



Keelboat Club Racing 2025

NOTICE OF RACE

- The Organising Authority (OA) is Howth Yacht Club CLG, hereinafter referred to as the 'club'.
- The notation [NP] in a rule means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1.

1. RULES

- 1.1. The event will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the prescriptions of Irish Sailing and club J80 rules.
- 1.2. Where the word 'member' is used in this document, it shall refer to the classes of membership detailed in Article 5 of the club's constitution.
- 1.3. The IRC Rules, Parts A, B, and C shall apply.
- 1.4. Non-Spinnaker Class boats shall use only one headsail at any time. This changes RRS 55.1. Boats entered for Non-Spinnaker Class racing on Wednesdays shall not use a spinnaker on Saturdays.
- 1.5. Competitors in all Classes shall wear lifejackets or suitable personal flotation devices at all times, except briefly while changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment. RRS 40.1 (Personal Flotation Devices) applies.
- 1.6. Each boat shall carry an anchor and warp aboard whilst racing, capable of being quickly deployed in an emergency and suitable for the particular boat and its area of operation.
- 1.7. Anchors shall not protrude beyond the bow of a boat whilst racing.

2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1. Sailing Instructions (SI) will be available online on the club website no later than **Thursday, 17th April 2025**.

3. COMMUNICATION

- 3.1. The official notice board is located beside the marina office.
- 3.2. [NP] Each boat shall carry a serviceable marine band VHF radio and is advised to keep a listening watch on the designated Race Management channel for their race. Failure to receive transmissions from the Race Committee will not be grounds for redress.
- 3.3. [NP] A club-nominated coach can speak to a boat during racing if the club has organised on-the-water coaching.

4. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1. The event is open to all boats of the Howth 17 Footer, National Squib and Puppeteer 22 one-design classes and to keelboats racing under IRC/HPH/ECHO handicap rating systems.
- 4.2. For Saturday Cruiser racing, the IRC/HPH/ECHO handicap numbers for each boat shall be the rating assigned to the boat for Wednesday racing.
- 4.3. Boats shall be bona fide the property of, or chartered by, club members.
- 4.4. Boats may enter the event by registering online at <https://www.hyc.ie/>.
- 4.5. To be considered an entry in the event, a boat shall complete all registration requirements and pay all fees.
- 4.6. Howth 17 Footers are requested to have their association fees paid and up to date before a boat can be recorded as a starter in any club race.
- 4.7. Classes 1, 2, 3, and the Non-Spinnaker Class shall race under IRC, HPH, and ECHO handicap systems, and boats shall be allocated to a specific Class by the OA. The Sportsboat Class shall race under a handicap system to be decided.
- 4.8. The OA will allocate a HPH performance Time Correction Factor (TCC) to each entrant. This TCC will be updated throughout the season. HPH handicaps will be allocated by the OA, in conjunction with the relevant Class Captain.
- 4.9. All entrants in performance-based handicap divisions shall nominate a helm to which the performance TCC will apply.
- 4.10. [DP] A competitor shall notify the club Results Team, in a timely fashion, of any material change of boat, crew or helm to allow for adjustment of the boat's handicap where deemed appropriate.
- 4.11. A boat may have its handicap reviewed by the OA at any time.
- 4.12. Each Cruiser Class boat entering for an IRC division shall submit a copy of their IRC certificate to results@hyc.ie before racing. No alteration in a boat's TCC will be permitted after this date, except as a result of a rating protest or to correct rating office errors.
- 4.13. In crew or other special races, Cruiser Classes shall sail under their current HPH handicaps and One Design Classes shall sail under scratch, with the exception of nominated 'special' handicap races.

5. FEES

- 5.1. The entry fee for HYC keelboat racing shall be €165.00 per boat.



6. CREW LIMITATIONS [DP]

- 6.1. IRC Rule 22.4 shall not apply. There will be no limitations on crew number or weight, with the exception of the requirements of NOR 6.2 and 6.3.
- 6.2. Except by prior written approval of the Sailing Committee, a boat shall not be raced single-handed.
- 6.3. Club racing is provided by the club for the enjoyment of its members. Boat owners / skippers are requested to encourage all persons aboard whilst racing to be members of the club.
- 6.4. The helmsperson of any boat racing in a keelboat club race shall be a Full, Associate, Cadet or Junior member of the club. Those who are members of Crew and Social, Overseas, Country, Temporary or Special Temporary categories shall not helm a keelboat in club racing. This requirement may be waived by the OA for designated races, for example 'crew' races and the like.
- 6.5. Helms in 'Crew' races shall be persons other than those nominated as helms in NOR 4.8.

