



Irish Fireball Association

End of Season Championship

October 25th & 26th, 2025

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Organising Authority and Rules

1.1. The Organising Authority is Howth Yacht Club.

1.2. The Regatta will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the Irish Sailing prescriptions and the current International Fireball Class Rules, except as any of these are changed by these Sailing Instructions.

2. Notices to Competitors

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official Notice Board located on the left side of the walkway from the marina gate towards the marina.

3. Changes to Sailing Instructions

Changes to the Sailing Instructions and/or notices to competitors will be posted on the official Notice Board not later than 90 minutes before the scheduled first Warning Signal on the day the change will take effect, except any change to the schedule of races will be posted not later than 21:00 hrs on the day before it will take effect.

4. Signals made ashore

4.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flag pole adjacent to the bridge to the marina.

4.2. When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 60 minutes'. This changes RRS race signal AP.

5. Class flag

The Class Flag will be International Code Flag (ICF) Numeral 1.

6. Sailing area

Racing will take place northwest of Howth Harbour.

7. The Course

See Appendix A for a description of the courses. The course number (as described in Appendix A) identifying the course to be sailed for each race shall be displayed on a board on the Committee Vessel in accordance with RRS Rule 27.1

8. Marks

Marks 1, 1a, 2 and 3 will be yellow inflatables. The start mark will be a dan buoy with an orange flag. The finish mark, unless a race is shortened at a mark of the course, will be a red cherry buoy.

9. Briefing and Schedule of races

9.1. Briefing – A briefing will be held at 10.45 on Saturday October 25th at Howth YC forecourt.

9.2. Racing

9.2.1. Saturday - up to 4 races - first Warning Signal 11:55 subsequent races to follow.

9.2.2. Sunday – remaining races up to a max of 3 races - first Warning Signal 10:55

9.2.3. No race shall start after 15:00 on Sunday unless it is a race which has been abandoned or subject to a general recall.

9.3. The Race Officer may run extra races on any day if conditions are suitable but may not be more than one race ahead of schedule unless a Sea Area forecast indicates that one or more days of racing may be lost or a day has been lost. In the event of an additional race being sailed on Saturday, ICF E will be displayed at the finish line when race 3 is being finished.

9.4. To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, the orange starting line flag may be displayed with one sound signal before a Warning Signal is made.

10. The Start

10.1. Races will be started in accordance with RRS 26.

10.2. The starting line will be between a mast displaying an orange flag on the Committee Vessel and a starting mark at the port-end.

10.3. A boat starting later than 4 minutes after her starting Signal will be scored Did Not Start. This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5.1.

11. Change of course after the start

11.1. To change the next leg of the course, the Race Committee will move the original mark (or the finishing line) to a new position.

11.2. Minor course changes may not be signalled. This changes RRS 33.

12. Shortening the course

In addition to shortening as per RRS 32, the course may be shortened for any reason by displaying ICF F at a rounding mark with regular sound signals. Boats shall thereafter round the mark and sail directly to the finish line to finish.

13. The Finish

Except where a race is finished at a mark of the course, the finishing line will be between a mast on a Committee Vessel displaying a blue flag and the course side of the finishing mark. Where finished at a mark of the course, the finishing line will be between a staff displaying ICF S and the mark that the race is being shortened.

14. Time limit

The time limit for the first boat in each race shall be 60 minutes. Boats failing to finish within 15 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5.1.

15. Flag W

15.1. When one or more boat has sailed the course and finished, the Race Committee may apply an alternative position recording procedure.

15.2. A Race Committee Vessel displaying ICF W may notify a boat still racing that she will be scored in a place corresponding to her position on the water. This changes RRS 28.1, 35, A4 and A5.2.

15.3. Once notified, a boat shall return to the starting area if further races are scheduled or, if no more races are scheduled, return ashore.

16. Retirements

A boat that retires from a race shall make every effort to inform one of the following as soon as possible - the Race Committee Boat, a mark-laying boat, a safety boat or Howth YC marina office staff.

17. Protests

17.1. In addition to the obligations of RRS 60.2(a), protesting boats shall immediately after finishing inform the Committee Finishing Vessel of the sail number(s) of boat(s) being protested.

