



**Irish Fireball
Association**

**National
Championships**

**12 – 14 August
2016**



Hosted by

Howth Yacht Club

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1 Organising Authority and Rules

- 1.1 The Organising Authority is Howth Yacht Club, in association with the Irish Fireball Association.
- 1.2 The Regatta will be governed by the 2013-2016 Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the prescriptions of the Irish Sailing Association and the current International Fireball Class Rules, except as any of these are changed by these Sailing Instructions.
- 1.3 This championship will be designated as a category C Event.

2 Notices to Competitors

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official Notice Board located inside the gate beside the Marina Office.

3 Changes in sailing instructions

- 3.1 Changes to the sailing instructions and/or Notices to competitors will be posted on the official Notice Board before 10.30 hrs on the day the change will take effect, except, any change to the schedule of races which will be posted not later than 21:00 hrs on the day before it will take effect.
- 3.2 Rule 25 of the Class Rules 'Propulsion' will apply

4 Signals made ashore

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flag pole at the entrance to the marina.
- 4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 20 minutes' in the race signal AP.

5 Class flags

The Class Flag will be International code Flag Numeral 8

6 Sailing area

The sailing area will be advised at the regatta briefing.

7 The Course

7.1 See Appendix A for a description of the courses. A flag (as described in Appendix A) identifying the course to be sailed for each race will be flown from the committee boat in accordance with RRS Rule 27.1

7.2 Should wind and time conditions, it may be necessary to use a course not listed on attachment A, should this happen then the course will be drawn on a board on the Committee boat.

8 Marks

Marks will be large yellow cylindrical inflatable type. The pin will be an orange cylindrical type. The finish mark will be a smaller cherry round type.

9 Schedule of races

- 9.1 9 Races are scheduled of which one shall be completed to constitute a series. Up to 4 races may be sailed on the Friday and Saturday with the remaining races on Sunday.
- 9.2 The Regatta Briefing will take place at 10.00hrs on Friday 12th August.
- 9.3 The schedule time for the warning signal for the first race on Friday is 11:25hrs.
- 9.4 The schedule time for the warning signal for the first race on Saturday is 11.00hrs.
- 9.5 The schedule time for the warning signal for the first race on Sunday is 11.00hrs.
- 9.6 Remaining races to be started as soon as possible after preceding race.
- 9.7 No races shall be started after 15:30 on Sunday.

10 Black Flag Penalty Rule

In amendment of RRS 30.3, if a start using the Black Flag Penalty Rule is recalled, the sail numbers of the boats identified infringing the SI will be displayed on the Starting Line Committee Boat prior to the next preparatory signal, for a minimum of three minutes. A long sound signal will be made as the numbers are initially displayed.

Failure to observe RRS 30.3 may result in disqualification from the series or other disciplinary action.

11 The Start

Races will be started in accordance with RRS26.

The starting line will be between the main mast of the committee boat and a starting mark at the port-end. An inner limit mark may be laid approximately on the starting line, and if so, boats shall not enter the triangle formed by this buoy and the bow and stern of the Committee Boat.

A boat starting later than 10 minutes after her starting Signal will be scored Did Not Start. This changes Rule A4.

If flag U has been displayed as the preparatory signal, no part of a boat's hull, crew, or equipment shall be in the triangle formed by the ends of the starting line and the first mark during the last minute before her starting signal.

12 Change of course after the start

12.1

Changes of up to 15 degrees or 200m will not be signalled. For changes over 15 degrees or 200m, to change the next leg of the course, the race committee will move the original mark (or finishing line) to a new position. The change will be signalled before the leading boat has begun the leg, although the new mark may not then be in position. Any mark to be rounded after rounding the new mark may be re-located without further signalling to maintain the original course configuration.

12.2

Boats shall pass between the race committee boat signalling the change of the next leg and the nearby mark, leaving the mark to port and the race committee boat to starboard. This changes Rule 28.1.

13 Shortening the course

If the race committee signals a shortened course (displays flag S with two sound signals), the

finishing shall be

- (a) at a rounding mark, between the mark and a staff displaying flag S in a Mark or Committee boat.
- (b) at a gate, between the gate marks.
- (c) If the race will be shortened at the start/finish line, the signal shall be the display of flag F with repetitive sounds at Mark 3 on Course 1, Mark 2 on Course 2. This changes RRS 32.2.

14 Mark boats

Mark boats may be stationed beyond each mark. Failure of a mark boat to be on station will not be grounds for redress.

15 The Finish

The finish line will be between the main mast of the Committee Boat and the Finishing Mark.

16 Time limit

The time limit for races will be 90 minutes. Boats will be timed up to 20 minutes after the first boat sails and finishes the course. Boats still racing at the expiry of this 20 minute period will be scored Did Not Finish. After the first boat has finished, the Race Officer may offer a finishing position to the boat still racing in last place. The finishing position offered to a boat will be the number of boats ahead of it (both finished and still racing) plus 1. A boat is not obliged to accept such an offer unless it is the last boat still racing. The Race Officer is not obliged to make such an offer. A boat that accepts the place offered will immediately cease to race, and the Race Officer may repeat this process with the next boat. The offer may be made via rescue or support boat personnel. This amends the definition of the word "Finish". This changes RRS 35 and A4.

