



AUTUMN LEAGUE 2022



Saturday 17th September to Saturday 22nd October

NOTICE OF RACE

1. ORGANISING AUTHORITY (OA)

- 1.1 The Howth Yacht Club Autumn League is organised by Howth Yacht Club CLG, Middle Pier, Howth, Co. Dublin.
- 1.2 Enquiries should be addressed to: email: admin@hyc.ie, website: <http://www.hyc.ie> . Entries must 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 (NoR) except as modified by the Sailing Instructions (SI) and any Changes 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 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. The Race Committee may broadcast advisory messages to competitors about the conduct of racing using the designated VHF channels for the respective course areas.
- 2.6 For the Offshore Classes, in addition to the normal method of selecting courses from a pre-determined list on the course card, it is hoped to use a system whereby the Race Officer can decide on the use of a course that is not on the course card. In the event of this happening the course will be displayed - written on boards mounted on the Committee Vessel

To assist boats the course may also be transmitted

- via VHF channel 77
- via a WhatsApp group message to competitors

Failure to transmit or receive the correct course by either the VHF or WhatsApp mechanisms will not be grounds for a claim for redress.

Accordingly, in advance of racing and to facilitate the WhatsApp message, boats will be required to join (with two mobile numbers) the dedicated Offshore Classes' WhatsApp group using the QR Code made available to competitors.

- 2.7 'Crew Limitation' rules shall NOT apply in IRC Classes. Cushions may NOT be removed from boats competing in IRC Classes.
- 2.8 Protest requirements: the exemption for boats less than six metres 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. If Class 0 Class is not raced, entered boats of that type shall be allocated to Cruiser Classes.

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	ECHO	HPH
Cruiser Class 3	No. 3	X	X	
Pupeteer 22	A	X		X
Squib	K	X		X
Howth 17	C	X		X

4. SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 4.1 Eight races are scheduled for all Classes. Racing will be on Saturdays. One race is scheduled for each of the following days: – September 17, October 1, 15 and 22. Two races are scheduled for September 24 and October 8 with the formats to be decided on the day.
- 4.2 In the event of weather conditions on the days designated to have two races being unsuitable for that objective, the OA reserves the right to sail a second race on days intended to have a single race. This will be indicated by the posting of an amendment to the Notice of Race / Sailing Instructions no later than three days prior to the date an additional race is to be sailed.
- 4.3 First Warning Signal on all race days, except October 22, will be at 1400. On October 22 the first Warning Signal will be at 1300.

5. ENTRIES

- 5.1 **Entries** shall be made online at <http://www.hyc.ie> following the ‘Autumn League’ link. The entry fees are as follows:

Cruiser Classes 0, 1, 2, 3, Non-Spinnaker Cruisers	€130.00
Howth 17s and Pupeteer 22	€110.00
Squibs	€85.00

Payment shall be made online using a credit or debit card.

- 5.2 A copy of the IRC certificate for each boat entered in an IRC Class shall be emailed to results@hyc.ie at the time the boat is entered.
- 5.3 **The closing date for entries shall be 1700 on Tuesday, September 13th. After that time an additional late entry fee of €25 shall apply:**
- 5.4 Classes 1, 2, 3 and Non-Spinnaker Cruisers are automatically eligible for the ECHO division. Where a boat does not have an ECHO TCF, the OA will allocate an initial number to it.

6. SAFETY

- 6.1 Personal Flotation Devices shall be worn at all times by competitors whilst afloat apart from brief periods while adjusting clothing.

7. SCORING SYSTEM

- 7.1 Appendix A of the Racing Rules of Sailing using the Low Point Scoring System shall be used. Where four or more races are completed, one discard shall be allowed and if all 8 are sailed then two discards shall be allowed.

8. SAIL NUMBERS / IDENTIFICATION

- 8.1 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 details (unless otherwise required by the relevant One Design Class rules). Where required by the Equipment Rules of Sailing the same number shall be shown on the genoa.
- 8.2 Should a boat wish to change its sail number for a race from that declared at the time of entering, 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.
- 8.3 Classes 1, 2, 3 and Non-Spinnaker Cruiser must fly the relevant class numeral pennant from the backstay. **Any boat not doing so shall be scored DNS.** This changes RRS 63.1.

9. HANDICAPS

- 9.1 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 7.2(b)). Boats from fleets other than Howth YC's shall be given an initial 'special' ECHO rating that will naturally adjust by the Progressive ECHO Calculation as the Series continues.

IRC: TCC values of current certificate at the start of the series.

For **One Design Classes** the current handicap as notified by the Class Captain shall be applied for the first race.

- 9.2 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.

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 16 September 2022.

