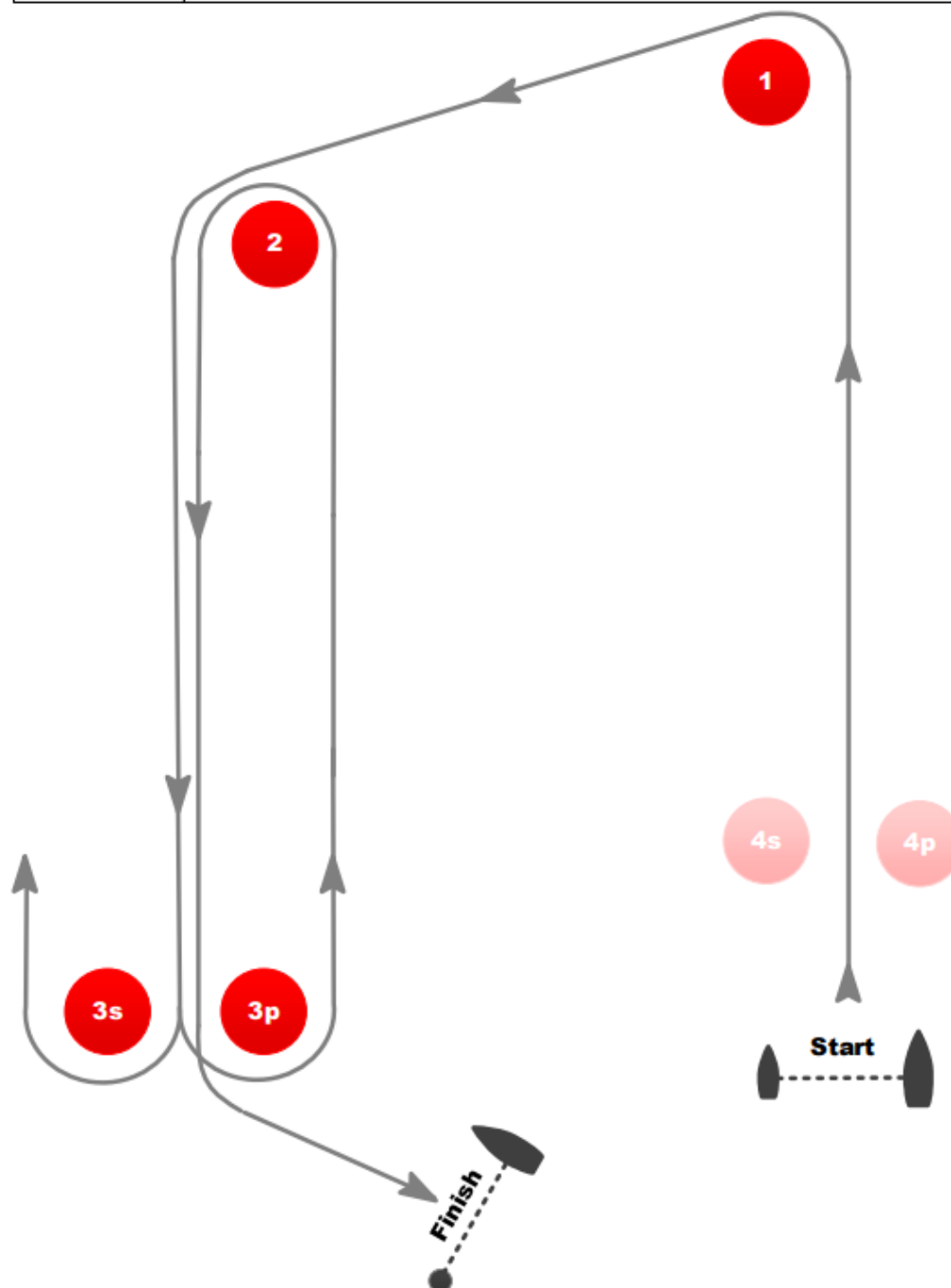
Orange Course – Optimist, Topper, RS Tera, General Handicap (ILCA 4,6,7, RS Feva, 29er, 420)

