

Sailing Instructions

1 RULES

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

2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

2.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 10.00 on 29th March except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 20.00 on the day before it will take effect.

3 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board located inside the gate in the archway.

3.2 The Race Office is located beside the Marina Office.

4. CODE OF CONDUCT

4.1 [DP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.

5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed at the top of the entrance to the Marina.

5.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 45 minutes' in Race Signals AP.

5.3 [DP] Flag D with one sound means 'Boats shall not leave the slipway until this signal is made'. The warning signal will not be made before the scheduled time or less than 45 minutes after flag D is displayed.'

6 SCHEDULE OF RACES

6.1 Three races are scheduled. One race shall constitute a series.

6.2 The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race is 12.00 for both fleets.

6.3 No race will be started after 15:30, except for postponements, general recalls and abandonment of a race where the first warning signal was made before 15:30

7 CLASS FLAGS

7.1 The Class flag is the International Flag "O" Optimist Class Flag.

8 RACING AREA

8.1 The race area for the Main Fleet will be west of Howth Harbour and may be one mile from the harbour entrance.

9 COURSES

9.1 The Fleet will race an outer loop of a Trapezoid Course. The rounding order, which will be signalled by Committee Vessel no later than the Warning Signal, will be as follows (See Appendix 1 for course diagram):

Signal	Mark Rounding Order
1	Start – 1 – 2 – 3p – 4 – Finish
2	Start – 1 – 2 – 3s/3p – 2 – 3p – 4 – Finish

10 MARKS

10.1 Marks 1, 2, 3 & 4 will be orange spherical marks unless otherwise advised.

10.2 Starting mark will be black and finishing mark will be yellow unless otherwise advised.

10.3 If only one gate mark is in position, that mark shall be rounded to port.

11 NOT USED

12 THE START

12.1 The starting line will be between red and white pole displaying an orange flag on the Committee Vessel and the pin end mark.

12.2 A boat that does not start within 5 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.

13 NOT USED

14 THE FINISH

14.1 The finishing line is between the red and white pole displaying a blue flag on the Committee Vessel at the starboard end and a yellow buoy at the port end.

15 NOT USED

16 TIME LIMITS

16.1 After the leading boats have finished a race, the Race Committee may offer finishing positions to boats which have not yet finished, starting at the back of the fleet. This changes Rules A4 and A5.

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 online official notice board.

17.2 Hearing requests should be submitted via the online portal

https://www.racingrulesofsailing.org/events/8302/event_links?name=optimist-brassed-off-cup

A QR code will be posted on the Official Notice Board

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 protest room (The Library), located at on the top floor of the Club House beginning at the time posted.

18 SCORING

18.1 A boat's series score is the total of her race scores. No discard will apply.

19 SAFETY REGULATIONS

19.1 Wrist bands will be issued to each sailor which will have to be checked back in on reaching the slipway.

19.2 Competitors shall wear adequate personal flotation devices, properly secured at all times when afloat except briefly while changing or adjusting personal equipment. Wet suits and dry suits are not personal flotation devices.

19.3 The Organising Authority may stop a boat launching or require it to return ashore, if it considers the boat, its equipment or crew are not adequately equipped for the likely conditions or for any other reasons. The decision is final and shall not be grounds for redress.

19.4 Competitors in difficulty shall obey any instruction given by a safety boat crew.

19.5 A boat that retires from a race shall notify a safety boat immediately.

19.6 After a sailor comes ashore, he or she must return their numbered wrist/arm band promptly to the tally board supervisors. It is the responsibility of each boat to return their numbered wrist/arm band promptly on coming ashore. Failure to return the required wrist/arm band promptly on coming ashore may result in disqualification.

20 NOT USED

21 NOT USED

22 NOT USED

23 NOT USED

24 SUPPORT BOATS

24.1 Support boats shall register with the race committee at registration time.

24.2 Coaches and other support personnel shall not encroach on the racing area from the time of the preparatory signal until all boats have finished or the race committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment or requests the assistance of support boats in rescue operation.

25 TRASH DISPOSAL

25.1 Trash may be placed aboard official vessels.

26 NOT USED

27 NOT USED

28 NOT USED

29 PRIZES

29.1 Prizes will be awarded to and all participants will receive an Easter Egg at the Brassed-Off Cup 2024.

30 RISK STATEMENT

30.1 Rule 3 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone."

30.2 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 to and acknowledges the risk statement as included in the Notice of Race."

31 INSURANCE

31.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid and adequate third-party liability insurance.

Appendix 1 – Course

