



Notice of Race

Northern Ireland Offshore Points Series (NIOPS)

&

Northern Ireland Inshore Series (NIIPS) 2025

This Notice of Race applies to **ALL RACES** except where otherwise specifically stated

1 RULES

- 1.1 The Organizing Authority (OA) for both Series is the Royal Ulster Yacht Club
- 1.2 The two Series are governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 1.3 The two Series are governed by the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea
- 1.4 The prescriptions of the RYA apply to both Series.

2 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 The sailing instructions (SIs) will be available for each individual race no later than 7 days prior to the date of each race of each Series at www.ruyc.uk/sailing.
- 2.2 Any change to the SIs will be posted online and also at Bangor Marina at least two hours before the scheduled start of any appropriate individual race on any day that it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 20:00 on the day before it will take effect.

3 COMMUNICATIONS

- 3.1 The online official notice board is located at www.ruyc.uk/sailing. Copies of all documentation may be available on the RUYC noticeboard at Bangor Marina and on the sailing notice board in the hall of RUYC.
- 3.2 [DP] All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communicating on *channel 37 (M) and 72 (M2)*.
- 3.3 On the water, the race committee may make courtesy broadcasts to competitors on VHF radio. The channel will be stated in the SIs.
- 3.4 [DP] With the exception of NoR 3.3 (above), from the first warning signal until the end of the last race of the day, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make a voice or data transmission and shall not receive voice or data communications that are not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile phones.

4 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1 The events are open to all boats that have a valid 2025 IRC and/or YTC handicap.
- 4.2 Classes for both Series are defined as follows:

IRC/YTC 1 Unrestricted	IRC/YTC Handicap Rules	IRC 0.970 and above
IRC/YTC 2 Unrestricted	IRC/YTC Handicap Rules	IRC 0.969 and below YTC
Restricted (Whitesail) YTC Handicap Rules		
- 4.3 Any IRC yacht intending to compete in any race with her Secondary Handicap shall notify the OA in writing (or by e-mail or WhatsApp) to the Sailing Secretary no less than 7 days prior to the start of that race. After this date yachts may only compete using their Primary Handicap.



4.4 **2024-25 WORLD SAILING OFFSHORE SPECIAL REGULATIONS:** extract for Race Category 3 Monohulls with Life Raft will apply for all cross-channel and offshore races and Night Races. Race Category 4 will apply for Day Coastal races.

4.5 Eligible boats may enter by completing the Jotform entry form at this [LINK FOR ENTRY FORM](#) and submitting it, together with the required Berthing Fee if required at least one week prior to each race. Entries can also be made electronically by emailing to sailingsecretary@ruyc.uk and calling the Club office on 02891270568 where payment will be taken by card. Please read NoR 6 indicating Berthing.

5 ANCHORS

No anchor carried on deck shall project forward of the bow.

6 FEES

Eligible boats may enter by completing this Entry Form as in 4.5
For visiting boats competing in any of these races, there will be an entry fee of £25 which covers one night's berthing either before or after the race in Bangor Marina. This fee must be paid to RUYC in advance via the [ENTRY FORM](#). Any additional stay or services are the responsibility of the owner and subject to arrangement direct with the Marina. RUYC is grateful for the support of Boatfolk, Bangor Marina for the Offshore and Inshore Racing programme.

Portpatrick Race: An entry fee of £25 should be paid on entry for any boat intending to stay overnight in Portpatrick.

7 CREW LIMITATIONS

For IRC/YTC boats there will be no limit on crew number or weight except as required for boats rated as one-designs, which shall comply with IRC Rule 22.4.1.

8 ADVERTISING

Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the OA.

9 SCHEDULE

There will be no separate registration for the individual races within either of these series, but prior entry must have been made in accordance with NoR 4.4.

9.1 Northern Ireland Offshore Points Series ONLY

Peel Race:	Saturday 17 th May 2025	Warning Signal: 0830
Ailsa Craig Race:	Friday 20 th June 2025	Warning Signal 1930
Portpatrick Race:	Saturday 30 th August 2025	Warning Signal 1000

9.2 Coastal Races (all Saturdays)

Copelands Race 1:	10 th May 2024	Warning Signal 1200
Copelands Race 2 :	12 th July 2024	Warning Signal 1200
South Hunter Race:	10 th August 2024	Warning Signal 1100

9.3 There will be one race for each class on each day



10 EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

- 10.1 Each boat shall produce (if requested) or verify the existence of a valid rating certificate.
- 10.2 Boats may be inspected at any time.
- 10.3 [DP] Boats shall also comply with RRS 78.1 when presented for inspection

11 VENUE

The events will be held round various marks in Belfast Lough, the North Irish Sea, the North Channel and may use various waypoints within those areas.

