



Wexford Harbour Boat and Tennis Club

stone SOLICITORS LLP

Winter Series 2023-2024

Sailing Instructions (SIs)

The notation '[NP]' in a rule of the sailing instructions (SIs) means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a).

The notation '[DP]' in a rule means that the penalty for a breach of the rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification

1 RULES

- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* and the prescriptions of the Sailing Ireland.

2 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0900 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

3 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official Whatsapp Group, WHBTC Winter Series;
- 3.2 [DP] From the first warning signal until the end of the last race of the day, 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.
- 4.2 [DP] Competitors and support persons shall place any advertising provided by the organizing authority with care, in accordance with any instructions for its use and without interfering with its functionality.

5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed at the yardarm on the club balcony.
- 5.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes' in Race Signals AP. [This changes Race Signals].

6 SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 6.1 Two races every Sunday morning from Sunday 12th November 2023 to Sunday 10th of March, inclusive, But excluding Sunday 24th and 31st December. First Gun 11.00am.
- 6.2 One extra race per day may be sailed, provided that no class becomes more than one race ahead of schedule and the change is made according to SI 2.1.
 - 6.3 To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, the orange starting line flag will be displayed with one sound at least five minutes before a warning signal is made.

7 CLASS FLAGS

- 7.1 The class flags are:

Lasers	Code Flag R
Toppers	Code Flag T
Toppers 4.2	Numeral Pennant 4
PY	Numeral Pennant 7

- 7.2 Depending on the number of entries, classes may be amalgamated reducing the number of starts. Details will be advised at the briefing & on the official Whatsapp notice board.

8 RACING AREA

- 8.1 The racing area is the River Slaney & Wexford Harbour.

9 COURSES

- 9.1 Courses will be windward / leeward, triangles or squares.
- 9.4 The race Committee will display on a board the course to be sailed and the number of laps, once the warning signal for each class has been made.

10 MARKS

- 10.1 Mark(s) are a combination of Dan buoy type marks – white & orange (club marks), and port and starboard navigation marks.

11 OBSTRUCTIONS

- 11.1 There are no areas designated as obstructions

12 THE START

- 12.1 Races will be started using RRS 26 with the warning signal made five minutes before the starting signal.

- 12.2 Classes will start in the order outlined in 7.1. The Warning Signal for classes starting after Lasers will be the Starting Signal of the class preceding them. See 7.2 above.
- 12.3 The starting line is between the yardarm on the club balcony displaying an orange flag and the designated Starting Mark, or Between a staff displaying an orange flag on the signal vessel at the starboard end and the course side of the port-end starting mark.
- 12.4 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races.
- 12.5 A boat that does not start within five minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.
- 12.6 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 redress for request. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

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.

14 THE FINISH

- 14.1 The finishing line is between a staff displaying a blue flag on the balcony or signal vessel at the starboard end and the course side of the port-end starting mark.

15 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 15.1 The Scoring Penalty, RRS 44.3 does not apply
- 15.2 RRS Appendix P applies.

16 TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES

- 16.1 The Mark 1 Time Limit, Race Time Limit (see RRS 35), and the Finishing Window are shown in the table below.

Mark 1 Time Limit	Race Time Limit	Finishing Window
<i>20 minutes</i>	<i>1 hour</i>	<i>20 minutes</i>

- 16.2 If no boat has passed the first mark within the Mark 1 Time Limit, the race will be abandoned.
- 16.3 The Finishing Window is the time for boats to finish after the first boat sails the course and finishes. Boats failing to finish within the Finishing Window, and not subsequently retiring, penalized or given redress, will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) without a hearing. A boat scored TLE shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the points scored by the last boat that finished within the Finishing Window. This changes RRS 35, A5.1, A5.2 and A10.

16.4 Failure to meet the Target Time will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

17 HEARING REQUESTS

17.1 The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the last boat finishes the last race of the day or the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later. The time will be posted on the official notice board.

17.2 Hearing request forms are available from the race office.

17.3 Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the Wreck room of the club

17.5 RRS 62.2(a) and 66.2(a) do not apply.

18 SCORING

18.1 The Low Point Scoring system applies.

18.2 *Five* races are required to be completed to constitute a series.

18.3 (a) When fewer than 4 races have been completed, a boat's series score is the total of her race scores.

(b) When 4 races have been completed, a boat's series score is the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

(c) When *each additional 4 races* have been completed, a boat's series score is the total of her race scores excluding an additional worst score. (i.e. there will be one discard per four completed races)

18.4 Rule A5.3 applies.

19 SAFETY REGULATIONS

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

20 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

20.1 [DP] Substitution of competitors is not allowed without prior written approval of the Race Committee.

20.2 [DP] Substitution of damaged or lost equipment is not allowed unless authorized in writing by the *Race Committee*. Requests for substitution shall be made to the committee at the first reasonable opportunity, which may be after the race.

21 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

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

23 [DP] SUPPORT TEAMS

23.1 Team leaders, coaches and other support persons shall stay outside areas where boats are racing from the time of the preparatory signal for

the first start until all boats have finished or retired or the race committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment.

- 24.2 The Race Committee may authorise coaching for the back 20% of a fleet where a boat is both crewed and helmed by a/an Junior Competitor(s).

25 TRASH DISPOSAL

- 25.1 All Trash is to be brought ashore by the competitors and disposed of correctly.

26 BERTHING

- 26.1 [DP] Boats shall be parked correctly in designated dinghy parking spaces during the event and should not block access to the Club and environs.

27 PRIZES

- 27.1 see NOR 12

28 RISK STATEMENT

- 28.1 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.

29 INSURANCE

- 29.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of €3,000,000 per incident or the equivalent.