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|  | **HOWTH YACHT CLUB****AUTUMN LEAGUE 2018****Organised by Howth Yacht Club CLG.****Saturday 15th September to Saturday 20st October** |  |

**NOTICE OF RACE**

**1. ORGANISING AUTHORITY (OA)**

**1.1** The Howth Yacht Club Autumn League is organised by Howth Yacht Club CLG, Harbour Road, Howth, Co. Dublin.

**1.2** Entries and enquiries should be addressed to: The Administration Office, Howth Yacht Club CLG, Middle Pier, Howth, Dublin D13 E6V3. Telephone: 01 - 832 2141, email: admin@hyc.ie, website: <http://www.hyc.ie> .

Entries may also be made online at <http://www.hyc.ie> by following the ‘Autumn League’ link.

**2. RULES AND ELIGIBILITY**

**2.1** Races will be sailed under the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the Prescriptions of Irish Sailing, the rules of each Class concerned and this Notice of Race except as modified by the Sailing Instructions and any amendments thereto.

**2.2** Entries are accepted at the sole discretion of the OA.

**2.3** Eligible boats are those in the classes that comply with the relevant handicapping system, rules and the entry requirements.

**2.4** Boats racing in Classes 1, 2, 3 and Non Spinnaker Cruisers shall comply with the definition of a cruiser as stipulated in the ICRA Constitution. Class 0 may be included, see 3.1 below

**2.5** The OA reserves the right to refuse an entry to the series if, in its opinion, there is a conflict between a competitor’s sponsor and the event sponsor.

**2.6** It is strongly recommended that all boats carry VHF radios and keep a listening watch, Ch.77 for Offshore and Ch. 69 for Inshore committee boats.

* 1. “Crew Limitation” rules shall not apply in IRC divisions. Cushions may be removed.
	2. Protest requirements: the exemption for boats less than six meters shall not apply. This changes RRS 61.1 (a).

**3. CLASSES**

**3.1** Races will be provided for the following classes and results will be calculated on the handicap divisions listed. If six or more boats are entered with an IRC Rating of 1.045 or above, a separate Class 0 will be provided for.

 **OFFSHORE COMMITTEE BOAT STARTS**

 **Flag ECHO IRC**

Cruiser Class 1 No. 1 X X

Cruiser Class 2 No. 2 X X

Non Spinnaker Cruiser Class 4 No. 4 X X

Non Spinnaker Cruiser Class 5 No. 5 X X

**INSHORE COMMITTEE BOAT STARTS**

  **Flag** **Scratch** **H’Cap**

 Cruiser Class 3 No. 3 X X

 A Taste of Racing J X X

 Puppeteer 22 A X X

 Squib K X X

 17 Footer C X X

**4. SCHEDULE OF RACES**

**4.1** Eight races are scheduled for all classes.

 One race on each of the following Saturdays 15th, 22nd September 13th and 20th October.

 Two races are scheduled for Saturday, 29th September and Saturday 6th October with formats to be decided on the day. For Windward/Leeward races non-spinnaker classes will sail triangles.

**4.2** Should a race be cancelled for weather reasons, that race will be resailed on the next one-race day (weather permitting) along with the scheduled race for that day. This will NOT apply to Saturday 20th October.

**4.3** First Warning Signal for all race days, except 20th October, will be at 1400. On Saturday 20th October, the first Warning Signal will be at 1300.

5. **ENTRIES**

* 1. Entries shall be made either online at <http://hyc.ie> , following the ‘Autumn League’ link, or on the printed entry form. The entry fees are as follows:

Cruiser Classes 1, 2, 3 and Non Spinnaker Cruisers: **€130.00**

One-design keelboats: **€110.00**

Squibs and Taste of Racing J80s (Excludes J80 charter fee) **€85.00**

Cheques should be made payable to Howth Yacht Club CLG.

**5.2** Non Spinnaker Cruisers will be divided into two classes (Class 4 and Class 5) based on TCF. The boats comprising these divisions shall be displayed on the Official Notice Board in the archway beside the Marina Office and on the HYC website.

