



2026 BAHAMAS SUNFISH JUNIOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Great Exuma, The Bahamas
October 24-25, 2026



NOTICE OF RACE

Organizing Authority:

Exuma Sailing Club (ESC) in collaboration with the *Bahamas Sailing Association (BSA)*.

NOTICE OF RACE

1. RULES

1.1. The championship will be governed by the 'rules' as defined by The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).

1.2. The following prescriptions of Bahamas Sailing Association (BSA) shall apply: a) Racing Rules of Sailing PART 4 – Add under preamble: "BSA prescribes that Part 4 rule 40 shall also apply to boats sailing to the racecourse from the launching area and vice-versa."

b) Rule 40 – Add: "BSA prescribes that competitors racing in single-handed dinghies shall wear personal floatation devices at all times while afloat except as provided in rule 40."

1.3. RRS 33 will be changed as follows: Legs of the course will not be changed after the preparatory signal. The sailing instructions may also change other racing rules.

1.4. The first three sentences of RRS 61.1(a) are changed to "A boat intending to protest shall inform the other boat at the first reasonable opportunity. When the protest shall concern an incident in the racing area that she was involved in or saw she shall hail "Protest". She shall inform the Race Committee at the finishing line immediately after finishing of the boat she is protesting, or as soon as practicable after she retires."

1.5. RRS Appendix T (Arbitration) will apply

1.6. RRS Appendix P (RRS 42) will apply with special procedures for Rule 42 with changes to include a point penalty for a penalty given after finishing a race. Appendix 2.3 is deleted, and Appendix 2.2 is changed to "When a boat is penalized for a second and subsequent times during a regatta, she shall promptly retire. If she fails to do so she shall be disqualified without a hearing and her score shall not be excluded."

1.7. In all rules governing this event where applicable:

1.7.1.[DP] denotes a rule for which the penalty is at the discretion of the Jury; and

1.7.2.[NP] denotes a rule that shall not be grounds for protests by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a).

2. [NP] [DP] ADVERTISING

Boats may be required to display advertising supplied by the Organizing Authority.

3. ELIGIBILITY

- 3.1. The regatta is open to competitors sailing on boats of the Sunfish class that fulfill the eligibility requirements stated below.
- 3.2. Competitors shall have been born in 2008 or later.
- 3.3. Competitors shall be junior or associate members of the Bahamas Sailing Association or a club member of a club recognized by the BSA.

4. ENTRY AND FEES

- 4.1. Entries shall be made by completing the relevant online registration forms to be found at www.exumasailing.club/sunfish_nationals and by paying the required fee as provided in 4.2 on or before 24th October, 2026.
- 4.2. Entrance Fee is B\$75.00 payable on or before October 24th, 2026.
- 4.3. Payment instructions, including banking information, can be found on the entry page of the online entry system at: www.exumasailing.club/sunfish_nationals

5. FORMAT

- 5.1. The Bahamas Sunfish Junior National Championship is comprised of a Gold Fleet and an Emerald Fleet, as follows:
 - ★ Gold Fleet – Those who have competed in major national events earlier in the year and/or wish to be considered for the international race team, plus those assigned by coaches to be sailing in this fleet.
 - ★ Emerald Fleet – Sailors who have been sailing for less than a year; sailors that are new to racing and have never raced at a competition before, plus those assigned by coaches to be sailing in this fleet.
- 5.2 The two fleets, Gold & Emerald, will be raced simultaneously on the same course, and scored separately.
- 5.3 Seven races are planned for this event with a maximum of four races a day. A minimum of three races is required for the series to stand and the worst score will be dropped if six or more races are completed.

6. SCHEDULE

Saturday, October 24th

9:00- 9:30am – Registration at Exuma Sailing Club cove

9:30am – Skippers Meeting

10:30am – First Race Warning Signal

Race 2 to follow

Lunch on the water

Race 3 & 4 to follow

5:00pm – AGM Meeting (available on zoom by request) at Hideaways Hotel

Sunday, October 25th

12:00pm – First Warning Signal

3 races (back to back)

5:00pm – Prizes, Presentation & Dinner at Splash Bar & Grill (Hideaways Hotel)

7. MEASUREMENT

7.1. A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions.

8. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

8.1. The sailing instructions will be available at www.exumasailing.club , posted in the Sunfish Junior Nationals Unofficial WhatsApp chat, and at the ESC notice board at the time of the event.

