



**Optimist Cobbler  
League**  
**Royal Cork Yacht Club**  
**1/8/15/22/29 October 2017**



**Sailing Instructions**

**1. Organising Authority**

- 1.1. The Organising Authority for the Event is the Royal Cork Yacht Club, delegated to the Optimist Class Committee.

**2. Rules**

- 2.1. The Event will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing.  
2.2. The prescriptions of the ISA will apply.  
2.3. The class rules of the International Optimist Dinghy Association will apply.  
2.4. In all rules governing this Event:  
2.4.1. [DP] denotes a rule for which the penalty is at the discretion of the Protest Committee. This changes RRS 64.1  
2.4.2. [SP] denotes a rule for which a standard penalty may be applied by the race committee without a hearing or a discretionary penalty applied by the Protest Committee with a hearing. This changes 63.1 and A5  
2.4.3. [NP] denotes a rule that shall not be grounds for protests by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a).  
2.5. Racing rules Race Signal AP, 28.1, 35, 40, 60.1(a), 61.1(b), 62.2, 63.1, 63.2, 64.1, A4 and A5 will be changed. The changes appear in full in these sailing instructions.

**3. Notices to Competitors**

- 3.1. Notices to competitors will be posted in the Dinghy Centre.

**4. Changes to Sailing Instructions**

- 4.1. Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted no later than one hour before the start of the first race on the morning it will take effect.

**5. Signals Made Ashore**

- 5.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed on the main RCYC flagpole, under ICF "O".  
5.2. Flag AP displayed with two sounds means "The race is postponed. Launching will start approximately 10 minutes after AP is lowered". This changes race signal AP.

**6. Safety**

- 6.1. The Organising Authority may stop a boat launching or require it to return ashore, if it considers the boat, its equipment or helm are not adequate for the likely conditions or for any other reason. The decision is final and shall not be grounds for redress.  
6.2. Competitors in difficulty shall obey any instruction given by a rescue boat crew.  
6.3. A safety boat in close attendance to a craft or competitor in difficulty is an obstruction.

## **7. Schedule of Races**

- 7.1. It is planned to sail 3 races each day.
- 7.2. Up to 4 races may be sailed on any day if behind schedule. The fleet will launch at or after 1100 (immediately following a race briefing), with the first warning signal no earlier than 1200.
- 7.3. An additional day may be scheduled if the schedule is impacted by inclement weather, only if the series has not been completed.

## **8. The Course**

- 8.1. The course may be described at the competitors' briefing and shall be posted on the Committee Boat. The course will likely be either a) outer loop trapezoid; b) a triangular course with the number of rounds indicated on a blackboard at the Committee Boat; c) a windward-leeward course with the number of rounds indicated on a blackboard at the Committee Boat, or d) any other course as indicated at briefing. Where the Outer Loop Trapezoid course is in use for the Regatta Fleet they shall sail it as outlined in Appendix I.
- 8.2. All marks shall be rounded to port. There will be no gate in use for the outer loop trapezoid. (See Appendix I).

## **9. Class Flags**

- 9.1. The Class flag for Main Fleet will be ICF "O". The Class flag for Regatta Fleet will be ICF "J".
- 9.2. Regatta Fleet boats shall display a coloured ribbon as provided at registration.

## **10. Racing Areas**

- 10.1. The racing area will be on the Curlane Bank or other harbour areas at the discretion of the Race Officer. Race areas may be described at the competitors' briefing.

## **11. Divisions & Fleets**

- 11.1. Boats will be divided into two fleets with separate starts as follows:
- 11.2. Main Fleet - Junior and Senior (split as per IODAI age brackets)
- 11.3. Regatta Fleet

## **12. Marks & Committee Boats [NP]**

- 12.1. "Nemo" shall act as Committee Boat for all fleets. Any changes to this will be notified at the competitors' briefing and not require an amendment to these SIs.
- 12.2. Marks will be described at the competitors' briefing but will likely be orange/pink spherical buoys.

