



Howth Yacht Club
Open Dinghy
Frostbite Series
2026 / 2027



PY Dinghy Class

Notice of Race

The Organising Authority (OA) is Howth Yacht Club CLG.

1. Rules & Eligibility

- 1.1. Racing will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing (2025 - 2028) (RRS), the prescriptions of Irish Sailing, the rules of the ILCA Class Association & respective PY Classes, the Sailing Instructions (SI) and any amendments thereto.
- 1.2. Replica ILCA sails or spars may be permitted provided their measurements fall within ILCA Class limits.
- 1.3. The ILCA Class is open to all ages of sailor in all categories of ILCA rig who shall, subject to the number of entries of the different rig types, compete with boats carrying the same rig type.
- 1.4. Juniors are defined as those under 19 years of age on 1st January 2027.
- 1.5. Each boat shall show a distinguishing number on each side of her sail(s), in accordance with Class rules, which shall be the same number as declared on the Entry Form.
- 1.6. Should a boat wish to change its sail number from that on the Entry Form for a race, written notice shall be given to the Race Officer and emailed to results@hyc.ie before the warning signal of that race. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in the boat's disqualification. This changes RRS 63.1 and Appendix A5
- 1.7. **Each competitor shall wear a buoyancy aid and suitable protective clothing at all times and RRS 40.1 shall apply.** Wetsuits will not be recognised as personal buoyancy. Competitors must be aware of the Irish Sailing Safety Guidelines and its recommendations.

2. Sailing Instructions

- 2.1. Sailing instructions will be available online at <https://hyc.ie/open-events> no later than Friday, 30th October 2026.

3. Communication

- 3.1. The official notice board is located at <https://hyc.ie/open-events>

4. Eligibility and Entry

- 4.1. The event is open to the ILCA Class and dinghies with a Portsmouth Yardstick (PY) number lower than 1220.
- 4.2. Entries are accepted at the sole discretion of the OA.
- 4.3. Boats may enter the event by registering online at <https://hyc.ie/open-events>
- 4.4. To be considered an entry in the event, a boat shall complete all registration requirements and pay all fees. Boats will not be scored until a fully completed entry form, together with the correct fee, has been received.

5. Fees

- 5.1. The entry fees are set out below:

Series	All EXCEPT Juniors	Juniors
Both Series – Single Hander	€238	€160
Winter or Spring Series – Single Hander	€140	€100
Both Series – Double Hander	€340	€260

Winter or Spring Series – Double Hander	€190	€140
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6-8 Not Used

9. Schedule of Races

9.1. 32 races are scheduled over two series. Races will be held as follows:

Series	Dates	Race Day	No. Races	Warning Signal
Winter Series: PY 1 ILCA Courtney Cup	1st November 2026 to 20th December 2026	Sunday	16 Races (2 per day)	1045
Spring Series: PY 2 ILCA Rowan Trophy	10th January 2027 to 28 th Feb 2027	Sunday	16 Races (2 per day)	1045

In addition to the two series, special race days will take place. The New Year's Day race will be on 1st Jan 2027, and the Round the Island Race will be on Saturday 6th March 2027.

The races on Saturday 6th March 2027 will be followed by a prize-giving lunch (not included in entry fee). The OA reserves the right to adjust the race programme and schedule in exceptional circumstances and undertakes to provide adequate notice to competitors.

10-11 Not Used

12. Race Area

12.1. The race area is the waters to the North and West of Howth Harbour and is extended to the North and East of Ireland's Eye for the Round the Island Race.

13. Courses

- 13.1. Courses will be chosen from a menu of Windward-Leeward, Olympic Courses and Triangles starting from a Committee Vessel.
- 13.2. Courses will be selected by the Race Officer on the day and indicated by displaying on the Committee Vessel before each race start a flag that advises the course to be sailed – see the Sailing Instructions.
- 13.3. The Race Committee reserves the right to combine the fleets into a single or more starts by displaying multiple Class flags together. The notional starting sequence will be shown in the Sailing Instructions but boats should assume they will start in the first sequence unless the flags displayed for the particular Class start indicate otherwise. Boats in each fleet will receive a finishing place in their own fleet.

