

Dinghy Racing at WSC

“How it all works”

*Useful information for those new to dinghy racing at Waldringfield SC**

v. 18/5/25

*(*always refer to WSC website for official information)*

Chapters

- 1. WSC Dinghy Racing Key Characteristics**
- 2. Types of Racing**
- 3. Safety**
- 4. Racing Areas**
- 5. Racing Marks**
- 6. Racing Starts**
- 7. Class Flags**
- 8. Committee Boat Starts**
- G. Club Line Starts**
- 10. Signing On**
- 11. Committee Boat Race Course Information**
- 12. Onshore Race Course Information**
- 13. Results**
- 14. Sources of Racing Information**
- 15. Other Matters**

1. WSC Dinghy Racing Key Characteristics

- **Is Class Racing ... mainly**
- **In Club-Approved Classes:**
 - Cadet, Dragonfly, Lark, ILCA (Laser), OK, RS200, Squib, Topper, Wayfarer
- **On Saturday Afternoons** - March to November
- **And on Wednesday Evenings** - April to September
- **Consistent Start Times** - no variation for tides
- **High Quality Race Management** - safety, equipment, courses, start lines, duration, results service
- **Supported by Race Training** - coaching for sailors and race managers

2. Types of Racing

a) Class Series Racing

- Saturday Afternoons (Club Approved Class Starts only)
- Wednesday Evenings (ILCA (Laser), Dragonflies, Squibs only)

b) Handicap Series Racing

- Wednesday Evenings (Fast handicap inc. Lark, OK, RS200 & Wayfarer; Slow handicap inc. Cadet & Topper)

c) Trophy Races

- 7 in 2025 (Victory Plate/ Jubilee Cup, Coronation Cup, Starling Cup/ Cork Plate, Navigation Race, Round the Island, EIRR Jubilee Trophy, Trafalgar Plate and Quantrill Trophy)
- Mostly Handicap or Pursuit races

d) Club Open Meetings

- 3 per year (Easter Egg, Regatta, Cartoon Trophy)
- All class racing

e) Class Open Meetings

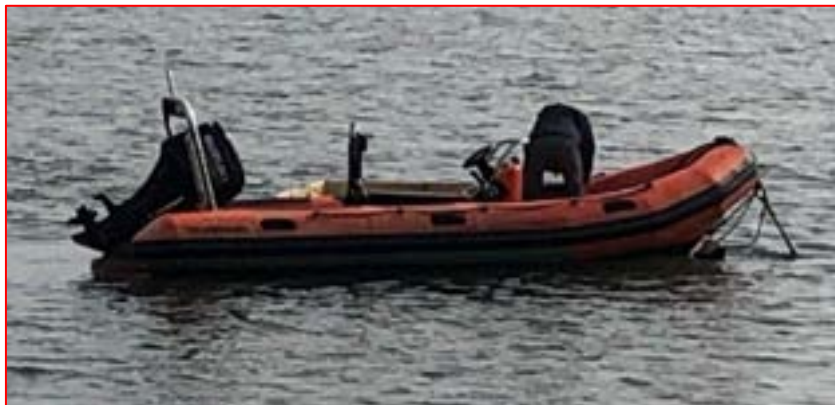
- 4 in 2025 (Cadet Open, Cadet Week, Dragonfly Open, ILCA (Laser) Open)

f) Team Racing

- New in 2025
- on various Sundays using Fireflies

3. Safety Boats

- 4 Ribs - rescue & recovery (+ escort for passing yachts)
- 3 Displacement
 - Boadicea - the principal committee boat - race management
 - Kirton Owl - race management & mark laying
 - Fynn Lass (the blue boat) is often used as a finishing boat

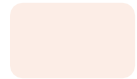


4. Racing Areas

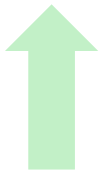


Saturday afternoon racing starts from a committee boat positioned in one of the yellow areas. Racing takes place within or between these areas.

