

Puppeteer 22 National Championships 2023

Howth Yacht Club

August 26th and 27th



Sponsored by Sutton Cross Pharmacy



Notice of Race

1. Organising Authority and Venue

1.1 The Organising Authority (OA) is Howth Yacht Club CLG in association with the Puppeteer 22 Class. All entries and payments shall be made on the HYC website www.hyc.ie

2. Rules & Eligibility

2.1 The regatta will be governed by the *Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)*, the prescriptions of **Irish Sailing**, the Puppeteer 22 Class rules and this Notice of Race, except as modified by the Sailing Instructions and any changes thereto. In the event of a conflict between this Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions, the Sailing Instructions shall take precedence.

2.2 Entries are accepted at the sole discretion of the Race Committee.

2.3 The event is open to all boats of the Puppeteer 22 Class, subject to compliance with the eligibility requirements of the Class Rules.

2.4 **All boats shall conform to the Puppeteer 22 Class Rules. Boats shall be made available for spot checking for Class Rules compliance at a time, or times, of the OA's nomination before and during the regatta.**

2.5 Advertising is restricted to Category A.

2.6 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third party liability insurance with a minimum cover of €3m.

2.7 Boats shall carry a VHF radio and maintain a listening watch on VHF Ch 77.

3. Safety

3.1 Personal Flotation Devices shall be worn at all times by competitors whilst afloat apart from brief periods while adjusting clothing.

4. Racing Area

4.1 Races will be sailed in the waters North of Howth Harbour.

5. Scoring System

5.1 Appendix A of the Racing Rules of Sailing using the Low Point Scoring System shall be used. Where four or more races are completed, one discard shall be allowed.

5.2 Two races are required to be completed to constitute an event.

5.3 The event will consist of both a level rating ('scratch') and a handicap division. Handicaps shall be assigned by the Race Committee, see NOR 9.

6. Schedule of Races

6.1 The first Warning Signal on August 26th and 27th is scheduled to be at 1100 hrs. Three races are scheduled for both days with the races subsequent to the first following as soon as possible after the completion of the preceding race.

6.2 The Race Committee may change the Schedule of Races if it decides that conditions warrant it. If the weather forecast appears adverse for August 27th, a maximum of five races may be sailed on the first day. Where the scheduled quota of races is not completed on the first day, a maximum of five races may be sailed on the second day.

6.3 The course configurations will be outlined in the Sailing Instructions.

7. Prizes

7.1 Prizes will be awarded to the first four competitors in both Scratch and Handicap divisions. Perpetual Trophies will be presented to the winners in both Scratch and Handicap Divisions. **Irish Sailing** medals (five per boat) will be presented to the crews finishing in 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places overall on Scratch only. A competitor may not receive a Scratch and Handicap prize. The Scratch prize shall take precedence.

7.2 Perpetual Trophies may not be removed from the premises of Howth YC.

7.3 There will be a prizegiving in Howth YC at the close of the event.

8. Helming

Boats shall only be helmed while racing at the event by the helmsperson declared on the entry form. The Race Committee may grant approval for a change to be made but it shall be sought in advance of a change and approval shall be at the sole discretion of the Race Committee.

9. **Handicaps**

9.1 Results of boats competing in the handicap division shall be calculated using the boat's HYC Puppeteer Class handicap number current at the time of the first race of the event. Any boat that does not have a Puppeteer Class handicap number shall be allocated one by the Race Committee, based on their assessment of her expected performance. The list of Puppeteer Class handicap numbers shall be available from the Results section of the HYC website, numbers used for the event to be as per the list current on August 24th, 2023.

9.2 Competitors are required to notify the Race Committee of any changes to the normal crew complement from that which the handicap number was established with or that might affect the anticipated performance of the boat.

9.3 The Race Committee reserves the right to adjust the Puppeteer Class handicap number of any entry, either before or during the event, to take into account changes to the crew composition or other matters relevant to the performance of the boat.

10. **Sail Numbers/ Identification**

10.1 Each boat shall show a distinguishing number on each side of the mainsail and spinnaker, which shall be the same number as declared on the Entry Form. Should a boat wish to change its sail number from that on the Entry Form, notice shall be given to the Race Committee before the Warning Signal for the first race where it is proposed to change from the declared number.

11. **Sailing Instructions**

11.1 Sailing Instructions will be available to download from the HYC website ('Open Events' section) from 16.00hrs. on Thursday, August 24th. The Sailing Instructions will incorporate the race programme.

12. **Entries**

12.1 Entries shall be made online at www.hyc.ie, supported by the entry fee of €75

12.2 Entry fee for youth entry is reduced to €40. A youth entry is defined as an entry with a helm plus two crew members under the age of 25 on the date of the event.

13. **Disclaimer of liability**

13.1 Competitors participate entirely at their own risk; see Fundamental Rule 4, Decision to Race and the **Irish Sailing** Safety Booklet. The wearing of personal flotation devices is required at all times.

13.2 The safety of a boat and her crew is the sole responsibility of the **person in charge** of the boat, who must do their best to ensure that the boat is fully found, seaworthy and manned by an experienced crew who have undergone appropriate training and are fit to face in the conditions encountered. They must be satisfied as to the soundness of hull, spars, sails, rigging and all gear and ensure that all safety equipment is properly maintained and suitably stowed. The crew must be familiar with the use and position of safety equipment.

13.3 Howth Yacht Club CLG and/or the Organising Committee will not accept any liability for material damage, personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with, prior to, during or after racing.

14. **Hauling out**

Boats competing in the event shall not be taken from the water during the event, except in the case of damage and with the prior approval of the Race Committee. Where permission to lift out is approved, boat hulls may not be cleaned whilst out of the water.

15. **Communications**

All communications between the Class Captain and Race Committee and competitors, pre-event and during the event, will be carried out using the "Puppeteer Fleet" WhatsApp. All owners/skippers must agree to have their mobile phone numbers logged on to this App.

Communication between the Race Committee and competitors on the water will be on VHF Channel 77.

16. **Risk Statement**

16.1 Rule 3 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone.'

Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:

(a) They are aware of the inherent element of risk involved in the sport and accept responsibility for the exposure of themselves, their crew and their boat to such inherent risk whilst taking part in the event.

(b) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore.

- (c) They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions.
- (d) Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate.
- (e) The provision of a race management team, patrol boats and other officials and volunteers by the event organiser does not relieve a competitor of their own responsibilities.
- (f) The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances.
- (g) It is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks specific to this venue or this event drawn to their attention in any rules and information produced for the venue or event and to attend any safety briefing held for the event.

Enquiries to Puppeteer Class Captain, Paul McMahon on 086 302 9501; email p22classcaptain@gmail.com.