

Lough Neagh Sailing Club Members only Wednesdays and Saturdays  
Programme for 2022 (Revision 4).

## 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]' at the beginning of a rule if that rule is subject to discretionary penalty (see RRS Introduction Notation).*

### 1 RULES

- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (2021 – 2024), prescriptions of the RYA' these sailing instructions and the appropriate class rules.

### 2 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 Any changes to the sailing instructions will be posted on the internal club notice board, a period of not less than 1 hour before the advertised first gun signal.
- 2.2 Changes in sailing instructions will be indicated by displaying flag Lima (L) on the clubhouse flagpole.

### 3 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the internal club notice board. It is the responsibility of members to check the notice board for details/revisions.
- 3.2 On the water, the race officer will monitor and communicate with competitors on VHF channel 37/M1
- 3.3 All participating vessels must have a working and operational VHF marine radio on board at all times and respond to messages from the RO when requested.
- 3.4 [DP] [While racing][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 [handle any equipment][or][place advertising provided] by the organizing authority with care, seamanship, in accordance with any instructions for its use and without interfering with its functionality.
- 4.3 All members are requested to give due consideration to all other users of the water and within the vicinity of the club.
- 4.4 All members are expected to keep to Craigavon Borough Council's rules and regulations in the Oxford Island Facility

## 5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed at the flagpole at the clubhouse.

## 6 SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 6.1 The cruiser schedule for the Wednesday night races and Saturday afternoon races can be found under the sailing tab on the club website at <https://www.loughneagsailingclub.org>
- 6.2 Any revision to the schedule will be published on the club website and on the internal club notice board and the change is made according to SI 2.1.
- 6.3 The scheduled time of the warning signal for the race each day is displayed on the cruiser schedule on the club website at <https://www.loughneagsailingclub.org>
- 6.4 To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, the orange starting line flag will be displayed at least five minutes before a warning signal is made.

## 7 CLASS FLAGS

- 7.1 LNSC will run two cruiser classes. Skippers must declare their intentions to compete in their chosen class prior to the start of the first race of the series.
- 7.2 The class flags are as follows:

The Joint Class Flag – Echo

The Spinnaker Class Flag – Green Flag

## The White Sail Class Flag – Quebec

### 8 RACING AREA

- 8.1 A map showing LNSC's racing area and approximate location of various racing marks can be found on the internal notice board in the clubhouse.

### 9 COURSES

- 9.1 The course to be sailed and the descriptions of the marks to be used will be red out to the fleet by VHF radio on channel 37/M1 and where possible by WhatsApp before the warning signal (first gun) is sounded.
- 9.2 When a committee boat start is used, the race officer will display the course at the racing notice board, situated inside the clubhouse.
- 9.3 All cardinal marks must be adhered to during racing. Cardinal Mark 27 (The Iron Man) must be adhered to during the starting sequence.

### 10 MARKS

- 10.1 All LNSC course marks are designated rounding marks. For safety reasons a course set to or from the number 7 mark from any of the following marks 1, 2, start or finish, will not require a boat to round number 4.

### 11 OBSTRUCTIONS – N/A

### 12 THE START

- 12.1 Starting times will be published on the racing programme, but may be postponed at the discretion of the sailing committee/race officer (e.g. adverse weather conditions)
- 12.2 The Starting Line will be a line formed between a pole displaying an orange flag below the old starting battery hut and the middle of the top white transit mark on the rig shore. Boats are not permitted to start between the Starting Battery and the Iron Man (see (9.3 reference adherence to cardinal marks). When committee boat starts are used, the starting line is between the committee boat displaying an orange flag and a mark dropped as the pin end. to be finished.
- 12.3 Starting Procedure – races will be started using RRS 26 (5,4,1,0)

- 12.4 An orange flag displayed at the starting battery or aboard a committee boat will indicate a race officer is present and on duty. This flag will remain flying until 15 minutes after the start signal is removed ( unless in the case of multiple starts).
- 12.5 A boat starting later than 15 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.
- 12.6 Order of Starting. Where a two class start is implemented (see 12.7). In this situation the order of starting is as follows:
  - 1. Spinnaker Class
  - 2. White Sail Class (A & B)
- 12.7 When defined in specific sailing instructions and pursuit races an exclusion zone will be introduced to prevent boats getting in the way of starting boats. A time penalty will be imposed by the race officer on any boat interfering with starting boats.
- 12.8 Boats starting late and motoring out from the marina to the start area should cease engine propulsion no later than a line drawn parallel to the start line and passing through the Iron Man Cardinal. Failure to do so will result in a Two-Turns penalty taken before starting the race or failure to do so in disqualification.