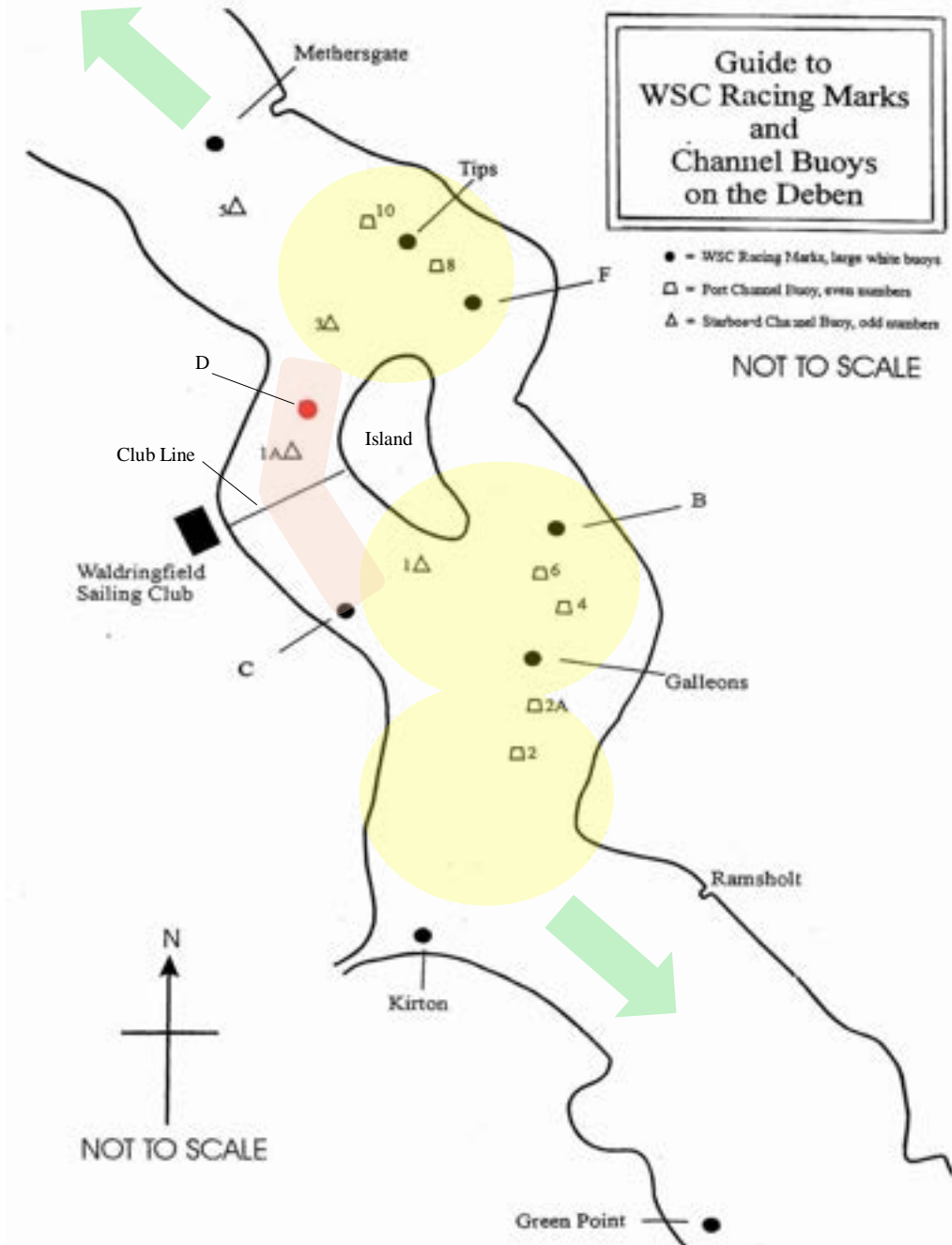
Top Tip. Check the blackboard for the start area and launch in time, considering wind and tide, to arrive there for your start



Wednesday evening racing starts from the club line. Courses vary depending on wind strength, wind direction and tide. Race courses take sailors into and between the two closer yellow areas

