

BLYC

REGATTA SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Rules and Alterations to Rules

- 1.1 Racing will be governed by the 'rules' as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS). The supplements published by each Club form part of these Sailing Instructions (SIs). The prescriptions of the Royal Yachting Association will apply.
- 1.2 These 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. In the case of races 1 and 2, such notices shall be posted not later than 09:00hrs. on the morning of the Regatta and for all other races such notices shall be posted not later than 11:30 hrs. Such notices shall constitute an official notice to each competitor for the purpose of RRS 90.2(c).
- 1.3 RRS 63.1 is altered by the following addition: "When a boat fails to comply with any of the requirements of Sailing Instructions Nos. 3 or 4 she shall be scored as 'Did Not Finish' (DNF).

2. Safety

- 2.1 All persons sailing in any of Races 3, 8, 9, 10, 11 or 12 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 S.I. amends RRS 40.
- 2.2 If an anchor is carried no part of it shall protrude over the edge of the hull.

3. Handicap Races 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11 and 12

- 3.1 Boats competing in Race 1 shall comply with ORC Special Regulations, Category 4, and shall have a valid IRC Certificate which shall have been previously notified to the Honorary Secretary of the Club(s) of which the owner is a member. Sportsboats which comply with The Sportsboat Rule of the RORC/RYA shall comply with the safety requirements set out in Appendix A.
- 3.2 Boats competing in Race 2 shall have a Belfast Lough Handicap of 1130 or lower and shall comply with ORC Special Regulations, Category 4.

3.3 Handicapping for Races 2, 4, 5, 6 and 7 shall be based on the Belfast Lough Handicaps (BLH). The owners of boats wishing to compete in Races 2, 4, 5, 6 or 7 shall notify their Club's Honorary Sailing Secretary of their boat's Handicap no later than three weeks prior to any regatta in which they wish to compete. 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 Handicap. 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.

Handicapping for Races 9 and 11 shall be based on the Portsmouth Yardsticks as published by the RYA.

Handicapping for Race 12 shall be based on the small Catamaran Handicap Rating System.

3.4 Boats competing in Races 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 or 7 shall conspicuously display the following pennants/flags from or near their backstays:

Race 1	IRC Class 1	Numeral Pennant No.1
Race 2	BLH Cruiser Unrestricted (1130 & below)	Numeral Pennant No.2
Race 4	BLH Cruiser Whitesail (1020 & below)	Numeral Pennant No.4
Race 5	BLH Cruiser Unrestricted	Numeral Pennant No.5
Race 6	BLH Cruiser Whitesail (1021 to 1075)	Numeral Pennant No.6
Race 7	BLH Cruiser Whitesail (1076 & above)	Flag A

4. Identification and Eligibility

4.1 All boats in all races shall conspicuously display their sail numbers.

4.2 No boat shall start in more than one race.

4.3 Boats competing in Whitesail Classes are not permitted to use spinnakers, twin headsails or headsails which do not comply with RRS 50.4.

4.4 Dinghy/Day boats shall not be eligible to compete in races 2, 4, 5, 6 or 7.

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 the boats may choose to start with the next appropriate Handicap Class (Races 4, 5, 6, 7, 9 or 11) instead of starting at their scheduled Class start. If, in race 3 or in any following races, 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. Classes sailing in Races 9, 11 or 12 may be allocated class prizes 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 Races 1 and 3 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 as 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	IRC Class 1	11.30	No. 1
2	BLH Cruiser Unrestricted (BLH 1130 & below)	11.35	No. 2
3	Dragon, 1720 Sportsboat, SB 3 & RS Elite	13.30	No. 3
4	BLH Cruiser Whitesail (1020 & below)	13.35	No. 4
5	BLH Cruiser Unrestricted	13.40	No. 5
6	BLH Cruiser Whitesail (1021 to 1075)	13.45	No. 6
7	BLH Cruiser Whitesail (1076 & above)	13.50	A
8	{ Flying Fifteen	} 13.55	{ C
	{ Squib		{ D
	{ Fairy, Waverley & Ballyholme Bay		{ E
9	{ Mirror, Laser 4.7, Topper, Dinghy/Day	} 14.00	} F
	{ Boat PY 1130 & above		
10	Laser (Standard Rig)	14.05	G
11	Laser Radial, Dinghy/Day Boat PY1129 and below	14.10	J
12	Multihull	14.15	K

NOTE Entrants should be aware that the above times may be varied and/or Classes added by some Race Committees at a number of regattas.
Please check the appropriate Club Insert.

This Appendix forms part of the Sailing Instructions

Appendix A

Minimum equipment to be carried by Sportsboats

- One manual bilge pump operable with all cockpit seats, 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 a least 15 metres.
- All crew members shall wear personal flotation devices while racing.