

***Rollesby Broad
Sailing Club***
Summer Series 2026

***Race Reports &
Results Summary***

Contents

Previous Events and Upcoming Programme	3
Week 1 – Sunday the 9th of August:	4
Week 2 – Sunday the 16th of August:	5
Week 3 – Sunday the 23rd of August	6
Week 4 – Sunday the 30th of August:	7
Week 5 – Broadland Youth Regatta & Sunday the 6th of September:	8
Week 6 – Sunday the 13th of September:	10
Week 7 – Sunday the 20th of September:	11
Week 8 – Sunday the 27th of September:	12
Summary & Overall Results	13

Previous Events and Upcoming Programme

Summer feels like it is a distant memory with this turn in the weather! The clocks have gone back, and also coming back are the Winter Members. After next week (1st of November onwards), sailing is only allowed Sundays. This means unfortunately there is no informal weekday sailing permitted until the Spring. We have lots of events still to come and for full details of the sailing programme, please see the link here: <https://www.rbsc.org.uk/racing-2/programme-2026-27/>

- **Junior Programme Success** – Block 3 of the Friday Evenings finished at the end of September, with many collecting their certificates. Reflect on the amazing achievements from this season here:
<https://www.rbsc.org.uk/2026/07/junior-novice-regatta-july-2026-race-report/> &
<https://www.rbsc.org.uk/2026/09/broadland-youth-regatta-2026-team-rollesby-race-report/>
- **Autumn Open Regatta** – Sunday 4th of October we transitioned to the ‘winter’ format of two starts and some visitors joined us for the day.
<https://www.rbsc.org.uk/2026/10/autumn-regatta-2026-race-report/>
- **Additional Training** – FREE sailing development day for both juniors and adults on Saturday 31/10 starting at 10am. Contact us via the Club WhatsApp to let us know if you plan to attend.
- **Final Eels Foot & Remembrance Sunday** – November 8th for the last Eels Foot Race of the series and observing the two minutes silence at 11am.
- **Winter Open Regatta** – Sunday 6th of December will kick off the Winter Series where we hope to welcome some more visitors.
- **Boxing Day Pursuit** – Saturday 26/12 using boat PY for a 72 minute game of catch up! Sailing the following day on Sunday 27/12 can be arranged.
- **New Year’s Day Open Regatta** – Racing for the honour of claiming the infamous Binnacle on Friday 01/01/2027.
- **Frostbite Open Regatta** – Sunday 7th of February to begin the final races of the ‘winter’ programme. Hopefully we can attract a few visitors!



Lots of boats at the start under dark skies on 30/08

Week 1 – Sunday the 9th of August:

A warm but very fickle westerly breeze greeted 12 sailors for the opening races of the new Rollesby series on Sunday. Conditions were classic Rollesby summer sailing, light airs, unpredictable shifts, and spells of drifting. With many regulars away on holiday, the fleet was smaller than usual, but those present were keen to get the series underway.

Race 1 began with the 'Eels Foot' course, though there was early uncertainty over whether the cut would be passable due to very low water levels. After half a lap on Rollesby, Roger Wilson (Streaker) plus Keith and Jane Minster (Albacore) caught a perfectly timed puff and broke clear, leaving the rest of the fleet to drift slowly toward Ormesby Little Broad. By the time the chasing pack emerged from the cut, the leading pair had established a commanding lead and Wilson took a comfortable win with the Minsters securing second. A tight mid-fleet photo finish saw John Saddington (Solo) claim third on handicap.

Race 2 brought similarly dramatic shifts and windless patches. Daniel Bull (ILCA 7) and Wilson traded the lead early, pulling away until the wind collapsed entirely. Bull found a fortunate gust and extended clear to win both on the water and on corrected-time. Wilson held second, while Ellie Edwards (Streaker) closed rapidly as fresh breeze filled from behind to secure third.



View from the Race Box in the lead up to the start.

Week 2 – Sunday the 16th of August:

The Broad lay completely still on Sunday morning, with 14 boats quietly admiring their reflections as sailors waited for the first hint of breeze. After a short delay, racing finally began in classic Rollesby summer conditions with no steady direction, patchy breeze, and plenty of unpredictability.

Race 1 set off in very light airs, and a series of large shifts up the first beat quickly split the fleet. The early leaders were soon caught on the downwind leg as the breeze crept in from behind, compressing the mid-fleet and reshuffling positions. Three boats managed to break clear of the congestion, with Howard Astley-Jones making excellent use of his spinnaker to open a commanding lead and secure an easy win. Kevin Postlethwaite (Solo) narrowly claimed second place ahead of David and Diane Goodwin (Enterprise), with the trio finishing comfortably clear of the next boats by 100 seconds.

