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| **hycBurgee** | **Puppeteer 22 National Championships 2017****Howth Yacht Club****29th & 20th July 2017****Sponsored by Sutton Cross Pharmacy** |  |

**Notice of Race**

1. **Organising Authority and Venue**

1.1 The Organising Authority is Howth Yacht Club CLG in association with the Puppeteer Class. All entry forms and remittances are to be addressed to Puppeteer Class Captain, Michael McKeon, C/O Howth Yacht Club, Harbour Road, Howth, Co. Dublin. Admin@hyc.ie or Fax no.01-8392430. Entries may be made on the HYC website www.hyc.ie

1. **Rules & Eligibility**

2.1 The regatta will be governed by the *Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)*, the prescriptions of **Irish** **Sailing** the class rules and this Notice of Race except as modified by the Sailing Instructions and any changes thereto.

2.2 Entries are accepted at the sole discretion of the Race Committee.

2.3 The event is open to all boats of the Puppeteer 22 class. All boats shall conform to the Puppeteer Class Rules. Boats shall be made available for spot checking for Class Rules compliance at a time or times of the Committee’s nomination.

2.4 Advertising is restricted to Category A.

2.5 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third party liability insurance with a minimum cover of €1.5m.

2.6 It is strongly recommended that all yachts carry a VHF radio.

1. **Safety**

3.1 Personal Flotation Devices shall be worn at all times by competitors whilst afloat.

1. **Racing Area**

4.1 Races will be sailed in the waters North of Howth Harbour.

1. **Scoring System**

5.1 Appendix A of the Racing Rules of Sailing using the Low Point Scoring System shall be used. Where four or more races are completed, one discard shall be allowed.

5.2 Two races are required to be completed to constitute a series.

5.3 The event will consist of both a level rating (‘scratch’) and a handicap division.

1. **Schedule of Races**

6.1 The first Warning Signal is at 1100 hrs.on both days.

Three races on both Saturday & Sunday.

The Race Committee may change the Schedule of Races if it decides that conditions warrant it. Adequate notice will be given.

The course configurations will be outlined in the Sailing Instructions.

1. **Prizes**

7.1 Prizes will be awarded to the first four competitors in both Scratch and Handicap divisions.

Perpetual Trophies will be presented to the winners in both Scratch and Handicap Divisions.

**Irish Sailing** medals (five per boat) will be presented to the crews finishing in 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places overall on scratch only.

A competitor may not receive a Scratch and Handicap prize. The Scratch prize shall take precedence.

1. **Temporary Membership**

8.1 All competitors are granted temporary membership of Howth Yacht Club for the duration of the event, subject to the rules of Howth YC.

1. **Handicaps**

9.1 Results of boats competing in the handicap series shall be calculated using the boat’s Puppeteer Class handicap number current at the time of the first race of the event. Any boat that does not have a Puppeteer Class handicap number shall be allocated one by the Race Committee, based on their assessment of her expected performance. The list of Puppeteer Class handicap numbers shall be posted on the Championship Notice Board prior to first race. Competitors are required to notify the Race Committee of any changes to the normal crew complement that might affect the performance of the boat. The Race Committee reserves the right to adjust the Puppeteer Class handicap number of any entry, either before or during the event, to take into account changes to the crew composition or other matters relevant to the performance of the boat.

1. **Sail Numbers/ Identification**

10.1 Each boat shall show a distinguishing number on each side of the mainsail and spinnaker, which shall be the same number as declared on the Entry Form. Should a boat wish to change its sail number from that on the Entry Form, notice shall be given to the Race Committeee before the first Warning Signal.

**11. Sailing Instructions**

11.1 Sailing Instructions will be available to download from the HYC website and also available in HYC Marina Office from 16.00 hrs on Friday 28th July. The Sailing Instructions will incorporate the race programme.

**12. Entries**

12.1 Entries shall be made online at www.hyc.ie or on the attached form and include the entry fee of €50.

12.2 The closing date and time for entries will be **Wednesday 26th July at 2200**.

 Entries received after this date and time will be accepted at the sole discretion of the Organising Committee and upon payment of an additional fee of €10.

1. **Disclaimer of liability**

13.1 Competitors participate entirely at their own risk; see Fundamental Rule 4, Decision to Race and the **Irish Sailing** Safety Booklet. The responsibility for the safety of competing boats and their crews lies solely with the said competitors. The wearing of personal flotation devices is required at all times.

The safety of a boat and her crew is the sole responsibility of the **person in charge** who must do his best to ensure that the boat is fully found, thoroughly seaworthy, and manned by an experienced crew who have undergone appropriate training and are fit to face the conditions encountered. He must be satisfied as to the soundness of hull, spars, sails, rigging and all gear. He must ensure that all safety equipment is properly maintained and suitably stowed. The crew must be familiar with the use and position of such safety equipment.

Howth Yacht Club CLG and/or the Organising Committee will not accept any liability for material damage, personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with, prior to, during, or after racing.

1. **Marina Berths**

14.1 Subject to availability a limited number of Marina berths will be offered free of charge to visiting competitors for two nights (July 29th & 30th). Competitors who wish to avail of this should give prior notice to the marina office by Tel. 01-8392777 or by e-mail to marina@hyc.ie

 **15. Launching/Hauling out**

15.1 Launching Facilities will be available free of charge to visiting competitors and hauling out of boats after the event will be immediately after racing concludes. Competitors who require these facilities are requested to give advance notice to the Marina Office tel-01-8392777 or by e-mail to marina@hyc.ie .

15.2 Haul-out restrictions:

Boats competing in the event shall not be taken from the water during the course of the event, except in the case of damage, and with the prior approval of the Organising Committee.

 **Further enquiries to Puppeteer Class Captain, Michael McKeon**

**on 087 255 3190, email p22classcaptain@gmail.com or**

**C/O Howth Yacht Club, Harbour Road, Howth, Co. Dublin.**