9. COMMUNICATION

9.1. [DP] While racing, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

10. VENUE

10.1. The general racing area will be in the vicinity between the Exuma Sailing Club and Stocking Island in Elizabeth Harbour, Great Exuma, The Bahamas.

10.2. The exact locations of the courses will depend on the specific wind and sea conditions and are at the discretion of the Race Committee.

11. THE COURSES

11.1. The courses to be sailed will be described in the sailing instructions.

12. PENALTY SYSTEM

12.1. Appendix P will apply, as changed by NOR 1.7

12.2. Any competitor using a one/two turn(s) penalty shall report that use to the Race Committee promptly upon finishing that race.

12.3. The Jury Boat will be identified by displaying the code flag J.

12.4. In addition to the application of Appendix P, the jury will observe racing for other rule infringements. When a protest committee member sees such an infringement, and no boat hails protest or takes an appropriate penalty, the protest committee member may make one sound, but no yellow flag will be pointed, and no sail number will be hailed. This signal means that one or more members of the protest committee believe a boat should take an appropriate penalty.

12.5. Appendix T (Arbitration) only will apply for Emerald Fleet. No protest hearing will be held.

13. SCORING

13.1. The low point scoring system of Appendix A will apply.

13.2. Three races shall constitute a regatta.

13.3. When fewer than 6 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of his or her race scores. When 6 or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of his or her race scores excluding her worst score.

14. [NP][DP] SUPPORT PERSONNEL AND BOATS

- 14.1. Support Persons shall register at on-site registration and boats used by them shall be marked with a Flag given to them at Registration.
- 14.2. Support Persons shall monitor the race committee channel on the VHF radio and be available to assist with safety when requested. The VHF channel will be announced at the Skippers Meeting.

15. CHARTER BOATS

- 15.1. Limited charter boats are available through the ESC who shall allocate boats on a first come first serve basis and otherwise may allocate boats in their sole discretion. Additional charter boats will be handled directly with Jimmie Lowe coming from the BNSS.

16. BERTHING

- 16.1. Boats shall be kept at the Exuma Sailing Club cove, well above the high tide level.

17. PRIZES

- 17.1. For the Gold Fleet, the following prizes shall be awarded:
- 17.1.1. Top three finishers in Gold Fleet
- 17.1.2. Top finisher who is a citizen of or resident in the Commonwealth of The Bahamas will be awarded the Floating Champion Trophy
- 17.1.3. Top three finishers in the Emerald Fleet
- 17.1.4. Additional sportsmanship awards will be given at the discretion of the Race Committee

18. DISCLAIMERS OF LIABILITY

- 18.1. The Exuma Sailing Club, the Bahamas Sailing Association, The International Sunfish Class Association and their officers, members and volunteers do not accept liability for loss of life or property, or personal injury or damage caused by or arising out of the Bahamas Sunfish Junior Nationals 2026. Competitors take part in the Championships entirely at their own risk.
- 18.2. All competitors and Support Persons will be required to sign the hold Harmless Agreement.

19. PHOTO AND VIDEO DISCLAIMER

- 19.1. By participating in the event, competitors give absolute right and permission to the organizing authority for any photograph and video footage taken of themselves or the boat they are sailing during the event to be published in any media whatsoever, for either editorial or advertising purpose to be used in press information without compensation and without the competitor's approval of such images.

20. FURTHER INFORMATION

- 20.1. All information regarding this event is to be found on the ESC website at www.exumasailing.club and communications may be sent to exumasailingclub@gmail.com.
- 20.2. Telephone/WhatsApp contacts for the Exuma Sailing Club are:
Dallas Knowles - 242-524-8246 and/or Tamara Knowles - 242-524-8247