.**5.4** Entries shall be accompanied by the appropriate entry fee or credit/debit card details, together with a copy of the current IRC

**5.5** Classes 1, 2, 3 and Non Spinnaker Cruisers are automatically eligible for the ECHO division providing the boat is included on the current Irish Sailing ECHO list.

**7. SAIL NUMBERS/ IDENTIFICATION**

* 1. Each boat shall show a distinguishing number on its spinnaker and on each side of its mainsail, which shall be the same number as declared on the Entry Form. (Except where one-design class regulations apply). Where relevant the same number shall be shown on the genoa.
	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.

**7.3** Classes 1, 2, 3 and Non Spinnaker Cruiser shall fly the relevant class numeral pennant from the backstay. **Any boat not doing so shall be scored DNS.** This changes RRS 63.1. (Not applicable to J80s)

**8. HANDICAPS**

**8.1** The following handicap data shall be used: **Cruiser Classes 1, 2, 3 and Non Spinnaker** **Cruisers (4 & 5):**

  **ECHO**: ECHO ratings to be used shall be applied to all boats at the commencement of the series. (see also 8.2(b))

          Boats from fleets outside of Howth shall be given an initial "special" ECHO rating that will naturally adjust by the Progressive ECHO Calculation thereafter*.*

**IRC**: TCC values of current certificate.

 **One Design:** Current handicap as notified by the Class Captain.

**8.2** There may be updating of handicaps during the series, as follows: -

 (a) Revision of ECHO/ One Design Handicap should there be any material change to the boat including a change in helm or crew.

 (b) ECHO / One Design handicaps may be revised during the series at the discretion of the Autumn League Handicapping Committee, who reserve the right to allocate handicapped boats to any class and to decide handicaps. Owners are advised to check the Official Notice Board for class and handicap information.

 (c) IRC handicap, as declared at the start of the series, shall remain in force for the series. A copy of the current IRC certificate shall be available on board for inspection as provided for within the IRC rules. IRC certificates shall not be dated later than 12th September 2018.

**8.3** It is intended to trial the ORC scoring system during the Autumn League. This will be in addition to the existing IRC and other scoring systems. Where possible ORC certs will be generated from existing data.

**9.** **ECHO/ IRC CLASS DIVISIONS**

**9.1** Handicap Cruiser Class assignments will be made according to entries received. The entries of the Cruiser IRC and Echo will be split into a minimum of three Classes named Cruisers1, 2, 3. If entries warrant, the number of classes may be increased. Non-spinnaker entries will be split into two classes.

The composition of the classes will be determined by the OA on receipt of the entries, having regard to the following criteria:

1. The need for a reasonable number of boats in each class.
2. Having as close a spread as possible in the range of handicaps in each class.

The allocation of entries into provisional classes will be posted on the HYC website by 1700 on Tuesday 11th September 2018. The OA reserves the absolute discretion, in the interests of fair sailing for all competitors, to allocate any boat to any class.

**9.1** Boats rating 0.010 or less below the lower limit of the next class up may request permission to move up to the class above and race using the lower limit rating of that class. Application must be made in writing/email to the HYC office (office@hyc.ie) by 1700 on Thursday 13th September. The decision of the OA is final and not subject to appeal.

**9.2** Boats shall display class numerals 1-5 on their backstays.

1. **PRIZES / TROPHIES**

**10.1** Daily prizes will be awarded to the winner of each division in each class of the Autumn League and will be presented as soon as possible after racing on the following week.

 Boats winning a daily prize on IRC or Scratch are not eligible for a handicap prize on that day. A boat that wins an overall series prize shall not be eligible for a prize in ECHO/Handicap

 Overall prizes will also be awarded on the basis of number of entries as follows:

 2 boats =1st, 5 boats = 2nd, 8 boats = 3rd, 11 or more boats = 4th.

