



1898



HOWTH SEVENTEEN FOOTER ASSOCIATION CHAMPIONSHIPS 7th, 8th (& 9th) August 2020

1 **IMPORTANT NOTICE RE COVID-19**

- 1.1 Racing and these Instructions are contingent upon the COVID-19 situation in the lead-up to the event and will be revisited if Ireland has an increase in COVID-19 infections or the Public Health Guidance / Requirements warrant reconsideration of the hosting of the event or the constraints on how it is run.
- 1.2 Please participate in the Championships only if you and your crew members are free of symptoms of COVID-19 both currently and for at least the past two weeks, have not been advised to self-isolate or to undergo a COVID-19 test or have not returned to Ireland from a country NOT listed on the Irish Government's 'Green list' within the last two weeks. Any person deemed to pose a risk of transmitting COVID-19, whether for any of the reasons listed above or any other reason, is NOT permitted to enter the premises of Howth YC.
- 1.3 Social Distancing and other appropriate anti-COVID-19 measures as prescribed by the Government and Irish Sailing must be practiced. For further details see:

https://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/health/covid19/public_health_measures_for_covid19.html

<https://www.sailing.ie/Coronavirus>

- 1.4 All competitors are encouraged to download and use the HSE COVID-19 Tracker App.
- 1.5 All competitors are required to cooperate with other competitors and with the Club staff in maintaining social distancing, particularly aboard Club launches, in the changing rooms and in the bar / restaurant area.
- 1.6 It is the responsibility of each skipper to ensure that their crew complies with all applicable law, guidelines and these Instructions with respect to COVID19 precautions and contact tracing requirements.
- 1.7 Skippers are required to provide their own requested details and those of the crew sailing with them using the online '*HYC COVID-19 Skipper and Crew Racing and Sailing Form*' **on each day** of the Championships, prior to entering the Club premises – see HYC website (hyc.ie) homepage to access the required form. Crew members who are not members of Howth YC must be accompanied onto the HYC premises by a Club member and may only remain on the premises in the company of that member. Visitors may be denied access to the Club premises where their visit has not been notified to the Club using the above referenced Form in advance of their arrival at the Club.

2 **Disclaimer of liability – COVID-19**

- 2.1 Neither Howth Yacht Club nor the Howth 17 Class Association can guarantee that competitors will not be exposed to or infected by the COVID-19 virus as a result of visiting Howth YC or participating in Howth 17 racing. Competitors are deemed to have assumed the risk if they participate in the Championships. To the greatest extent permitted by law, neither Howth Yacht Club nor The Howth 17 Footer Association, their respective representatives (including, without limitation, their respective committees, flag officers, race officers, safety officers, rescue personnel and organisers) will be liable for any ill- health or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during or after this Championships.

Sailing Instructions

1. ORGANISING AUTHORITY

The Howth Seventeen Footer Association Championships 2020 is organised by Howth Yacht Club.

2. RULES AND ELIGIBILITY

The event will be governed by the current Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the Irish Sailing prescriptions, the Class Rules, the sailing Regulations of Howth Yacht Club (where relevant), these Sailing Instructions and any changes thereto.

3. ALTERATIONS TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to the Sailing Instructions, including any change to the schedule of races, will be posted on the notice board located in the archway beside the Howth Yacht Club Marina Office not less than two hours before the scheduled start of racing on the day it will take effect (except as allowed by SI 6). An intention to race on Sunday, August 9th will be posted by 20.00 hours on August 8th.

4. SCHEDULE OF RACES

Races are scheduled as follows:

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Warning Signal</u> | <u>Low Water</u> |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|
| Fri. 7 ^h August | 18.55 hrs | 20:28 hrs |
| Sat. 8 th August | 10.30 hrs | 08:59 hrs |
| Sun. 9 ^h August | As decided by the Race Officer. | 09:39 hrs |

A maximum of 4 races are scheduled for Saturday. Races started from the Committee Vessel will be held back to back. For the second and subsequent race each day, the making of repeated sound signals will signify an intent to display a Warning Signal not less than 1 minute later.