Attachment B – The Course

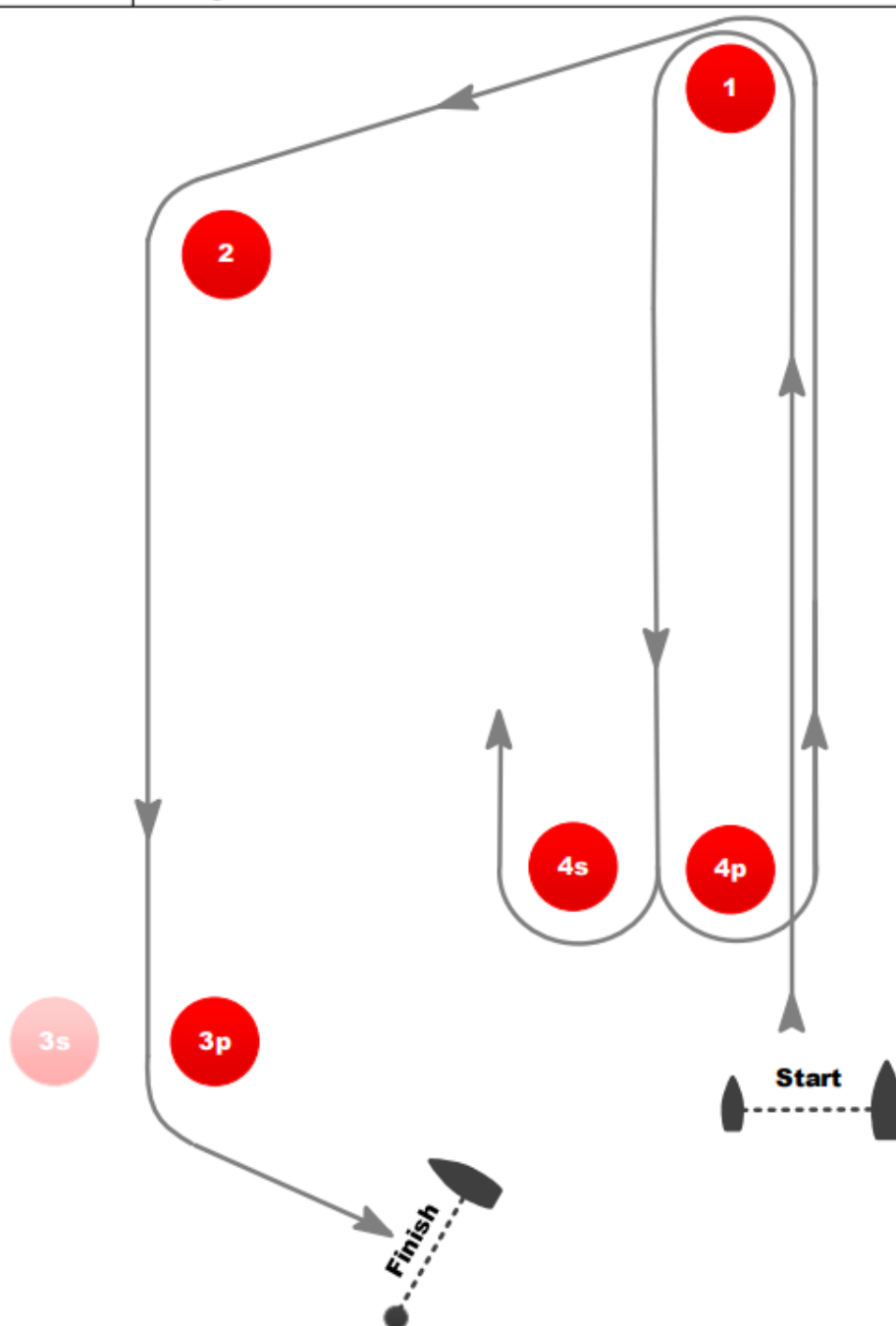
STL	COURSE SAUSAGE/TRIANGLE FINISH AT LEEWARD
Signal	Mark Rounding Order
STT 2	Start – 1 – 2 – 3 – 1 – 3 – finish
STT 3	Start – 1 – 2 – 3 – 1 – 3 – 1 – 2 – 3 – Finish

The diagram illustrates a sailing course layout. It begins at a 'Start' line marked by a red buoy. The course proceeds to mark 1 (top), then mark 2 (left), then mark 3 (bottom), and finally to the 'Finish' line. The diagram shows the sequence of marks and the direction of travel for both STT 2 and STT 3.

