

Belfast Lough Yachting Conference

2021 NOTICE OF RACE (for Belfast Lough Regattas)

NOTE: In accordance with the current edition of the Racing Rules of Sailing, this Notice of Race (NoR) contains information that a competitor may need in order to decide whether or not to compete in a Regatta.

1. RULES

- 1.1 Racing will be governed by the 'rules' as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS). Additional Sailing Instructions (SIs) published by each Club, together with the Notice of Race and the Standard SIs (all displayed on the www.belfastloughsailing.org website), form the rules for that Club's Regatta. The prescriptions of the Royal Yachting Association will apply.
- 1.2 The Sailing Instructions may be altered by a Regatta Race Committee by posting a notice on their Club notice board and displaying Flag "L" on the flagpole. Such notices shall be posted not later than 11:30 hrs. and shall constitute an official notice to each competitor for the purpose of RRS 90.2(c).

2. HANDICAPPING

- 2.1 Handicapping for Races 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6 shall be based on the RYA National Handicap scheme for Cruisers (NHC) and boats shall comply with ORC Special Regulations, Category 4. The owners of boats wishing to compete in these races shall notify their Club's Honorary Sailing Secretary of their boat's NHC Number no later than three weeks prior to any regatta in which they wish to compete.
- 2.2 Boat owners who are not members of any Belfast Lough Yachting Conference (BLYC) affiliated Club shall, instead, provide each appropriate Race Committee(s) with a written (and signed) declaration showing their boat's details and NHC Number. Such declaration shall be delivered to the Race Committee(s) prior to the start of any race in which they wish their boat to compete.
- 2.3 Handicapping for Races 8 and 10 shall be based on the Portsmouth Yardsticks as published by the RYA.
- 2.4 Handicapping for Race 11 shall be based on the small Catamaran Handicap Rating System.
- 2.5 If there are fewer than three starters those keelboats may choose to start with the next appropriate Handicap Class instead of starting at their scheduled Class start. **If this option is exercised by any boat, she shall display the Numeral Pennant appropriate to the Class with which she starts. Such boats should, therefore, carry the two appropriate Class Flags.**

3. IDENTIFICATION

- 3.1 All boats in all races shall conspicuously display their sail numbers.
- 3.2 Boats competing in races 1, 2, 4, 5 or 6 shall conspicuously display the following pennants/flags from or near their backstays:

Race 1	NHC Unrestricted	(0.906 & above)	Numeral Pennant No.1
Race 2	NHC Unrestricted	(0.905 & below)	Numeral Pennant No.2
Race 4	NHC Restricted	(0.926 & above)	Numeral Pennant No.4
Race 5	NHC Restricted	(0.856 – 0.925)	Numeral Pennant No.5
Race 6	NHC Restricted	(0.855 & below)	Numeral Pennant No.6

Failure to do so will result in the boat being scored DNC without a hearing (amends RRS 63.1).

4. SAFETY

- 4.1 All persons sailing in any of Races 3, 7, 8, 9, 10 or 11 shall wear adequate personal flotation devices while racing and all keelboats shall carry sufficient personal flotation devices for each crew member. This SI amends RRS 40.
- 4.2 The crews of all sportsboats shall wear personal flotation devices while racing. The sportsboats shall carry the following minimum equipment:-

One manual bilge pump operable with all cockpit seals, hatches and companionways shut; One bucket (of at least 5 litre capacity) of stout construction and with a lanyard attached; Where either a battery or petrol engine is carried - A fire extinguisher; One suitable anchor with line; First aid kit and manual; Lifebuoy with a drogue, within easy reach of the helmsman; Flares - At least 2 hand-held red and 2 floating orange smoke; Suitable heaving line of at least 15 metres.
- 4.3 If an anchor is carried no part of it shall protrude over the edge of the hull.

5. RISK STATEMENT

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.**

Belfast Lough Yachting Conference

2021 REGATTA

STANDARD SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

To be read in conjunction with the Notice of Race and the additional Sailing Instructions of each Member Club's Regatta

1. Notice of Race, Rules and Alterations to Rules

- 1.1 Racing will be governed by the 'rules' as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS). Additional Sailing Instructions (SIs) published by each Club, together with the Notice of Race and the Standard SIs (all displayed on the www.belfastloughsailing.org website), form the rules for that Club's Regatta. The prescriptions of the Royal Yachting Association will apply.
- 1.2 RRS 63.1 is altered by the following addition: "When a boat fails to comply with one or more of the requirements of NoR Nos. 3 or 4 she shall be scored as 'Did Not Finish' (DNF) without a hearing. (Note: eg. no Class Flag = no result)

2. Safety

- 2.1 All persons sailing in any of Races 3, 7, 8, 9, 10 or 11 shall wear adequate personal flotation devices while racing. Wet or dry suits are not acceptable as substitutes. All keelboats shall carry sufficient personal flotation devices for each crew member. This SI amends RRS 40.
- 2.2 If an anchor is carried no part of it shall protrude over the edge of the hull.
- 2.3 The crews of all sportsboats shall wear personal flotation devices while racing.