Race 2 delivered more fickle breeze and another small breakaway group. Astley-Jones again sailed strongly, finishing first on the water after an impressive final lap. However, he couldn't quite escape Ellie Edwards (Streaker), who was close enough to share victory with him on handicap. Daniel Bull (ILCA 7) finished just five seconds behind, with Postlethwaite only three seconds further back in the tightly packed top half.



Close racing between Marks 5 and 6.

Week 3 – Sunday the 23rd of August

A pleasant but shifty north-westerly breeze greeted 22 sailors at Rollesby on Sunday. With enough juniors competing, the race team was able to provide them with a separate start. Several “weed-burbs” also lurked around the course, costing some competitors valuable places.

In Race 1, a small leading group broke away after the opening lap, but Rollesby drama and shifty breeze left the outcome wide open. Roger Wilson’s (Streaker) challenge was derailed on the final leg when his cap blew off, forcing him to turn back and retrieve it. This allowed Ellie Edwards (Streaker) through, although neither ultimately reached the podium. Meanwhile, Solo sailors Bob Hawkins and Kevin Postlethwaite steadily closed the gap to the leaders, with Hawkins securing the corrected-time victory by just nine seconds ahead of Postlethwaite. Daniel Bull (ILCA 7) recovered well after completing penalty turns at the start and later becoming caught in the weed, narrowly claiming third place overall.

The wind strengthened for Race 2 and the unpredictable shifts continued to test the sailors. Bull was first to the windward mark, establishing an early lead with Edwards close behind. Edwards remained within striking distance until the halfway point, when Bull pulled clear to secure victory. Edwards maintained her strong pace to finish a comfortable second, while Wilson held off the chasing fleet to claim third.

Sadly no picture from this week!

Week 4 – Sunday the 30th of August:

Shifty westerlies returned to Rollesby this Sunday, with 18 dinghies once again weaving between drifting weed-burbs while chasing scattered gusts across the Broad. Dark clouds threatened a storm, but only drizzle arrived, and the breeze frustratingly strengthened only for the final lap of the day's last race.

Race 1 set off in very light airs, and a fortunate downwind puff allowed a small leading group to break clear as the rest of the fleet spread out. Tony Fullford (Comet Trio) looked poised for a comfortable win until the wind collapsed on the final leg. Roger Wilson (Streaker), able to keep his lighter boat moving through the lull, drifted past to secure a decisive victory. Behind them, Bob Hawkins and John Saddington in their Solos steadily closed the gap and pipped Fullford for third on corrected-time by just six seconds.

Race 2 again opened with Fullford and Wilson at the front, but another mid-race lull compressed the fleet and reshuffled the order. Ellie Edwards (Streaker) capitalised, slipping through on the downwind leg to take the lead. Fullford Hawkins and Saddington stayed in close contention yet missed by only a handful of seconds on handicap. Edwards was first across the line and held her advantage after corrected-time. Wilson recovered enough distance on the Solos to claim second, while Chris Foster crewed by Chris Codling (Wayfarer), edged into third place by a single second.



Boats hug the reeds and dodge the weeds to make the most of the light Westerly Winds.

Week 5 – Broadland Youth Regatta & Sunday the 6th of September:

Rollesby sailors enjoyed a busy weekend on the water, beginning on Saturday when 16 juniors travelled to Barton Broad for the Broadland Youth Regatta, hosted by Norfolk Punt Club. Strong westerly winds and fierce gusts created challenging conditions, although the breeze gradually eased during the afternoon.

The team competed across four fleets. In the fast-handicap, Emily finished consistently in the top third during only her second Laser outing. James brought his usual humour and relaxed approach, Matthew recovered strongly from early gear failure, and Harvey performed well at his first major event in his new Splash. Ella and Bronwen showed excellent teamwork and determination in their RS Feva, completing every race despite several capsizes.

Rollesby's largest contingent raced in the Topper fleet. George finished among the leading seven boats, closely followed by Dalton, with both regularly placing in the upper third. Tilly persevered after an early encounter with the mud, while Harry and Solomon brought renewed speed to the old club Toppers. Hattie and Una raced consistently and supported their younger teammates, while Monty and Stanley refused to give up in the face of ferocious gusts. Henrietta delivered an outstanding performance in the slow-handicap, finishing as the first Optimist in three races and securing the fleet victory.

