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|  | **HOWTH YACHT CLUB****Key Capital Private****Spring Warmer Series 2016****For Cruisers 1, 2 & 3, SB20,** **J24, Puppeteer, & Squib****Saturdays – 9th and 16th April 2016** | **keyCapitalLogo** |

**SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

1. **Rules** –

The races shall be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 2013 - 2016, ISA Prescriptions, the Notice of Race and these Sailing Instructions and any amendments thereto. Competitors in races for One Design classes shall comply with their relevant Class Rules. Competitors in IRC handicap classes shall comply with the rules of those handicapping systems. In the event of a conflict, the Sailing Instructions shall prevail.

1. **Measurement –**

A measurer(s) competent in the measurement of boats in each one design class and handicap system may be appointed by the Organising Authority to the Race Committee. The Race Committee may order measurement checks on any boat which enters and comes to the race area at any time during the event. A boat which the Race Committee requires to be measured shall be present at a time and place specified by the Race Committee.

1. **Notice to Competitors –**

Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board located in the archway beside the Marina Office.

1. **Change of Sailing Instruction** –

Changes to Sailing Instructions will be posted not later than two hours before the scheduled start of the first race so affected. Flag L displayed on the flagpole at the top of the marina bridge denotes that a change of Sailing Instructions has been made.

1. **Signals Made Ashore –**

Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagpole at the top of the marina bridge. When flag AP is displayed ashore “one minute” is replaced with “not less than 45 minutes” in race signal AP. This changes RRS “Race Signals”. Boats are requested not to leave the harbour until flag AP is lowered.

1. **Schedule of Races** –

Four races are scheduled, two on each of the days of the event. The schedule of races on each day is intended to be as follows:

 **First Race:** The First Warning Signal for Race 1 will be displayed at 10.55

 **Second Race:** The First Warning Signal for Race 2 will be displayed as soon as practical after Race 1.

1. **Starting Sequence** –

TheStarting sequence shall be as follows

 **Flag Handicap Scratch**

Class 1&2 1 X

 SB20 Class Flag X

 J24 J X

Class 3 3 X

Puppeteer 22 A X X

 Squib K X X

 **Class 1 & 2** 1100 or Five Minutes after the First Warning Signal.

 **SB20** 1105 or Five Minutes after the Class 1 & 2 start.

 **J24** 1110 or Five Minutes after the SB20 start**.**

 **Class 3** 1115 or Five Minutes after the J24 start

 **Puppeteer 22** 1120 or Five Minutes after the Class 3 start.

 **Squib** 1125 or Five Minutes after the Puppeteer 22 start.

1. **Racing Area**

The racing area will be North of Howth Harbour. Note: The offshore starting area can be up to four miles from the harbour.

1. **Start**

The starting line will be between a red and white pole (or main mast) on the starting vessel and the starting mark. A boat starting later than 4 minutes after the starting signal will be scored DNS. This changes Rule A4.

1. **Committee Boats, Courses and Marks**

All marks shall be left to port

 **Committee Boat -** The Committee Boat will display a yellow flag

(a) The starting mark will be a cylindrical orange buoy.

(b) The finishing mark will be a small orange buoy.

(c) The marks will be laid approximately as shown. Marks 1, 2 and 3 will be large, inflatable black buoys. Mark 4
 will be a large yellow inflatable buoy.

(d) After starting, marks shall be rounded in the following order : 1-2-3-1-2-3-Finish.

(e) After starting, marks shall be rounded in the following order for Squibs:

 **4-3-4-3-Finish**

 

**Note** : After starting and until approaching the Finish Line to finish, the start and finish marks are not marks on the course. However, the Committee Boat may be an Obstruction.

1. **Shortening Course**

The course may be shortened for any reason at the discretion of the Race Committee provided that at least two legs will be sailed. This changes RRS 32.

In the event of the Race Committee deciding to shorten a race but have a Fleets (or Fleets) finish at the Finishing Line indicated on the above diagrams and described in SI 13 (as opposed to at a Mark in compliance with RRS 32.2a), a boat stationed at the last mark to be rounded shall display Flag V and make repeated sound signals as the boats round it. After rounding, the boats shall then proceed directly to the Finishing Line and finish. If Flag V is displayed on its own then all Fleets racing shall have their course shortened. Where the display of Flag V is accompanied by one or more Fleet Flags then all Fleets whose flag(s) are displayed shall have their course shortened. When the boat displaying Flag V is in the vicinity of Marks 1 and 2, the last mark rounded by Fleets whose course is shortened shall be Mark 2. This changes RRS 32.

1. **Change Of Course After The Start**

When a change of course is required and it is possible to relocate the original mark(s), the Race Committee will relocate the original mark(s). The course change will be signalled before the leading boat has begun the leg, although the new mark may not yet be in position. The other marks may be moved to maintain course configuration.

1. **Finishing line**

The Finishing Line shall be between an orange Finish Mark, which shall be left to port, and the red and white pole (or the main mast where there is not a pole) of the Committee Boat displaying a blue flag. Unless FINISHING, no boat shall pass through the finish line IN EITHER DIRECTION when a Blue Flag is displayed on the Committee Boat.

1. **The Limit**

The time limit for the leading boat in each Fleet shall be 90 minutes from starting signal. Any boat which fails to finish within 15 minutes of the leading boat in its Fleet, shall be scored DNF “did not finish”. This changes RRS 35 and A4.1.

1. **Protests, Protests Time And Hearings**

Protests shall be written on official ISA forms. In addition to the obligations in RRS 61.1(a) protesting boats shall, immediately after finishing, inform the Race Officer (on the Committee Boat at the Finish) of the sail number(s) of any boat(s) against which she intends to protest. Protest Forms are available from the Race Office and all protests shall be delivered to the Race Office within Protest Time. Protest Time will begin immediately after the finish of the last boat in the last race of the day and will last for 1.5 hours. This changes RRS61.3 and 62.2.

The sail numbers of boats involved in protests will be posted on the Official Notice Board within 30 minutes of the expiration of Protest Time along with the scheduled protest hearing time.

Notices of protest by the Race Committee will be posted within the Protest Time on the official notice board to inform boats under RRS61.1.(b).

1. **Scoring System**

4 races are scheduled. The low point scoring system RRS Appendix A will apply.

1. **Radio Communications**

A boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats except in the case of an emergency. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones. A listening channel will be available from the committee boat on Channel 77. Boats that have retired are asked to notify the committee boat by radio.

The SB20 fleet are conducting a fleet training session in conjunction with the event. In order to facilitate this VHF communication and instructions are permitted between the SB20 competitors and the Coach boat. This shall not be regarded as outside help under Racing rule 41.

1. **Prizes/Trophies**

Prizes will be presented in the Clubhouse as soon as possible after racing on Saturday 16th April 2016 and will be awarded on the basis of the number of starters as follows:

2 boats = 1st

5 boats = 2nd

8 boats = 3rd

11 boats or more = 4th

 Scratch prizes will be awarded for one design fleets and IRC handicap prizes will be awarded for cruiser classes only.

1. **Liability**

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See rule 4 RRS, Decision to Race. No responsibility shall be accepted by Howth Yacht Club and their respective officers, committee members, servants, or agents nor any sponsor, nor those officials or members connected with the regatta for any loss, damage or any claim of whatever nature however arising or caused in connection with the participation in or intended participation in this regatta.

1. **Insurance**

Each participating boat shall be insured with adequate, valid, third party liability insurance.