

Catapult CLASS ASSOCIATION

TT at Grafham Water, 14-15 October 2023

As usual the last blast of our season's sailing programme will be held at Grafham Water Sailing Club in Cambridgeshire. First of all, as already notified, please note the change of date from what was originally published in our Sailing Programme. The Club decided to split their annual Cat Open into two: one for fast cats in July and the second for medium handicap cats and Dart 15s in October. As part of this reorganisation the October Open was brought forward by a week. Splitting the event should take pressure off camping slots and make for a more relaxed end of season event for us, so the change is to be welcomed.

Entries

The sailing club offers an online entry and camping booking system at [WebCollect Calendar | Grafham Water Sailing Club](#). Try to use this link or the link in the Notice of Race where possible, because navigating the club's website to find the booking page is rather tortuous. The entry fee is £55.00 for the weekend, which includes a 2 course meal after racing on the Saturday. Payment is by bank transfer or credit/debit card.

NB The closing date for entries is midnight on Wednesday 11 October. Entries after this date will only be accepted at the Club's discretion and will incur a £10 surcharge.

If there is a forecast of strong winds, the final decision on whether the event will proceed will be taken at 20.00 on Thursday 12 October. If it is cancelled, entrants will receive a full refund.

Please be sure to print or save all the necessary documentation such as the NoR and SIS beforehand, because there will be no documents issued at the Club – and no requirement to register on the day. Nearer the time all notices will be issued online at [Online Noticeboard | Grafham Water Sailing Club](#).

In the past those who travel to the venue the day before have been allowed to sail on the Friday provided they inform the Club Office before launching. It is not clear if that is still the case this year, so check with the club office beforehand.

Clean your cat!

Please note that a condition of entry is that you must have cleaned and dried your boat to ensure you are not inadvertently bringing any more non-native species from other lakes and reservoirs. You will also be required to pressure wash your boat before leaving Grafham to avoid spreading any of the non-native killer shrimps that already infest the reservoir. Full details are provided through a link in the Notice of Race.

Racing

In summary there will be 6 races: 3 back-to-back on Saturday (first start 12.00) and 3 back-to-back on Sunday (first start 10.30). The briefing will be held at 10.30 on Saturday outside the ground floor café. There will be a minimum of 2 starts: Sprint 15s and Medium Handicap. 1 discard will apply when 4 or more races have been sailed.

The Sailing Instructions will be mounted on the Grafham website by 20.00 Thursday 12 October.

Accommodation

CCA members with motorhomes and tents can stay on the club grounds on the Friday and Saturday nights - **but not caravans** because of lease restrictions. The cost is £15 per night for motorhomes and £10 for tents. **NB It is on a first come first served basis, and you must pre-book.** You can select which pitch you want.

The Club maintains on their website a list of local accommodation (campsites, B&Bs and hotels), which is also attached to this invitation for convenience. Alternative sources are www.huntingdon-accommodation.org.uk/ or www.cambridgetouristinformation.co.uk.

Directions

The Club is situated in Perry on the south side of the lake (postcode PE28 0BU). At the Buckden roundabout on the A1, turn west on the B661. In Perry turn right following the signs to the club.

Social side

The entry fee includes a two course meal on the Saturday evening after racing. There will be three choices one of which will be vegetarian. You can choose your dishes when booking your entry. Extra tickets for partners can be bought online at the same time.

Breakfasts, lunches and snacks will be available through both days of the event.

Local interest

Those wanting to do a bit of sightseeing can wander among the dreaming spires of Cambridge, or enjoy the delights of nearby Huntingdon, Godmanchester and St Ives. Nearby stately homes and gardens include Woburn Abbey, Bushmead Priory, Wimpole Hall, Anglesey Abbey and Houghton House. For the more active there is Xscape in Milton Keynes, while flying buffs will enjoy the Shuttleworth Collection near Biggleswade. Ely Cathedral and the Fens are also in easy reach. So there is something for all the family.