Rollesby is extremely proud to have achieved an estimated fifth place among eight NSBA-affiliated clubs, a significant improvement on last year. During the Royal Visit at lunchtime, James, Hattie and Henrietta met Princess Anne, while Chief Instructor Tamsin explained what makes the club so distinctive and special.



Henrietta takes a decisive fleet victory!



Emily sailing our old Club Laser!

A fresh south-westerly breeze greeted 18 dinghies at Rollesby on Sunday, a welcome change after weeks of light airs. Race 1 quickly developed into a close contest between Roger Wilson (Streaker) and Daniel Bull (ILCA 7), both broke clear early and exchanged the lead throughout. Bull ultimately crossed the line first, but Wilson stayed close enough to secure handicap victory. Bob Hawkins (Solo) held off the chasing pack to take a comfortable third.

With racing abandoned at Gorleston due to rough seas, several familiar faces joined the Rollesby fleet for Race 2. Wilson and Bull once again led the fleet, with Bull crossing the line first but slipping into third on handicap. Visiting sailor Abi Yorkston (ILCA 6) kept them firmly in sight to win on corrected time, with Wilson claiming second.

After lunch, a smaller group returned to enjoy the excellent conditions. Wilson, Yorkston and Richard Foster, crewed by Michael Weymss (Wayfarer), stayed tightly grouped until Wilson edged clear. However, Yorkston remained close enough to secure a narrow victory just a single second ahead of Wilson, with Foster and Weymss finishing third.



First upwind leg and the sailors are hiking hard!

Week 6 – Sunday the 13th of September:

A calm, drizzly morning greeted a small but keen fleet of 12 dinghies at Rollesby on Sunday. At times it seemed racing might be abandoned altogether as the wind faded to nothing, and the occasional shower dampened enthusiasm. Even so, three junior sailors remained keen to launch, still buoyed by their success at the Broadland Youth Regatta the previous weekend.

Race 1 set off in very light airs and Ellie Edwards (Streaker) and John Saddington (Solo) broke clear early. Edwards extended her lead after the first lap to secure a comfortable win. Saddington looked safe in second until the wind vanished entirely, leaving him stalled while Phil Atherton (Solo) closed in on a small downwind puff. Saddington just held on to his second place, with Atherton only six seconds behind in third.

The rest of the fleet drifted slowly home, prompting a short delay before Race 2. Fortunately, a faint breeze returned and Daniel Bull (ILCA 7) led from the start. After his success as first overall ILCA 7 at a very fresh Grafham event yesterday, Rollesby seemed rather tame. Although the fleet occasionally compressed in the fickle wind, Bull maintained control to take the win. Chris Codling (ILCA 7) headed the chasing pack for second, while Saddington made significant gains each leg to secure third on handicap.



Start of Race 1 with boats drifting towards the line, quite a contrast to last week.

Week 7 – Sunday the 20th of September:

A strong westerly greeted ten determined dinghies at Rollesby on Sunday, a sharp contrast to the drifting conditions of the previous week. Fierce gusts swept across the Broad over the trees, testing sailors throughout. Three juniors rose to the challenge and stayed afloat longer than several seasoned competitors.

Spectators gathered at the clubhouse for the catering and a fine view of the action. Some of the fleet did not reach the start of Race 1, with further retirements after the opening lap leaving only three boats in real contention. Daniel Bull (ILCA 7) finished first on the water, closely followed by Darren Pike (Streaker). However, neither could escape Ellie Edwards (Splash) who stayed close enough to secure the handicap win. Junior sailor George battled on in his first Splash outing in heavy winds to take fourth, while Matthew (Splash) recovered from early mainsheet mismanagement to finish fifth.

Race 2 attracted two additional starters, but Bull, Edwards and Howard Astley-Jones (RSVareo) soon broke clear, with Bull and Astley-Jones exchanging the lead. Bull again crossed the line first and this time retained victory. Edwards claimed second on handicap, with Astley-Jones third. Junior sailor Harry, on only his third ILCA outing, showed determination as he raced Matthew for the remaining places. Harry finished ahead on the water, but Matthew turned the result around on corrected-time.



Junior sailor George tries out the Splash for the first time in some gusty conditions.

