

## 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 55.1.

### 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. In addition, notifications may be made via the regatta WhatsApp group. Failure to receive such notifications will not be a case for redress.

### 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 11th, 18th and 23rd; October 2nd and 9th

|                             |             |              |
|-----------------------------|-------------|--------------|
| <b>First Warning Signal</b> |             | <b>1400</b>  |
| <u>Class</u>                | <u>Flag</u> | <u>Start</u> |
| 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 16th**

**First warning Signal: 1300**

| <u>Class</u>    | <u>Flag</u> | <u>Start</u> |
|-----------------|-------------|--------------|
| Cruiser Class 3 | 3           | 1305         |
| Puppeteer       | A           | 1310         |
| Squib           | K           | 1315         |
| Howth 17        | C           | 1320         |

### **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. This changes RRS Race Signals.

#### **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 adjacent Committee Finishing Vessel displaying a blue 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 11th and 23rd and October 2nd and 16th**

**Two races** are scheduled for Saturdays, **September 18th and October 9th** 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. This changes RRS 63.1, A4 and A5.

## **8. Finishing Time Limit –**

The Time Limit for all races is **1700**. 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 –**

Protests, Requests for Redress or Reopening and Scoring Enquiries shall be submitted online at

[https://www.racingrulesofsailing.org/events/2591/event\\_links?name=autumn-league](https://www.racingrulesofsailing.org/events/2591/event_links?name=autumn-league)

Hard copy submissions shall not be accepted.

Protest Time Limit for the Inshore fleet is 60 minutes from the time of finish of the last boat in the Inshore fleet. 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. Protest Time Limits shall be posted online at

[https://www.racingrulesofsailing.org/events/2591/event\\_links?name=autumn-league](https://www.racingrulesofsailing.org/events/2591/event_links?name=autumn-league)

Notices of protests by the Race Committee will be posted online, at the same link, 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 –**

A schedule of protest hearings will be posted online 30 minutes after the protest time limit via the link below

[https://www.racingrulesofsailing.org/events/2591/event\\_links?name=autumn-league](https://www.racingrulesofsailing.org/events/2591/event_links?name=autumn-league)

Protest hearings will be held after racing on the final day.

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 submitted 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.

| <b>13. <u>Tides</u></b> | <b><u>Date</u></b> | <b><u>H.W.</u></b> | <b><u>Height</u></b> | <b><u>L.W.</u></b> | <b><u>Height</u></b> |
|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
|                         | 11/09              | 15:20              | 3.98m                | 21:08              | 0.58m                |
|                         | 18/09              | 10:39              | 3.62m                | 16:22              | 0.95m                |
|                         | 25/09              | 14:48              | 3.76m                | 20:38              | 0.88m                |
|                         | 02/10              | 09:20              | 3.21m                | 15:06              | 1.40m                |
|                         | 09/10              | 14:13              | 4.29m                | 20:01              | 0.27m                |
|                         | 16/10              | 09:32              | 3.42m                | 15:16              | 1.24m                |

## **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.

#### **17. Covid-19 Skipper & Crew Form**

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.

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.

Breach of the requirement for the submission of an accurate COVID-19 Skipper & Crew form prior to racing using the HYC online system will result in a boat being penalised without a protest hearing.

The penalty for the first failure to register correctly will be a 50% penalty on the score a boat would otherwise have achieved in the race for which the registration requirement was not complied with. The penalty score shall be calculated using the number of boats that started the race that the breach occurred in and the calculated additional score shall be rounded up to the nearest whole number. Where two races are sailed by a boat on the same day and an accurate registration form has not been submitted before the first race of the day, the penalty shall be applied to the result obtained by the boat in the first race it completes on that day.

The application of a percentage scoring penalty shall be contingent on the required crew details for a boat being provided within 24 hours of them being requested. Where correct crew details have neither been provided prior to racing nor within the required time of being subsequently requested, or where a registered entrant has been advised of their failure to correctly register a boat's crew on a previous occasion during the 2021 Autumn League event, the boat shall be scored as DSQ without a hearing. Where two races are sailed on the same day by a boat that has previously incurred a 50% penalty for non-compliance with the crew registration requirement and an accurate registration form has not been submitted before the first race of the day, the DSQ score shall be applied for the first race completed by the boat on that day.

The application without a protest hearing of a percentage scoring penalty and of disqualification for non-submission of the correct crew details changes **RRS 63.1, A4 and A5**.

#### **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.**

#### **Entry to HYC premises and compliance with COVID related requirements**

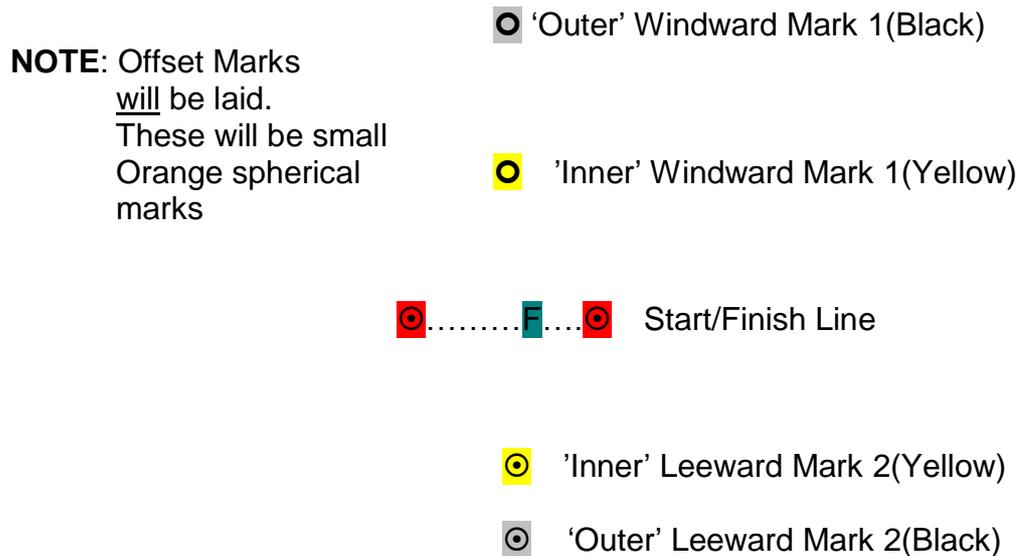
**Non-members visiting HYC to race in the Series are required to be signed into the premises by either a member (at the marina office) or by a COVID marshal.**

**COVID marshals are planned to 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 tasked with assisting persons entering the premises to comply with the required access arrangements and generally encouraging the observance of social distancing requirements on the premises, including on the marina.**

## 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 and Puppeteers use the **Outer** Windward and Leeward marks (Black)

Howth 17s and Squibs use the **Inner** Windward and Leeward Marks (Yellow)

### **For Offshore fleets:**

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

Non Spinnaker classes 4 and 5 use the **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 'F' 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.