7. ADVERTISING

Not used

8. QUALIFYING SERIES AND FINAL SERIES

Not used

9. SCHEDULE

Tuesday (Puppeteer and Squib)

Series 1	22 nd April – 20 th May	5 races
Series 2	27 th May – 1 st July	6 races
Series 3	8 th July – 12 th Aug	6 races
Mini Series	19 th Aug – 26 th Aug	2 races

Tuesday & Saturday (Howth 17)

Series 1	6 th May – 7 th June	9 races
Series 2	10 th June – 12 th July	10 races
Series 3	15 th July – 16 th Aug	10 races
Mini Series	19 th Aug – 30 th Aug	4 Races



Wednesday (Class 1, 2, 3 and Non-Spinnaker)

Series 1	23 rd April – 21 st May	5 races
Series 2	4 th June – 2 nd July	5 races
Series 3	9 th July – 13 th Aug	6 races
Mini Series	20 th Aug – 27 th Aug	2 races

Saturday Pier Racing (Cruiser Class, Puppeteer & Squib)

Series 1	26 th April – 24 th May	5 races
Series 2	7 th June – 12 th July	6 races
Series 3	19 th July – 30 th Aug	7 races

Excludes Lambay Races, includes the Gibney Classic

Due to low tide on Tuesday 29th April, racing is transferred to Friday 2nd May.

Due to low tide on Tuesday 27th May, the 1st Warning Signal will be 30 minutes later at 19:40. Start Times will be delayed with Time Limits extended by the same amount on this date.

Due to low tide on Wednesday 28th May and Lambay Races no Club Racing this week.

Day	Series / Start Area	Time of 1st Warning Signal
Tuesday	Series 1, 2 & 3 (Committee Vessel starts)	1910
	Series 1, 2 & 3 (Howth 17 Pier starts)	1900
	Series 3 (Squib Pier starts)	1855
	Mini Series (Pier starts)	1840
Wednesday	Series 1, 2 & 3 (Committee Vessel starts)	1910
	Mini Series (Pier starts)	1840
Saturday	Pier starts	1420



10. EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

- 10.1. Where relevant, each boat shall produce or verify the existence of a valid measurement or rating certificate when requested to do so by the OA.

11. CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT

Not used

12. VENUE

- 12.1. Races will be sailed in the waters to the north of Howth Harbour.

13. COURSES

- 13.1. The race area shall be as shown on the TECHNICAL SHEET FOR COURSE CARDS, which shall be made available with the SI.

14. PENALTY SYSTEM

Not used

15. SCORING

- 15.1. The scoring system shall be as per RRS Appendix A – Low Point System. RRS Appendix A Scoring rule A5.3 will apply.
- 15.2. One discard is allowed for every four races completed.
- 15.3. No results shall be allocated for a race where less than two boats come to the starting area. This changes RRS 90.3(a).
- 15.4. Class 2 and Class 3 will be scored as one single fleet.
- 15.5. In the Cruisers Classes, an overall “All races” HPH series will be scored, with one discard allowed for every four races completed.

16. SUPPORT PERSON VESSELS

Not use

17. CHARTERED OR LOANED BOATS

Not used

18. BERTHING

- 18.1. [DP] Boats shall be kept in their assigned places while in the marina.



19. HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS

Not used

21. DATA PROTECTION

- 21.1. Competitors give their consent to the OA to use or to license the use of their name, comments, photographs and likeness as it sees fit for the promotion of the Regatta. The OA reserves the right to uses or to license the use of any images and sound recording during the Event free of charge.

22. RISK STATEMENT

22.1. 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:

- 22.1.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;
- 22.1.B. They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, the boat in their charge and their other property whether afloat or ashore;
- 22.1.C. They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;
- 22.1.D. The provision of a race management team, patrol boats and other officials and volunteers by the event organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
- 22.1.E. The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances;
- 22.1.F. 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.

23. INSURANCE

- 23.1. Each participating boat shall be insured with adequate, valid, third-party cover with an appropriate extension for racing risks.



24. PRIZES

- 24.1. Prizes shall be awarded for each series/division on the basis of average turnout as follows:
 - 2 boats – 1st
 - 5 boats – 2nd
 - 8 boats – 3rd
 - 11 or more boats – 4th
- 24.2. For the Mini Series and special races (Crew, ladies, etc.), a 1st prize only shall be awarded for each division.
- 24.3. In a Cruiser Class series, a boat shall not be awarded both an IRC and HPH prize. The IRC prize shall take precedence.
In a One Design Class series, a boat shall not be awarded a scratch and handicap prize. The scratch prize shall take precedence.
- 24.4. In the Cruisers Classes, an overall “All races” HPH prize will be awarded per Class.
- 24.5. Club Racing Perpetual Trophies shall be awarded as listed in the Club Keelboat Racing section of the HYC website.

25. FURTHER INFORMATION

- 25.1. [DP] Class Assist: Boats entering club racing may be assigned a race date on which the boat will be required to provide assistant(s) to the Race Committee running racing on that date, which may be either from a Committee Vessel or from the East Pier Hut. It is a condition of entry that a boat assigned to provide class assist personnel does so. The owner will be advised by their Class Captain of the date and approximate time that the assistant(s) are required to attend and the number of persons (either 1 or 2) that the boat is required to provide for the duty. Any boat failing to meet its obligations in this respect may be subject to protest and imposition of a penalty.