10. ECHO / IRC CLASS DIVISIONS

- 10.1 Handicap Cruiser Class assignments will be made according to entries received. The entries for the Cruiser IRC and ECHO divisions will be split into a minimum of three Classes named Cruisers 1, 2, 3. If entries warrant, the number of Classes may be increased. Non-spinnaker entries will be split into two Classes (Class 4 and Class 5), based on TCF

The allocation of boats to Classes will be determined by the OA on receipt of the entries, having regard to the following criteria:

- i. The need for a reasonable number of boats in each Class.
- ii. 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 Thursday, 15 September 2022. The OA reserves the absolute discretion, in the interests of fair sailing for all competitors, to allocate any boat to any Class.

- 10.2** Boats rating 0.010 or less below the lower limit for inclusion in the next fastest Class may request permission to move up to the Class above where their handicap would place them and race using the lower limit rating of that Class as their TCF, subject to its review during the series where an ECHO TCF is involved. Application must be made in writing/email to results@hyc.ie by 1700 on Friday, September 16th 2022 for approval to change Class. The decision of the OA is final.

11. **PRIZES / TROPHIES**

- 11.1** Race prizes will be awarded to the winner of each Class of the Autumn League and will be presented as soon as possible after racing on the following week. Prizes for racing on the final day will be presented on that day.

Boats winning a race prize on IRC or Scratch are not eligible for a handicap prize for that race. A boat that wins an overall series prize on IRC or Scratch 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 = 1st, 2nd
8 boats = 1st, 2nd, 3rd 11 or more boats = 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th.

The following trophies will be awarded:

Heineken Trophy	Overall Winner
Olympus Trophy	Team Trophy
Cronin Trophy	Howth 17 Scratch
Alphida Cup	Howth 17 Handicap
Sleater Salver	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
Duropol Trophy	Puppeteer 22 Scratch
Snowgoose Trophy	Puppeteer 22 Handicap
Gilmour Cup	Squib Scratch
Hot Irish Trophy	Squib Handicap
Mildly Cold Trophy	J24 Scratch

- 11.3 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 0, 1, 2, 3 and non-Spinnaker it shall be based on IRC results and for one-design classes on Scratch results – the calculation to be made by multiplying a boat's winning points margin, having taken discards into account, by the average number of starters in its Class for each race completed. The boat with the highest score will be the winner.

11.4 Olympus Team Trophy

This prize shall be for teams of three boats that are racing under IRC / Scratch subject to there being a minimum of six entries for the Class that any team member is competing in. 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 total number of points. Competitors should advise the Race Office (results@hyc.ie) of their teams before 0930 on Saturday 17 September 2022.

11.5 The OA will have the discretion to award additional prizes.

12 **SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

Sailing Instructions will be available online on the HYC website, <http://www.hyc.ie> from the morning of Thursday 16 September 2022.

Amendments to the Sailing Instructions shall be posted to the HYC website not later than 2 hours prior to the Warning Signal for the first race that the amendment applies to. The posting of an amendment will be signalled by the display of Flag L on the flagpole beside the marina bridge at Howth YC. Flag L will only be displayed once for each amendment posted.

In the event of a conflict between this Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions, the Sailing Instructions (and any amendments thereto) shall take precedence.

13. **RACING AREA**

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

14. **INSURANCE**

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid and adequate third-party liability insurance that extends to providing cover whilst racing.

15. COVID-19 MITIGATION MEASURES

In the event of COVID-19 mitigations measures being required during the Series, such measures (and any updates to them) will be posted on the HYC website.

OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION

1. **MARINA BERTHS / DRY SAILING**

A limited number of berths on HYC Marina and for Dry Sailing from HYC's Storage Deck will be available for competitors at a reduced rate. These will be allocated in order of application and subject to suitable space availability.

Marina berths for visiting Autumn League entrants will be charged at €125 for boats less than 9m overall length and €175 for boats of 9m or more. For entries received after Tuesday, September 13th at 5pm, the fees will be €175 and €225 respectively. Boats of exceptional or disproportionate beam may be subject to additional charges.

Dry Sailing for One Design boats of visiting Autumn League entrants will be available. The price for all but Squibs shall be €200.00, which will include the required 6 return lifts and storage ashore during the series. Squibs shall be charged €100.

For both the marina and dry sailing offers, the availability of the relevant rate for any boat is contingent on that boat competing in the event. Where a boat fails to compete – i.e. rank as a starter – in the number of races sailed for its particular Class less the number of discardable races for that Class, it shall be deemed to have breached the terms of the reduced rate offer and shall be liable for the full cost (at HYC rates) for the duration of it being on the HYC premises. All amounts due to HYC shall be paid prior to the boat being removed from the HYC premises / marina.

The period that the stated storage fee covers is from Friday September 16th to Sunday October 23rd 2022. Boats arriving early and / or extending their stay beyond the above period will be charged separately at HYC rates for the additional period of their stay

Winter berthing afloat at HYC is available at €103 per metre, or part thereof, for boats that wish to stay on after the event, subject to availability.

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.