3. Handicapping

See NoR 2

4. Eligibility

- 4.1 No boat shall start in more than one race.
- 4.2 Boats competing in NHC Restricted Classes are not permitted to use spinnakers, twin headsails or headsails which do not comply with RRS 55.4.
- 4.3 Dinghy/Day boats are only eligible to compete in races 8 or 10, as appropriate.
- 4.4 **Sigma 33s sailing in a spinnaker Class shall compete in Race 1 regardless of their current NHC handicap**
- 4.5 Prizes will be awarded to Class boats if there are at least three starters in the race for that Class. In cases when there are fewer than three starters those keelboats may choose to start with the next appropriate Handicap Class instead of starting at their scheduled Class start. If this option is exercised by any boat, **she shall display the Numeral Pennant appropriate to the Class with which she starts (see NoR 3.2 above). (Note: Such boats should, therefore, carry the two appropriate Class Flags.)**
- 4.6 If, in any race, one or more boats of a Class start at their scheduled specific Class start all other boats of the same Class sailing at the regatta shall be deemed to have started in their Class race. Further prizes may be awarded at the absolute discretion of the Race Committee at each Club.

5. Starting Signals

RRS 26 shall not apply. Starting signals shall be made at 5 minute intervals. Times shall be taken from the visual signals and the absence of a sound signal shall be disregarded. Except for Race 1 the warning signal for each class shall be the preparatory signal for the immediately preceding class. The Class flag shall be displayed at the start of the immediately preceding Class and shall signify the preparatory signal for that Class. Boats whose preparatory signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area and of all boats whose preparatory signal has been made.

6. Identification of Courses

In amendment of RRS 41 the Race Committee may, when requested, advise boats of the course signal(s) displayed for their class. Boats shall make such requests using radio channel M (37). No other information (including identification or location of marks) shall be provided verbally.

7. Recalls

In amendment of RRS Race Signals and 29.2, in the event of a general recall the recalled class shall take as its preparatory signal the start of the last class scheduled on the programme or the start of the immediately preceding class also subject to a general recall if more than one class has been recalled. The First Substitute shall be displayed for a maximum of 4 minutes and shall be lowered without a sound signal.

8. Penalties & Protests

In amendment of RRS 44, the Two Turns Penalty shall not apply to incidents between boats of two or more classes. Protests shall be lodged with the Race Officer within one hour of the finishing time of the boat(s) concerned.

9. Time Limit

The time limit for all races shall be 17:00 hrs. If any boat finishes within the time limit it shall be extended by one hour for the boats in that Class only. All boats finishing after 17:00 hrs. or, in the case of a Class for which the time limit has been extended, 18:00 hrs., will be scored "Did not finish". This amends RRS 35. In the event of a Class failing to finish a second or subsequent round (or course) within the time limit the timings at the end of the last completed round shall be taken as the result of the race.

10. Classes, Start Times and Class Flags

Race No.	Class	Start Time	Class Flag
* 1	NHC Unrestricted (0.906 & above)	13:20	No. 1
2	NHC Unrestricted (0.905 & below)	13:25	No. 2
3	Dragon, SB20, RS Elite	13:30	No. 3
4	NHC Restricted (0.926 & above)	13:35	No. 4
5	NHC Restricted (0.856 – 0.925)	13:40	No. 5
6	NHC Restricted (0.855 & below)	13:45	No. 6
7	{ Flying Fifteen, Squib, Fairy, Waverley & Ballyholme Bay }	13:50	E
8	{ Mirror, Laser 4.7, Topper, Dinghy/Day Boat PY 1130 & above }	13:55	F
9	Laser (Standard Rig)	14:00	G
10	{ Laser Radial, Enterprise, GP14, 505, RS400, RS200 & Dinghy/Day Boat PY1129 and below }	14:05	J
11	Multihull Dinghies	14.10	K

The figures shown (above) for Races 1, 2, 4, 5 & 6 relate to NHC Numbers.

* Sigma 33s sailing in a spinnaker Class shall compete in Race 1 regardless of their current NHC handicap

Entrants should be aware that the times shown may be varied and/or Classes modified by some Race Committees at a number of regattas.

Please check the appropriate Club Insert.