|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **HOWTH YACHT CLUB****2020 END OF SUMMER SERIES****Saturday 12th September to Sunday 18th October** |  |

**SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

1. **RULES AND ELIGIBILITY**

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

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

**1.3** Entry is limited to members of Howth Yacht Club and to Temporary members who, prior to entering for the Series, have committed to a Winter marina berth. The OA reserves the right to determine the eligibility of entrants.

**1.4** Eligible boats are those in the Classes that comply with the relevant handicapping system, rules and the entry eligibility requirements.

**1.5** Boats racing in Classes 1, 2, 3 and in Non-Spinnaker Cruisers shall comply with the definition of a cruiser as stipulated in the ICRA Constitution

* 1. It is strongly recommended that all boats carry VHF radios and keep a listening watch to Channel 69.

**1.7** “Crew Limitation” rules shall not apply in IRC Classes. Cushions may be removed from boats competing in IRC Classes

**1.8** Protest requirements: the exemption for boats less than six metres shall not apply. This changes RRS 61.1 (a).

**2. Race Schedule**

The End of Summer Series will be run as follows:

**2.1** Nine racesare scheduled for all classes. Racing will be on Saturdays for One Design classes (including Cr.3) and on Sundays for the remaining Cruiser Classes.

**2.2**. Two races are scheduled for each of the following weekends: Sept. 19/20, Sept. 26/27 and Oct. 3/4. These races will be started from a Committee Vessel.

**2.3** One race is scheduled for each of the following weekends: Sept. 12/13, Oct. 10/11 and Oct. 17/18. These races will be started from the East Pier starting line.

**2.4.** Race formats will be decided on the day of racing.

For Committee Vessel starts, display of course flags will indicate the course type - I.C. Flag W for Windward/Leeward courses and I.C. Flag R for ““Round the Cans”” races.

 All Pier starts shall be ““Round the Cans”” races, the courses selected from the End of Summer Pier Start course card.

**2.5** In the event of it not being possible to sail races as planned due to weather conditions or the like, the OA reserves the discretion to sail an extra race on the weekends of Oct. 10th /11th and / or Oct 17th / 18th to try and provide the scheduled number of races, or as close to it as feasible. In such a case not less than 5 days’ notice shall be provided to competitors.

 **3 Start Times**

**3.1** On **Saturdays**, the Classes racing and start times shall be:

 Class Flag Start

J80 J 1405

Cruiser Class 3 3 1410

Puppeteer A 1415

Squib K 1420

17 Footer C 1425

**3.2.** On **Sunday**s, the Classes racing and start times shall be:

 Class Flag Start

 Cruiser Class 1 No. 1 1205

 Cruiser Class 2 No. 2 1210

 Non-Spinnaker\* No. 4 1215

 \* Non-Spinnaker Cruisers may be divided into two Classes (Class 4 and Class 5) based on TCF. The boats assigned to these Classes shall be listed on the HYC website.

**4. Starting Area**

**4.1** For Committee Vessel starts, the starting area shall be to the West or North of Ireland’s Eye.

**4.2** For Pier Starts, the starting area is defined as being bounded by an imaginary line drawn from the new lighthouse to the South Rowan Buoy, to the Howth Mark, to the elbow of the East Pier.

**5. Courses**

**5.1** For Committee Vessel Windward/Leeward races the course will be as indicated in S.I. 2.4. The number of laps to be sailed by each Class will be indicated by a board displayed on the Committee Boat not later than four minutes prior to the Class’s start. This changes RRS 27.1.

For ‘“Round the Cans”’ races the courses will be chosen from the End of Summer Series course cards for Saturday or Sunday as appropriate. The course for each Class will be advised by display of the course number on either the Starter’s Hut course board or the Committee Vessel, as appropriate.

**5.2** For Pier Start races the courses will be chosen from the End of Summer Series Pier Course Card.

**6. Description of Marks**

**6.1** For Windward/Leeward courses the race marks will be black inflatable marks. On Saturdays, in addition, yellow inflatable marks will be used exclusively for the J80 fleet. The black marks will be laid further from the Committee Vessel than the yellow marks*.*

The Start Mark will be an Orange Cylindrical Mark

 The Finish Mark, unless the course is shortened, will be a red spherical mark.

**6.2** For “Round the Cans” courses the course marks will be as shown on the Technical Sheet for the 2020 Club Racing Series.

