

COVY HYC DINGHY REGATTA

Sunday 23rd August 2026

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The Organising Authority is Howth Yacht Club CLG

1. RULES

The event is governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the prescriptions of Irish Sailing, the Notice of Race, these Sailing Instructions (SI) and any changes thereto.

(DP) denotes a rule for which the penalty is at the discretion of the Protest Committee and may be less than disqualification. This changes RRS 60.5 (c).

(NP) denotes a rule that shall not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1 (a).

2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted before 10.30 on the Official Notice Board located beside the marina office. Code flag L will be displayed from the flagpole at the top of the marina bridge to indicate a change has been posted.

3. COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located adjacent to the Marina Office at Howth Yacht Club

4. CODE OF CONDUCT

Competitors and support persons shall comply with any reasonable request from the Race Officials

5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagpole at the top of the marina bridge.

6. SCHEDULE OF RACES

Three races “back-to-back” will be sailed. The scheduled time of the Warning Signals for the first race are listed below. Subsequent races will be started as soon as possible after completion of the previous race.

CLASS	FLAG	FIRST WARNING SIGNAL
IDRA 14	Q	12.00
PY Main	G	12.03
PY Inner	A	12.06
Optimist	O	12.09

IDRA and Optimists Classes will have their own Class starts with separate starts for PY main and PY inner fleets.

PY Main: Aero, ILCA 6, Int. 14 and M15

PY Inner: ILCA 4, Topper, 420's, Rankin & Pico's

The above order may be changed if there are more than six entries for a particular type of boat. In the event of additional boats from Classes not mentioned above being entered, their allocation to a PY group will be confirmed prior to racing.

7. RACING AREA

The racing area will be North/Northwest of Howth Harbour

8. COURSES

The courses to be sailed by each Class is shown in Appendix A. After starting and until approaching the finish line to finish, the marks at the ends of the start/finish line are not marks on course.

9. MARKS

The Outer Windward, Offset and Leeward marks shall be orange round buoys. The Inner windward and Leeward marks shall be yellow round buoys.

10. THE START

10.1 Races will be started using a 3-2-1 starting sequence with a warning signal made 3 minutes before the starting signal. This changes RRS 26.

10.2 The starting line is between a mast displaying an orange flag on the Committee Vessel at the starboard end of the course side and an orange Dan buoy at the port end of the start line.

10.3 Unless correcting a starting error, boats already racing shall not sail through the starting line whilst subsequent starting sequences are under way.

10.4. [NP] Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races. Boats infringing this SI may be disqualified without a hearing and this changes RRS 60.5 and A5.1.

10.5 A boat that does not start within 3 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This changes RRS 60.5 and A5.1

10.6 General Recalls will be signalled by the display of the First Substitute with two sounds. The warning signal for a new start for the recalled Class shall be made one minute after the First Substitute is removed and the starts for any succeeding Classes shall follow the new start.

11. CHANGE TO THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

Minor course changes may not be signalled. This changes RRS33

12. THE FINISH

12.1 Unless the course is shortened, the finish line will be between a mast displaying a blue flag on the Committee Vessel and a pink outer distance mark.

12.2 Where shortened course is in accordance with RRS 32.2 and applies to all Classes, it will be signalled by displaying Flag S and two sound signals. In the case of individual Class or Classes the appropriate Class flags will be displayed with Flag S. The finishing boat for such an instance may be a RIB.

12.3 A Committee Vessel located near a mark making repetitive sound signals and displaying Flag F with a Class flag or flags shall signify that, after rounding the mark, boats of the Classes signalled shall proceed directly to the finish line. If flag F is displayed alone then all boats rounding that mark shall proceed directly to the finish line.

13. PENALTY SYSTEM

13.1 The penalty system of RRS 44.1 shall apply

14. TIME LIMITS

14.1 The time limit for each Class shall be the lesser of 90 minutes, or 15 minutes after the finishing time of the first boat to sail the course and finish correctly. In the event of the first boat of a Class finishing inside the 90-minute time limit, only boats of that Class finishing within 15 minutes of the first boat will be recorded as finishers. This changes RRS 35.

14.2 After the first boat has finished, the Race Officer may offer a finishing position to the boat still racing in last place. A boat is not obliged to accept such an offer unless it is the last boat still racing. The Race Officer is not obliged to make such an offer. The finishing position offered for One Design Classes will be the number of boats finished plus the number still racing ~~plus 1~~. For boats in PY fleets the finishing position offered will be the number of boats finished at the time the first such offer is made plus 1. A boat that accepts such an offer will immediately cease racing, and the Race Officer may repeat this process with the next boat. The offer may be made via safety or support boat personnel. This will be signalled using code flag W. This changes RRS35

15. HEARING REQUESTS AND SCORING ENQUIRIES

Boats intending to protest another competitor are required to notify the Committee Vessel finishing the race of their intention, or if not finishing or if otherwise unable to contact the Committee Vessel, notify another Regatta Safety Boat.