## **13. The Start**

- 13.1. The starting line will be between a red & white pole on the Committee Boat and an Outer Distance Mark (ODM).
- 13.2. A boat starting later than 4 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A4 and A5.

## **14. The Finish**

- 14.1. The finishing line will be between the red & white pole on the Committee Boat flying a blue flag and a finishing mark. See course diagrams.

## **15. Time Limits [NP]**

- 15.1. The time limit for the leading boat in each race is 80 minutes.
- 15.2. Boats not finished within 20 minutes of the first boat shall be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes rules 35, and A4 and A5.
- 15.3. In addition to the procedure for shortening course in RRS 32, the race committee may award a finishing score to a boat that is still racing by displaying to her from a committee vessel (which may be in motion) flag W with one sound signal. A boat so notified is no longer required to sail the course (changing RRS 28.1), shall stop racing and shall return to the starting area, or return ashore if there is no more racing. A finishing score under this Sailing Instruction will be the score she would have received had she sailed the course and finished within any time limit, without gaining or losing any place. [NP]

## **16. Protests and Requests for Redress**

- 16.1. A boat intending to protest shall inform the race committee of her intention immediately after finishing or at the first opportunity after retiring.
- 16.2. Protest forms are available at the Dinghy Centre. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit.
- 16.3. The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day.
- 16.4. 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. This is the notification required by rules 61.1(b) and 63.2. Parties may be informed verbally and notices will then not be required. Arbitration hearings and protest hearings may begin without a notice and within protest time when the parties are available. Hearings will be held in a room as advised.
- 16.5. No boat may protest another boat for infringements of the following:
  - S.I. Safety Regulations
  - Any local regulations
- 16.6. On the last scheduled day of racing a request based on a protest committee decision shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the decision was posted. This changes RRS 62.2.
- 16.7. Notices of protests by the race committee, technical committee or protest committee will be posted to inform boats under RRS 61.1(b).
- 16.8. A list of boats that under SI19.1 have been penalised for breaking RRS 42 will be posted.

## **17. Scoring**

- 17.1. 4 races shall constitute a series.
- 17.2. 1 discard shall be applied when the 4th race has been complete. 2 discards shall be applied when the 8th race has been completed and 3 discards shall be applied when the 12th race has been completed.
- 17.3. RRS A9 shall apply.
- 17.4. To request correction of an alleged error in posted race or series results, a boat shall complete a scoring enquiry form available at the Race Office or available online.

## **18. PENALTY SYSTEM**

- 18.1. RRS Appendix P will apply as changed by SI 16.2.
- 18.2. RRS P2.3 will not apply and RRS P2.2 is changed so that it will apply to any penalty after the first one.
- 18.3. RRS ISA Appendix T will apply. When a protest or request for redress is lodged, a boat may at the same time request Arbitration, or the Protest Committee or Race Committee may offer it.
- 18.4. A boat that has taken a penalty or retired under RRS 44.1 shall complete an acknowledgement form at the Race office within the protest time limit. [NP][DP]
- 18.5. In addition to Appendix P, on the water judging will be applied for the rules of Part 2 and rule 31. Judges who are members of the protest committee will blow a whistle when they expect one or more boats to take a penalty. In addition, they will attempt to indicate with hand signals which boat(s) they believe were involved in the incident. If the incident results in a protest hearing, the judges may provide testimony as a witness.
- 18.6. Action or no action by the judges under this sailing instruction shall not be grounds for redress. The changes rule 62.1(a).

## **19. Adverse Weather Conditions**

- 19.1. In adverse weather conditions the Race Officer may decide to stand down certain groups of sailors. The order of stand down will be Regatta, Junior Silver, Senior Silver, Junior Gold and Senior Gold. Sailors who have been stood down shall be awarded average points for each race affected in accordance with RRS A.10(a). The application of this procedure shall not be grounds for redress.