14. Not Used

15. Scoring

- 15.1. Scoring shall be as per Racing Rules of Sailing Appendix A4, low points system. However, RRS A5.2 is changed in that RRS Appendix A5.3 will apply for the Series.
- 15.2. Boats other than ILCAs will be scored according to the Portsmouth Yardstick handicap system.
- 15.3. One discard will be applied for every four races sailed, up to a maximum of four discards per series.
- 15.4. Points are accumulated by the entered sailors. For singlehanders, the person named on the entry form as helm is the designated entrant and, for two person boats the boat may count results in the series where the person named on the entry form as helm or crew is helming it. The principle is that the named helm for singlehanders and either the named helm or crew for doublehanders can helm the boat in the series and accumulate scores.

16-17 Not Used

18. Dinghy Parking

- 18.1. All competitors must display a trolley tag on their trolley, and a Winter 2026/2027 HYC sticker on the transom of their boat.
- 18.2. Masts that are lowered when ashore, such as ILCAs, must be stored with the sections separated.
- 18.3. Road trailers are only permitted in the dinghy park during delivery and collection of boats. Any road trailers left in the dinghy park outside of these times will be removed and placed on the pier at the owner's risk.
- 18.4. All boats (including members' boats) must be removed from the dinghy park on or before Monday 8th March 2027. Any boat not so removed will be placed on the pier at the owner's risk
- 18.5. It is a condition of entry and participation that each boat has a serviceable trolley suitable for the type of entered boat it is intended for use with. 'Serviceable' includes suitable wheels which, for pneumatic types, shall be correctly inflated. Any entrant whose trolley is unserviceable or not suitable for use shall be excluded from participating in the event until the deficiency is remedied. Owners are responsible for identifying their own trolleys on completion of the series.
- 18.6. To speed up recovery of boats after sailing, sailors are requested to take the first available trolley on the slip, suitable for the type of boat they are sailing, when coming ashore each day. Sailors shall retrieve their own trolley on the last day of each series.

19-20 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 Event, the Club and the sport in general. The OA reserves the right to use or to license the use of any images and sound recording during the Event free of charge.
- 21.2. Competitors give their consent to the OA to upload their email addresses to the third party online Hearing Request Portal which will communicate hearing requests/protests to which they are a party.

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: 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;
 - a) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;
 - b) They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;
 - c) Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
 - d) 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;
 - 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;
 - 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 valid and adequate third-party liability insurance

24. Scoring & Prizes

- 24.1. Prizes will be awarded for each fleet, subject to sufficient entries, at the race organiser's discretion.
- 24.2. The Round the Island Race is a standalone race and does not form part of the scoring for the Spring Series.

25. Temporary Membership

- 25.1. All Competitors are granted temporary membership of Howth Yacht Club on racing days. Club facilities are not available to non-member participants at any other time.

26. Whatsapp Communications and General Enquiries

- 26.1. It shall be a condition of entry that each competitor provides a mobile phone number with their entry, has access to a smartphone connected to the number provided and agrees to download the WhatsApp application and join the Group set up for the Series. Notices to competitors, including information about race cancellations due to adverse weather forecasts, will be broadcast to the Group. Only messages associated with participation in the Series shall be broadcast using the Group facility. Any Group member found to be misusing the Group shall be subject to protest and penalty. Howth YC, its servants and agents take no responsibility for the content of messages that may be broadcast by parties with access to the Group.
- 26.2. Enquiries should be addressed to: Howth Yacht Club CLG, Middle Pier, Howth Harbour, Dublin D13 E6V3. Telephone: +353 1 8322141. E-mail: office@hyc.ie