Two races shall constitute the Championship. Should there be fewer than two races completed by Saturday evening, there shall be racing on the Sunday, conditions permitting, to bring the total number of races completed up to at least two. One discard shall be allowed when four races have been completed.

5. RACING AREA

The race area will be in the normal racing waters for HYC club races.

6. COURSES

The race scheduled for Friday evening shall be a normal Club course selected from the current HYC Tuesday Pier Start course card, with an East Pier start and finish. (See Howth Yacht Club Sailing Regulations and current Course Card). Topsails are not permitted for the Friday Race.

A maximum of 4 races are scheduled for Saturday, sailed on either Windward /Leeward or Triangular/Olympic type courses with a Committee Vessel start and finish. The course shall be Start –1-2-3-1-2 – Finish (2 rounds), unless shortened.

Triangular/Olympic courses shall be Start – 1-2-3-1-3-1-2-3, unless shortened.

The flying of International Code Flag “W” from the Committee Vessel will signal Windward/Leeward courses. The flying of International Code Flag “O” from the Committee Vessel will signal Triangular/Olympic courses. See Appendix A Races will be sailed ‘back to back’.

The course for any race or races to be held on Sunday 13th will be decided by the Race Officer. A course may be either a normal club course with an East Pier start and finish or it may be a Windward/ Leeward or Triangular/Olympic course as described above. The Race Officer will post the information on the Official Notice Board not later than 90 minutes before the scheduled time of the first Warning Signal and may notify the fleet on VHF channel 77.

Where any race is being sailed using a Pier Start course selected from the HYC Course Card, the start and finish lines shall be as per that Course Card, unless a race is shortened at a mark of the course.

7. SHORTENING COURSE (Committee Vessel Starts)

The course may be shortened for any reason at the discretion of the Race Officer in accordance with RRS 32.2. If a race is to be shortened to finish at the start/finish line rather than at a mark of the course, it will be signalled by displaying code flag ‘F’ from a RIB stationed close to any mark on the course, accompanied by repeated sound signals. When the ‘F’ signal is made in the vicinity of Marks 1 and 2, then Mark 2 shall be the last mark rounded. After rounding the mark at which the “F” signal is displayed, boats shall sail directly from the mark to the start/finish line and cross it from the direction of the last mark rounded. This changes the RRS Race Signals.

8. STARTING AND FINISHING LINES (Committee Vessel starts)

The Starting line will be between the red and white pole (or main mast) on the Committee Vessel and an Outer Distance Mark, an Orange Pillar, which shall be left to port when starting.

Except when a race is shortened at a mark of the course, the Finishing line will be between the red and white pole (or main mast) on the Committee Vessel displaying a blue flag and the Outer Distance Mark, a red (cherry) buoy. In the event of a RIB being used to finish a race, the line shall be from a vertical staff on the Vessel marking one end of the line.

Note. The Start Mark for the next race may be laid at the time of the finish.

9. STARTING PROCEDURE

The starting procedure shall be as per RRS 26 with a five minute sequence. The class flag will be IC flag 'C'. A boat starting later than 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored DNS, Did Not Start. This changes RRS A4.1. & A5.

10. MARKS (Committee Vessel Starts)

Black inflatable marks will be used for marks 1, 2, and 3, an Orange inflatable as the Outer Distance Mark for starting and a Red/Orange (Cherry) buoy as the Outer Distance Mark for finishing.

The Race Committee may relocate marks during a race without signalling a change in course. This changes RRS 33.

11. TIME LIMIT

The time limit for the Friday evening race shall be 20.45 hrs and, provided a boat completes the course and finishes within the time limit, it shall be extended by 15 minutes for subsequent finishers. For the Saturday/Sunday races, the time limit shall be 90 minutes. Any boat that does not finish within 15 minutes of the first boat to complete the course and finish will be scored DNF. This changes RRS 35.