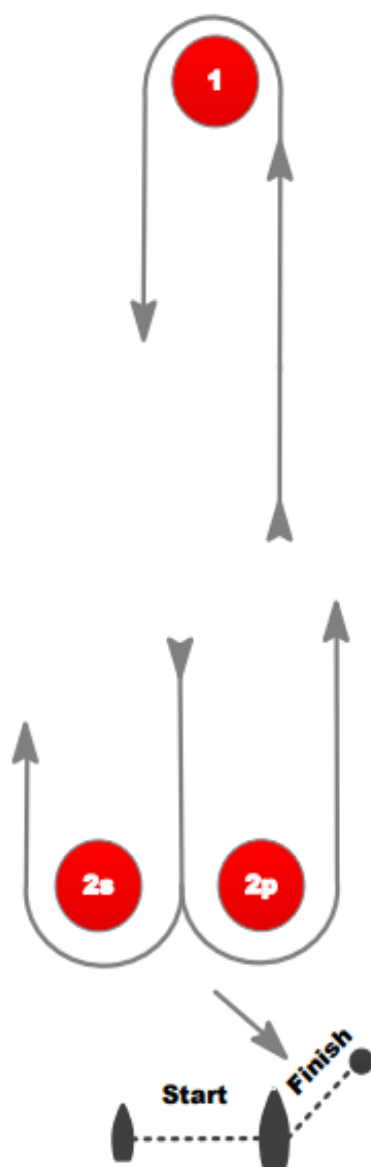
O	COURSE: OUTER TRAPEZOID
Signal	Mark Rounding Order
O2	Start – 1 – 2 – 3s/3p – 2 – 3p – Finish
O3	Start – 1 – 2 – 3s/3p – 2 – 3s/3p – 2 – 3p – Finish
O4	Start – 1 – 2 – 3s/3p – 2 – 3s/3p – 2 – 3s/3p – 2 – 3p – Finish



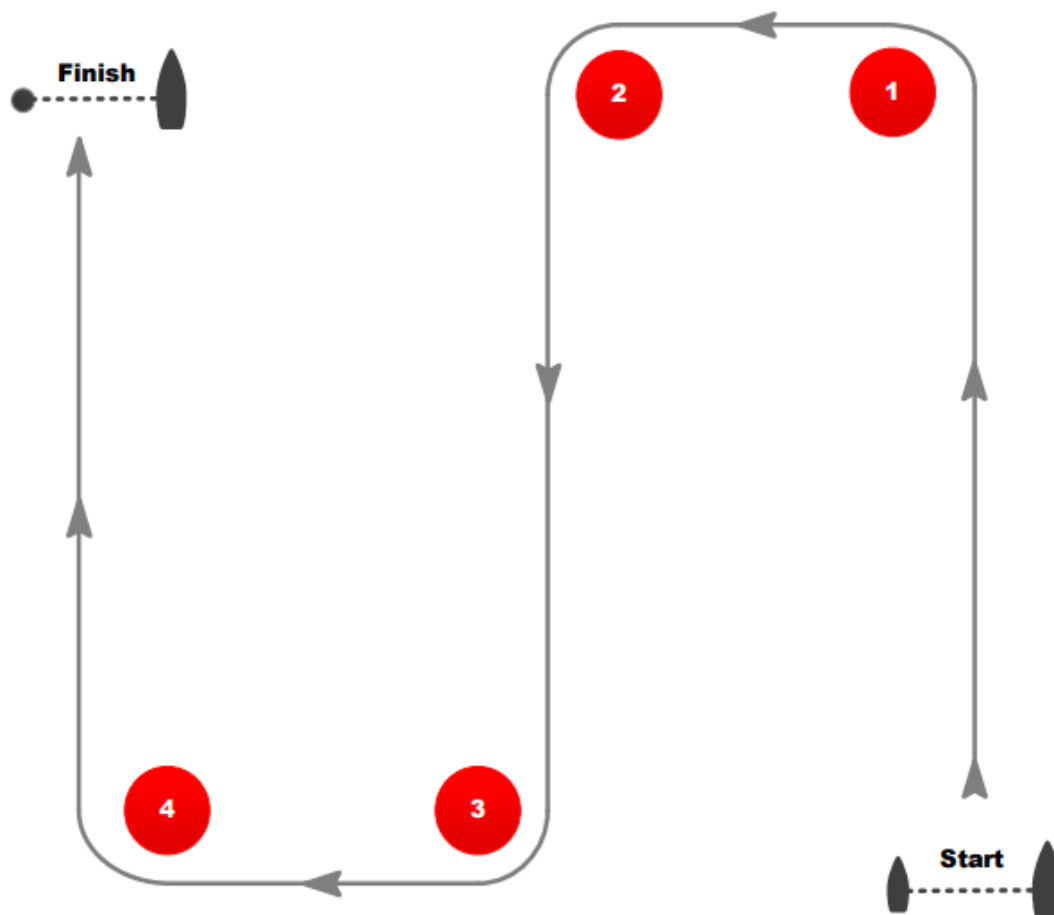
I	COURSE: INNER TRAPEZOID
Signal	Mark Rounding Order
I2	Start - 1 - 4s/4p - 1 - 2 - 3p - Finish
I3	Start - 1 - 4s/4p - 1 - 4s/4p - 1 - 2 - 3p - Finish
I4	Start - 1 - 4s/4p - 1 - 4s/4p - 1 - 4s/4p - 1 - 2 - 3p - Finish



