1. **RULES**
   1. The Regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Rules of Sailing*.
   2. The prescriptions of the Irish Sailing will apply.
2. **NOTICE TO COMPETITORS**
   1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board.
3. **CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**
   1. Any changes to the sailing instructions will be posted before 1000hrs on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000hrs on the day before it will take effect.
4. **SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**
   1. Signals made ashore will be displayed on the club flag pole at the top of the marina gangway.
   2. When Flag AP is displayed ashore, “1 Minute” is replaced by “not less than 45 Minutes” in the race signal AP.
5. **SCHEDULE OF RACES**
   1. There will be two fleets – Main Fleet and Regatta Fleet.
   2. Three races are scheduled for the Main Fleet and Regatta Fleet may race upto five races.
   3. The first Warning Signal for both fleets will be at 12.00 on Friday 30th March 2018.
   4. One race shall constitute a series.
6. **CLASS FLAGS**

International Flag “O” will be the Optimist Class flag for both the Main and Regatta Fleets.

1. **RACING AREA**

The race area for the Main Fleet will be west of Howth Harbour and may be one mile from the harbour entrance. The Regatta Fleet’s race area will be immediately west of the West Pier.

1. **COURSES**
   1. Main Fleet will race an outer loop of a Carantec Course. The rounding order, which will be signalled by Committee Boat no later than the Warning Signal, will be as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Signal** | **Mark Rounding Order** |
| 1 | Start – 1 – 2 – 3p – 4 – Finish |
| 2 | Start – 1 – 2 – 3s/3p – 2 – 3p – 4 – Finish |
| 3 | Start – 1 – 2 – 3s/3p – 2 – 3s/3p – 2 – 3p – Finish |

**1**

**2**

**3p**

**3s**

**4**

* 1. Regatta Fleet will race a Triangular Course. The rounding order, which will be signalled by Committee Boat no later than the Warning Signal, will be as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Signal** | **Mark Rounding Order** |
| 1 | Start – 1 – 2 – 3 – Finish *(1 round)* |
| 2 | Start – 1 – 2 – 3 – 1 – 2 – 3 – Finish *(2 rounds)* |
| 3 | Start – 1 – 2 – 3 – 1 – 2 – 3 – 1 – 2 – 3 Finish *(3 rounds)* |

**1**

**2**

**3**

1. **MARKS**
   1. Main Fleet marks 1, 2, 3 & 4 will be orange spherical marks
   2. Main Fleet starting and finishing mark will be yellow.
   3. Regatta Fleet marks & colours will be notified to Regatta Fleet competitors at their Competitors Briefing.
2. **THE START**
   1. Races will be started by using rule 26.
   2. The starting line will be between the Red & White mast of the Committee Boat flying an orange flag and the port end starting mark as described in 9.2.
   3. A boat starting later than 5 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes rules A4 and A5.
3. CHANGE TO THE NEXT LEG / SHORTENING THE COUSE
   1. To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will move the original mark (or the finishing line) to a new position without signalling.
   2. After the starting signal the race committee may shorten the course by displaying an S flag with two sound signals.
4. **THE FINISH**

The finishing line is the same as the start line, as in 10.2 above.

1. **TIME LIMITS AND TIME TARGETS**
   1. The time limit for all races will be 60 minutes from the start.
   2. Boats failing to finish within 10 minutes after the first boat of their fleet sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes rules 35, A4 and A5.
2. **PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**
   1. Protest forms are available at the race office.
   2. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit.
   3. The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day.
   4. Notices will be posted on the notice board no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the protest room, located adjacent to the race office.
   5. Notices of protests by the race committee or protest committee will be posted to inform boats under rule 61.1(b).
   6. Breaches of instructions 17, 18, 20, 21 will not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes rule 60.1(a). Penalties for these breaches may be less than disqualification if the protest committee so decides. The scoring abbreviation for a discretionary penalty imposed under this instruction will be DPI.
   7. A request for redress based on a protest committee decision shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the decision was posted. This changes rule 62.2.
3. SCORING
   1. A boat’s series score will be the total of her race scores.
   2. No discard will apply for the Main Fleet. A discard will apply for the Regatta Fleet once four races have been completed.
4. **SAFETY**
   1. Competitors shall wear adequate personal flotation devices, properly secured at all times when afloat except briefly while changing or adjusting personal equipment. Wet suits and dry suits are not personal flotation devices.
   2. The organising Authority may stop a boat launching or require it to return ashore, if it considers the boat, its equipment or crew are not adequately equipped for the likely conditions or for any other reasons. The decision is final and shall not be grounds for redress.
   3. Competitors in difficulty shall obey any instruction given by a rescue boat crew.
   4. A boat that retires from a race shall notify a rescue boat immediately.
   5. After a sailor comes ashore, he or she must return their numbered wrist/arm band promptly to the tally board supervisors. It is the responsibility of each boat to return their numbered wrist/arm band promptly on coming ashore. Failure to return the required wrist/arm band promptly on coming ashore may result in disqualification.
5. **SUPPORT BOATS**
   1. Support boats shall register with the race committee at registration time.
   2. Team leaders, coaches and other support personnel including relatives of competitors shall not be in the racing area from the time of the preparatory Signal until all boats have finished or the race committee signals a postponement, General recall or abandonment or requests the assistance of support boats in rescue operation.
6. **RADIO COMMUNICATION**
   1. Except in an emergency, a competing boat shall neither make nor receive radio transmissions while racing. This restriction also applies to mobile phones.
7. PRIZES

Depending on the number of entries there will be prizes for the top three boats in each fleet.

1. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See Rule 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

1. INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third party liability insurance with a minimum cover of €3,000,000.