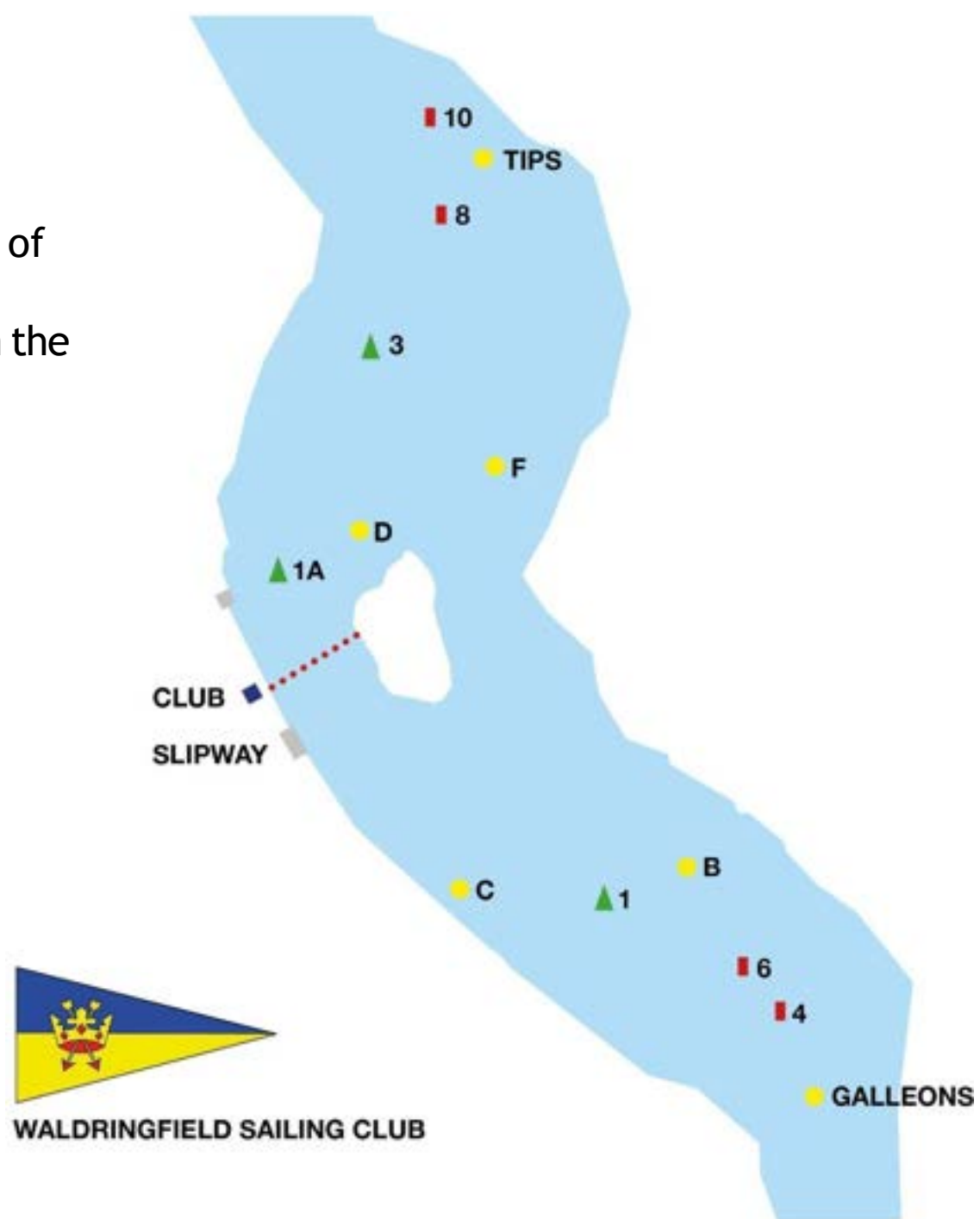


Some Trophy Races go further e.g. Navigation Race upriver to Melton Bridge



4. Racing Areas

A laminated version of this mark map is available to buy from the Club for a small fee



5. Racing Marks

Fixed



- + F
- + D
- + K (Kirton)