17.2 Protest should be completed using the following link <https://tinyurl.com/296s335v>

17.2. The Protest Time limit is 60 minutes after the last boat finishes the last race of each day or the Race Committee signals no more racing, whichever is the later. This changes RRS 60.3(b)

18. Safety Regulations

Adequate personal buoyancy shall be worn by all competitors at all times while afloat. Wet suits and dry suits are not adequate personal buoyancy. ICF Y will not be displayed. RRS 40.1 applies in accordance with RRS 40.2

19. Scoring

19.1. The Low Point Scoring System as per Appendix A will apply.

19.2. All fleets will be scored on one result sheet so that any competitor may see their position relative to the entire entry and not just respective to their designated fleet.

19.3. One race is required to be completed to constitute a series.

19.4. Once four races have been completed (i.e. for race 4 and subsequent), a boat's total score shall exclude her worst excludable score

20. Prizes

20.1. Prizes will be awarded at the discretion of the Organising Authority. Perpetual prizes remain the property of the Irish Fireball Association and must not leave the island of Ireland.

20.2. Depending on the number of entries the Class may create a Gold / Silver Fleet. Details of allocation of boats to Gold and Silver fleets will be communicated at the briefing on Saturday October 25th.

21. Precedence.

In the event of a conflict between these Sailing Instructions and the Notice of Race, the Sailing Instructions shall be deemed to be correct.

22. Seamanship and Obstructions

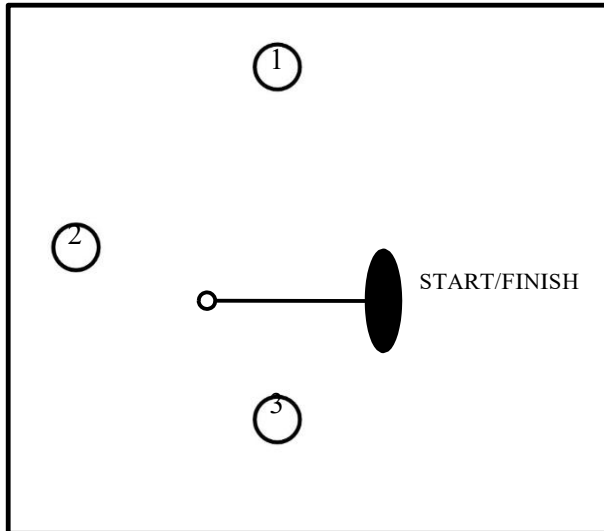
22.1. [NP] [DP] Howth Harbour and Howth Sound are deemed to be 'confined channels' and trawlers, ships and similar craft constrained in their ability to manoeuvre shall be kept clear of by sailing boats. When entering and leaving the harbour, competing boats shall pass other vessels port to port.

22.2. Boats shall not impede trawlers, fishing vessels or other large, powered craft that are constrained in their ability to manoeuvre whilst in Howth Sound, the Harbour Entrance and the fairways to the Trawler Dock and to Howth YC Marina.

Appendix A - COURSES

COURSE 1

Olympic Triangle

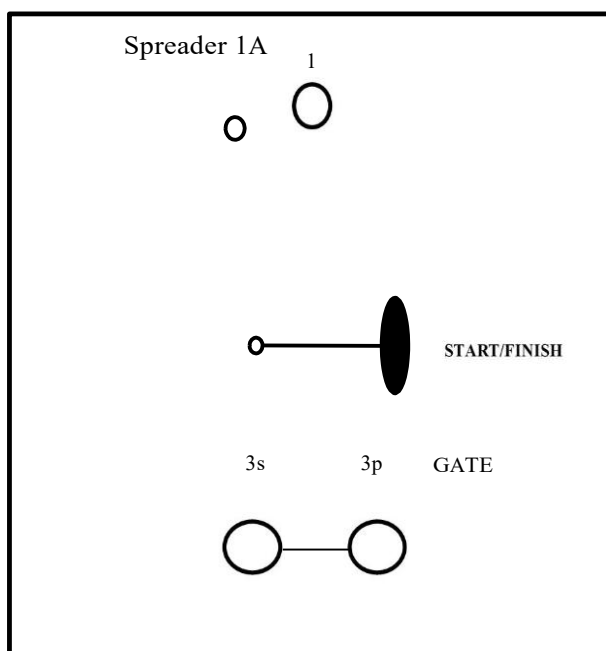


All marks to be rounded to port in the following order

START-1- 2- 3 -1 -3 -1 -2 -3 -FINISH

COURSE 2

Windward-Leeward



All marks to be rounded to port except Gate mark 3s, which if rounded shall be rounded to starboard. Should either 3s or 3p not be in position the remaining mark 3 shall be rounded to port.

START-1-1A-Gate-1-1A-Gate-1-1A-Gate FINISH