

# Graham Water Sailing Club

## “Sociable Saturday” Sailing Instructions 2018

### THE START

#### Do I have to register (“sign on”) to race?

Yes, come along to the Cafe between 14:00 and 14:30 to meet the Race Officer at the table nearest to the waterside doors and “sign on”.

#### How do I start?

The first race will start at 15:00. You start by crossing the start line – it’s between the orange flag on the committee boat and the buoy with an orange flag. Pass from behind (downwind of) the line and head upwind towards the first mark.

#### When do I start?

Everyone starts together. There’s a countdown to the start:

- At four minutes before the start there’ll be some repeated hoots and the orange flag will be displayed.
- Then, after each minute there’ll be a hoot and a number board will be displayed, starting with “0”
- This will continue until “3” is displayed, and that’s the start.

In pictures, it looks like this:

Board displayed	Sound	Meaning
	•••••	<i>Orange flag displayed</i>
0	•	<i>Three minutes to the start - “Warning signal”</i>
1	•	<i>Two minutes to the start - “Preparatory signal”</i>
2	•	<i>One minute to the start</i>
3	•	<b>Start</b>

#### What happens if I start too early?

You have to come back and start properly – if this happens there’ll be an additional hoot and the “X” flag will be displayed until you start correctly.



#### What happens if I start late?

Don’t worry it’s for fun and the taking part that counts!

### THE COURSE & FINISH

The course is shown on the back of this page. Keep going round the course until the “S” flag is displayed on the committee boat – then you finish next time you go through the start/finish line. The race should last about 25-35 minutes. Then there’ll be a second race straight away (“back-to-back”) using the same signals.



### WHAT ABOUT ALL THE RACING RULES?

There are some important rules when two boats meet, so that you know whether to “carry on” or to “give way”.

- If you’re on **starboard** (wind blowing onto the right hand side of the boat) you **carry on**
- If you’re on **port** (wind blowing onto the left side of the boat) **give way**. It’s usually best to do this by turning away from the “carry on” boat (push the tiller away from you)
- If you both have the wind blowing onto the same side, both keep clear of each other
- If you’re approaching a mark and with another boat give each other room to get round.

*.....if in doubt, slow down and avoid a collision!*

# “Sociable Saturday” course

