

Double Handed Race 2026

Sunday 9 August



Notice of Race

1. ORGANISING AUTHORITY

- 1.1. The Organising Authority (OA) is Howth Yacht Club CLG.,
- 1.2. All enquiries via Email: office@hyc.ie

2. RULES AND ELIGIBILITY

- 2.1. Races will be sailed under the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the Prescriptions of the I.S.A., the rules of each Class concerned and this Notice of Race, except as modified by the Sailing Instructions and any amendments thereto.
- 2.2. Entries are accepted at the sole discretion of the OA.
- 2.3. Eligible boats are those in the Classes that comply with the relevant handicapping system, rules and the entry requirements.
- 2.4. The OA reserves the right to refuse an entry if in its opinion there is a conflict between a competitor's sponsor and the event sponsor.
- 2.5. All boats are required to carry operational VHF radios able to transmit and receive on the marine band VHF channels. Boats shall keep a listening watch on Channels 16 and 69. Course information, starting signals, change of course and shortened course details may be notified to competitors solely by broadcast on Channel 69 – see the Sailing Instructions for further details. This changes RRS 25, 26, 27, 29, 30, 32 and 33
- 2.6. The IRC Rules 2021, Parts A, B, and C (or D) shall apply.
- 2.7. There shall be a limit of two persons on the number of persons aboard any boat.
- 2.8. Protest requirements: the exemption for boats less than six metres shall **not** apply. This changes RRS 61.1(a) (2).
- 2.9. Any type of self-steering apparatus may be used during this event but competitors must maintain a watch on deck at all times.
- 2.10. It is **REQUIRED** that both crew members wear personal buoyancy aids or lifejackets at all times during the race as per RRS 40.1. ICF 'Y' will not be displayed.

3. CLASSES

- 3.1. Races will be provided for the Classes below :-
- 3.2. The starting sequence will be in accordance with the following separate divisions:-

Class	Flag	Scratch	HPH	IRC
Cruiser Non-Spinnaker Class	No4		x	x
Cruiser Spinnaker Class	No3		x	x

4. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 4.1 The 1st Warning Signal will be at 09.55 and starts will be at 5 minute intervals after. The starting signal for a Class will serve as the Warning Signal for the Class scheduled to start after it.

5. ENTRIES

- 5.1. Entries shall be made online at www.hyc.ie . The entry fee is **€20.00** per boat for all Classes.
- 5.2. Entries are automatically eligible for the HPH division. Boats not currently listed on the HPH list of handicaps will be assigned a handicap number decided on at the discretion of the Organising Committee.
- 5.3. Closing Date Thursday 6 August.
- 5.4. You will need to opt into the Whatsapp Group for this race in order to be advised at 0830 on the Sunday morning of the course to be sailed. The courses will also be called out before the start on Channel 69 and, once broadcast, will be deemed to have been received by boats.

6. SAIL NUMBERS/IDENTIFICATION

- 6.1. Each boat shall show a distinguishing number on each side of its mainsail and on all other sails as per the Equipment Rules of Sailing. All numbers displayed on a boat's sails shall be the same number as declared on the Entry Form.
- 6.2. Should a boat wish to change its sail number from that on the Entry Form, written notice shall be given to the Race Officer before the Warning Signal of the first Class. **Failure to comply with this requirement may result in a DNC or DNF result being assigned. This changes RRS 63.1 and A5.**
- 6.3. Spinnaker and Non-Spinnaker classes shall fly the relevant Class numeral pennant/flag from the backstay, except where boats are competing in one design Classes. **Failure to comply with this requirement may result in a DNC or DNF result being assigned. This changes RRS 63.1 and A5.**

7. HANDICAPS

- 7.1. The following handicap data shall be used in this event:

Spinnaker Class & Non-Spinnaker Class

HPH Current HPH list

IRC TCC values of current valid certificate which has a valid date of 8 August 2026 or earlier.

8. HPH / IRC CLASS DIVISIONS

- 8.1 ECHO/IRC classes will be divided on the following basis:

Spinnaker Class 1

All IRC and or HPH rated yachts intending to fly spinnakers and not race with a one design class.

Non-Spinnaker Class

All IRC and or HPH rated yachts that do not intend to fly spinnakers and do not intend to race with a One-Design class..

9. PRIZES/TROPHIES

9.1. Prizes will be presented in the Clubhouse as soon as possible after racing on 9 August 2026 and the number awarded will be on the basis of the number of starters for each Class and in each of IRC and HPH fleets: A boat winning a prize on IRC shall not be eligible to also received a prize for its HPH result.

10. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

10.1. Sailing Instructions will be available online for download at www.hyc.ie

11. RACING AREA

11.1. The races will take place in the general area between Howth and Lambay and will be tailored to each Class to target a race duration of approximately 1.5 to 2 hours for the first boats to finish in a Class. Each Class will have their course confirmed before the start by VHF as per Sailing Instructions. The Starting line will be off Howth Yacht Club's east pier hut with the outer limit selected as per the Sailing Instructions.

12. Risk Statement

12.1 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 organizer does not relieve them 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;

13. MEMBERSHIP

Competitors are granted temporary membership of Howth Yacht Club on Sunday 9 August 2026, subject only to the provisions of the Club Rules for withdrawing or withholding such membership.

14. RIGHT OF WAY FOR TRAWLERS

Trawlers and other power-driven vessels have right of way in Howth Harbour and in the approach channel to it in Howth Sound, which includes the area of the start and the intended finishing lines.