



GENERAL SAILING INSTRUCTIONS FOR CRUISER RACING 2016

1 RULES

All races shall be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), Irish Sailing Association (ISA) Prescriptions, the Notice of Race (NOR) and the Sailing Instructions (SIs) for any particular race or series, these Sailing Instructions (General SI's), and any amendments thereto. Competitors in races for One Design classes shall comply with their relevant Class Rules. In the event of a conflict these General SIs shall prevail. Competitors in IRC and ECHO handicap classes shall in addition comply with the rules of these handicapping systems. IRC Rule 22.4.2 shall not apply unless specified in the SI's or NOR for a specific event. There will be no limitations on crew number or weight except as required for boats rated as One Designs which shall comply with IRC Rule 22.4.1.

2 ENTRY AND ELIGABILITY

- 2.1 With the exception of open events, only members who have completed a Race Entry Declaration for 2016 and comply with all requirements on that Declaration may race in RCYC leagues or events and be eligible to receive RCYC Trophies.

3 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board(s) located on the window of the Sailing Coordinator's office.

4 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change(s) to these General SIs or SIs will be posted on the Official Notice Board not later than two hours before the scheduled start of the first race so affected.

5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the Club flag staff.
- 5.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 60 minutes' in the race signal AP.

6 CLASS FLAGS

- 6.1 Boats shall fly the appropriate class flag at all times while racing. Any boat not flying the correct pennant(s) may not be scored.

6.2 Boats shall show their correct sail number. Permission to race using any other sail number must be sought from the Race Committee prior to going afloat. Any boat not showing its correct sail number may not be scored.

6.3 The Race Committee reserves the right to place any boat in any class it deems appropriate.

7 LOCAL HARBOUR REGULATIONS

7.1 Competitors are reminded that all commercial shipping has absolute right of way within the harbour area. All boats shall keep at least 100 metres away from commercial vessels that are manoeuvring at all times, but shall in any event maintain a safe distance from any shipping, which may exceed 100 metres in certain circumstances.

7.2 Competitors should avoid crossing ahead of commercial vessels that are underway in the fairways. Large vessels often have blind spots dead ahead of +150 metres

7.3 All boats shall keep at least 50 metres away from the refinery jetty or vessels moored alongside.

7.4 If found to have been in breach of 6.1 or 6.2 a boat at a minimum, will be disqualified from the league or event they are competing in at the time of the incident.

8 RACE OFFICER ROSTER

The Sailing Committee will draw up a rota for Race Officer (RO) duty. Members, or their representatives, are required to comply with this rota. Failure to do so may result in a 25% result penalty being applied to that member, or a boat that that member usually races on for next two races.

9 TIME LIMITS

9.1 For midweek races the Time Limit is 2100 hours, except that for midweek races in the month of September the Time Limit is 2000 hours. This amends RRS 35.

9.2 For weekend races the Time Limit is 1800 hours, except if the first boat finishes between 1730 and 1800. In that case, the Time Limit for all other boats in that Class will be 60 minutes after the first finisher. This amends RRS 35.

10 MARKS/COURSES

10.1 Courses may be either:

- a) Round the Cans or
- b) Windward - Leeward
- c) At the discretion of the Race Officer (RO).

10.2 Round the Cans courses may be selected from the current Cork Harbour Course Card. Each boat should have a copy of the current Cork Harbour Course Card.

10.3 For laid courses marks will be black, orange or yellow inflatable buoys. For Round the Cans, the marks used may be a combination of navigation marks, Port of Cork Laid Race Marks, RCYC racing marks and inflatable buoys.

- 10.4 Port of Cork Laid Race Marks are yellow cones permanently laid and may be in these approximate locations.

OFE1	N 51 46.023	W 008 16.229
OFE2	N 51 46.029	W 008 14.129
Harp	N 51 47.192	W 008 14.214
Ringabella	N 51 46.235	W 008 17.517
EF4	N 51 50.720	W008 14.740

11 STARTING/FINISHING

- 11.1 Races will be started by using RRS 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal.
- 11.2 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races.
- 11.3 The order of starts will be at the RO's discretion and may be announced on the designated VHF channel.
- 11.4 A number of Start/ Finish lines may be used. These include:

(a) Weavers Point Line (ICF 'W')

The line is formed by a transit of a white pole and a red and white pole next to the hut at Weavers Point on the western side of the channel near the harbour entrance with Navigation buoy E4 (North Cardinal) or Navigation Buoy W1 (Green Conical) as the Outer Distance Mark (ODM). A board will be displayed to indicate the ODM in use. The finish line will be between the rearmost pole and the ODM.