### 13 SHORTENING COURSE AND CHANGE OF COURSE

- 13.1 After the start, the race officer may shorten the course, (display flag S, with two sound signals) or abandon the race (display flag N, N over H, or N over A, with three sound signals) RRS 32.1
- 13.2 To change the position of the next mark, send boats on a new course, or to extend the existing course, the change will be signalled (displaying the flag C with 5 sound signals) before the leading boat has begun the leg. The race officer will change the displayed course to display only the marks still to be sailed, or will notify the fleet of the course to be sailed on VHF channel 37/M1 This is a change to RRS 33.
- 12.3 If a committee boat is used the course change will be announced on VHF channel 37/M1

### 14 THE FINISH

- 14.1 The finishing line is formed between the flagpole, displaying a blue flag, at the starting battery and the middle of the top white transit mark on the rig shore. When committee boat starts are used, the finishing line is between a staff flying a blue flag on the committee boat and a mark at the pin end of the line.
- 14.2 If the race committee is absent when a boat finishes, she[shall] report her finishing time, and her position in relation to nearby boats, to the

race committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

- 14.3 Races will normally be finished over the battery finish line unless otherwise indicated.
- 14.4 At an appropriate time from 15 minutes after the commencement of the race the race officer will display a blue flag to indicate the finish line is being monitored.
- 14.5 Retiring boats must (as soon as practical) notify the race officer via VHF radio channel 37/M1

## 15 PENALTY SYSTEM

### 16 TIME LIMITS [AND TARGET TIMES]

- 16.1 Wednesday evening races will have a time limit of 1 hour and 45 minutes and Saturday afternoon races will have a time limit of 2 hours 30 minutes for the first boat to finish.
- 16.2 Boats that fail to finish within 45 minutes after the first boat in the same class are scored Did Not Finish.
- 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 Protests will be governed as set out by the ISFA, the racing Rules of Sailing for 2021-2024 Rule 60 and these sailing instructions.
- 17.2 The protest limit is 1 hour after the last boat has finished the last race of the day. Competitors must inform the Race Officer of their decision to protest within this time. The same protest time limit applies to all protests by the race committee and to requests for redress.
- 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.
- 17.4 Notices of protests by the race committee will be posted to inform boats under RRS61.1(b).
- 17.5 A protest committee shall be organised by any member of the sailing committee once asked to do so by the race officer.
- 17.6 Sailing issues requiring redress (excluding protests which are dealt with by the protest committee) shall be directed to the Sailing Committee. A recommendation shall be made which shall be approved by the main committee. No sailing issues are required to be discussed in the main committee.

## 18 SCORING

- 18.1 The Low Point scoring system of RRS Appendix A4 will apply. Boats that did not start, did not finish, retired after finishing or were disqualified shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats entered in the series.
- 18.2 Discards may only be applied to exclude a boat's worst score and may be applied as follows:
  - 1 to 4 races = 0 discards
  - 5 to 6 races = 1 discard
  - 7 to 8 races = 2 discards
  - 9 or more races = 3 discards.
- 18.3 If a race is cancelled, that race shall be deemed as abandoned. A race shall be scored if it is not abandoned and if one boat sails the course in compliance with RRS 28.1 and finishes within the time limit, even if she retires after finishing or is disqualified. A race in each class will only be valid if there are two or more boats starting in that class.
- 18.4 Members of LNSC who undertake a club starting duty will be awarded average points from that series of all the races they started for the race they missed because of club duty. Average points may only be awarded when the boat in question is in the water available to be sailed.
- 18.5 The corrected time for a finishing boat during a series race will be calculated in the form of LNSC Handicap Scheme (revised monthly).
- 18.6 Boats sailing in the white sail Class will have their handicap raised by 0.0200 if they enter races in the Spinnaker Class and fly a spinnaker.

## 19 SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 19.1 RRS Rule 40.1 is considered to always be in force during all club events. Namely; that each competitor shall wear a personal flotation device except briefly while changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment. Wet/dry suits are not considered adequate buoyancy.
- 19.2 During all LNSC organised events, all cruisers and Flying Fifteen boats must carry a fully functioning VHF radio, failure to do so may result in disqualification from the event by the Race Officer.
- 19.3 Participation of dinghies during normal club racing will be dependent on the provision of adequate rescue boat cover.

## 20 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT – N/A

## 21 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

21.1 The following list of recommended safety equipment should be carried by participating cruisers

21.1.1 first aid kit

21.1.2 fire extinguisher

21.1.3 a minimum of one throwable lifesaving device

21.1.4 equipment able to disconnect or sever the standing rigging

21.1.5 an outboard/inboard engine with an adequate supply of fresh fuel

21.2 The following list of recommended safety equipment should be carried by participating Flying Fifteen boats

21.2.1 bucket/bailer

21.2.2 anchor (minimum 2kg) with 12m rope

21.2.3 paddle

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

21.4 [DP] When instructed by a race official on the water, a boat shall proceed to a designated area for inspection.

22 SUPPLIED BOATS – N/A

23 OFFICIAL VESSELS – N/A

24 [DP] SUPPORT TEAMS

24.1 Support teams, including all support persons and support person vessels, shall comply with the support team regulations.

24.2 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.

24.3 Support person vessels shall be identified by their callsign which will be printed upon the vessel or a white numbered flag.

25 TRASH DISPOSAL

25.1 Trash may be placed aboard official [or support person] vessels.

26 BERTHING – N/A

27 HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS – N/A

28 DIVING EQUIPMENT AND PLASTIC POOLS – N/A

29 PRIZES

29.1 Prizes will be given [in each class] as agreed for special events or series

30 RISK STATEMENT

30.1 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.**

31 INSURANCE

31.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £3000000.00 per incident or the equivalent.