LR	COURSE: WINDWARD / LEEWARD with reaching finish
Signal	Mark Rounding Order
LR2	Start – 1 – 2s/2p – 1 – 2p – Finish
LR3	Start – 1 – 2s/2p – 1 – 2s/2p – 1 – 2p – Finish
LR4	Start – 1 – 2s/2p – 1 – 2s/2p – 1 – 2s/2p – 1 – 2p – Finish

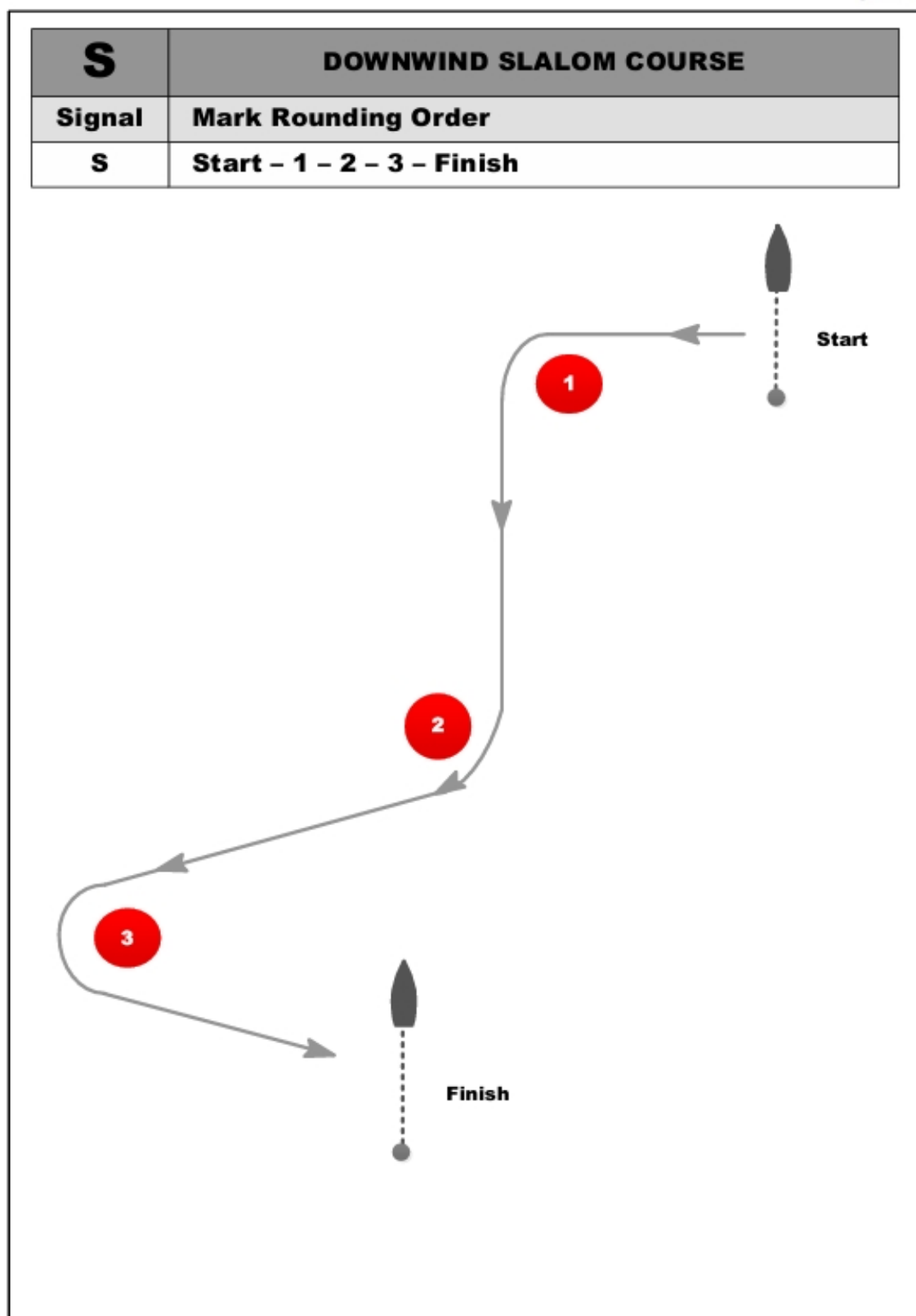


Q	COURSE: Queue Sprint
Signal	Mark Rounding Order
Q	Start – 1 – 2 – 3 – 4 – Finish



G	COURSE: Gate Galore
Signal	Mark Rounding Order
G2	Start – 1s – 2s/2p – 1s/1p – 2s – Finish
G3	Start – 1s – 2s/2p – 1s/1p – 2s/2p – 1s/1p – 2s – Finish

Intention is that this course is for windsurfers only



Intention is that this course is for windsurfers only