



**Connacht & Ulster Schools Team  
Racing Championships  
Galway City Sailing Club in  
Association with I.S.T.R.A  
April 20th 2024  
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 A boat capsized after her two minute starting sequence sound, so that her mast has touched the water shall retire to the change over area promptly. E1.5 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. RRS 40, always applies when afloat or on pontoons. 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 the section on Eligibility and Entry in the Notice of Race. Teams must register online as instructed in the following link: <https://galwaycitysailingclub.com/product/connacht-schools-team-racing-championships-2024/>. Teams must also provide a hardcopy of an entry form signed by a schools representative, this can be downloaded from the above link and must be handed in to registration on the morning of the race. In the case of composite schools the entry form only needs to be signed by a representative from one of the schools involved. A parental consent form for each competitor must also be downloaded from the link and handed in to registration on the morning of the race. The entry fee and damage deposit must be paid online at the above link when registering the team. The damage deposit will be returned after the race providing no damage has been incurred by the team in question.

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 format for each stage of the event shall be a round robin or multiple round robins. The HTML league system will be used to rank teams and D4.3b will not apply.

3.2 The format may be modified during the event in a fair and practical way as solely determined by the Organising Authority (O.A.), considering the entries, weather conditions, time constraints and any other relevant factors. The format choice to be sailed will be determined by the race committee before racing on a given day.

## **4. Hearing Requests for Redress and Penalties.**

4.1 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.

4.2 When the outcome of a protest or request for redress would not affect which team qualify to a later stage, the protest committee may decide not to hear it. This amends RRS 63.1

4.3 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 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(e). This amends RRS 63.1

## **5. Risk Statement**

- 5.1 Rule 3 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states: "The responsibility for a bot's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone."
- 5.2 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 the risk statement as included in the Notice of Race.

## **6. Code of Conduct**

- 6.1 Competitors shall comply with any reasonable request from any official, including attendance at official functions, cooperation with event sponsors and shall not behave to bring the event into disrepute.
- 6.2 Competitors shall oversee the boats and equipment with proper care and seamanship.
- 6.3 Participants are expected at the event to conduct themselves appropriately both on and off the water. Any hailing on the racecourse shall be done in a reasonable manner and compliant with 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.
- 6.4 The penalty for breaking instruction 6.1, .2, or 6.3 is at the discretion of the O.A. or the Protest Committee and may include exclusion from further participation in the event, the withdrawal, of any prize or withholding of deposits.

## **7. Continuity**

- 7.1 Before starting and after finishing or retiring, boats shall sail to minimise any delay to the race schedule and without interfering with any race in progress.

## **8. Breakages**

- 8.1 In the case of a breakdown that is through no fault of either the teams about to race and signaled before the one-minute signal of the race, the race committee may decide to sail a race with only two boats per team. The race committee's decision will be communicated to teams either verbally ashore or by the umpires.
- 8.2 When the race committee decides to run a 2-boat per team race and when D 3.1(d) is modified to read "The team with the lower total points wins the race. If the totals are equal, the team that did not have the last-place boat wins.
- 8.3 When the race committee decides to run a 2-boat per team race and D4.2(b) apply, the boats that did not race will be considered to have scored points equal to fifth place.

## **9. Electronic Communications**

- 9.1 The use of electronic instruments is prohibited other than compass, watches, and small video devices such as Go-Pros (if provided by the O.A.).
- 9.2 Boats shall not transmit on any electronic communication device (Including mobile phones) except in an emergency, or in response to a request from the race committee See also RRS D1.1(g).

## **10. Required Actions**

- 10.1 At the end of the sailing day, the crew shall complete the following tasks:
- (a) Sails shall be rolled, bagged, and placed as directed.
  - (b) Boats shall be left in the same state of cleanliness as when first bordered that day.
  - (c) The crew shall comply with any directions posted on the boats or otherwise given to the crew by the race committee.
  - (d) The boats shall be returned to the deck or other notified location and secure it safely in accordance with any local instructions.

## **Format Numbers**

### **11. 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 Galway City Sailing Club House.

### **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 2100 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 the Galway City Sailing Centre Clubhouse which will be the coordination center 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 Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> of April

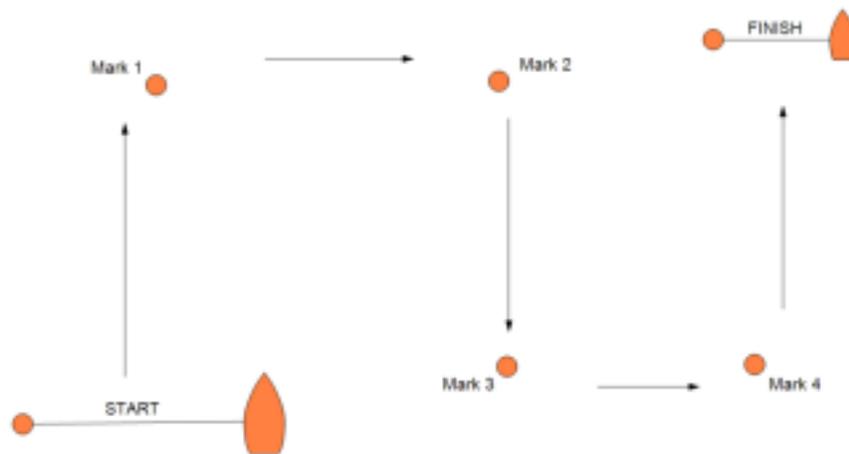
8.2 There will be a briefing at 09:30hrs on Saturday. The first warning signal will be at 10:27hrs on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April, this overrides the scheduled race time given in the NOR. No warning signal will be given after 17hrs00 on Saturday the 27<sup>th</sup> of April, except for the final races of the knock-out series.

## 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:

<i>Signal</i>	<i>Time before starting signal</i>	<i>Sound signals</i>	<i>Visual Sig</i>
Warning	3 min	Three long	3 Baton
Preparatory	2 min	Two long	2 Baton
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

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 and support 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.**