



HOWTH YACHT CLUB

AUTUMN LEAGUE 2019

Organised by Howth Yacht Club CLG

Saturday September 14th to Saturday October 19th

Sailing Instructions

1. Rules

- 1.1** The races shall be governed by the current Racing Rules of Sailing (Rules), Irish Sailing Prescriptions, the Notice of Race and these Sailing Instructions (SI) and any changes thereto. In the event of a conflict, the Sailing Instructions shall prevail.
- 1.2** Competitors in races for One Design classes shall comply with their relevant Class Rules. Competitors in IRC and ECHO handicap classes shall comply with the Rules of those handicapping systems
- 1.3** Boats competing in Class 4 and Class 5, in both IRC and ECHO divisions, shall be subject to the following headsail Rule:
Boats shall use only one headsail at any time (i.e. drop one headsail before setting another). This changes RULE 50.1.

2. Measurement –

A measurer(s) competent in the measurement of boats in each one design Class and handicap system may be appointed by the Organising Authority to the Race Committee. The Race Committee may order measurement checks on any boat which enters and comes to the race area at any time during the event. A boat which the Race Committee requires to be measured shall be present at a time and place specified by the Race Committee.

3. Notice to Competitors –

Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board located in the archway beside the Marina Office.

4. Changes to Sailing Instructions

Changes to Sailing Instructions will be posted not later than two hours before the scheduled start of the first race so affected. Flag L displayed on the flagpole at the top of the marina bridge denotes that a change of Sailing Instructions has been made.

5. Signals Made Ashore –

Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagpole at the top of the marina bridge. When flag AP is displayed ashore 'one minute' is replaced with "not less than 45 minutes" in race signal AP. This changes RULE 'Race Signals'.

6. Schedule of Races

6.1 Offshore Committee Vessel Starts

Saturdays – September 14th, 21st and 28th; October 5th and 12th

<u>Class</u>	<u>Flag</u>	<u>Start</u>
First Warning Signal		1400
Cruiser Class 1	No. 1	1405
Cruiser Class 2	No. 2	1410
Non-Spinnaker 4	No. 4	1415
Non-Spinnaker 5	No. 5	1420

Saturday – October 19th

First warning Signal: 1300

<u>Class</u>	<u>Flag</u>	<u>Start</u>
Cruiser Class 3	3	1305
Puppeteer	A	1310
Squib	K	1315
17 Footer	C	1320
A Taste of Racing*	J	1325

* "A Taste of Racing" refers to the HYC training J80s

INSHORE COMMITTEE VESSEL STARTS

Start Vessel: Sea Wych, VHF Ch. 69

A Starting Area –

The starting area will be North West of Ireland's Eye.

B Starting Line –

The Starting Line shall be between an orange outer distance mark (to be passed to port) and a red/white pole or the mainmast of the Committee Starting Vessel that will display an orange flag.

C Starting Signals –

Starts shall be in accordance with Rule 26.

D Course Designation –

'Fixed Mark' Courses shall be designated by numerals displayed on boards on the Committee Starting Vessel. The course applicable to each race will be displayed for not less than 4 minutes before its start. This changes Rule 27.1. Marks are described by letters on the Inshore Committee Vessel Course Card. **A windward mark, Z (YELLOW inflatable) will be laid approximately to windward of the starting line. This is the first mark on all courses.**

E Courses –

Courses shall be as per the special Inshore Committee Vessel Course Card for the Autumn League, which forms part of these Sailing Instructions. Windward/Leeward courses will be as shown on the attached Appendix.

F Finishing Line –

The finishing line, unless a race is shortened or a Windward / Leeward course is in use, shall be located in the vicinity of the Spit Mark (S) and the South Rowan Buoy (R) and shall be between a spherical orange Mark F and the main mast (or red/white pole) on the adjacent Committee Finishing Vessel displaying an orange flag.

For Windward/Leeward courses, the finishing line, unless shortened, will be upwind of the leeward mark.

