



ROYAL ST GEORGE YACHT CLUB



**IRISH NATIONAL  
DRAGON CHAMPIONSHIP 2022  
Sailing Instructions**



**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup>, Friday 2<sup>nd</sup>, Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Sunday 4<sup>th</sup>  
September 2022  
Seven-race Series**

**First gun: Thursday, September 1<sup>st</sup> at 1300 hours**

The notation '[NP]' in a rule of the sailing instructions (SIs) means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a).

## **1 RULES**

1.1 The Event will be governed by rules as defined in the current Racing Rules of Sailing.

## **2 CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

2.1 Any changes in the Sailing Instructions will be posted not later than two hours before the advertised starting time of the first race each day, except that any change in the schedule of races will be posted before 2000 hrs on the day before it will take effect.

## **3 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS**

3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official Notice Board located at the [Dragon Nationals Virtual Race Office](#)

3.2 On the water, the race committee intends to monitor and communicate with competitors on VHF radio channel 77.

3.3 The following communications may be made by the race committee on channel 77: the location of the starting area, countdown to the start, General Recalls, Black Flag DSQs and Postponements. Failure to make these broadcasts or failure to hear them shall not constitute grounds for redress. This changes rule 62.1.

3.4 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 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the main flagstaff of the Royal St George Yacht Club.

4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, "1 minute" will be replaced with "not less than 60 minutes in the race signal AP.

## **5 SCHEDULE**

DATE	H.W.North Wall	RACE NO.	FIRST WARNING SIGNAL
Thursday, 1 <sup>st</sup> Sept.	03.08 4.0m	Race 1	1300 hrs
		Race 2	As soon as possible after the conclusion of Race 1
Friday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sept.	03.53 3.9m	Race 3	1200 hrs
		Race 4	As soon as possible after the conclusion of Race 3
Saturday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sept.	04.45 3.7m	Race 5	1200 hrs
		Race 6	As soon as possible after the conclusion of Race 5
Sunday, 4 <sup>th</sup> Sept.	05.46 3.6m	Race 7	1100 hrs

5.1 One extra race per day may be sailed, provided that the change is made according to SI 2.1.

- 5.2 To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, the orange starting line flag will be displayed with one sound at least five minutes before a warning signal is made.
- 5.2 The intention is that no warning signal will be made after 1400 hrs on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> September. However, the Race Committee reserve the right to run racing after that time in order to complete a minimum championship series of races (4).

## **6 CLASS FLAG**

- 6.1 The Class flag is IC flag "D"

## **7 RACING AREA**

- 7.1 The racing area is the southern side of Dublin Bay.

## **8 THE COURSE**

- 8.1 The diagram in Attachment A show the course, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.
- 8.2 The approximate compass bearing to Mark 1 may be displayed from the Flagship.
- 8.3 While every effort will be made to lay a leeward gate, in the event where this is not possible, a single mark will be laid as the leeward mark and this mark shall be rounded to port.

## **9 MARKS**

- 9.1 Marks 1, 2A and 2B will be large blue inflatable marks.
- 9.2 The start line marks will be a committee vessel with an orange flag at the starboard end and a rib with an orange flag or a dan buoy with an orange flag at the port end.
- 9.3 The Wing Mark will be similar to the Windward Mark - but may be replaced by a dan buoy.

## **10 THE START**

- 10.1 Races will be started as set out in RRS 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal.
- 10.2 The Starting Line will be to Leeward of Marks 2A and 2B (if laid) and shall be between the main mast on the committee vessel displaying an Orange Flag at the Starboard end of the line and either a staff on a rib at the port end or the port end starting mark.
- 10.3 If any part of a boat's hull is on the course side of the starting line at her starting signal and she is identified, the race committee will attempt to call her sail number on VHF. Failure to call her number, failure of her to hear such a call, or the order in which boats are called will not be grounds for a redress for request. This changes RRS 62.1(a).
- 10.4 A boat which does not start within 5 minutes after her Starting Signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.

## **11 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE**

- 11.1 To change the next leg of the course, the Race Committee may move the original mark (or the finishing line) to a new position.
- 11.2 Except at a gate, boats shall pass between the Race Committee boat signalling the change of the next leg and the nearby mark, leaving the mark to port and the race committee boat to starboard. This changes rule 28.1.
- 11.3 Minor adjustments to the course will not be signalled.