## **20. Safety Regulations [NP][SP][DP]**

- 20.1. Each Competitor shall wear a personal flotation device of at least CE50 Newtons standard, or equivalent, at all times when afloat except briefly while changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment. This changes rule 40. Flag Y will not be displayed.
- 20.2. Boats and competitors shall comply with all reasonable instructions from safety boat crew.
- 20.3. Boats shall not launch without approval from the Beachmaster.
- 20.4. A boat that retires from racing shall notify a safety boat before leaving the race area, or if that is not possible, shall notify the race office as soon as possible after returning ashore.
- 20.5. Boats wishing to leave their race course area before the end of the day's racing shall not do so unless authorised by a safety boat. The safety boat will instruct boats in the procedure for returning ashore.

## **21. Equipment and Measurement Checks**

- 21.1. A boat or its equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the Class rules and Sailing Instructions.
- 21.2. On the water, a boat can be instructed by a Technical Committee member to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.

## **22. Prizes**

- 22.1. Prize giving will take place at approximately 1700 on Sunday 29 October or as soon as possible after that time unless there are changes to the schedule of races. Permanent prizes will be awarded to the first three finishers in the Senior Division – Gold Fleet, Junior Division – Gold Fleet, Senior Division – Silver Fleet, Junior Division – Silver Fleet and the Regatta Fleet.

## **23. Disclaimer of Liability**

- 23.1. Rule 4 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states: “The responsibility for a boat’s decision to participate in a race or continue racing is hers alone.”
- 23.2. 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 and acknowledges that:
- (a) They are aware of the inherent element of risk involved in the sport and accept responsibility for the exposure of themselves, their crew and their boat to such inherent risk whilst taking part in the event;
  - (b) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;
  - (c) They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omission;
  - (d) Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
  - (e) The provision of a race management team, patrol boats and other officials and volunteers by the event organisers does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
  - (f) The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances;
- 23.3. The fact that race officials may conduct inspections of a boat does not reduce the responsibilities of each competitor set out in these SIs.

## **24. SUPPORT BOATS [DP]**

- 24.1. Support boats (including coach boats) shall comply with NOR 4. No other vessel associated with a boat or competitor shall enter the racing area 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.

## **25. TRASH DISPOSAL [DP]**

- 25.1. Trash may be placed aboard support and race committee boats.

## **26. RADIO COMMUNICATION**

- 26.1. Except in an emergency, a boat that is racing shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats. [DP]

## **27. Insurance**

- 27.1. Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of €3,000,000 or the equivalent, for the duration of the event.

**28. PHOTOGRAPHY CONSENT**

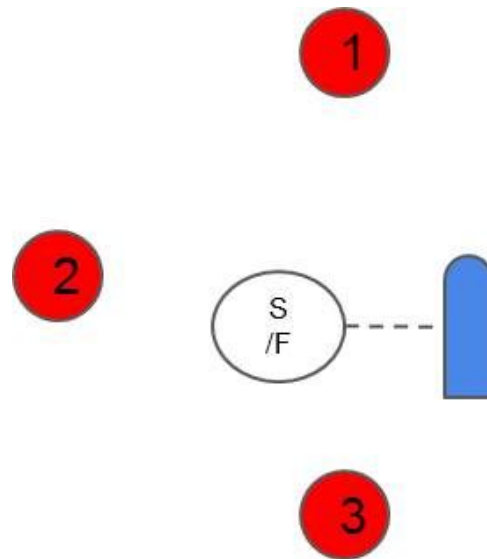
- 28.1. By entering the Event competitors and where relevant their parents/guardians accept that they may be photographed and/or videotaped participating in the racing and/or using the Championship facilities and they consent to the taking of such images and to the use, reuse, publication and republication of such images in any media, in conjunction with the competitor's name or not, without compensation and without the competitor's approval of such images or any use thereof.

## Appendix I - course diagrams

### Triangle

1 round = 1P, 2P, 3P

For both courses, complete rounds indicated by Committee Boat then proceed to finish.



### Windward/Leeward

1 round = 1P, 3P

For both courses, complete rounds indicated by Committee Boat then proceed to finish.

### Outer loop trapezoid

Main fleet - 1P, 2P, 3P, 2P, 3P, Finish

Regatta fleet - 1P, 2P, 3P, Finish