**7. Starting Lines**

**7.1** For Committee Vessel starts the starting line shall be between the red and white pole/mainmast on the Committee Vessel and an Outer Distance Mark, an orange buoy, which shall be left to port when starting. The R.O. may adjust the starting line up to three minutes before the start of a race. This changes RRS 27.2.

**7.2** For Pier Starts:

 **(**a) The starting line shall be one of the following, identified by a letter A, B or C displayed on the Starter’s Hut:-

 Starting Line A: A line between the red vertical line on the Starter’s Hut and the South Rowan Buoy.

 Starting Line B: A line between the red vertical line on the Starter’s Hut and Finish Mark F.

 Starting Line C: A line between the red vertical line on the Starter’s Hut and the Howth Mark.

 (b) For all west going starts, boats shall pass to the south of the South Rowan Buoy.

(c) For all east going starts, boats shall pass south of the Finish Mark (F). Should Mark F be missing, flag H will be displayed and boats shall pass south of the Howth Mark.

**8. Navigation Marks and Obstructions**

 (a) The navigation and HYC marks in and around Howth Sound shall be left as follows after a boat’s starting signal:

 South Rowan Buoy: to be passed to the south and west.

 Howth Mark: not a mark on any course and does not have a required passing side, except when used as start line, in which case it shall only have a required side for boats starting.

 Finish Mark: to be passed to the south

 Rowan Rocks Buoy: to be passed to the east and south.

 Spit Mark: to be passed to the north and east (except when used as rounding mark on Pier Start Course Card)

 Where the Thulla Mark is described as a mark on the course, it shall be passed to the south.

(b) Any part of Ireland’s Eye capable of being touched by a boat, while racing, is designated as an obstruction to sea

(c) The attention of competitors is drawn to the existence of many underwater hazards in the vicinity of Ireland’s Eye, Balscadden Bay, Howth Sound and over the Spit Bank. Should they choose to sail amongst these hazards, they do so at their own risk. The Club accepts no responsibility for the consequences to any boat of where the helmsman chooses to sail.

**9. Shortening Course**

**9.1.** A Windward/Leeward course may be shortened at Mark 1 or Mark 2 in accordance with RRS 32. In addition, the course may be shortened at the Start/Finish line by displaying IC “F” with intermittent sound signals at Mark 1 or Mark 2 (or Offset if laid). In this case a boat shall sail directly to the Start/Finish line.

**9.2** Shortening a “Round the Cans” Course will be in accordance with RRS 32.

**9.3.** For courses that prescribe a leg passing up or down the Sound, the R.O. may decide to shorten the race using the East Pier finishing line. Flag S will be displayed and two sound signals made as the leading boat approaches the finishing line. The Classes to be shortened will be transmitted on VHF Ch.69.

**10. Finish Line**

**10.1** For Windward/Leeward courses the finish line, unless the course is shortened, will be between a red and white pole on the Committee Vessel and a red spherical finish mark.

**10.2** For Committee Vessel ‘Round the Cans’ courses for **Cruiser Classes**, the finish line, unless the course is shortened, will be upwind of the last fixed mark of the course and will be between a red and white pole on the Committee Vessel and a red spherical finish mark.

**10.3** For Committee Vessel ‘Round the Can’ courses for **One Design Classes**, the finish line, unless the course is shortened, shall be positioned in the vicinity of the Island Mark/Howth Sound and will be between a red and white pole on the Committee Vessel and a red spherical finish mark.

**10.4** For Pier Courses the finish line will be between the Finish Mark F and the red vertical line on the East Pier Starter’s Hut.

**11. Time Limit**

 The time limit for each Class’s race when started from the Pier will be three hours from the Class’s valid Start Signal. For those started from a Committee Vessel the time limit for each Class’s race will be ninety minutes from its valid Start Signal. Any boat failing to finish within fifteen minutes of the second placed finisher in that boat’s Class shall be scored as DNF. This changes RRS 35 and Appendix A5.

**12. Scoring System**

**12.1.** The scoring system shall be as per RRS Appendix A – Low Point System.

**12.2.** One discard is allowed for every four races completed.

**13. Protests and Redress**

**13.1** Protests shall be written on an official Irish Sailing Protest Form and lodged with the Protest Convenor or placed in the protest box, located in the club hallway. A limited number of protest forms may be available in the Marina Office. Protest forms are available to download from The Racing Rules of Sailing at:

 <https://www.sailing.ie/Library/racing#worldsailinglibrary>

**13.2** The Protest time limit shall be 2 hours after the last boat finishes racing each day and shall be posted on WhatsApp.

