



## **SPRING EVENT**

**SATURDAY 9 MAY 2026**

## **SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

### **ORGANISING AUTHORITY**

The Organising Authority (OA) is Quoile Yacht Club, 21 Castle Island Road, Downpatrick, BT30 7LD

### **1. RULES**

The event will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing, the prescriptions of the RYA, and these Sailing Instructions and any amendment thereto.

### **2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

2.1 Any changes to the sailing Instructions will be posted in the club before 09.00hrs on the day they will take effect.

2.2 Any change to the scheduled time of any first warning signal will be posted by 20.00hrs on the day before it takes effect.

### **3. COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS**

3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board. This will be located at the Quoile Yacht Club clubhouse.

3.2 The Race Committee may communicate with competitors using VHF radio. VHF Channel 37 will be the preferred communication channel for the event. Any changes to the channel in use will be announced on VHF Channel 37 before the change is made.

3.3 The content of any communication by the Race Committee or their failure to make a transmission will not be considered as valid grounds for a protest or redress. This changes RRS 61.1(a) and 61.4(b).

3.4 While racing, 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**

Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.

#### **5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the club flagpole located at the front of the clubhouse.

5.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, “1 minute” is replaced with “not less than 45 minutes” in the race signal AP. This changes race signal AP.

#### **6. SCHEDULE OF RACES**

6.1 The racing schedule includes two “Round the Cans”

Round the Cans Race:

Class	Flag	Start Time
YTC 1 (Under 975)	3	12:00
YTC 1 RS (Under 1035)	4	12:05
YTC 2 (975 and over)	5	12:10
YTC 2 RS (1035 and over)	6	12:15

6.2 Two Round the Cans Race are scheduled for all classes.

6.3 The scheduled time of the first warning signal for the first race is 11:55.

6.4 The second race will start as soon as possible after all classes finish the first race.

#### **7. CLASS FLAGS**

7.1 The class flags are as shown above.

#### **8. RACING AREA**

The sailing area will be Strangford Lough. The chart in Appendix A shows the approximate positions of race marks.

#### **9. COURSES**

9.1 Courses shall be 'round the lough' type courses using the normal lough race marks.

9.2 Courses will be displayed on the Committee Boat.

9.3 Marks on a green background are to be left to starboard. Marks on a red background are to be left to port.

9.4 Legs of the course will not be changed after the preparatory signal. This changes RRS 33.

## **10. MARKS**

All boats shall pass north of marks 'R' and "K", and to the seaward side of marks "6" and "2" unless it is the next mark of the displayed course. Where marks "R", "K", "6" or "2" form part of a displayed course they may be rounded.

## **11. THE START**

11.1 The starting line will be between a red and white pole on the Committee Boat and mark No.7

11.2 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races.

11.3 Individual and general recalls are as RRS 29. After a general recall, that class will restart after all other classes have started that race.

## **12. THE FINISH**

12.1 The finishing line will be between a red and white pole on the Committee Boat and mark No.7

12.2 A race may be shortened by finishing at a mark of the course. A finishing boat displaying the appropriate class flag(s) and an S flag shall be stationed at the mark. A sound signal shall be made as the leading boat approaches the mark. Boats will finish by passing between the finishing boat and the mark.

## **13. PENALTY SYSTEM**

Does not apply.

## **14. TIME LIMITS**

14.1 The time limit for the first boat in each class to finish shall be 120 minutes in each race.

14.2 RRS 35 is changed so that boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat in their class finishes will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF).

## **15. HEARING REQUESTS**

15.1 A protesting boat shall conspicuously display a red flag at the first reasonable opportunity. This amends RRS 60.2(a)(1).

15.2 The intention to protest must be advised to the Race Officer as soon as convenient and not more than 30 minutes after the protestor finishes the race the protest relates to.

15.3 The protest must be submitted in writing, giving all relevant details and a sketch of the incident if possible. The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the last boat finishes the last race of the day.

15.4 Notices will be posted no later than 60 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of the time and location of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses.

## **16. SCORING**

The low points system of the RRS Appendix A will apply, with the following amendment: Each boat's series score shall, subject to rule 90.3(b), be the total of her race scores with no discard given. This changes A2.1.

## **17. SAFETY REGULATIONS**

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

## **18. REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT**

Does not apply.

## **19. EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS**

Does not apply.

## **20. SUPPLIED BOATS**

Does not apply.

## **21. OFFICIAL VESSELS**

Does not apply.

## **22. SUPPORT TEAMS**

Does not apply.

## **23. HAUL OUT RESTRICTIONS**

Does not apply.

## **24. PRIZES**

The prize giving will take place ashore after racing.

## **25. RISK STATEMENT & DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

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

25.2 Sailing by its nature is 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 omissions.

(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, umpires and other officials and volunteers by the organiser 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.

(g) It is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks specific to this venue or this event, drawn to their attention in any rules and information produced for the venue or event, and to attend any safety briefing held for the event.

## **26. INSURANCE**

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

End of Sailing Instructions