(b) Grassy Walk Line (ICF 'G')

The line is formed by a transit of 2 white poles in front of the hut at the Grassy Walk (on Camden shore). Buoy C1 (Cage) Green Conical is the ODM. The finish line will be between the rearmost pole and the ODM.

(c) Committee Vessel (CV)

The Start and Finish line will be formed between a Red and White staff on the CV and an Inflatable Buoy or Navigation Buoy as indicated by the CV.

(d) Club Line

The Start and Finish line will be formed between a Red and White pole on the club marina and a designated ODM.

For midweek racing a CV or the Grassy Walk Line may be used. ICF 'G' will be flown from the Club flagstaff before 1800 hours on the race day to indicate the use of the Grassy Walk Line.

For weekend racing, Lines (a), (b), or (c) above may be used. ICF 'W' or ICF 'G' flown from the Club flagstaff at least 2 hours before the scheduled first gun indicates either Start Line (a) or (b).

12 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 12.1 In addition to RRS 61, persons intending to protest shall inform the RO immediately upon finishing or retiring of their intention to protest.
- 12.2 Protest forms are available from the Club office. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit.
- 12.3 For each class, the protest time limit is 60 minutes after the last boat in that class has finished the last race of the day.
- 12.4 Notices of protests by the Race Committee or protest committee will be posted to inform boats under rule 61.1(b).

13 MEDIATION

- 13.1 As an alternative to a full Protest hearing, a Mediation System will be preferred and used, particularly for rules of Part 2. When all parties to an incident who are present agree, a Protest may be decided by the Protest Mediator or his designated substitute. Such Mediation shall replace the protest hearing required under RRS 63. This system may only be used if before the hearing all the parties PRESENT agree to accept the Mediation Decision as final. The Mediator shall decide if the protest is valid. All the parties shall have the opportunity of stating their case. The Mediator shall have total discretion as to whether any witness be called. At any time during the hearing he may terminate the Mediation and refer the incident to a full protest committee hearing; otherwise, at the conclusion of the Mediation hearing he will reach a decision.
- 13.2 Any party he finds to have infringed a rule will not be disqualified but shall incur a 25% place penalty with a minimum penalty of 3 places. No penalty shall result in a score which would exceed that of a Disqualification. Application of a penalty will not affect the place or score of other boats. Any decision will be final, however a request for a reopening may be made under RRS 66. Disqualification will result if any rule infringement is found at a full Protest Hearing when any party declines to accept Mediation at the time it is offered and insists on a full Protest Hearing.

14 SCORING

The scoring system used for cruiser leagues shall be the RRS Appendix A Low Point System with the following penalties:

	DISCRIPTION	PENALTY
DNC	Did Not Compete	Series Entry Plus One Place
DNS	Did Not Start	Race Entry Plus One Place
OCS	On Course Side	Race Entry Plus One Place
RET	Retired	Race Entry Plus One Place
DNF	Did Not Finish	Race Entry Plus One Place
RAF	Retired After Finishing	Race Entry Plus One Place
OOT	Out Of Time	Race Entry Plus One Place
DSQ	Disqualified	Race Entry Plus One Place

15 SAFETY REGULATIONS

A boat that retires from a race shall notify the RO as soon as possible.

16 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

16.1 A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions. On the water, a boat can be instructed by a race committee equipment inspector or measurer to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.

16.2 For white sail classes: only one headsail and one mainsail may be used at any one point in time. Sail identification number is required on mainsail. Gennakers, bloopers, spinnakers, code zero or similar sails are prohibited. The use of spinnaker poles, whisker poles or other such devices is prohibited.

16.3 No boat shall carry its anchor protruding from bow whilst racing.

17 RADIO COMMUNICATION

17.1 Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all competing boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.

17.2 Courses may be announced on the designated VHF channels prior to starting sequence of that class.

18 PRIZES

18.1 With the exception of Open Events, the following shall apply:

18.1.1 With the exception of open events, only members who have completed a Race Entry Declaration for 2016 and comply with all requirements on that Declaration may race in RCYC leagues or events and be eligible to receive RCYC Trophies.

18.1.2 Results will only be given to paid-up members of the Club. Where a boat is in joint ownership, all such joint owners must be paid-up members of the Club.

19 In addition to RRS 34 add:

If a finishing mark is missing but another one remains in place, the finishing line is a line through the remaining mark at a 90 degree angle to the last leg and of the shortest practicable length. If the race committee is absent when a boat finishes, she should report to the race committee her finishing time and her position in relation to nearby boats at the first reasonable opportunity.

20 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See rule 4, Decision to Race. The organizing 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 regatta.

21 **INSURANCE**

It is the duty of each boat owner to have his boat adequately insured against any risk, including civil responsibility to third parties and to ensure that such insurance remains valid for the entirety of the events sailed in.