



Notice of Race

Northern Ireland Offshore Points Series (NIOPS) & Coastal Series 2024

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.co.uk.
- 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 2024 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 entry form and submitting it, together with the required fee, to Hon Sailing Secretary, C/O RUYC, 101 Clifton Road, Bangor, BT20 5HY at least one week prior to each race. Entries can be made electronically by emailing the entry form to sailingsecretary@ruyc.uk and calling the Club office on 02891270568 where payment will be taken by card. Please read NoR 6 indicating Fees.

5 ANCHORS

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

6 FEES

Entry fees are as follows for all classes

NIOPS individual races £30 per race for Strangford & Ailsa Craig races and £40 for Portpatrick or **£90** for all 3 Races Portpatrick Harbour charge is included in the fee for that race.

Coastal Series of 3 individual races – £10 each race or **£25** for entering all three

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

Strangford Lough Race	Saturday 11 th May 2024	Warning Signal 0930
Ailsa Craig Race	Friday 14 th June 2024	Warning Signal 2000
Portpatrick Race	Saturday 31 st August 2024	Warning Signal 1000

Coastal Races (all Saturdays)

Copelands Race 1	18 th May 2024	Warning Signal 1200
Copelands Race 2	6 th July 2024	Warning Signal 1200
Castle Cup Race (Carrickfergus Start Line)	18 th August 2024	Warning Signal 1200

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	Mark	Description	Co-ordinates
1	RUYC No. 1	Red Spherical Buoy to the north of the Long Hole, Bangor	
2	Cloghan Jetty	Green Lateral Starboard Buoy	54.44.125N 005.41.606W
3	RUYC No. 11	Black Spherical Buoy, NE of Luke's Point, Bangor	
4	Ailsa Craig		55.25.151N, 005.10.7W
5	Milleur Point	North Cardinal Buoy	55.12.076N, 005.38.904W
6	South Hunter	South Cardinal Buoy	54.19.191N, 005.45.204W
7	South Briggs	North Cardinal Buoy	54.41.182N, 005.35.732W



8	Skulmartin	Port hand buoy	54.32.242N, 005.24.550W
9	South Rock	Port hand buoy	54.24.301N, 005.21.592W
10	Strangford Safe Water Buoy	Fairway buoy	54.18.396N, 005.28.370W

12.2.2

The marks that may be used for the races in the Coastal Series (only) are as follows:			
Number	Mark	Description	Co-ordinates
1	RUYC No. 1	Red Spherical Buoy to the north of the Long Hole, Bangor	
2	South Briggs	North Cardinal Buoy	54.41.182N, 005.35.732W
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. 54.42.85N, 005.42.85W
5	Helens Bay Buoy	Red Pillar Buoy	approx. 54.41.86N, 005.42.85W
6	Cloghan Jetty	Green Lateral Starboard Buoy	54.44.125N 005.41.606W
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	

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 OA maintains a data protection policy, which is available on request.

16 RISK STATEMENT

RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is her's 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**

17 INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of *£3 Million* per incident or the equivalent.

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.

FURTHER INFORMATION

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

Mobile 07710 843020