Special



- + Pink
- + Red
- + White
- + Green
- + Black

Channel



6. Racing Starts

Saturday Afternoons

- 2 races
- Each race has 6 class starts
 1. RS200
 2. Cadet
 3. K Start (Dragonfly, Lark, OK, Topper)
 4. Wayfarer
 5. ILCA (Laser)
 6. Squib
- First start is RS200s at 1320
- Thereafter at 3-minute intervals (3, 1, Go)
- Second start is back-to-back or not before 1500
- Starts are 30 mins earlier from 1 November (2025)

Wednesday Evenings

- 1 race
- 5 starts
 1. ILCA (Laser)
 2. Dragonfly
 3. Fast Handicap (Lark, OK, RS200, Wayfarer*)
 4. Squib
 5. Slow Handicap (Cadet & Topper*)
- First start is ILCA (Laser) at 1854
- Thereafter at 3-minute intervals (3, 1, Go)
- * Other classes to check if they're Fast or Slow
- Starts are 30 mins earlier from 20 August (2025)

Details for **Open Meetings** are published on the WSC website well before each event via Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions. Details of **Trophy Races** are given in the club weekly email.

6. Racing Starts

The Sailing Programme - posted in hard copy to all members and available to download from the WSC website - contains all key racing information inc. start times

Lately, more Saturday Afternoon races are Back-to-Back (BTB) meaning sailors do not come ashore between race 1 and race 2

WSC Sailing Programme 2025									
Date	BTB	HW-WSC LW-WSC	Club Racing (Series and Trophy Races)	Club Open Meetings and Events	Adult Go Sailing (GS) / Junior Sailing (JS) / Race Training (RT)	RYA Courses & Class Training: Cadet (CA), ILCA (IL), Topper (TO)			
MARCH									
Sat 01		13:13		WORKING PARTY - 10am					
Sat 08		19:10		WORKING PARTY - 10am					
Sat 15	BTB	13:04	1st Spring 1 & 2						
	BTB	16:54	1st Spring 3 & 4						
29	BTB	12:05	1st Spring 5 & 6			GS1			
APRIL - BST starts 30th March 2025									
Sat 05	BTB	12:00	LW	1st Spring 7 & 8				RT1	RYA PB2 (6th)
Sat 12	BTB	13:04		2nd Spring 1 & 2			GS2	CA1	RYA PB2 (13th)
Fri 18		16:03		EASTER EGG OPEN MEETING					
Sat 19		16:41							
Wed 23		21:23		1st Wednesday 1					
Sat 26	BTB	11:51		2nd Spring 3 & 4	Yacht Spring Meeting	JS1	GS3		IL1 CA2
Sun 27		12:37			ILCA Open				
Wed 30		20:55	LW	1st Wednesday 2					
MAY									
Sat 03		17:11		2nd Spring 5 & 6					TO 4th

7. Class Flags (raised at the 3 minute for that class + the P flag)

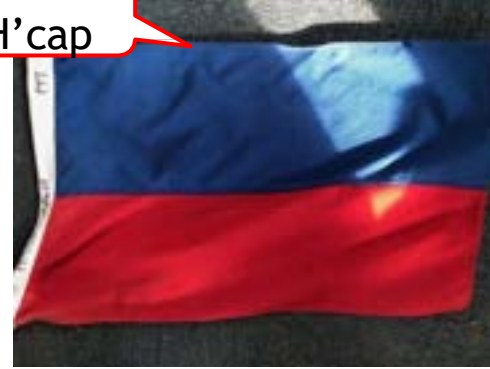
Cadet



K Start



Fast
H'cap



Wayfarer



ILCA
(Laser)



Lark



Dragonfly



RS200



Also..

Slow H'cap - Flag K

Squib - Naval Numeral 9

8. Committee Boat Starts and Finishes (Saturday Afternoons)

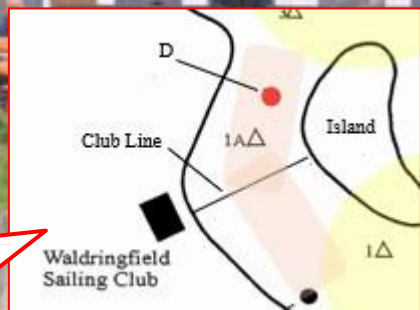


G. Club Line Starts and Finishes (every Wednesday, very occasional Saturdays)

Club start line is between club house mast shown here and a mast on the island opposite