Protests may be lodged online using the link:

https://www.racingrulesofsailing.org/protests/new?event_id=13721

Scoring enquiries shall be lodged using the link

https://www.racingrulesofsailing.org/scoring_inquiries/new?event_id=13721

The Protest Time Limit (PTL) for a boat is 60 minutes from the time of the last finishing boat or the signalling of no more racing today, whichever is later. PTL will be posted on the Official Notice Board.

Notices of protests by the Race Committee, Technical Committee or Protest Committee will be posted before expiry of the PTL to inform boats under RRS 60.2(a)(2).

The time and place of Protest Hearings will be initially posted on the Online Protest Portal within 15 minutes of the Protest Time Limit. The listing of a boat on this schedule shall constitute informing her of a hearing as per RRS 63.1(a). Parties involved shall present themselves and their witnesses at the time and place indicated on the schedule.

To request correction of an alleged error in a posted race result, a boat shall complete a scoring enquiry via the Online Protest Portal.

16. SCORING

16.1 When 3 races or fewer have been completed, a boat's series score is the total of her race scores. No discard will be applied.

16.2 Dinghies sailed under the PY category will have their times recorded and be scored a finishing position in accordance with the Portsmouth Yardstick (PY) handicap system. In the event of a PY number

not being available for a boat, an Irish Sailing published one shall be used where possible or, failing that, the Race Committee will assign an appropriate one.

17. SAFETY REGULATIONS

17.1 Boats retiring shall inform a safety boat as soon as possible and shall obey the instructions of the safety boat crew.

17.2 Competitors shall wear lifejackets or suitable personal flotation devices at all times. Wet suits and dry suits are not suitable personal flotation devices.

17.3 Each boat shall, in person, tally out with the correct tally number before launching and tally in using the correct tally number within 10 minutes after the last boat in her Division (or fleet if fleets are racing separately) is ashore.

17.4 A boat that does not tally out according to SI 17.3 will receive a Standard Penalty of 3 points for the first race finished by it. A boat that does not tally in will receive a Standard Penalty of 3 points for the last race finished by it. A boat shall not receive more than one Standard Penalty during the Regatta and the maximum score per race of any boat is points equivalent to a DNC result for its Class / Fleet

18. OFFICIAL VESSELS

Official vessels shall comprise the Committee Vessel called North Star, mark laying boats and safety boats. North Star is a white catamaran and will normally start and finish races.

19. TRASH DISPOSAL

Trash may be placed aboard official or support boats

20. PRIZES

Per Notice of Race 24

21. RISK STATEMENT

21.1 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."

21.2 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 to and acknowledges the risk statement as included in the Notice of Race."

APPENDIX A

Courses to be Sailed

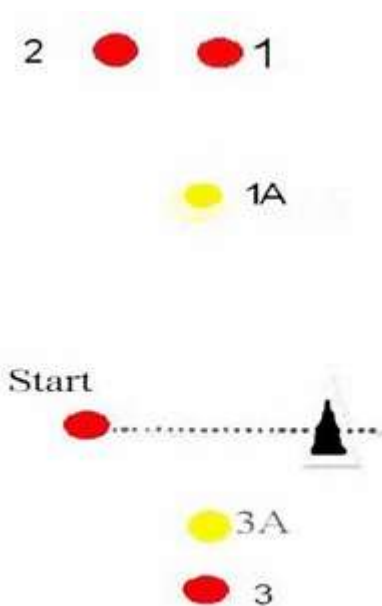
The course will be Windward / Leeward for all fleets. The number of laps for each Class will be displayed on the Committee Starting Vessel following its warning signal and shall be displayed for not less than 2 minutes before the start. This changes RRS 27.1. All marks shall be left to Port but, where laid, boats shall pass between gate marks.

<u>Windward – Leeward – ICF ‘W’</u>	
IDRA 14 and PY Main Fleet	PY Inner Fleet and Optimist Class
Start:	Start:
Lap 1: 1 2 3	Lap 1: 1A 3A
Lap 2: 1 2 3	Lap 2: 1A 3A
Lap 3: 1 2 3	Lap 3: 1A 3A
Lap 4: 1 2 3	Lap 4: 1A 3A
Lap 5: 1 2 3	Lap 5: 1A 3A

IDRA 14 and PY Main fleets shall use the red marks 1, 2 and 3.

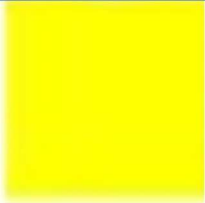
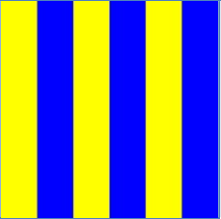
Optimist and PY Inner fleets shall use the yellow marks 1A, 2A and 3A. For these fleets the mark numbers in the sequences above will be deemed to have ‘A’ appended to them.

COURSE DIAGRAM



Appendix B

Starting Sequence and Class Flags

Place in Start Sequence	Class / Fleet	Class Flag	Class Flag Colours
1	IDRA	Flag Q	
2	PY Main	Flag G	
3	PY Inner	Flag A	
4	Optimist	Flag O	