## **12 THE FINISH**

- 12.1 The finishing line will be between a Committee Vessel displaying a blue flag at the starboard end and Mark 1 at the port end.

## **13 PENALTY SYSTEM**

- 13.1 Penalties for breaking rules of Part 2 RRS 44.1 is changed so that the two-turn penalty is replaced by a one-turn except when taking a penalty for infringing Racing Rule 18.

## **14 TIME LIMIT AND TARGET TIME**

- 14.1 The target time for each race shall be approximately 1 hour 15 minutes. Failure to meet the target time will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a)
- 14.2 Boats failing to finish within 20 minutes of the first finisher, and not subsequently retiring, penalized, or given redress, will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) without a hearing. A boat scored TLE shall be scored points for the finishing place [one] more than the points scored by the last boat that finished within the Finishing Window. This changes RRS 35, A5.1, A5.2 and A10.13.3
- 14.3 The time limit for each race shall be 2 hours after the start time.

## **15 HEARING REQUESTS**

- 15.1 The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the last boat [in that class] finishes the last race of the day or the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later. The time will be posted on the official notice board.
- 15.2 Hearing request forms are available the [Dragon Nationals Virtual Race Office](#)
- 15.3 A boat intending to protest shall, where possible, inform the Flagship after finishing.
- 15.4 Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the protest room on the lower floor of the Clubhouse and/or online, beginning at the time posted.
- 15.5 RRS Appendix T, Arbitration, will apply. If a party is not present at an arbitration meeting, any party that was present may take a Post-Race Penalty as defined in RRS T1(b) at any time until the Protest Committee has completed taking evidence. This changes RRS T1(a).

## **16 SCORING**

- 16.1 Scoring shall be in accordance with RRS 89.3(a) (Low Point System).
- 16.2 Four (4) races are required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 16.3 When fewer than 5 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- 16.4 When 5 or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

## **17 SAFETY REGULATIONS [NP]**

- 17.1 The crew of a boat retiring shall make every effort to inform the Race Committee of their retreat.
- 17.2 Class Rule 11.10.3 is amended thus: "A Personal Flotation Device with minimum buoyancy of 50 Newtons shall be worn by each person on board."

## **18 SAIL NUMBERS [NP]**

- 18.1 Permission to change sail numbers shall be sought in writing from the Race Committee at least two hours before the start of racing each day and will only be granted in exceptional circumstance.

## **19 HAULING OUT**

- 19.1 Boats shall not be hauled out during the Event except with and according to the terms of prior written permission of the Race Committee unless for serious and unavoidable circumstances.
- 19.2 All competitors are required to berth at the Royal St George Yacht Club for the duration of the Championship, commencing after racing on Thursday, September 1<sup>st</sup> until after racing on Sunday, September 4<sup>th</sup>.

## **20 PRIZES**

- 20.1 Prizes will be awarded to the helm and crew of the first five boats overall. Prizes will be awarded to each individual Race winner, except that a boat may only win one Race winner prize.

## **21 RISK STATEMENT / DISCLAIMER OF RESPONSIBILITY**

- 21.1 RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia, or other causes.
- 21.2 The Royal St George Yacht Club, or any of their trustees, officers, members, servants, or agents, nor any sponsor, nor those officials connected with the event, nor Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council and Dublin Port Company, do not accept liability for any loss, damage, or other claim of whatever nature sustained in conjunction with, prior to, during, or after the championship.

## **22 INSURANCE**

- 22.1 Each boat's owner(s) and competing crews shall ensure that they are adequately insured against loss, damage or injury to persons, boats or equipment at all times and however occurring and shall maintain adequate third-party insurance cover for racing risks. All owners/competitors who sign the entry and registration form are deemed to have made a declaration that they hold such cover.

**Attachment A**

**The Course**

1 <sup>st</sup> Round	2 <sup>nd</sup> Round	Final Leg
Start, Mark 1 (p), Wing Mark (P), Gate 2a (S) or 2b (P)	Mark 1 (p), Wing Mark (P), Gate 2a (S) or 2b (P)	Finish between Mark 1 & RC vessel /Rib

On Leg 1: Marks 2A and 2B if laid are not Marks of the Course.

COURSE DIAGRAM

