



Beneteau 31.7

Irish National Championships - 2023

Saturday, 2nd, Sunday, 3rd September 2023

ROYAL St. GEORGE YACHT CLUB

Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin.

Sailing Instructions

The Organising Authority (OA) is the Royal St. George Yacht Club in association with the Beneteau 31.7 Ireland Class Association.

The notation (DP) in a rule means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.

The notation '[NP]' denotes a rule of the SIs that shall not be grounds for protest by a boat. This changes *RRS* 60.1(a).

RULES

1 RRS etc

1.1 The event will be governed by the *rules* as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing(RRS)*, the prescriptions of Irish Sailing (IS) and the Beneteau 31.7 Class rules.

2 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

2.1 Any change to the SIs will be posted not later than two hours prior to the scheduled start of the first race on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 21.00 hrs on the day before it will take effect.

3 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted via the Irish Beneteau 31.7 National Championships Virtual Race Office at : <https://www.rsgyc.ie/31-7-nationals/> plus on the event WhatsApp Group Failure to post or receive a WhatsApp message will not be grounds for redress [NP].

3.2 The race office is located beside the Junior Room in the clubhouse at the R. St. G.Y.C. and [Virtual Race Office](#)

3.3 [DP] All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communicating on VHF marine channels.

3.4 The following communications may be made by the race committee on the Race Area **channel 77**: the location of the starting area, race information, courses to be sailed, countdown to the start, Individual Recalls, General Recalls, U Flag, UFDs, Black Flag, BFDs and Postponements. Failure to make these broadcasts or failure to hear them are not grounds for redress. This changes rule 62.1 [NP]

3.5 [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 CODE OF CONDUCT

4.1 [DP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.

5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the main mast of the RSGYC.

5.2 When Code Flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 60 minutes'. This changes *RRS* Race Signal

6 SCHEDULE

	First Warning Signal	Number of Races
Saturday, Sept 2 nd	10 - 55	3
Sunday, Sept. 3 rd	10 - 55	2 No warning signal after 15-45

6.1 The plan is to run 5 races over two days -- but in the event of unfavourable conditions/ forecast, the Race Committee reserves the right to run up to 4 races on any one day to complete the Championship.

6.2 Three Races constitute a series.

6.3 There will be one discard after 4 races have been completed.

6.4 The Race Officer will post a Competitor Briefing on the Event Site [here](#): by 19 - 00hrs. on Friday, Sept.1st

6.5 On the last day of the championship, no warning signal will be made after 15-45 hrs.

7 CLASS FLAG

7.1 The class flag will be IC Numeral 9 .

8 RACE AREA

8.1 The racing area will be on the waters of Dublin Bay. Note that the racing area may be a long way from the Harbour area (esp. on the Saturday when the aim would be to avoid Club Racing areas as best possible) so essential to depart harbour early. Saturday location may be to the west of the DBSC Marks in order to remain clear of Club Racing courses although this is wind direction dependant. Sunday likely to be middle of bay and closer to the harbour. Locations will be communicated on Ch 77 on the morning of each race day.

9 COURSE

9.1 The course will be as described in Appendix 1 – below .

9.2 **Note that it is it is MANDATORY for all boats to sail from the L Mark to the Finish Line on the bow of the Committee Boat on completion of ALL Laps**

10 MARKS

10.1 The Start line will be a dan buoy with orange flag

10.2 Mark 1 + 2 will be Black inflatables. 1 a Spreader at W will be an orange tea bag type

10.3 Finish Line will be dan buoy with Blue Flag

11 OBSTRUCTIONS

11.1 Competing boats shall avoid entering the Shipping Lane entrance to Dublin Port and take account of Tenders to/ from visiting Cruise Ships in the vicinity of Dun Laoghaire Harbour at all times .

12 THE START

12.1 The Starting Line will be between a red + white Flagpole displaying an Orange Flag on the race Committee Boat at the Starboard end of the line and a dan buoy with an orange flag.

12.2 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 hail her sail number. Failure to hail her number, failure of her to hear such a hail, or the order in which boats are hailed will not be grounds for a request for redress. This changes *RRS* 62.1(a). [NP]

12.3			Time to Start
Warning	Class flag displayed	1 sound	5 mins
Prep.	P, U or Black displayed	1 sound	4 mins
One-minute	Prep. Removed	1 long sound	1 min
Start	Class flag removed	1 sound	0

12.4 A boat which starts later than 5 minutes after her Starting Signal shall be scored as Did Not Compete (DNC).

13 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

13.1 To change the next leg of the course, the Race Committee will move the original mark (or the finishing line) to a new position. Flag C may be the only signal used to indicate such a change. This changes *RRS* 33.