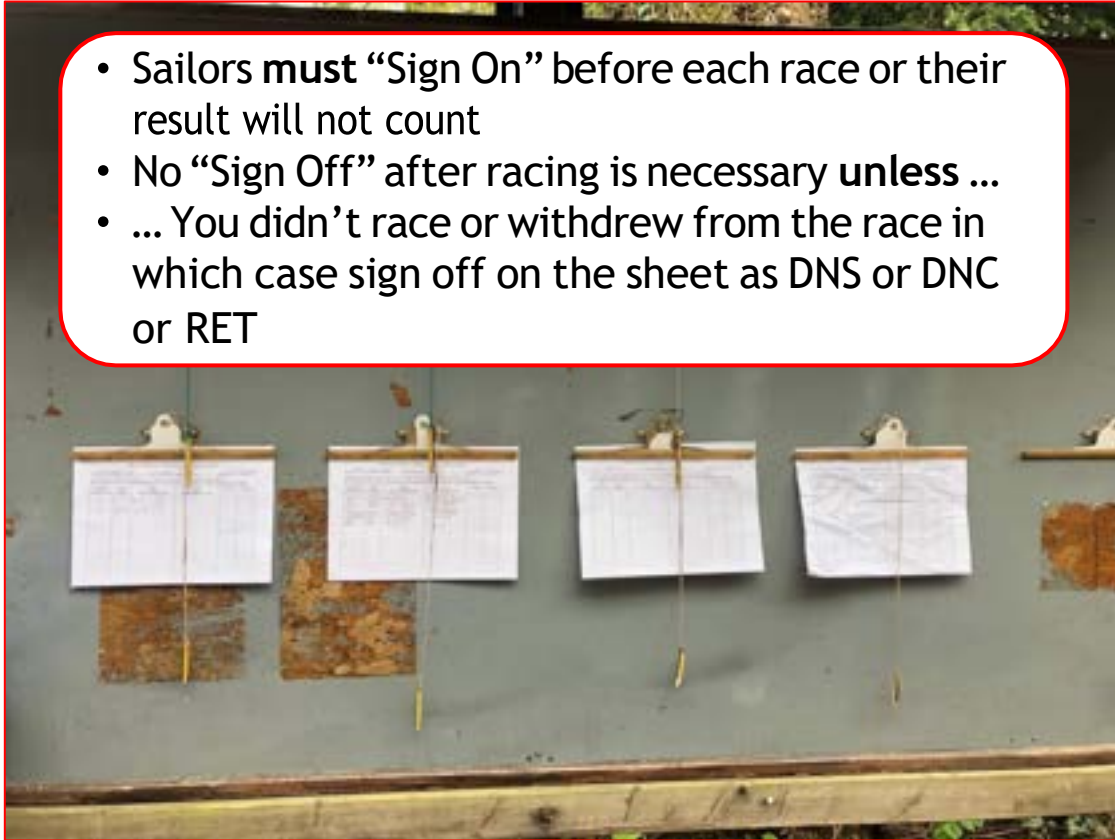
It's rare, but sometimes a club line start will be between the club house mast and an orange flag special mark to achieve a better first leg beat. This is denoted as a Club Bias Line or CBS



Starting (and finishing) "Flags" accompanied by sound signals

10. Signing On

- Sailors **must** “Sign On” before each race or their result will not count
- No “Sign Off” after racing is necessary **unless** ...
- ... You didn’t race or withdrew from the race in which case sign off on the sheet as DNS or DNC or RET

