



WITH FUNDING FROM  
**Comhairle Contae  
Fhine Gall**  
Fingal County  
Council



# HOWTH MARITIME FESTIVAL

## PURSUIT RACE 2026

Organised by Howth Yacht Club CLG.

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2026

### Notice of Race

The HOWTH MARITIME FESTIVAL PURSUIT RACE 2026 will be conducted as a **Pursuit Race**, utilizing a staggered start sequence based on a Velocity Prediction Program. Unlike a traditional fleet start, boats will be assigned a unique starting time, with the slowest-rated vessels departing first and the faster "scratch" boats in pursuit. This format eliminates the congestion of a crowded starting line and shifts the tactical focus to a thrilling, real-time chase across the course. Competitors are reminded that under this format, **finishing position is final**; the first boat to legally cross the finish line is the winner, providing an immediate and transparent result for both sailors and spectators alike.

- 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 AND ELIGIBILITY**

- 1.1. Races will be sailed under the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the Prescriptions of Irish Sailing (IS),
- 1.2. Entries are accepted at the sole discretion of the OA.
- 1.3. Eligible boats are those with keels.
- 1.4. IRC Rule 22.4, "Crew Limitation", shall not apply. There shall be no limitations on the number of crew or crew weight.
- 1.5. [NP] Each boat shall show a distinguishing number on each side of its mainsail and on its spinnaker, if used, which shall be the same number as declared on the Entry Form.

#### 2. **SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

- 2.1. Sailing Instructions (SI) will be made available on <https://hyc.ie/open-events> before 19th May.

### **3. COMMUNICATION**

- 3.1. The SI will specify the location of the official notice board.
- 3.2. [NP] [DP] It is a safety requirement that all boats shall carry a functioning VHF radio and be competent in its use.
- 3.3. The Race Committee may make broadcasts to competitors on VHF radio. The channel will be stated in the SI.



## HOWTH MARITIME FESTIVAL PURSUIT RACE 2026

WITH FUNDING FROM  
**Comhairle Contae  
Fhine Gall**  
Fingal County  
Council



- 3.4. [DP] While racing, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

#### 4. **ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY**

- 4.1. The event is open to all keelboats.
- 4.2. The OA will assign a start time based on velocity prediction program.
- 4.3. Eligible boats will enter the event by registering online.
- 4.4. For a boat's entry to be considered as valid for the event, all registration requirements shall have been completed and all entry fees paid.
- 4.5. Entrants shall declare spinnaker or non-spinnaker on entry form and changes cannot be made thereafter.



# HOWTH MARITIME FESTIVAL PURSUIT RACE 2026

WITH FUNDING FROM  
**Comhairle Contae  
Fhine Gall**  
Fingal County  
Council



## 5. **FEES**

5.1.

<b>Class</b>	<b>Entry Fee (Up to Sun. 3<sup>rd</sup> May)</b>	<b>Late Entry Fee (From Mon. 4<sup>th</sup> May)</b>
<b>Howth Maritime Festival Yacht Race 24<sup>th</sup> May 2026</b>		
Cruisers / Keel Boats	€40.00	€50.00
Howth One Designs	€20.00	€30.00

5.2. The last date for entry is Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2026 12:00.

5.3 Late entries (Monday 4<sup>th</sup> of May Onwards) may incur a time penalty at the discretion of the OA.

## 6. **NOT USED**

## 7. **ADVERTISING**

7.1. Competitors may be required to display event sponsor's advertising material as prescribed under World Sailing Regulation 20

## 8. **NOT USED**

---



# MARITIME FESTIVAL PURSUIT RACE 2026

WITH FUNDING FROM  
**Comhairle Contae  
Fhine Gall**  
Fingal County  
Council



## 9. SCHEDULE

Date	Race Course	1 <sup>st</sup> Start	Time Limit
24 <sup>th</sup> May 2026 East Pier Starters Hut	East of East Pier	1500	On discretion of OA

9.1. Tides on the Sunday 24th for Howth will be:-

Time	Height
12:53	1.01m
19:28	3.30m

10. NOT USED

11. NOT USED

## 12. VENUE

12.1. Races will be sailed in the waters East of Howth. Marks may be up to three miles East of Howth Harbour.



# HOWTH MARITIME FESTIVAL PURSUIT RACE 2026

WITH FUNDING FROM  
**Comhairle Contae  
Fhine Gall**  
Fingal County  
Council



## 13. COURSES

13.1. Course will be in SI and discussed in Skippers Briefing

## 14. NOT USED

## 15. NOT USED

## 16. NOT USED

## 17. NOT USED

## 18. BERTHING

18.1. Competitors requiring marina accommodation, which is limited, should contact the marina office directly.

18.2. Competitors are requested to bring lines and fenders suitable for stacked marina berthing.

## 19. NOT USED

## 20. NOT USED

## 21. DATA PROTECTION

21.1. 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 this and any future events. The OA reserves the right to use or to license the use of any images and sound recording made during the event free of charge.



## HOWTH MARITIME FESTIVAL PURSUIT RACE 2026

WITH FUNDING FROM  
**Comhairle Contae  
Fhine Gall**  
Fingal County  
Council



### **22. RISK STATEMENT**

- 22.1. 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.'
- 22.2. Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk.  
By taking part in the event, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:
- 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, the boat in their charge 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. The provision of a race management team, patrol boats and other officials and volunteers by the event organizer does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
  - e. The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances;
  - f. 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.

### **23. INSURANCE**

- 23.1. Each participating boat shall be insured throughout the Series with adequate, valid, third-party cover with an appropriate extension for racing risks.
-



# HOWTH MARITIME FESTIVAL PURSUIT RACE 2026

WITH FUNDING FROM  
**Comhairle Contae  
Fhine Gall**  
Fingal County  
Council



## 24. PRIZES

Prizes will be presented after racing on Sunday and will be awarded on the basis of the number of starters



## HOWTH MARITIME FESTIVAL PURSUIT RACE 2026

WITH FUNDING FROM  
**Comhairle Contae  
Fhine Gall**  
Fingal County  
Council



### **25. OTHER INFORMATION**

#### 25.1. MEMBERSHIP

25.1.0 Competitors are granted temporary membership of the Club for Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2026, subject only to the provisions of the Club Rules for withdrawing or withholding such membership.

#### 25.2. FACILITIES

25.2.1 All competitors are invited to avail of the facilities of the Club during the event.

25.2.2 Excellent cuisine may be enjoyed in a superb setting in Howth Yacht Club's dining room. Booking is essential, phone 01 – 832 2141

25.2.3 The attention of all participants is drawn to the car parking regulations in the vicinity of the Club. These regulations are rigidly enforced by the Harbour Authority and may result in a fine of €150.

25.2.4 Competitors should be aware that the Howth Maritime and Seafood Festival is taking place so use of public transport, a bicycle or staying on your boat is recommended.