13.2 Minor adjustments will not be signalled. This changes *RRS* 33.

14 THE FINISH

14.1 The Finishing Line will be between a Pole displaying a Blue Flag at the bow of the Race Committee Boat, and a dan buoy with a Blue Flag at the port end.

Note that Boats SHALL pass through the Finish Line on completion of ALL Laps

15 PENALTY SYSTEM

15.1 The two-turn penalty is changed to a one turn penalty. This changes Rule 44.1.

15.2 The Scoring Penalty, *RRS* 44.3 does not apply. This changes *RRS* 44.

16 TIME LIMITS

16.1 Boats failing to finish within 10 minutes of the first boat to sail the course and finish will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF). without a hearing. This changes *RRS* 35, A4 and A5.

17 PROTEST HEARING REQUESTS

17.1 The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the finishing time of the last boat in the last race of the day or the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later. The protest time limit will be posted by WhatsApp / [Virtual Race Office](#).

17.2 Hearing Request Forms are available from the [Virtual Race Office](#) or the Race Office at the RSGYC, and completed requests must include a mobile number, a back-up number and an email address.

17.3 Arbitration – appendix T will apply. If a party is not present at an arbitration meeting, any party that was present may take a Post-Race Penalty at any time after the race until the beginning of a protest hearing involving the incident.

17.4 Notice will be posted by WhatsApp / [Virtual Race Office](#) no later than 15 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings may be held in the Race Office beginning at the time posted.

18 SCORING

18.1 Three races are required to be completed to constitute a series.

18.2 When fewer than 4 races have been completed, a boat's score will be the total of her race scores.

18.3 When 4 or more races have been completed, a boat's score will be the total of her race scores, excluding her worst score.

18.4 The Scoring Penalty, *RRS* 44.3 does not apply. This changes *RRS* 44.

19 PRIZES

19.1 The Prize Giving Ceremony will take place at the RSGYC after racing on Sunday, September 3rd. A Perpetual Trophy will be awarded to the winner and prizes will be awarded to the first 3 boats on both Scratch and ECHO Handicap as indicated in the NOR.

20 SAFETY REGULATIONS

20.1 [DP] A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

20.2 [DP] [NP] *RRS Rule* 40.1 will apply (Personal Floatation Devices).

21 CREW LIMITS + REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

21.1 The maximum number of crew is limited to 9 in any one race

21.2 [DP] Substitution of equipment is not allowed unless authorised in writing by the Race Committee. Requests for substitution shall be made to the committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

22 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

22.1 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules, notice of race and sailing instructions.

22.2 [DP] When instructed by a race official on the water, a boat shall proceed to a designated area for inspection.

23 TRASH DISPOSAL

23.1 The Beneteau 31.7 Championships is a 'Clean Regatta' and is fully supportive of sustainability of our land and marine environments. We would ask that you try to eliminate any plastic disposable bottles or wrapping in your consumables on board and to recycle any necessary plastic when ashore.

24 BERTHING

24.1 Berthing on the Royal St. George Pontoon is included in the entry fee. Please contact the Sailing Manager— Ronan Adams :

- Mobile 353 86 890 0576
- Email SailingManager@rsgyc.ie

25 HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS

25.1 [DP] Boats shall not be hauled out during the event except with and according to the terms of prior written permission of the race committee.

26 RISK STATEMENT

26.1 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.**

26.2 The Royal St. George Yacht Club and Beneteau 31.7 Ireland Class Association and all their officers,

members and volunteers, and event sponsors and patrons, do not accept liability for loss of life or property, or personal injury or damage caused by or arising out of the event. Competitors take part in the event at their own risk

27 INSURANCE

27.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of €3 million per event or the equivalent.

28 MEDIA RIGHTS

28.1 Competitors automatically grant to the OA, without payment, the right in perpetuity to make, use and show any motion pictures, still pictures and live, taped or filmed television of or relating to the event. This may include the use of unmanned aerial vehicles (drones) operated under IAA guidelines.

APPENDIX 1:

WW/LW Course Diagram

Description of Marks
Mark 1 & 2 will be black spherical marks.
Mark 1a will be an Orange Tea Bag mark.
Mark 2a will be a dan buoy with a blue flag

All marks to be left to Port
The number of laps will be displayed on the sides of the Committee Boat no later than the Warning Signal and will equal the number of windward legs to be sailed in that race.

1 Lap Start; 1; 1a; 2; Finish
2 Laps Start; 1; 1a; 2; 2a; 1; 1a; 2; Finish
3 Laps Start; 1; 1a; 2; 2a; 1; 1a; 2; 2a; 1; 1a; 2; Finish

Note : it is mandatory to sail through the Finish line on completion of ALL laps