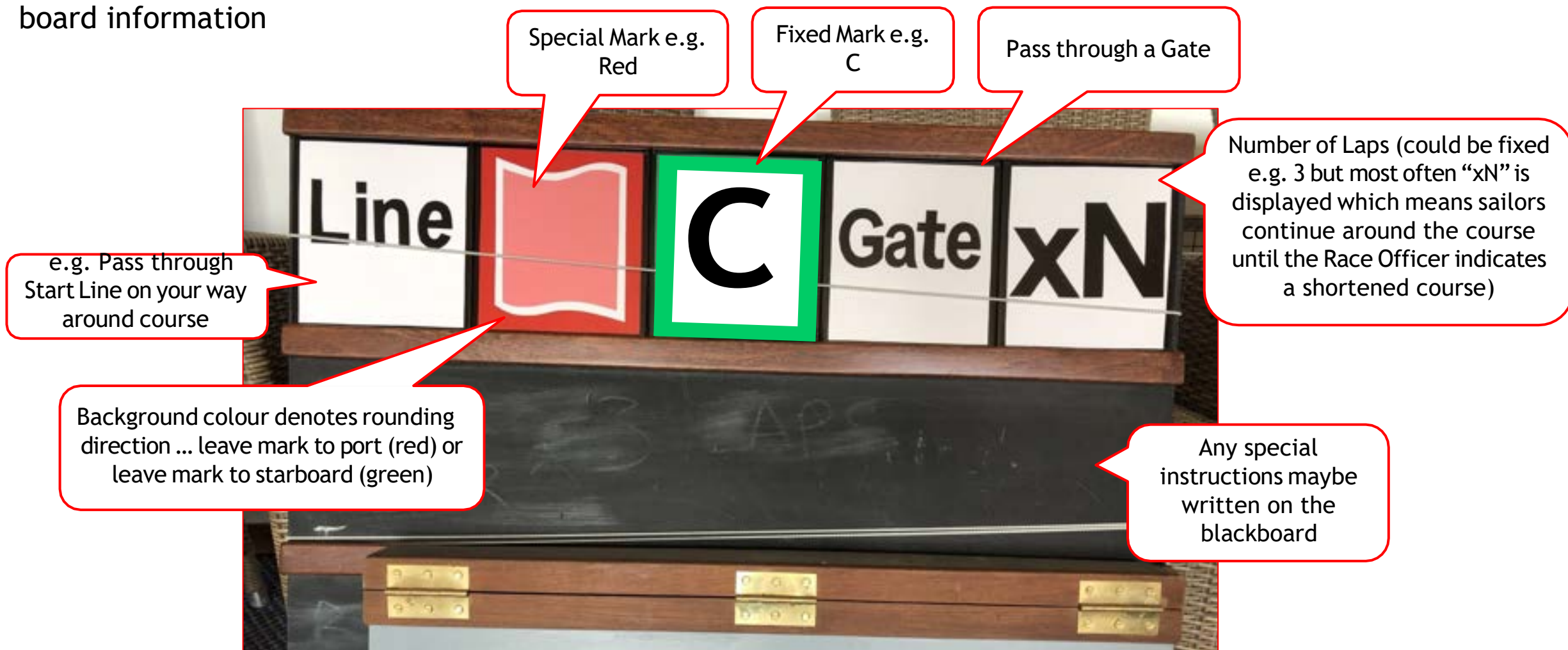


Sign on sheets and pencils are clipped to a board opposite the club house blackboard



11. Committee Boat Race Course Information (most Saturdays Afternoons)

Some examples of
Committee Boat course
board information



12. Onshore Race Course Information (every Wednesday, some Saturdays)

Some examples of course information displayed onshore on the club house blackboard