6.3 Eight races are scheduled for all classes.

One race on each of the following Saturdays, **September 14th and 28th and October 5th and 19th.**

Two races are scheduled for Saturdays, **September 21st and October 12th** with formats to be decided on the day.

6.4 The type of course to be sailed each day will be determined by the Race Committee and will be communicated by means of signals as follows:

ICF 'R' will indicate that a 'Round the Cans' course will be sailed.

ICF 'W' will indicate that a Windward/Leeward course will be sailed.

6.5 The Starting Time Limit shall be **5 minutes**. Any boat failing to start within that time will be scored as DNS. This changes Rules 35, A4 and A5.

7. Re-crossing Start/Finish Lines –

Boats, having started and cleared their starting line, shall not re-cross that line whilst starts are in progress. Boats shall not cross any other starting line whilst starts are in progress.

The Protest Committee may penalise a boat for failing to comply with this Sailing Instruction with a score of its discretion, including DNE.

8. Finishing Time Limit –

The Time Limit for all races is **1730**. In the event of a postponement and/or general recall the time limit for races so affected shall be extended by the time the start is delayed. If a boat finishes a race within this limit, the time limit for her class shall be extended by 30 minutes in that race. A boat which fails to finish within the time limit will be scored DNF. This changes Rule 35 and A4.1.

On days when two races are sailed, the time limit for each race shall be **15 minutes** from the time of the **second** finisher in each class.

9. Protests –

Protest forms are available at the Race Office. Protests, requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered to the Race Office within the Protest Time Limit for that fleet, which will be posted on the Official Notice Board. The Protest Time Limit for the Inshore fleet is 60 minutes from the time of finish of the last boat in the Inshore fleet. Similarly, the protest time limit for the Offshore fleet is 60 minutes from the time of the finish of the last boat in the Offshore fleet. Notices of protests by the Race Committee will be posted on the Official Notice Board to inform boats. This changes Rule 61.1(b). The protest flag exemption for boats less than six metres shall not apply. This changes Rule 61.1(a) (2).

10. Protest Hearings –

Protest hearings will be held each day after racing. A schedule of protest hearings will be posted on the Official Notice Board 15 minutes after the protest time limit. The listing of a boat on this schedule shall constitute informing her of a hearing under Rule 63.2. Parties involved shall be present with their witnesses at the time and place indicated on the schedule. On the last day of racing (scheduled for Oct 19th) a request to reopen a hearing shall be delivered to the Protest Committee not later than 30 minutes after the party was informed of the decision. This changes Rule 66.

11. Scoring –

The Low Point scoring system of Appendix A will apply. When four or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst excludable score.

12. Navigation Marks and Obstructions –

See the special Offshore and Inshore Committee Boat Course Cards.

13. <u>Tides</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>H.W.</u>	<u>Height</u>	<u>L.W.</u>	<u>Height</u>
	14/09	12.38	3.90m	18.19	0.70m
	21/09	16.49	3.40m	10.21	1.20m
	28/09	11.59	4.30m	17.39	0.20m
	05/10	17.17	3.40m	10.49	1.30m
	12/10	11.37	3.80m	17.19	0.80m
	19/10	15.33	3.70m	09.05	1.00m

14 Radio Communications –

Competitors are advised to keep a listening watch for their respective Committee Vessel - VHF Channel 77 for Offshore Committee Vessel, Channel 69 for Inshore Committee Vessel - where information relevant to racing may be broadcast. Should this information be broadcast, it shall not constitute outside assistance and shall not be the subject of any protest or claim for redress. Failure to broadcast this information shall not be the basis for any claim for redress. The Squib Class Rules are amended by this Sailing Instruction to allow use of VHF radio.

Competitors who retire from a race shall inform the Race Committee promptly by radio on Channel 77 or 69, as appropriate. Competitors without radio should inform the Race Office on coming ashore.

