



Mermaid National Championships

Foynes Yacht Club

Wednesday 1st to Sunday 5th August, 2018



Sailing Instructions

1 ORGANISING AUTHORITY

The Organising Authority (OA) is Foynes Yacht Club (FYC).

2 RULES

- 2.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
- 2.2 The prescriptions of Irish Sailing, the specifications, rules and regulations of the Mermaid Sailing Association, these Sailing Instructions and any amendments thereto will apply.
- 2.3 **Commercial Shipping:** Strict warning is given by Shannon Foynes Port Company that boats and support vessels must at all times keep well clear of Tugs and commercial shipping in the area.

3 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to Competitors will be posted on the event notice board located outside the Race Office of the Foynes Yacht Club.

4 ADVERTISING

World Sailing Regulation 20 will apply.

5 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted not later than two hours prior to the scheduled start of the first race on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

6 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

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

7 SCHEDULE

- 7.1 It is proposed to sail ten races.
- 7.2 The Event Briefing will take place Thursday 1st August 1030.
- 7.3 Proposed Schedule of Races:

Wednesday	1 st August	Practice race	Warning Signal 1900
Thursday	2 nd August	Up to 4 races	Warning Signal 1330
Friday	3 rd August	Up to 4 races	Warning Signal 1230
Saturday	4 th August	Up to 4 races	Warning Signal 1230
Sunday	5 th August	Remaining races	Warning Signal 1130

to complete the series

Schedule of all subsequent races will be as directed in the Sailing Instructions.

- 7.4 No race will be started after 15.30hrs Sunday 4th August, except for postponements, general recalls and abandonments shortly after the start.
- 7.5 Tide times

Wednesday	1 st August	HW	2156	4.8m
Thursday	2 nd August	HW	1016	4.6m
Friday	3 rd August	HW	1056	4.5m
Saturday	4 th August	HW	1147	4.4m
Sunday	5 th August	HW	1255	4.3m

8 CLASS FLAG

The class flag will be code flag G.



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9 RACING AREA

The racing area will be East of Foynes Island or at Mount Trenchard.

Local Variations: See Admiralty Chart of Foynes Island & Harbour Area in the Clubhouse.

10 THE COURSE

10.1 The course will be Olympic style course.

10.2 The diagram in Appendix A shows the course and the order in which marks are to be passed.

10.3 All marks shall be left to port.

11 MARKS

The Racing Marks will be orange cylindrical inflatable buoys.

12 THE START

12.1 Races will be started in accordance with rule 26.

12.2 The starting line will be between a red and white pole, or Main mast, on the Race Committee vessel and the Start Mark at the port end.

12.3 A boat starting later than 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes rule 63.1, A4 and A5.

13 CHANGE OF COURSE

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

14 THE FINISH

14.1 The finish line will be between a red and white pole, or Main mast, on the finishing vessel flying a Blue flag, and the Finish Mark.

15 SHORTENING COURSE

15.1 The Race Committee may shorten the course under rule 32.

15.2 In addition to rule 32, when a Race Committee vessel displaying code flag F, making repeated sound signals, is positioned adjacent to a mark of the course, boats, having rounded that mark, shall proceed directly to the Finish line to finish. SI 13.2 will apply. This changes rules 32.2 and 33.

16 TIME LIMIT

16.1 The time limit for the first boat to sail the course as required by rule 28 and finish is 75 minutes.

16.2 Boats failing to finish within 15 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes rules 35, 63.1, A4 and A5.

17 PROTESTS, REQUESTS FOR REDRESS, ARBITRATION

17.1 Protest forms are available at the race office. Protests and request for redress shall be delivered there within the protest time limit.

17.2 The protest time limit is 90 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day.

17.3 Notices will be posted on the official notice board within 20 minutes of the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the protest room, the location of which will be posted on the official notice board.