1ST WEDNESDAY
LASER, FAST HEAD
CLUB LINE START
PINK S
No 8 S
D P
CLUB LINE } x N
C P
YELLOW P
CLUB LINE

SLOW HEAV
CLUB LINE START
PINK (S)
No 8 (S)
D (P)
CLUB LINE
(P)
No 1 (P)
CLUB LINE

Names of Race Officer and Safety Officer for the day
Robert Stewart
John Smith

Course mark order and rounding direction e.g. pink to starboard

Note instruction to go through club line on your way around course

There can be different courses for different classes

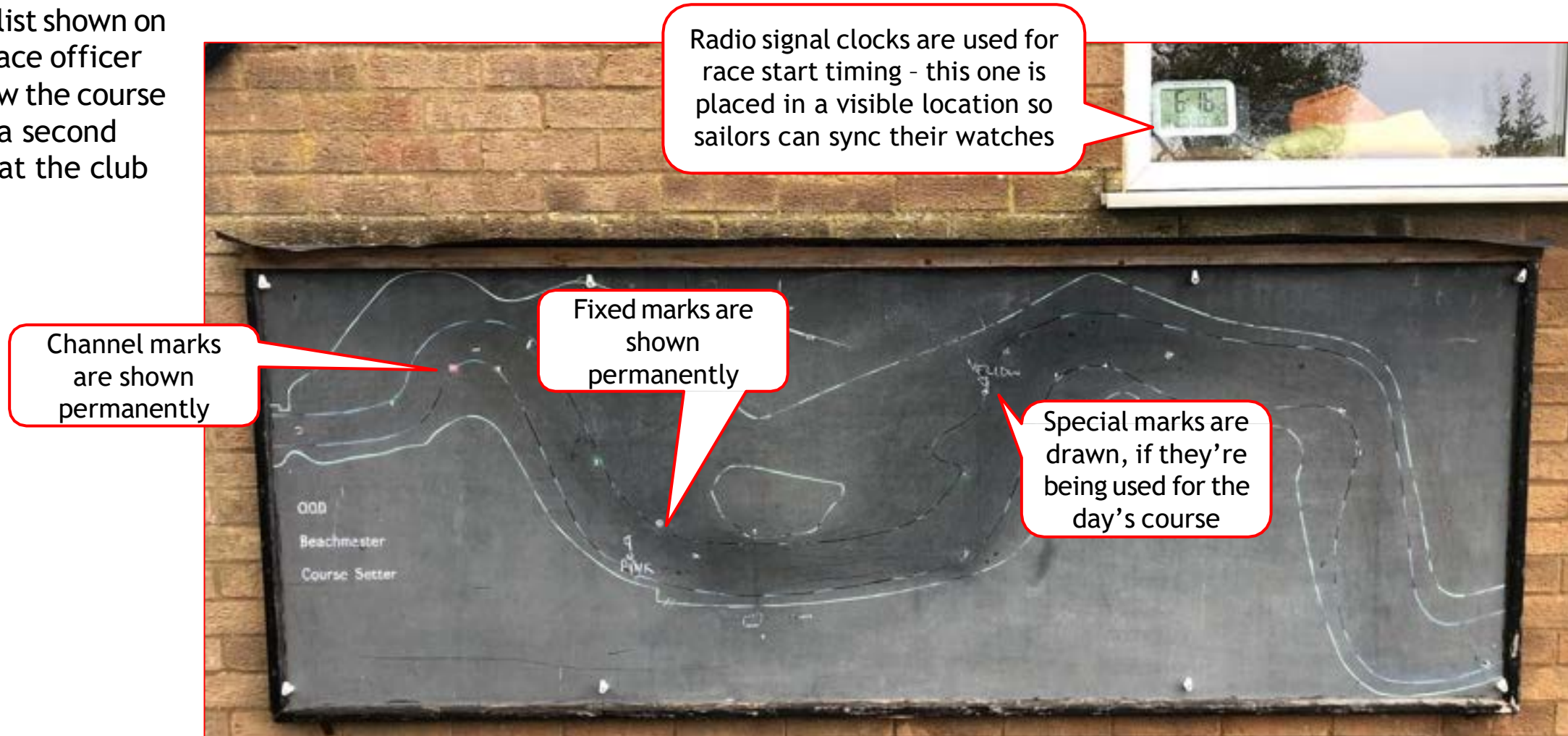
Often Used Terms

- CLS = Club Line Start
- CL (or Line) = Club Line
- CBL = Club Bias Line (explained in chapter 9, page 13)
- x N = Number of Laps (explained in chapter 11, page 15)

All marks indicated are Rule 28.2 Rounding Marks

12. Onshore Race Course Information (every Wednesday, some Saturdays)

Sometimes, in addition to the mark list shown on page 16, a race officer will also draw the course in chalk on a second blackboard at the club house



