



SUMMER DINGHY RACING 2026

NOTICE OF RACE

- The Organising Authority (OA) is Howth Yacht Club CLG, hereinafter referred to as the 'Club'.
- The notation [NP] in a rule means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1.
- The notation [DP] in a rule means that the penalty imposed by the Protest Committee for a breach of that rule will be at the discretion of the Protest Committee, as per RRS 64.

1. RULES

- 1.1. Racing will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the prescriptions of Irish Sailing, the Sailing Instructions (SI) and any amendments thereto.

2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1. Sailing Instructions (SI) will be made available on the Club website before racing.

3. COMMUNICATIONS

- 3.1. The official notice board is located beside the marina office.
- 3.2. The HYC Dinghy Racing WhatsApp group will be used and can be joined by using the QR code - see link in the Members section of the Club website. **Attention is drawn to the HYC WhatsApp Policy** – [HYC WhatsApp Policy](#). HYC WhatsApp group access is available *only* to persons over the age of 16, subject to written consent of their parent/guardian where the person is under the age of 18. Alternatively, a parent/guardian who is a member of the Club can join the event's WhatsApp group on behalf of an entrant who is under the age of 18.
- 3.3. [NP] A Club-nominated coach or Scout-nominated coach can speak to a coached boat during racing for boats taking part in coaching if the Club has organised on-the-water coaching. This changes RRS 41.

4. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1. Racing is open to ALL dinghies.
- 4.2. Classes are defined as follows:
- Optimist
 - Scouts Pico's
 - Mixed Class racing under the PY handicap system
- 4.3. Helms (identified when entering the event) may be ranked into classes or sub-groups. Helms (other than Scouts) must be a member of the Club.
- 4.4. Boats may enter the event by registering online at <https://www.hyc.ie/>.
- 4.5. Each boat must have its own launching trolley, which must be suitable for the boat, in good working order and clearly identified.
- 4.6. To be considered entered in the event, a boat shall complete all registration requirements and pay all fees including – where boats are being left parked in the Club - the Park Turtle registration that will be subject to a separate fee. For more information visit <https://hyc.ie/dinghyracing>.

Final	NOR	18.03.2026
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5. FEES

Under 18 (at time of entry):	
Junior Single Handed	€35
Junior Double Handed	€45
18 and older (at time of entry):	
Senior Single Handed	€50
Senior Double Handed	€65

*Participants in summer junior sailing courses or taking part in the event as part of the Howth 7th Port Scouts participation arrangement are exempt from entry fees.

6. SCHEDULE

6.1. Races will be held on Thursday nights from 7 May 2026 to 27 August 2026. The series will be divided into two sub-series over the course of the event as follows:

Series 1:	May 7 - Jun 25
Series 2:	July 2 - Aug 27

There shall be no racing on Thursday the 16th July.

6.2. The first warning signal will be made at 19:00 for the PY fleet, with subsequent warning signals from 19.10 at 3 min intervals.

6.3. Where possible, it is proposed to sail up to three races for the PY Class and two races for the other Classes per day depending on conditions. Races subsequent to the first race for each Class will be started as soon as is practicable following the completion of the prior race (or its time limit).

7. VENUE

7.1. The race area is west of Howth Harbour, south of Ireland's Eye and north of Claremont beach.

8. COURSES

8.1. Course details will be outlined in the Sailing Instructions.

9. SCORING

9.1. Scoring shall be as per RRS Appendix A4, low points system. The PY handicap system will be used for the Mixed Class.

9.2. RRS Appendix A Scoring rule A5.3 will apply.

9.3. One discard will be applied per three races completed.

9.4. Separate results will be posted for Classes with more than 6 entries.

10. DATA PROTECTION

10.1. Competitors give their consent to the OA to use or to license the use of their name, comments, photographs and likeness as it sees fit for the promotion of Howth Yacht Club and its activities. The OA reserves the right to use or to license the use of any images and sound made recordings during the event, free of charge.

11. RISK STATEMENT

11.1. Rule 3 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone.'

Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor (and responsible adult for minors under the age of 18) agrees and acknowledges that:

Final	NOR	18.03.2026
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- (a) They are aware of the inherent element of risk involved in the sport and accept responsibility for the exposure of themselves, their crew and their boat to such inherent risk whilst taking part in the event;
- (b) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;
- (c) They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;
- (d) Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
- (e) The provision of a race management team, patrol boats and other officials and volunteers by the event organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
- (f) The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances;
- (g) It is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks specific to this venue or this event drawn to their attention in any rules and information produced for the venue or event and to attend any safety briefing held for the event.

12. INSURANCE

12.1. Each participating boat shall be insured with adequate, valid, third-party insurance cover with an appropriate extension for racing risks.

13. PRIZES

13.1. Prizes shall be awarded for each class (with more than 3 entries), on the basis of average turnout as follows:

- 2 boats - 1st
- 5 boats - 2nd
- 8 boats - 3rd

Dinghies other than Optimists and the Scout Picos will be included in the Mixed Class and prizes will be awarded for the Mixed Class as per the above allocation.

Other prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the Sailing Committee.

The prize giving will be held at a date to be decided by the Classes in conjunction with the Sailing Committee.

14. TEMPORARY MEMBERSHIP

14.1. All Scout Competitors are granted temporary membership of the Club on the date of race nights. Club facilities are not available to non-member participants at any other time.

15. BOAT ASSIST ROSTERS

[DP] Class Assist: Boats entering Club racing may be assigned a race date on which the boat will be required to provide assistant(s) to the Race Committee running racing on a

Final	NOR	18.03.2026
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particular date during the Club racing season. Racing may be either from a Committee Vessel or from the East Pier Hut. It is a condition of entry that a boat assigned to provide Boat assist personnel does so. The owner will be advised by their Division / Class Captain of the date and approximate time that the assistant(s) are required to attend and the number of persons (either 1 or 2) that the boat is required to provide for the duty. Any boat failing to meet its obligations in this respect may be subject to protest and imposition of a penalty.

16. OTHER INFORMATION

- 16.1. All boats (other than Scout boats) competing must display a HYC sticker on the transom. These will be provided upon registration at HYC.
- 16.2. Boats such as ILCAs, Aeros and similar type boats, that are parked with their masts lowered must have the mast sections separated for safety and access reasons.
- 16.3. Road trailers are not permitted in the dinghy park other than for delivery or collection of boats. Offending trailers will be removed and parked on the pier at the owner's risk without notice.
- 16.4. All boats shall have a painter at least 3 meters in length with a minimum diameter of 6mm, made fast to the bow and stored so as to be readily accessible to a person rendering assistance from another boat.
- 16.5. All boat owners agree to comply with the directions of the marina staff at all times. The OA reserves the right to relocate boats to different areas within the Club if necessary for operational reasons.
- 16.6. No boats shall be allowed in the dinghy park unless registered on the Park Turtle app. Any boat not registered with Park Turtle shall be removed from the Club. All Competitors agree to remove boats within 7 days after the end of the series.
- 16.7. In accordance with the Park Turtle terms and conditions and in accordance with Clause 15.5, the OA reserves the right to request that boats taking part in this series, may need to be temporarily removed to allow adequate space in the dinghy pen during any open events to be held throughout the term of this series.
- 16.8. Enquiries should be addressed to Howth Yacht Club. Telephone: 01 8322141. Email: office@hyc.ie