17 Retirements

A boat, which retires from a race, shall make every effort to inform one of the following, the Race Committee Boat, a Mark Boat, a Safety Boat or the Race Office as soon as possible.

18 Protests

- 18.1 In addition to the obligations in RRS 61.1 (a) protesting boats shall, immediately after finishing, inform the Race Officer of the sail number(s) of boat(s) protested against. Protest Forms will be available from the Race Office and all protests shall be delivered to the Race Office within the Protest Time. A schedule of Protest Hearings will be posted on the Official Notice Board as soon as practicable each day. The Protest Time Limit for each race shall be 1 hour after the last boat finishes its race.
- 18.2 The Protest Time is 60 minutes after the last boat finishes the last race of each day. This changes RRS 61.3 and RRS 62.2

19 Safety Regulations

- 19.1 Life-jackets or other adequate personal buoyancy shall be worn by all competitors at all times while afloat. Wet suits and dry suits are not adequate personal buoyancy. Flag Y will not be displayed. This changes RRS 40 and Race Signal Y.

20 Scoring

- 20.1 The Low Point Scoring System Appendix A2 will apply.
- 20.2 Appendix A9 will apply to this Fireball Championships, as it will be counted as a regatta series.
N.B. All fleets will be scored on one result sheet so that any competitor may see their position relative to the entire entry and not just respective to their designated fleet.
- 20.3 A minimum of one race constitutes a series.
- 20.4 Discards to be applied based on races sailed
 - 1 - 3 races sailed no discard
 - 4 - 6 races sailed 1 discard
 - 7- 9 races sailed 2 discards

21 Prizes

For the purpose of prize giving all fleets will be scored. Prizes will be awarded to the winners of the

event as designated by Howth Yacht Club. Perpetual prizes remain the property of the Irish Fireball Association and must not leave the island of Ireland.

Gold Fleet. 1st, 2nd and 3rd
Silver Fleet: 1st

Prizes are awarded as follows:

Gold - 1st, 2nd and 3rd are to be awarded to the top three boats at the end of the event irrespective of the fleet designation of the competitor.

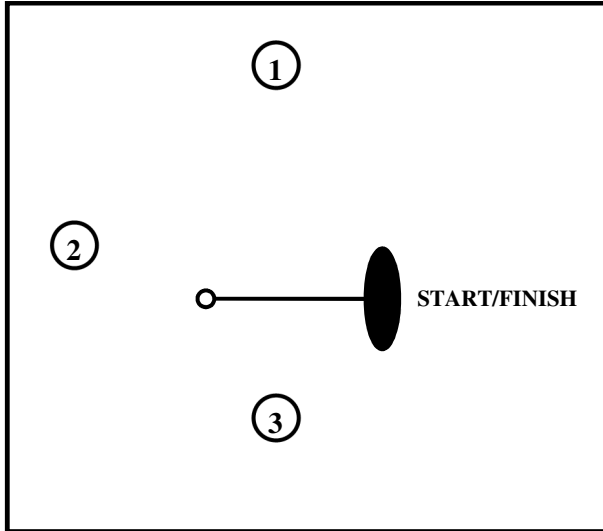
Silver 1st is to be awarded to the top boat from the Silver fleet excluding any Silver fleet boat that may have won any prize from the higher fleet.


The winner of the "National Champion" can be a member of any International Fireball Association, not just the Irish Fireball Association and will be awarded the event prize. The Irish National Champion shall be the top scoring boat from the Irish fleet and will be awarded the Irish perpetual trophy.

Appendix A - COURSES

COURSE 1

Olympic Triangle

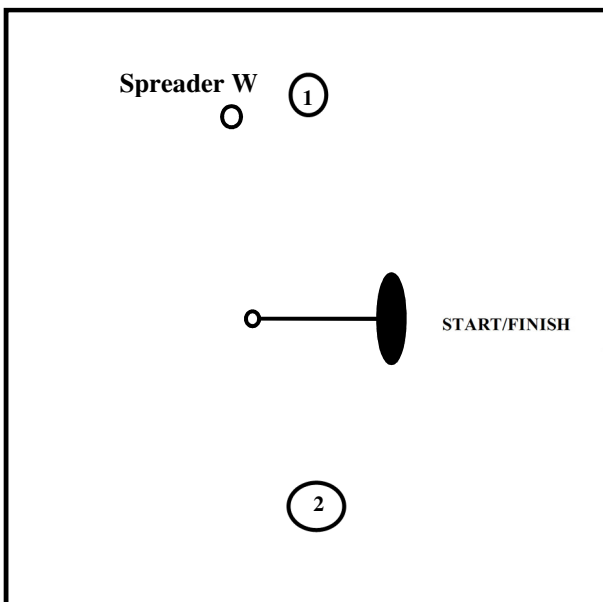



Course Flag – Code Flag "O" 
All marks to be rounded to port in
the following order

START-1- 2- 3 -1 -3 -1 -2 -3 –FINISH

COURSE 2

Windward-Leeward



Course Flag – Code Flag "W" 
All marks to be rounded to port.

START-1-W-2-1-W-2– FINISH