13. Results

Racing results are published on the club's website, usually within a day or two

← ↻ 🔒 https://waldringfieldsc.com/results-2025/ 🔍 ⚙️ ☆ ⚙️ Update 🔄 ⋮

Latest News...CalendarWeather & TidesSailing Photos🔍

Results 2025

Cadet

Spring 1

Spring 2

OK

Spring 1

Lark

Spring 1

Spring 2

ILCA / Laser

Spring 1

Spring 2

RS200

Spring 1

Spring 2

Squib

Topper

Wayfarer

Spring 1

Spring 2

1st Wednesday Evening

2nd Wednesday Evening

13. Results

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1st Spring Series - Cadet Waldringfield Sailing Club



Overall

Sailed: 4, Discards: 1, To count: 3, Rating system: PY, Entries: 11, Scoring system: WSC local

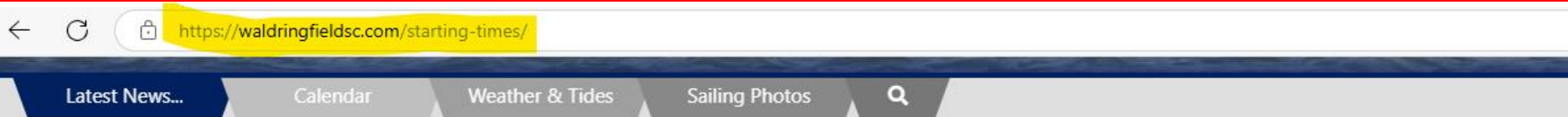
Rank	SailNo	HelmName	CrewName	R1 15/03/2025	R2 15/03/2025	R5 29/03/2025	R6 29/03/2025	Total	Nett
1st	10121	Lewis Walker	Joseph Knight	1.0	1.0	(6.0)	6.0	14.0	8.0
2nd	9876	Tom Krailing	Ella Edwards	(12.0 DNC)	12.0 DNC	2.0	4.0	30.0	18.0
3rd	10001	Kemmel Thorogood	Georgina Loader	(12.0 DNC)	12.0 DNC	5.0	2.0	31.0	19.0
4th	9034	Rosemary Fish	Harriet Walker / Lucas Fish	(12.0 DNC)	2.0	9.0	9.0	32.0	20.0
5th	9026	Imogen Bush	Vivienne Letts	(12.0 DNC)	12.0 DNC	3.0	5.0	32.0	20.0
6th	9042	Kali Karaskas	Araminta Denny-Pickess	(12.0 DNC)	12.0 DNC	1.0	8.0	33.0	21.0
7th	9301	Emily Krailing	Olivia Standing	(12.0 DNC)	12.0 DNC	7.0	3.0	34.0	22.0
8th	9985			(12.0 DNC)	12.0 DNC	4.0	7.0	35.0	23.0
9th	10032	Hettie Thorogood	Clementine Denny-Pickess	(12.0 DNC)	12.0 DNC	11.0 OCS	1.0	36.0	24.0
10th	9289	James Bailey	Oliver Walker	2.0	(12.0 DNC)	12.0 DNC	12.0 DNC	38.0	26.0
11th	9952	Oscar Bush	Boyd Archer	(12.0 DNC)	12.0 DNC	8.0	10.0	42.0	30.0

Scoring codes used

Code	Description	Points
DNC	Did not come to the starting area	12
OCS	On course side at start or broke rule 30.1	11

Sailwave Scoring Software 2.30.02
www.sailwave.com

14. Sources of Racing Information



Programme and Starting Times 2025 Programme



You can view a copy of the [Programme – Updated 12/01/2025](#) as a downloadable PDF document.

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15. Other Matters

- a) Race **postponements**, signalled to sailors by the AP flag, are used to delay starts until wind conditions “settle”
- b) Racing can be **cancelled** if conditions are unlikely to be suitable - every effort is made to cancel before sailors travel to the club when it is clear and obvious that no racing will be possible
- c) Start area **etiquette** - all classes not in their 3 minute sequence should keep well clear of the starting area
- d) There is **Local Rule** - any contact with a moored boat incurs a 360-degree penalty turn and must be reported (see pics below right)
- e) If you want to **learn quickly** how racing works at WSC then sign up for “Assistant Race Officer” duties



Answering Pennant
(AP) postponement
Flag

Blank forms, a pen C a post box to report contact with moored boats is fixed to the wall next to the club house front door