**13.3** The schedule of protests/redress hearings shall be posted on WhatsApp after the expiry time of the Protest Time Limit. Protest/redress hearings will be scheduled for the Thursday evening following the race concerned and may be held remotely.

**13.4** Any boat intending to protest another boat in a race shall display a red flag in accordance with Rule 61.1(a) (not applicable to Squibs and H17s) and shall notify the Finishing Vessel of her intention to do so and seek acknowledgement from the Race Committee.

**14. Radio Communications** –

Competitors are advised to keep a listening watch on VHF Channel 69 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.

For Pier Starts VHF radio communication will replace displaying of Flags. This changes RRS 25 and 26.

**Competitors who retire from a race shall inform the Race Committee promptly by radio on Ch.69. Competitors without radio should inform the Race Office on coming ashore.**

**15** **Crew Registration and Declaration**

 As part of the required contact tracing measures associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, each skipper will be required to complete an on-line crew registration and declaration submission form in advance of racing on any day of the Series. **Failure to provide a complete and accurate submission prior to racing may result in the boat concerned being scored as ‘DNC’ without a Protest Hearing for all races sailed on the day for which the submission was either not provided or was incorrect. This changes RRS Appendix A5.**

 Skippers are reminded that submission of an on-line form will be acknowledged to the skipper’s email address. Any skipper claiming to have provided the required submission will be required to provide a copy of the acknowledgement sent on receipt of the submission.

**16 Entry to HYC Premises and compliance with COVID related requirements**

 Non-members visiting HYC to race in the Series are required to be signed into the premises by a member.

 COVID marshals shall be on duty on each race day to assist participants in complying with the Club’s COVID risk mitigation measures and will be identified by distinctive vests. The marshals are requested to ensure persons entering the premises comply with the required arrangements and also to reduce the incidence of persons congregating on the premises, including on the marina.

 Failure by a HYC member to comply with the reasonable instructions of a COVID marshal may be grounds for disciplinary action by Howth YC. Any member signing in a visitor to the premises shall be responsible for the actions of that person while they are on the premises.

**Appendix to Sailing Instructions**

**S.I. 2.4** 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:**

  ‘Outer’ Windward Mark 1(Black)

**NOTE**: Offset Marks

 may be laid.

 These will be small

 Orange spherical  ‘Inner’ Windward Mark 1(Yellow)

 marks

 ………F….Start/Finish Line

  ‘Inner’ Leeward Mark 2 (Yellow)

  ‘Outer’ Leeward Mark 2 (Black)

**For One Design Classes (Saturdays):**

Cruisers 3, Puppeteers, Squibs and Howth 17s will use the **Inner** Windward and Leeward marks (Yellow)

J80s use the **Outer** Windward and Leeward Marks (Black)

**For Cruiser Classes (Sundays):**

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

Non Spinnaker Class 4 (and 5 if racing) use **Inner** Windward and Leeward marks (yellow).

 **TIDES**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **High Tide** | **Height** | **Low Tide** | **Height** |
| Sat, 12/09 | 20:05 | 3.29m | 13:34 | 1.54m |
| Sat, 19/09 | 13:43 | 4.37m | 19:24 | 0.07m |
| Sat, 26/09 | 20:37 | 3.41m | 14:08 | 1.47m |
| Sat, 03/10 | 13:12 | 3.97m | 18:55 | 0.60m |
| Sat, 10/10 | 18:07 | 3.26m | 11:35 | 1.59m |
| Sat, 17/10 | 12:36 | 4.46m | 18:18 | 0.01m |
| Sun, 13/09 | 08:50 | 3.20m | 14:43 | 1.36m |
| Sun, 20/09 | 14:25 | 4.31m | 07:51 | 0.02m |
| Sun, 27/09 | 09:26 | 3.29m | 15:14 | 1.35m |
| Sun, 04/10 | 13:41 | 3.94m | 19:27 | 0.66m |
| Sun, 11/10 | 19:29 | 3.36m | 12:58 | 1.58m |
| Sun, 18/10 | 13:19 | 4.49m | 19:02 | 0.01m |