

**Connacht Schools Team Racing Championships**

**Galway City Sailing Club**

**March 27th 2022**

**SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

**1. RULES**

1.1 Racing will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing 2021- 2024, including Appendix D, the Notice of Race, these Sailing Instructions and the prescriptions of the Irish Sailing.

1.2 When registering, each team will designate a person in charge. This person shall be over 18 on the day of the competition. In this event this person shall not be a competitor but shall be available at all times when competitors are on the water or ashore at the event venue.

1.3 Rule D1.1(d) (room to tack – arm signals) is deleted.

1.4 Except during the knock-out round, a boat that is capsized at, or capsizes after the start signal, shall retire immediately, a capsize is defined as the mast touching the water, if the boat inverts the event bosun must be informed and the boat must be checked for damage.

1.5 Personal flotation devices shall be worn at all times when afloat except briefly while changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment. Wetsuits and drysuits are not personal flotation devices.

1.6 Competitors are advised to wear a wetsuit or drysuit at all times when afloat.

 1.7 Breaches of rule 28.1 and 28.2 seen by the Race Committee or an umpire shall be scored by the Race Committee without a hearing. This changes rule A5.

**2. ELIGIBILITY**

2.1 To become eligible a team shall register as required by section 5 and 6 in the Notice of Race. Teams must register by email as detailed in section 5 of the NOR and supply a parental consent form for each competitor. The entry fee is payable on the morning of the race by the person in charge of the team. The team shall provide the required damage deposit as detailed in section 14.1 of the NOR before going afloat for the first time.

2.2 After registration, no team member may be changed without the prior permission of the race committee which will be given only in exceptional circumstances.

**3. EVENT FORMAT AND SCHEDULE OF RACES**

3.1 The intended format of the event will be as follows:

* The first stage will be a round robin where every team races against every other team
* The second stage will be a knockout round and will comprise of a:
	+ A quarter finals
	+ A semi finals
	+ A final

 All of the knockout stages will be best of 3.

 The race committee reserve the right to change the format of the competition depending on number of entries and weather conditions. All changes to the event format will be communicated to competitors via the official race board.

3.2 Every race will be assigned a race number in the race schedule.

3.3 The number of the next race to start will be communicated by the committee boat no later than the warning signal. The race committee may at any time postpone a race and reschedule it at a later time.

3.4 When a completed race has been abandoned and the result would not affect which teams qualify for a further stage, the race committee may cancel the race and score each team half a race win.

**4. NOTICE TO COMPETITORS**

4.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official race board which will be a white board situated in the training room located in the Galway Ocean Sports Centre.

**5. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

5.1 Amendments to the Sailing Instructions will be posted at least 15 minutes before the start of any race affected.

5.2 Oral instructions may be given on the water by the Race Committee and/or the umpires prior to the warning signal.

5.3 Any changes to the starting time of the first race of the day will be posted by 1900 the day before it will take effect.

**6. BOATS**

6.1 For each race, the Race Committee will allocate boats to the participating teams.

**7. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

7.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed onshore at Galway Ocean Sports Centre which will be the coordination centre for the event.

7.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore ‘1 minute’ is replaced with ‘not less than 10 minutes’.

**8. SCHEDULE**

8.1 Racing will take place on Sunday 27th of March

8.2 There will be a briefing at 09:30hrs on Sunday. The first warning signal will be at 10:30hrs on Sunday 27th March. No warning signal will be given after 16hrs00 on Sunday 27th March except for the final races of the knock-out series, unless the two teams agree.

**9. RACING AREA**

9.1 The racing area will be bounded by the Hare Island causeway to the east, the Leverets lighthouse to the south, the shipping channel to the west and the docks area to the north.

**10. COURSES**

10.1 The diagram below shows the course, including the approximate angles between legs, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left:



10.2 The Race Committee may move marks of the course at any time. Rule 33 will not apply. The moving of a mark by the Race Committee will not give grounds for redress.

**11. MARKS**

11.1 Marks will be described at the briefing.

11.2 Start buoy is a round pink buoy and Finish Pins is a spherical yellow buoy.

**12. BREAKDOWNS**

12.1 Competitors shall inspect a boat before taking charge of the boat.

12.2 Competitors shall report any defects, damage or breakdown to the Race Committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

12.3 When continuing to race after damage reasonably risks further damage to the boat, she shall retire immediately. The Race Committee will decide redress in accordance with rule D5.

12.4 The Race Committee may postpone a re-sail indefinitely and shall score each team half a race win unless the result is relevant to progress to, but not seeding in, the next round.

12.5 In the case of breakdown that is through no fault of either the teams about to race, and signaled before the preparatory signal of the race, the race committee may decide to sail a race with only 2 boats per team. The race committee's decision will be communicated to teams either verbally ashore or by the race umpires.

12.6 When the race committee decides to run a 2-boat per team race, D.3.1(d) is modified to read "The team with the lowest total points wins the race. If the totals are equal, the team that did not have the last-place boat wins."

12.7 When the race committee decides to run a 2-boat per team race and when D4.2 (b) or (d) apply, the boats that did not race will be considered to have scored points equal to 5th place.