17.4 Notices of protests by the Race Committee or Protest committee will be posted to inform boats under rule 61.1(b)

17.5 On the last scheduled day of racing a request for redress based on a protest committee decision shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after decision was posted. This changes rule 62.2.



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18 SCORING

- 18.1 The Low Point Scoring System of Appendix A will apply.
- 18.2 Three (3) races are required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 18.3 When 4 or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race score excluding her worst score.
- 18.4 If 8 or more races are completed a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her two worst scores.
- 18.5 A boat that *did not finish*, *retired* or was *disqualified* shall be scored for the finishing place one more than the number of boats **starting** that race except that a boat that *did not start* or *did not come to starting area* shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats **entered** in the championship. This changes rule A4.2.

19 SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 19.1 All competitors shall wear adequate personal flotation devices at all times when afloat, except briefly while changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment. Dry suits and wet suits are not adequate personal flotation devices. This changes rule 40.
- 19.2 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the Race Committee as soon as possible.
- 19.3 Boats shall keep clear of commercial shipping at all times.

20 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

- 20.1 Substitution of crew or damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed unless approved by the race committee. Requests for substitution shall be made to the committee at the first reasonable opportunity.
- 20.2 Boats shall sail with their correct sail numbers. Provision to sail under any other number shall be sought in writing from the race committee before going afloat and will be granted only in exceptional circumstances. Breaches of this sailing instruction may result in disqualification.

21 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

- 21.1 A boat, crew, equipment and safety equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions.
- 21.2 Boats may be required to undergo safety/measurement checks on random boats assigned at registration.

22 SUPPORT VESSELS

- 22.1 Support vessels shall register with the race office and display such marking as may be required by the Race Committee.
- 22.2 Support vessels shall stay outside of areas where boats are racing, and remain more than 100 metres from a mark or a boat racing from time of the preparatory signal until all boats have finished or retired or the race committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment.

23 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.

24 PRIZES

- 24.1 Prize giving will take place as soon as possible following the conclusion of racing.
- 24.2 The Mermaid Perpetual Trophy will be awarded to the winner.
- 24.3 The Daphne Cup will be awarded to the winner among those boats eligible.
- 24.4 The Designer's Tankard will be awarded to the winner among those boats eligible. The winner of the Daphne Cup will not be eligible to win the Designer's Tankard.
- 24.5 Other prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the Organising Authority.



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25 HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

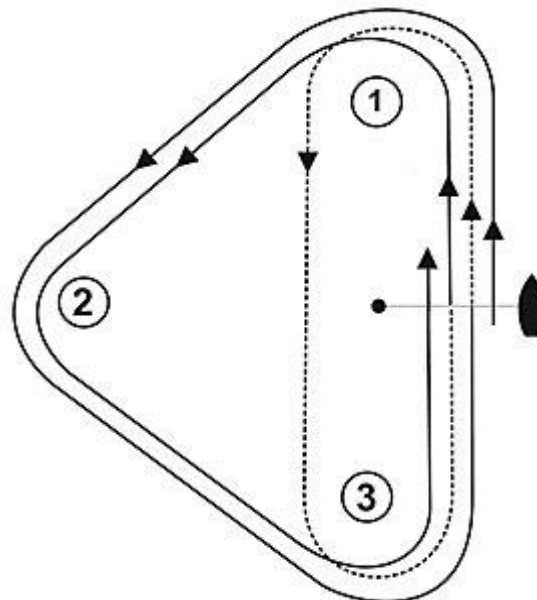
All competitors sailing in the Mermaid National Championships shall be honorary members of Foynes Yacht Club during the event, and will be bound by the rules of the club. Competitors are reminded that personal effects, gear, trailers and other equipment are their own responsibility and neither the Mermaid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

26 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.

APPENDIX A – OLYMPIC COURSE DIAGRAM (not to scale)



All marks shall be left to port.

Course Mark Rounding Order

Start – 1 – 2 – 3 – 1 – 3 – 1 – 2 – 3 – Finish