



## Summer Dinghy Racing 2025

### **SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

- The Organising Authority (OA) is Howth Yacht Club CLG (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(a).
- The notation ‘[DP]’ in a rule means that a boat may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.

#### **1. RULES**

1.1 Racing will be governed by the current Racing Rules of Sailing (‘RRS’).

1.2 One-design boats shall be governed by the relevant Class Rules.

1.3 The Irish Sailing prescriptions will apply and can be found at:

[www.sailing.ie/Library/racing#worldsailinglibrary](http://www.sailing.ie/Library/racing#worldsailinglibrary)

#### **2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 1900 on the day before it will take effect.

Changes to the schedule will be posted on the official Notice Board not less than two hours before the start time of the first race so affected. The change may be notified by email or text message to all sailors who have entered.

#### **3. COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS**

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official Notice Board online at

<https://www.hyc.ie/club-events>

#### **4. CODE OF CONDUCT**

[DP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.

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**5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

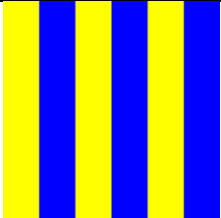
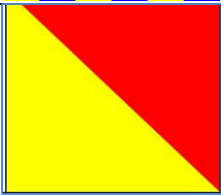
- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flag pole at the top of the marina ramp.
- 5.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, ‘1 minute’ is replaced with ‘not less than 30 minutes’ in Race Signals AP

**6. SCHEDULE OF RACES  
&**

**7. CLASS FLAGS**

Racing will take place each Thursday starting 1<sup>st</sup> May 2025 and finishing on 28<sup>th</sup> August 2025.

The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race each day is 1900, with subsequent starts at 3 min intervals. Where possible, it is proposed to sail two races per day.

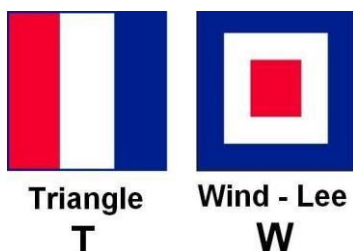
Start	Class	Flag	
1	PY	Flag G	
2	Optimist	Flag O	

**8. RACE AREA**

The race area is Northwest of the harbour mouth.

## 9. COURSES

9.1 Course type to be indicated with Flag – T for Triangle and W for Windward-Leeward. The flag indicating the course type to be used shall be displayed not later than the Preparatory signal for the first Class scheduled to start. This changes RRS 27.1. The respective course layouts are indicated on the diagrams below.



9.2 The number of laps for each class will be displayed on the committee boat following its warning signal and shall be displayed for not less than 2 minutes before the start. This changes RRS 27.1. All marks shall be left to Port.

9.3 Courses are as follows and per the diagrams below:

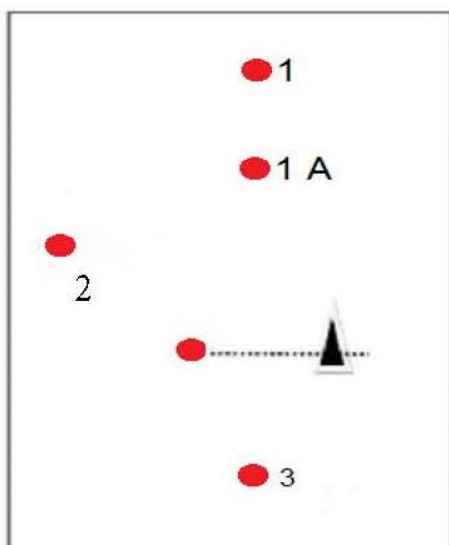
Triangle	Windward - Leeward
Start	Start
Lap 1: 1 – 2 – 3	Lap 1: 1 – 2 – 3
Lap 2: 1 – 3	Lap 2: 1 – 2 – 3
Lap 3: 1 – 2 – 3	Lap 3: 1 – 2 – 3
Lap 4: 1 – 3	Lap 4: 1 – 2 – 3
Lap 5: 1 – 2 – 3	Lap 5: 1 – 2 – 3

All marks are to be left to port.

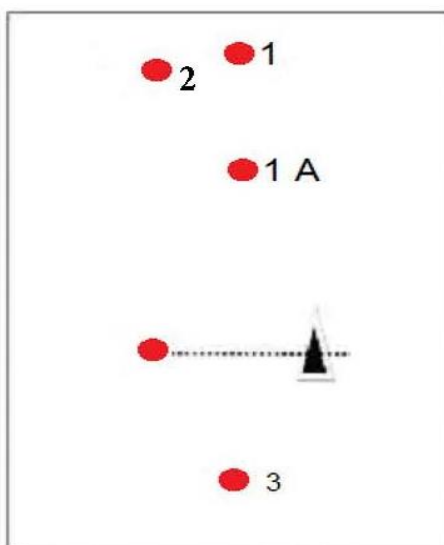
Finish after number of laps indicated on the Committee Boat.

**PY class to use Mark 1.**

**Optimist class to use Mark 1A.**



Triangle Course



Windward-Leeward Course

## 10. MARKS

Marks will normally be orange buoys

## 11. OBSTRUCTIONS

[NP] [DP] Howth Harbour and the Sound are deemed to be “confined channel’s” and trawlers, commercial vessels, yachts and similar craft constrained in their ability to manoeuvre shall be kept clear of by sailing boats. Accordingly:

- (i) When entering and leaving the harbour, boats competing in Club racing shall pass other vessels PORT-TO-PORT.
- (ii) Boats shall not impede trawlers, commercial vessels or other large yachts or powered craft that are constrained in their ability to manoeuvre whilst in Howth Sound, the Harbour Entrance and the Fairways to the Trawler Dock and the HYC Marina areas.