**13. THE START**

13.1 Rule 26, Starting Races, will not apply.

13.2 A series of short sounds will be made prior to the first warning signal of a starting sequence.

13.3 The starting sequence will be:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Signal***  | ***Time before starting*** ***signal*** | ***Sound signals*** | ***Visual Signals*** |
| Warning  | 3 min  | Three long | 3 Batons |
| Preparatory  | 2 min  | Two long | 2 Batons |
| One-minute  | 1 min  | One long | 1 Baton |
|  | 30 sec  | Three short |  |
|  | 20 sec  | Two short |  |
|  | 10 sec  | One short |  |
|  | 5,4,3,2,1 sec  | One short every second |  |
| Starting  | 0  | One long | All Batons down |

13.4 Times shall be taken from the start of each sound signal.

13.5 The race number will be communicated by the start boat before the preparatory signal.

 13.6 The starting line will be between a staff bearing an orange flag on the start boat and the starting mark as defined in SI 11.2.

13.7 An inner limit mark may be laid adjacent to the start boat. No boat shall pass between this mark and the start boat.

13.8 A boat shall start not more than 2 minutes after her starting signal.

 13.9 When at a boat’s starting signal any part of her hull, crew or equipment is on the course side of the starting line, the Race Committee shall promptly display flag X with one sound and may hail the sail numbers of premature starters. The flag shall be displayed until all such boats are completely on the pre-start side of the starting line or its extensions, but not later than two minutes after the starting signal. Failure to hail, or failure of a boat to hear a hailed number, shall not be grounds for redress. This changes rules 29.1 and 62.1(a).

13.10 A boat that fails to start within two minutes of her starting signal will be scored DNS without a hearing. However, if the boat was OCS at her starting signal, she shall be scored in accordance with RRS D3.1(b). This amends RRS A4 and A5.

**14. THE FINISH**

14.1 The finishing line shall be between a staff bearing a blue flag on the finish boat and the finishing mark as defined in SI 11.2.

**15. ABANDONING A RACE**

15.1 The Race Committee may abandon a race for any reason. Abandonment(s) may be advised orally by the umpires of that race. This changes rule 32 and Race Signals.

**16. TIME LIMITS**

16.1 The time limit for each race shall be 20 minutes. Boats failing to finish within five minutes after the first boat finishes will be scored Did Not Finish. This changes rule 32 and Race Signals.

**17. CONTINUITY AND TERMINATION OF RESPONSIBILITY**

17.1 The handover of boats between competitors shall be completed without delay.

 17.2 A boat shall remain the responsibility of the team until handed over to a Race Committee representative or the next team to use that boat. Boats shall be handed over as empty of water as practical and in racing trim. Any defects shall be reported to a Race Committee representative at handover.

**18. UMPIRING AND PROTESTS**

18.1 All races shall be umpired and rule D2 applies.

18.2 Protests and requests for redress that have not been decided afloat shall be notified to the race office within 10 minutes after the relevant incident or, if the incident is afloat, within 10 minutes after coming ashore.

18.3 The protest committee may refuse to hear a protest or request for redress unless its outcome is relevant to progress to, but not seeding in, the next round of the competition. This changes rule 63.1.

18.4 When RRS D2 applies and the race umpires together with one other umpire (when available) decide that a boat has broken RRS 14 and there is damage or injury, they may penalise her team by half a race win without a hearing. The boat will be informed as soon as practical and may request a hearing. Any penalty after a hearing will be in accordance with RRS D3.1(d). This amends RRS 63.1.

18.5 Breaches of SI 16, 19 will not be grounds for protest by a boat. This changes rule 60.1(a). Penalties for these breaches may be less than disqualification.

**19. OFFICIAL BOATS**

19. 1 Official boats may be marked. Details will be posted on the official notice board.

**20. OTHER SUPPORT BOATS**

20.1 Coach boats will not be allowed.

**21. RIGHT OF USE OF NAME AND LIKENESS**

21.1 Competitors automatically grant to the Organising Authority without payment the right in perpetuity to make, use and show any text, motion pictures, video and still pictures, as well as live, taped or filmed television of, or relating to, the event.

**22. PRIZES**

22.1 Prizes will be awarded at the discretion of the organising authority.

**23. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

23.1 It is the sole responsibility of the person in charge of each team to decide if that team should race in the prevailing conditions or not. It is the sole responsibility of the person in charge of each boat to decide if that boat should race or continue to race.

23.2 Competitors compete in the event entirely at their own risk – see Rule 4, Decision to Race. The Organising Authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during or after the event. The Organising Authority encompasses everyone helping to run the event.

**24 CODE OF CONDUCT**

24.1 Competitors shall comply with any reasonable request from any official, including attendance at official functions, cooperation with event sponsors and shall not behave so as to bring the event into disrepute.

24.2 Competitors shall handle the boats and equipment with proper care and seamanship.

 24.3 The penalty for breaking instruction 23.1 and 23.2 is at the discretion of the protest committee and may include exclusion from further participation in the event, the withdrawal of any prize or the withholding of deposits.

24.4 Participants are expected at the event to conduct themselves reputedly both on and off the water. Any hailing on the racecourse shall be done in a reasonable manner and compliant with the Racing Rules of Sailing. Any miscalling such as hailing 'Protest' without a red flag to intimidate a competitor or calling for 'Room' when clearly not entitled to it or calling in a threatening manner will be considered by the umpires as a breach of sportsmanship and will result in an immediate two turns penalty per RRS D2.3g. Persistent breaches may result in further action by a Protest Committee up to disqualification from the event.