



October Series 2023 Sailing Instructions



1. ORGANISING AUTHORITY

The Organising Authority (OA) is the Royal Western Yacht Club of Ireland (RWYCI).

2. RULES

- 2.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 2021-2024, prescriptions of Irish Sailing, the Irish Sailing ECHO Performance Handicap System, these Sailing Instructions and any amendments thereto.
- 2.2 The races are open to all types of Cruiser or Racer Cruiser type yachts as well as local traditional sailing crafts.
- 2.3 **Commercial Shipping:** Competitors are advised that all commercial shipping has absolute right of way within the Shannon Estuary. All competitors must keep away from any ship which is underway. Competitors failing to comply with these regulations may be disqualified.

3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Notices to Competitors will be posted on the designated October Series Whatsapp Group.
- 3.2 The Race Committee may draw attention to Race Signals given on the Committee Boat, and communicate other information on VHF at any time. The Race Committee will transmit on Channel 72 or other such channel as may be displayed on the Committee Boat. Failure to transmit or to receive such communication will not be grounds for redress by a boat. This changes rule 62.1(a).

4. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0900 hrs on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 1200 hrs on the day before it will take effect.

5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

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

6. SCHEDULE

- 6.1 A Competitor's Briefing will take place at 1005 hrs on Sunday 1st October at Kilrush Marina Centre. Further briefings may be scheduled during the event.
- 6.2 Seven races are scheduled.
- 6.3 One to three races may be run on any day in any division.

Date	Warning Signal		
Sun 1 st Oct	1100 hrs	0731 5.2 HW	1332 -0.1 LW
Sun 8 th Oct	1200 hrs	0721 2.2 LW	1404 3.6 HW
Sun 15 th Oct	1045 hrs	0635 4.8 HW	1239 0.7 LW
Sun 22 nd Oct	1200 hrs	0505 1.8 LW	1141 3.9 HW
Sat 28 th Oct	1445 hrs	0547 5.1HW	1151 0.3 LW

- 6.4 The warning signal for each succeeding race will be made as soon as practicable.

7. CLASSES

- 7.1 The classes will be White Sails only.
- 7.2 There may be more than one White Sails Class.
- 7.3 Class ribbons will be allocated at the briefing.

8. RACING AREA

The racing area will be the Shannon Estuary.



October Series 2023 Sailing Instructions



9. THE COURSE

- 9.1 The course may be windward/leeward, olympic or round the cans type courses or as designated by the Race Committee on the day of racing and may be posted on the Whatsapp Group and/or may be called on VHF Channel 72. Failure to receive the radio broadcast shall not be grounds for redress.
- 9.2 Courses may be laid courses or fixed using a mix of temporary marks and Navigation buoys.

10. MARKS

Marks may be round inflatable buoys and Navigation Marks.

11. THE START

- 11.1 Races will be started in accordance with rule 26.
- 11.2 The starting line may be between the main mast on the Race Committee Vessel and an inflatable buoy or alternatively between the head of Cappa Pier and a shore mark on Hog Island.

12. CHANGE OF COURSE

The change will be signalled in accordance with rule 33. Minor adjustments of mark positions will not be signalled by the Race Committee.

13. THE FINISH

- 13.1 The finishing line will be between a red & white pole or main mast on the Race Committee Vessel flying a blue flag and an inflatable buoy at the pin end or alternatively between the head of Cappa Pier and a shore mark on Hog Island.
- 13.2 An alternative finishing line may be used; this will be advised by VHF.

14. TIME LIMITS

- 14.1 If two or more races are scheduled the time limit shall be one and a half hours for each race. If one race is scheduled the time limit shall be two and a half hours.
- 14.2 If two or more races are scheduled boats finishing 45 MINUTES or more after the first finishing boat of their division will be deemed not to have finished. If one race is scheduled boats finishing 60 MINUTES or more after the first finishing boat of their division will be deemed not to have finished.

15. PROTESTS, REQUESTS FOR REDRESS, ARBITRATION

- 15.1 Protest forms are available online on www.westernyachtclub.com and should be submitted online. Protests and requests for redress shall be delivered there within the protest time limit.
- 15.2 The protest time limit is 90 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day.
- 15.3 Notices will be posted on the Whatsapp group within 30 minutes of the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held at Kilrush Marina Centre.

16. SCORING SYSTEM

- 16.1 The Low Point Scoring System shall be used in accordance with RRS Appendix A except a boat finishing first shall score 0.75 points.
- 16.2 Three (3) races are required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 16.3 If four (4) or more races have been completed a boats series score will be the total of her race score excluding her worst score.
- 16.4 If seven (7) have been completed a boats series score will be the total of her race score excluding her two worst scores.

17. SAFETY REGULATIONS

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

18. INSURANCE

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



October Series 2023 Sailing Instructions



19. PRIZES

- 19.1 Weekly prizes will be given as soon as possible after racing. Details will be notified on the Whatsapp Group.
19.2 Details of the final overall prize giving will be communicated on the WhatsApp Group.

20. HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

All competitors sailing in the October Series shall be honorary members of the Royal Western Yacht Club of Ireland during the event, and will be bound by the rules of the club. Competitors are reminded that personal effects, gear, trailers and other equipment are at their own responsibility and neither the Race Committee, nor the Royal Western Yacht Club of Ireland can be held liable for any claim, loss or damage.

21. RISK STATEMENT: Rule 4 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"

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 and other officials and volunteers by the event 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.