Week 8 – Sunday the 27th of September:

A fresh south-easterly breeze greeted 20 dinghies at Rollesby on Sunday for the final races of the Summer Series. In Race 1, a leading group soon broke clear with Richard Bailey and Ian Curtis (Wayfarer) establishing an advantage alongside Ellie Edwards (Streaker). For a while Edwards kept them in range, but the Wayfarer utilised their spinnaker well to claim victory both on the water and on handicap. Edwards secured a comfortable second, while Roger Wilson (Streaker) battled Clive Girling (ILCA 7) for third.

Conditions strengthened for Race 2 with Mike MacNamara and Roger Watson (Albacore) surging ahead to finish first on the water. Despite their commanding lead, Wilson remained close enough to claim victory on corrected-time, with Girling taking third.

After lunch, junior sailors made up half the fleet for Race 3 and relished the planing conditions. Wilson again led the way, although David Houghton and John Simmonds (Wayfarer) challenged strongly. Wilson claimed the win, Houghton and Simmonds took second, and Mark Porter (Laser 13) held off the juniors for third.

Daniel Bull and Ellie Edwards finished the series level on points, with Bull taking the overall title on countback despite missing the final day. Edwards placed second, while Roger Wilson finished just one point behind in third. Bull completed a successful day away at the ILCA Eastern Grand Prix claiming the overall series victory in the ILCA 7 fleet.



Busy start line in some breeze!

Summary & Overall Results

For a Summer Series where entries are traditionally lower due to holidays and sailors travelling to open meetings, the turn out remained very encouraging, with an average of 16 boats racing each week. While participation was slightly down on the previous series, this was entirely in keeping with expectations, and several Sundays still attracted fleets of more than 20 boats.

As in the previous series, junior participation continued to grow throughout the season. This was likely aided by the club's success at the BYR, which undoubtedly boosted both confidence and enthusiasm among our younger sailors. Across the series, many competitors were also travelling to events elsewhere, often leaving them with little room for missed races in the overall standings. Once again, Rollesby was well represented at events across the region and beyond, further demonstrating the club's ability to develop, support, and retain talented sailors.

A total of 48 individual sailors competed during the series. Although fewer than half sailed enough races to qualify for an overall placing, this still represents a strong core of regular racers. Unfortunately, there were once again insufficient third races completed for anybody to qualify for the Afternoon Series, meaning no prizes were awarded.

There was still generally warm and dry weather and as such our water levels remained noticeably low. The season also delivered more windy Sundays than would normally be expected, seeming to alternate between fresh, testing conditions one week and gentle, tactical racing the next. The annual battle with the weed evolved as the season progressed because as it died back, it drifted down the broad! This created floating "weed burls", making avoidance of certain areas an important part of race strategy. Meanwhile, the cut towards Eels Foot appeared narrower than ever, though winter conditions will hopefully encourage the reeds to retreat before next season.

The Wednesday Series concluded at the end of August and from 32 entries the RS200 was the one to beat from the outset! Behind them, positions were fiercely contested throughout the fleet, with sailors facing a wide variety of conditions that had tested every aspect of racing since April. The Summer Series itself was characterised by a season-long battle between the eventual top three competitors, while further down the standings every point had to be earned, making for competitive racing from front to back of the fleet.

- See Overleaf Page 14 for Overall Results -

Wednesday Evening Series (Personal Handicap Pursuit)

1. Henrietta Highfield & Phil Highfield (RS200) – 10 points
2. Ellie Edwards (Streaker/Splash) – 23 points
3. John Saddington (Solo) – 24 points
4. David Taylor (GP14) – 29 points
5. Phil Alison (Solo/Harrier/Zenith) – 43 points
6. Stuart Highfield (ILCA 7) – 46 points
7. Mike MacNamara & Roger Watson (Wayfarer) – 47 points
8. Vince Steele (Solution) – 53 points

Full overall results online here: https://www.rbsc.org.uk/race_results/2026_we.htm

Summer Series (AM Races 1 & 2 – mixed fleet)

1. Daniel Bull (ILCA 7) – 14 points
2. Ellie Edwards (Streaker/Splash) – 14 points
3. Roger Wilson (Streaker) – 15 points
4. Tony Fullford (Comet Trio) – 43 points
5. Howard Astley-Jones (RSVareo) – 54 points
6. Kevin Postlethwaite (Solo) – 58 points
7. Bob Sparrow & Steve Gibbons (Wayfarer) – 59 points
8. Bob Hawkins (Solo) – 69 points

Full overall results online here: https://www.rbsc.org.uk/race_results/2026_su_am.htm



Dan (207011) leads the ILCA 7's at WOBYC on 30/08, the later in the season going on to win the overall ILCA 7 Eastern Area Grand Prix Series.