 **The following trophies will be awarded:**

 Heineken Trophy Overall Winner

 Olympus Trophy Team Trophy

 Cronin Trophy 17 Footer Scratch

 Alphida Cup 17 Footer Handicap

 Evora Trophy Cruiser Class 1 IRC

 Joliba Cup Cruiser Class 1 ECHO

 Cuffe-Smith Trophy Cruiser Class 2 IRC

 Volvo Trophy Cruiser Class 2 ECHO

 Habu Trophy Cruiser Class 3 IRC

 PAB Travel Trophy Cruiser Class 3 ECHO

 Evora Trophy Non Spinnaker Cruiser Class 4 IRC

 Nissan Trophy Non Spinnaker Cruiser Class 4 ECHO

 Impala Regatta trophy Non Spinnaker Cruiser Class 5 IRC

 Denis Wickham Trophy Non Spinnaker Cruiser Class 5 ECHO

 Mildly Cold Trophy J24 Scratch

 Sleater Salver J80 Scratch

 Duropal Trophy Puppeteer 22 Scratch

 Snow Goose Trophy Puppeteer 22 Handicap

 Gilmour Cup Squib Scratch

 Hot Irish Trophy Squib Handicap

**10.3** **The Heineken Trophy**, which is perpetual, will be awarded to the boat that wins its class by the greatest margin of points over the second placed boat in the main series. For Cruiser Classes 1, 2, 3 and Non Spinnaker Cruisers it shall be based on IRC and for one-design classes on Scratch – the calculation to be made by multiplying its winning margin, having taken discards into account, by the average number of starters in its class. The boat with the highest score will be the winner.

**10.4** **Olympus Team Trophy**

 This prize shall be for teams of three boats that are racing under IRC/Scratch. Any combination of boats from any IRC and or Scratch Division is acceptable providing boats are not from the same class. No boat shall be a member of more than one team. Following the final race of the Autumn League and taking into account discards, the combined scores of the three boats from the full series shall apply and the winning team will be that with the lowest number of cumulative points. Competitors should advise the Race Office in writing of their teams prior to 0930 on Saturday, 15th September 2018

**10.5** The OA will have the discretion to award additional prizes to certain categories of boat notwithstanding that they may be in an existing class

**11. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

 Sailing Instructions will be emailed to all competitors whose entry is received by 2200 on Wednesday, 12th September 2018 and will be available online on the HYC website, <http://www.hyc.ie> from that date. For entries received after that time and HYC members, Sailing Instructions will be available in the Race Office at the following times: -

 Friday 14th September 2018 1630 to 1900

 Saturday 15th September 2018 1030 to 1330

1. **RACING AREA**

Races will be sailed in the waters north of Howth. Starts may be up to four miles north of Howth Harbour

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**13 INSURANCE**

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of €3,000,000 per incident or the equivalent.

**OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION**

1. **MARINA BERTHS/ DRY SAILING**

 A limited number of Marina berths and Dry Sailing will be available for competitors at a reduced rate. These will be allocated in order of application and subject to suitable space availability, the period being Friday 14th September to Sunday, 21st October 2018. The OA reserve the right to retract these offers in the event of a boat’s non-participation in the event. Overstays on the Marina or hardstanding will be charged at the current applicable visitor rate per day.

 Howth Marina will offer event berthing to visiting Autumn League entrants at €125 (<9m) or €175 (>9m). For entries after 29th August the fees will be €175 and €225.

 Dry Sailing for One Design sportsboats will also be available for participating entrants. The discounted rate will be €200.00, which will include the required 6 return lifts and storage ashore during the series.

 Winter berthing is also available at €100 per metre. Both offers are subject to the boat competing in and recording all non- discardable finishes in the Autumn League.

 **2. SOCIAL**

Eligible competitors are granted temporary membership of Howth Yacht Club for each race day subject only to the provisions of the Club rules for withdrawing or withholding such membership. All competitors are invited to avail of the facilities of the Club on the days of the event.

**3. CAR PARKING**

The attention of all participants is drawn to the car parking regulations in the vicinity of the Club. The Harbour Authority rigidly enforces these regulations.