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|  | **Howth Yacht Club****Open Laser Frostbite Series****2017 / 2018** | **laserLogo1** |

**Notice of Race**

1. **Organising Authority (OA)**
	1. The Organising Authority (OA) is Howth Yacht Club CLG.
	2. Enquiries should be addressed to: Howth Yacht Club CLG, Middle Pier, Howth Harbour, Dublin D13 E6V3. Telephone: +353 1 8322141. E-mail: admin@hyc.ie
2. **Rules & Eligibility**
	1. Racing will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing (2017 - 2020) (RRS), the prescriptions of Irish Sailing, the rules of the Laser Class Association, the Sailing Instructions (SI) and any amendments thereto.
	2. Replica Laser sails or spars may be permitted provided their measurements fall within Laser Class limits.
	3. Entries are accepted at the sole discretion of the OA.
	4. Boats will not be included in the results until a fully completed entry form, together with the correct fee, has been received.
	5. The event is open to all ages of sailor in all categories of rig. Juniors are defined as those under 19 years of age on 1st January 2018.
3. **Schedule of Races**
	1. 32 races are scheduled over two series plus two special race days. Races will be held as follows:

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| **Series** | **Dates** | **Race Day** | **No. Races** | **Warning Signal** |
| Courtney Cup | 5th November 2018to17th December 2018 | Sunday | 14 Races (2 per day) | 1045 |
| New Year’s Day Race | 1st January 2018 | Monday | 1 Race | 1155 |
| Rowan Trophy | 7th January 2018to4th March 2018 | Sunday | 18 Races (2 per day) | 1045 |
| Round the Island Race | 10th March 2018 | Saturday | 2 Races | 1055 |

The races on Saturday 10th March will be followed by a prize-giving lunch, the cost of which is included in the entry fee.

* 1. The OA reserves the right to adjust the race programme and schedule in exceptional circumstances, and undertakes to provide adequate notice to competitors.
1. **Entries**
	1. Entries may be made online at <https://hyc.ie/open-events>
	2. The entry fees are set out below:

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| **Series** | **Entry Fee** | **HYC Member Fee** | **Junior Fee** |
| All Races | €165.00 | €135.00 | €110.00 |
| Winter or Spring | € 90.00 | € 75.00 | € 60.00 |

1. **Race Area & Courses**
	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.
	2. Courses will be a mixture of Windward-Leeward and Olympic Courses starting from a Committee Boat.
	3. Courses will be selected by the Race Officer on the day, and indicated by displaying on the Committee Boat either Flag “W” for Windward-Leeward Course, or Flag “O” for Olympic Course.
	4. There will normally be two starts for each race – a Standard Rig start, and a combined Radial/4.7 Rig start. The Race Committee reserves the right to combine the fleets into a single start. Boats in each fleet will receive a finishing place in their own fleet.
2. **Registration & Sailing Instructions**
	1. Registration will take place in the Race Office (beside the Marina Office) on Sunday 5th November 2017 from 0900 to 1030.
	2. Sailing instructions will be available online at <https://hyc.ie/open-events> no later than 1700 Friday 3rd November 2017, and will be available to collect from the Race Office at registration.
3. **Sail Numbers**
	1. Each boat shall show a distinguishing number on each side of her sail, in accordance with class rules, which shall be the same number as declared on the Entry Form.
	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 that race. **Failure to comply with this requirement may result in the boat’s disqualification**. This changes RRS 63.1.
4. **Dinghy Park**
	1. All competitors must display a trolley tag on their trolley, and a Winter 2017/2018 HYC sticker on the transom, both of which will be provided at registration.
	2. Masts must be stored with the sections separated.
	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.
	4. All boats (including members’ boats) must be removed from the dinghy park on or before Monday 12th March 2018. Any boat not so removed will be placed on the pier at the owner’s risk.
5. **Trolleys**
	1. It is a condition of entry that each boat has a serviceable trolley. Owners are responsible for identifying their own trolleys.
	2. To speed up recovery of boats after sailing, sailors are requested to take the first available trolley. Sailors may retrieve their own trolley on the last day of each series.
6. **Scoring & Prizes**
	1. Scoring shall be as per Racing Rules of Sailing Appendix A4, low points system.
	2. Points are accumulated by the sailor - not by the boat.
	3. One discard will be applied for every four races sailed, up to a maximum of four discards per series.
	4. Overall prizes will be awarded up to 5th place in Standard, Radial and 4.7 divisions subject to sufficient entries. In addition, prizes will be awarded to the 1st Junior, 1st Lady, 1st Master (aged 30-40 on 1st January 2017), 1st Grand Master (over 40 on 1st January 2017) and a “silver fleet” division prize for standard rig.
7. **Competitor Responsibilities**
	1. It is the responsibility of each boat owner to decide whether or not he or she should sail, in such conditions as may prevail. Competitors are reminded that they sail entirely at their own risk, and of RRS Fundamental Rule 4 ‘Decision to Race’.
	2. The attention of each competitor is drawn to the potential dangers of sailing at this time of the year and should bear in mind that the series is a winter event in which wind chill, water temperature and weather conditions can quickly induce fatigue. **Each competitor shall wear a buoyancy aid and suitable protective clothing at all times.** Wetsuits will not be recognised as personal buoyancy. Competitors must be aware of the Irish Sailing Safety Guidelines and its recommendations.
	3. Each participating boat must be insured with adequate, valid, third party cover, which must be inclusive of a racing risks extension.
8. **Temporary Membership**
	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.