



# Northern Ireland Offshore Points Series

Sponsored by Rollins Insurance

## Portpatrick Race

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2023

### Sailing Instructions

#### IMPORTANT

Competitors are reminded that the 2021-2024 RRS have significantly increased the importance of the Notice of Race (NoR), which now contains rules that rank the same as the Sailing Instructions (Sis). A number of rules that had previously been shown within the Sis will now be found in the NoR as they form part of the information that competitors may need before deciding whether or not to race. They are not necessarily repeated in the Sis.

#### COVID Statement

[DP] By taking part in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that they are responsible for complying with any regulations in force from time to time in respect of COVID-19 and for complying with the Organising Authority's COVID-19 procedures. Competitors and support persons shall comply with any reasonable request from an event official. Failure to comply may be misconduct. Reasonable actions by event officials to implement COVID-19 guidance, protocols or legislation, even if they later prove to have been unnecessary, are not improper actions or omissions. Failure to comply with this statement may lead to a penalty as deemed appropriate by the event protest committee.

*The notation TNP] in a rule or the Sailing Instructions (SIs) means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a).*

#### 1. RULES

Racing will be governed by the rules as defined in the Notice of Race (NoR) 1.

#### 2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to the Sis will be posted online and also at Bangor Marina at least two hours before the scheduled start of the race, except that any change to the schedule will be posted by 20:00 on the day before it will take effect.

#### 3. COMMUNICATIONS

3.1 All communications will be as described in NoR 3.

3.2 All boats must monitor VHF Channel 37 (M1).

3.3 If the Race Committee displays flag 'R' then VHF channel 72 (M2) will be used.

#### 4. CODE OF CONDUCT

[DP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from the Race Officials.

#### 5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flagpole at the top of the access ramp at Bangor Marina and will also be displayed from the Royal Ulster Yacht Club (RUYC) battery.



- 5.2 When flag 'AP' is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced by 'not less than 60 minutes' in Race Signals AP.

## 6. CLASS FLAGS

Class flags are as follows:

IRC & YTC Unrestricted sail	IRC & YTC handicap rules (0.850 & above)	Numeral Pennant 1
YTC Restricted sail	YTC handicap rules	Numeral Pennant 3

## 7. RACING AREA

The racing area will be as described in NoR 11.

## 8. COURSE

- 8.1 The course to be sailed will be displayed on numeral boards placed on the front wall of the RUYC Battery. These boards will have either RED or GREEN backgrounds indicating how the marks are to be left (leaving them to port or starboard respectively).
- 8.2 Courses will not be shortened. This changes RRS 32.
- 8.3 Legs of the course will not be changed after the preparatory signal. This changes RRS 33.

## 9. MARKS

The marks to be used are described in NoR 12.2.1.

## 10. STARTING

- 10.1 Races will be started using RRS 26.
- 10.2 The first warning signal for this race will be made at 10:30.
- 10.3 The starting line will be between a white pole with an X top mark in front of the RUYC battery and a red inflatable buoy at the Northern end.
- 10.4 [DP] A boat whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races.
- 10.5 A boat that does not start within 5 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.2.
- 10.6 If one or more boats are subject to RRS 29.1 the Race Committee may attempt to broadcast their sail number(s) on VHF channel 37 (M) and or hail their sail number(s). Failure to make a broadcast (or to time it accurately) or failure of the boat(s) to hear a hail, if made, (or the order in which boats are hailed) will not be grounds for requesting redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

## 11. FINISHING

- 11.1 The finish line which will be between a red buoy and RUYC Rib just outside the Portpatrick Harbour entrance. The finishing line will be crossed from North to South.
- 11.2 If it is not possible to lay a finishing mark Code Flag F will be displayed at the RUYC battery, at the start of the race.
- 11.3 If Code Flag F is so displayed, competitors shall record their finishing time when they are within 50 metres of waypoint 54.50.40N, 005.07.50W. There is no physical mark at this waypoint. A boat has finished when it is within 50 metres of this waypoint. (As different instruments may display different units of measurement note that 50 metres is equivalent to 164 feet or 0.027 nautical miles.)
- 11.4 Because the 11.3 finishing line is, essentially, a circle centred on the waypoint boats may approach it from any direction. The normal rules of Part 2 of the RRS are applicable.
- 11.5 Competitors shall take a picture of the boat's GPS, recording the boat's position at the time of entering the 50 metre circle **and send it, together with the boat's finishing time** to the sailing secretary using: [sailingsecretary@rucy.uk](mailto:sailingsecretary@rucy.uk) or by text or WhatsApp to 07712256651.



## 12. PENALTY SYSTEM

NoR 13 applies.

## 13. TIME LIMIT

- 13.1 The time limit for all classes is 19:00hrs on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2023.
- 13.2 If a boat in a class finishes within the time limit the time limit shall be extended by 60 minutes for that class.
- 13.3 Failure to finish within the time limit (or extended time limit, if applicable) will not be grounds for requesting redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).
- 13.4 Boats failing to finish within the time limit, and not subsequently retiring, penalized or given redress, will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) without a hearing. A boat scored TLE shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the points scored by the last boat that finished within the time limit. This changes RRS 35, A5.1, A5.2 and A10.

## 14. HEARING REQUESTS

- 14.1 If a boat intends to protest another boat or to request redress she shall lodge an "Intent to Protest or Request Redress" by email to [sailingsecretary@ruyc.uk](mailto:sailingsecretary@ruyc.uk) within 90 minutes of the last boat finishing the race, or 90 minutes after the race limit has expired, whichever is the earlier. This changes RRS61.3 & 62.2.
- 14.2 Written protests shall be delivered to the Royal Ulster Yacht Club by 09:00hrs on the Monday immediately following the race.
- 14.3 The protest hearing time will be posted on the official notice board at RUYC and also on the website. Protest forms shall include the email address and contact number of the protester and when possible, the protested. Protest forms are available at the Members Lounge Bar at RUYC.
- 14.4 Notices will be posted within 48hrs of the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses.

## 15. SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 15.1 This race is categorised in accordance with the World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations 2022-23 (OSR) Category 3 – races across open water, most of which is relatively protected or close to shorelines, with life raft.
- 15.2 [NP] in accordance with the requirement to have AIS (OSR 3.29.13), boats should ensure that any such device (including radar) is operating throughout the duration of the race and any defects preventing its operation are communicated to the Race Committee as soon as possible.
- 15.3 Attention is drawn to RRS 56.1.
- 15.4 Vessels must be hand steered. Use of Auto Pilot or similar device is prohibited unless the vessel being sailed is single or double handed.
- 15.5 [NP][DP] A boat that retires from a race shall notify the Race Committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

## 16. EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the Class Rules, Notice of Race, and Sailing Instructions.

## 17. PRIZES

Prizes as per NOR 18.

## 17. RISK STATEMENT

As per NOR 16.

## 18. INSURANCE

As per NOR 17.