15 Safety -

Competitors participate entirely at their own risk, see Fundamental Rule 4 'Decision to Race'. Open boat entrants are referred to relevant Class Regulations. **The wearing of suitable personal floatation devices in all boats is strongly recommended at all times.**

The responsibility for the safety of competing boats and their crews lies solely with the said competitors. Howth Yacht Club, 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.

Boats shall keep clear of race committee vessels (committee boats, mark laying boats and patrol boats), from the time the Committee Starting Vessel for the relevant course is on station, prior to starting racing.

16 Insurance –

Each participating boat shall be insured with adequate, valid, third party liability insurance.

GENERAL

When entering/leaving Howth Harbour, stay on the right hand side of the fairway and harbour entrance i.e. always pass port to port. Also, Howth Sound is a restricted channel and accordingly boats shall not impede trawlers.

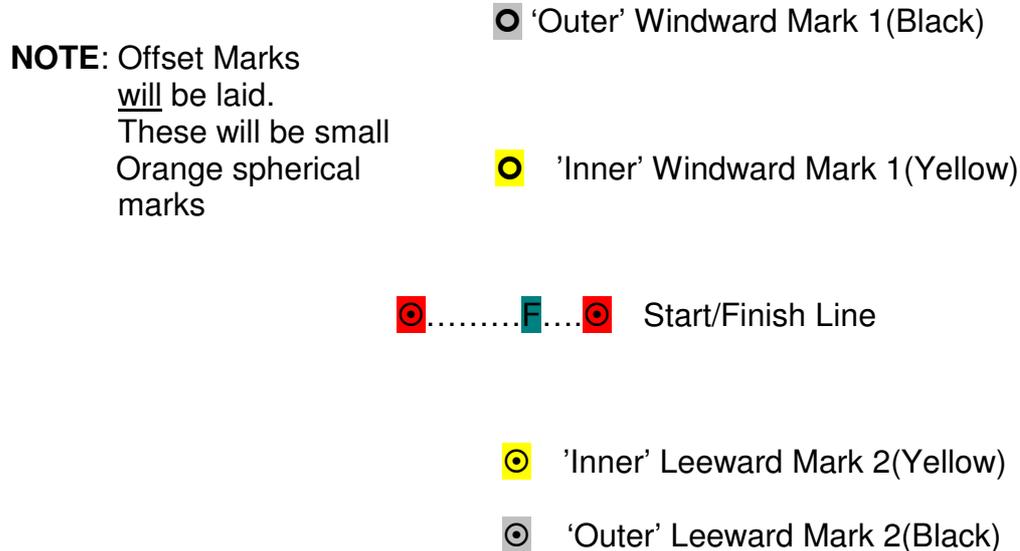
The attention of all participants is drawn to the car parking regulations in the vicinity of the Club. These are rigidly enforced by the Harbour Authority.

Competitors are granted temporary membership of Howth Yacht Club on race days of the Autumn League, subject only to the provisions of the Club Rules for withdrawing or withholding said membership.

Appendix to Sailing Instructions

S.I. 6.4 refers to the option available to the Race Committee to set a Windward/Leeward course. Should this option be chosen, Flag 'W' will be displayed afloat.

Course Diagram:



For Inshore fleets:

Cruisers 3, Puppeteers and Squibs use the **Outer** Windward and Leeward marks (Black)

Howth 17s and Taste of Racing use the **Inner** Windward and Leeward Marks (Yellow)

For Offshore fleets:

Cruisers 1 and 2 use the **Outer** Windward and Leeward marks (Black)

Non Spinnaker classes 4 and 5 use **Inner** Windward and Leeward marks (yellow).

Where Windward/Leeward courses are chosen, the S.I.s are changed as follows:

ADD S.I. 6.6 If Flag 'V' is displayed with repeated sound signals at a mark of the course, boats shall sail directly from that mark to the finish line.

REPLACE S.I.s 6.1 D & 6.2 D with: The number of rounds for each Class will be displayed on the relevant Committee Starting Vessel not later than the Preparatory Signal for that Class.