## 12. THE START

- 12.1.1 There shall be no race unless two or more boats rank as starters by sailing in the vicinity of the starting area between their Warning and Starting signals.
- 12.2 The starting line shall be between the red and white pole/mainmast on the Committee Vessel and an Outer Distance Mark, an orange buoy, which shall be left to port when starting.
- 12.3 Sequence:  
Warning Signal as per Sailing Instruction 6  
Races will be started in 3-2-1-starting signal. This changes RRS rule 26.
- 12.4 Boats shall keep clear of the starting line until their Warning Signal.
- 12.5 Boats having started shall keep clear of the starting line while other starts are in progress.
- 12.6 A boat that does not start within ten minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2
- 12.7 The Race Committee may, at its discretion, amalgamate starts to expedite racing. This shall be signalled by the simultaneous display of the class flags of those classes that are to start together. In this case Slow Sundry classes (e.g. RS Feva) shall sail one lap less than and fast Sundry (e.g. Melges, RS800, RS Aero, etc).

## 13. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

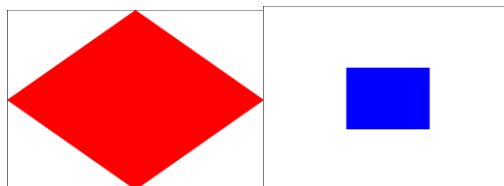
To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will move the original mark or the finishing line to a new position.

## 14. THE FINISH

- 14.1 The finishing line shall be a line between the red and white pole/mainmast on the Committee Vessel – the boat displaying a blue flag - and an orange Finish Mark.
- 14.2 Boats, having finished, shall not re-cross their own finishing line in the opposite direction.

## 15. Shortening Course / Abandonment / Postponement

- 15.1 If the race is to be shortened at the Start/Finish line, Flag F shall be displayed with repetitive sounds at a Mark on the Course. Having rounded this mark, boats shall proceed directly to the Finish Line. This changes RRS 32.2.
- 15.1.1 A course may also be shortened at a course mark from a patrol vessel or committee boat, which will display Flag S flag and two sound signals. The finishing line shall be between the S flag and the relevant mark.
- 15.2 Flag S displayed alone signals that all races not finished shall be shortened, Flag S displayed superior to class flags signals that races for the relevant classes are shortened.



F

S

## 16. Not used.

## 17. Not used.

## 18. TIME LIMITS

- 18.1 The time limit is 55 minutes per race for all classes.
- 18.2 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 will be the number of boats 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 such an offer will immediately cease racing, and the Race Officer may repeat this process with the next boat. The offer may be made via patrol boat or support boat personnel. This changes RRS 35 and A4.
- 18.3 A boat failing to finish within 15 minutes of the first boat in her class will be scored the place of the last boat finishing within the time limit, plus one point.

## 19. HEARING REQUESTS

- 19.1 For each class, the protest time limit is 24 hours after the last boat in that class finishes the race of the day or the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later. The time will be posted on the official notice board.
- 19.2 Hearing requests may be made via the online portal  
[https://www.racingrulesofsailing.org/events/8224/event\\_links?name=howth-yc-club-racing](https://www.racingrulesofsailing.org/events/8224/event_links?name=howth-yc-club-racing)
- 19.3 Protests will normally be heard in the Clubhouse in the week next after the race concerned, the time to be advised. Where this is not possible, an alternative arrangement will be notified to the protestor and protestee.

## 20. SCORING

- 20.1 The scoring system shall be as per RRS Appendix A – Low Point System. RRS Appendix A Scoring rule A5.3 will apply.
- 20.2 One discard is allowed for every four races completed.
- 20.3 No results shall be allocated for a race where less than two boats come to the starting area. This changes RRS 90.3(a).

## **21. SAFETY REGULATIONS**

- 21.1 There will be a 'Sign out / Sign in' register which must be signed personally by the helmsman of each boat competing. This will be located in the Marina Office. Failure to sign-in or sign-out shall result in the boat in question being scored as DSQ for all races sailed on the day in question without a protest hearing and may result in further action at the discretion of the Race Committee. This changes Rule 63.1 and Appendix A4.1 and A5.
- 21.2 Competitors participate in the series entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race. Neither Howth Yacht Club CLG, the Race Committee, nor the Organising Committee, including those individuals who comprise them, are liable for loss of or damage to boats or equipment, or for death or injury to competitors.
- 21.3 Competitors shall wear lifejackets or suitable personal flotation devices at all times. Wet suits and dry suits are not suitable personal flotation devices.
- 21.4 The attention of all competitors is drawn to RRS Fundamental Rule 1.1. 'Helping Those in Danger'.
- 21.4.1 Boats shall keep clear of Race Committee vessels manoeuvring (committee boat, mark laying boats, patrol boats).
- 21.5 All boats shall have a painter, with minimum diameter of 6 mm and at least 3 metres in length, made fast to the bow.
- 21.6 Competitors shall co-operate with the patrol boat crew and should accept their advice.
- 21.7 A boat that retires shall notify the Race Committee of its retirement as soon as possible.

## **22. SAIL NUMBERS**

Sails shall have the correct sail number clearly displayed on both sides in accordance with Class Rules. Permission from the race committee shall be requested in writing before each day's racing should a competitor wishes to sail under a different number from that under which he / she is entered.

## **23. PRIZES**

See Notice of Race 13.

## **24. RISK STATEMENT**

- 24.1 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."
- 24.2 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 to and acknowledges the risk statement as included in the Notice of Race."

## **25. INSURANCE**

Each participating boat shall be insured with adequate, valid, third-party liability insurance cover inclusive of a racing risks extension.