12 COURSES

- 12.1 Courses for each race will be given in detail in the SIs for each specific event. Courses will be set on the day of the race.

12.2.1	The marks that may be used for the races in the Northern Ireland Offshore Points Series (only) are as follows:	
Number Displayed	Mark	Description
1	RUYC No. 1	Red Spherical Buoy to the north of the Long Hole, Bangor
2	Cloghan Jetty	Green Lateral Starboard Buoy
3	RUYC No. 11	Black Spherical Buoy, NE of Luke's Point, Bangor
4	Ailsa Craig	
5	Milleur Point	North Cardinal Buoy (approx. 0.2nm NE of Milleur Point)
6	South Hunter	South Cardinal Buoy
7	South Briggs	North Cardinal Buoy
8	Skulmartin	Port hand buoy
9	South Rock	Port hand buoy
10	Strangford Safe Water Buoy	Fairway buoy
A	Peel Harbour Finish Line	Described in Sailing Instructions



12.2.2 The marks that may be used for the races in the
Coastal Series (only)
 are as follows:

Number Displayed	Mark	Description
1	RUYC No. 1	Red Spherical Buoy to the north of the Long Hole, Bangor
2	South Briggs	North Cardinal Buoy
3	RUYC No. 3	Red Spherical Buoy approx. 1 nautical mile to the north of the Long Hole, Bangor
4	Kilroot Buoy	Green Pillar Buoy approx.
5	Helens Bay Buoy	Red Pillar Buoy approx.
6	Cloghan Jetty	Green Lateral Starboard Buoy
7	RUYC No. 7	Black Spherical Buoy, just west of Ballymacormick Point, Bangor
8	Rockport Special Mark	Yellow Buoy with a yellow X top mark located approx. north of Rockport pumping station
9	RUYC No. 11	Black Spherical Buoy, NE of Luke's Point, Bangor
10	Copeland Islands	All three Copeland Islands
11	South Hunter	South Cardinal Buoy

13	PENALTY SYSTEM
13.1	The Scoring Penalty, RRS 44.3, applies.
13.2	An Arbitration System will be available for each race and competitors are recommended to resolve disputes using this method. Boat penalised under the System may accept a 20% penalty.
14	SCORING
14.1	Boats will be 'dual scored' in Unrestricted classes.
14.2	Each individual race will be scored separately and prizes awarded accordingly
14.3	There will also be overall prizes for each of the two Series. There will be no discard. This amends RRS 90.3 and Appendix A.
14.4	Rule A5.3 applies
15	DATA PROTECTION
15.1	The personal information you provide to the organizing authority will be used to facilitate your participation in the event. If you have agreed to be bound by the Racing Rules of Sailing



	<p>and the other rules that govern the event (the rules), the legal basis for processing that personal information is contract. If you are not bound by the rules, the legal basis for processing that personal information is legitimate interest. Your personal information will be stored and used in accordance with the organizing authority's privacy policy. When required by the rules, personal information may be shared with the RYA, your national authority and/or World Sailing. The results of the event and the outcome of any hearing or appeal may be published.</p>
16	<p>RISK STATEMENT</p> <p>Rule 3 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone.'</p> <p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (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 organizer 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; (h) <i>[[For offshore races]</i> They are responsible for ensuring that their boat is equipped and seaworthy so as to be able to face extremes of weather; that there is a crew sufficient in number, experience and fitness to withstand such weather; and that the safety equipment is properly maintained, stowed and in date and is familiar to the crew]; and (i) <i>[If not covered elsewhere in the Notice of Race]</i> Their boat is adequately insured, with cover of at least £3 million against third party claims];
17	<p>INSURANCE</p> <p>Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £3 Million per incident or the equivalent.</p>



18	PRIZES Prizes will be given to the winners of each class in each race. Second or Third prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the OA. Prizes will also be awarded for the winners of each class in each of the two overall Series (as shown above). All prizes will be awarded at the annual end of season prize giving at RUYC.
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FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please contact: sailingsecretary@ruyc.uk.

Mobile 07710 843020