12. PROTESTS AND PROTEST TIME

In addition to the obligations in RRS 61, protesting boats shall, immediately after finishing, inform the Race Committee on the Finishing Vessel of the sail number(s) of boats protested against. Protests shall be submitted on a form 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.

Protest Time limit will be 2 hours after the last boat finishes the last race of the day. The closing time for protests will be displayed on the Official Notice Board. Where the parties to a protest are available and willing to commence the hearing before the expiry of the time limit, the Protest Committee shall, if feasible, facilitate early commencement of the hearing.

13. SCORING

The scoring system shall be as per RRS Appendix A4.1- Low Point System except that A4.2 is replaced by the wording of A9 from (1st line) "a boat that came to the starting area but did not start, did not finish, retired after finishing or was disqualified shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats that came to the starting area. A boat that did not come to the starting area shall score one point more than the number of boats entered for the Championship."

One discard shall apply when four races are completed.

14. PENALTIES SYSTEMS

RRS 44.1 (Taking a penalty) is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

15. COMMUNICATION

The Race Officer may communicate with competitors on **VHF Channel 77**.

16. LIABILITY

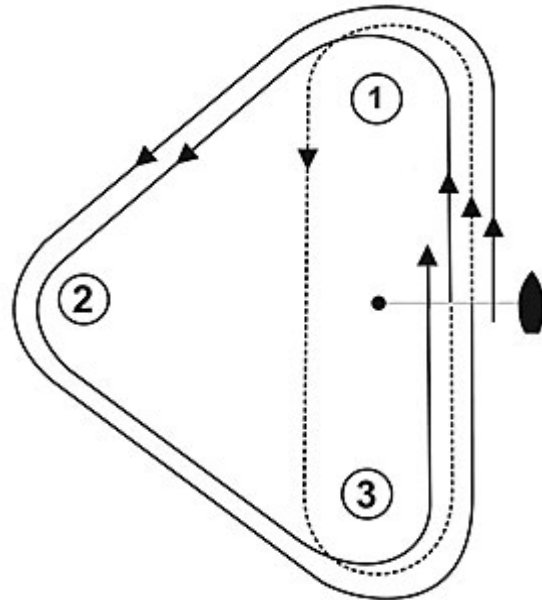
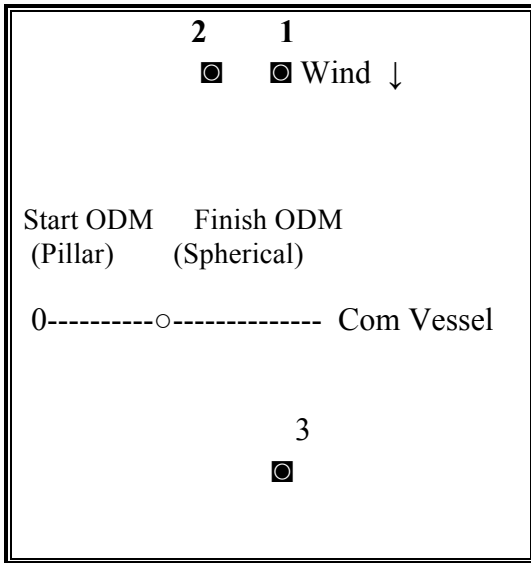
Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See rule 4, Decision to Race. No responsibility shall be accepted by Howth Yacht Club or its respective officers, committee members servants or agents nor any sponsor, nor those officials or members connected with the Championships for any loss, damage or claim of whatever nature however arising or caused in connection with the participation in or intended participation in this regatta.

Competitors participate entirely at their own risk; see Fundamental Rule 4, Decision to Race and the ISA Safety Booklet. The wearing of suitable personal flotation devices in all boats is compulsory.

17. INSURANCE

Each participating boat must be insured with valid and adequate third-party liability insurance.

APPENDIX A



All marks shall be left to port.

Start – 1 – 2 – 3 – 1 – 3 – 1 – 2 – 3 – Finish