



## Annual Regatta – August 8<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020

### Sailing Instructions

#### Organising Authority: Lough Derg Yacht Club

1. **RULES:** The Regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*, the prescriptions of Irish Sailing, these Sailing Instructions, and all relevant Class Rules.
2. **NOTICES TO COMPETITORS:** Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located near the Race Office, for Junior Sailors on the Junior Notice Board. The Race Office is in the LDYC Clubhouse and will be open from 9.00hrs to 19.00hrs daily, it may be closed temporarily during these hours.
3. **CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS:** Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted on the official notice board not less than 60 minutes before the scheduled start time of the morning or afternoon races on the day it will take effect. Code Flag L will then also be flown.
4. **REGISTRATION/EQUIPMENT & MEASUREMENT INSPECTION:**
  - a. Competitors shall register at the Race Office (or online) and complete all required registration, payment and equipment inspection formalities before racing.
  - b. Measurement and equipment checks may be made at any time throughout the regatta at the discretion of the Technical Committee and/or Race Committee.
  - c. On the water, a yacht can be instructed by a member of the Race Committee or the Technical Committee to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection
5. **SIGNALS MADE ASHORE:** Signals made ashore will be displayed on the Club Flag Pole.
  - a. When Flag AP is displayed ashore, and except in a starting sequence, “1 minute” is replaced by “not less than 30 minutes” in race signal AP.
  - b. Rule 40 (personal flotation devices “PFD’s”) always applies while racing. Flag Y will not be displayed. This changes rule 40. Irish Law requires the wearing of PFD’s at all times on any pleasure craft that is <7m in length. LDYC strongly recommends that PFD’s be worn at all times while afloat.
6. **SCHEDULE OF RACES:** The schedule of races & start times is set out in the Regatta Programme/Notice of Race. A minimum of 3 boats competing constitutes a race. Additional races may be held each day to optimise the races in the available wind conditions. Changes to the schedule/start times of races will be posted on the notice board no later than 30 minutes before the warning signal for the first race of the morning or afternoon race as applicable. Changes to the schedule may be announced over the PA system.
7. **CLASS FLAGS:**

|         |                           |
|---------|---------------------------|
| SOD     | SOD Class Flag (Shamrock) |
| Cruiser | Code Flag “D”             |
| Squib   | Code Flag “Q”             |
8. **COURSES:** The course for each race will be set by the Race Officer and displayed on the Course Board at the LDYC Clubhouse a minimum of 30 minutes before the warning signal of the first race of the morning or afternoon races. Races will be held on the waters of Lough Derg adjacent to Dromineer Bay.

9. SAILS: Permission to sail under any other sail number other than the boats originally allocated sail number, or the sail number declared at registration, must first be obtained from the Race Committee before going afloat. A competitor seeking such permission must apply in writing to the Race Office at least 60 minutes before the first race of the morning or afternoon for which such permission is being sought. If such is prescribed by the Race Committee, a competing yacht shall not carry more sail than that prescribed with the course for each race.
10. MARKS: Orange, red and white marks will be used unless otherwise indicated on the course boards. Goose Island, when used as a mark of the course, shall be defined by buoys, cans and posts. No boat shall sail inside an imaginary line drawn between adjacent buoys, cans and posts. When Goose Island is used as a part of the finishing line, this rule applies until all boats have finished. Please note rule 19 "Room to pass an Obstruction". Unless used as a mark of the Course, Shannon Navigation Marks shall be regarded as marks on the course and shall be passed on their correct side.
11. THE START:
  - a. Races will be started using rule 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal.
  - b. The starting line shall be between the main mast of the committee boat (designated by a candy-striped pole positioned on the committee boat) and an outer distance mark. An Inner limit mark may be positioned approximately on the starting line. Any boat sailing between the inner limit mark and the committee boat after the relevant preparatory signal may be disqualified. The committee boat may fly an orange flag to indicate that a start sequence is about to be initiated, failure to fly an orange flag will not be grounds for redress.
  - c. A boat starting later than 4 minutes after her starting signal will be scored DNS without a hearing. This changes rules A4 and A5.
  - d. The Race Committee may, in the last minute of a starting sequence and/or in the minute immediately prior to the removal of Flag U or Black Flag, indicate that there are one or more boats OCS by displaying Code Flag V. Failure to fly Flag V will not be grounds for redress. This changes rule 26.
  - e. Boats that are not in their starting sequence, and/or have finished racing, are required to keep well clear of the starting and/or finishing areas while other boats are in their starting sequence or finishing.
12. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE: A change of the next leg of the course will first be attempted by changing the position of the original mark. When this is not possible the course will be reset using one or more orange marks. The change may be signalled before the leading boat has begun the leg, although the mark may not yet be in the new position. If a mark is repositioned a race committee boat may be used to indicate the new course to the mark. Code flag "C" may not be displayed. Any mark to be rounded, after rounding the repositioned or new replacement mark, may be relocated to maintain the course configuration without further signalling. This changes rule 33.
13. THE FINISH:
  - a. The finishing line will be (a) between the main mast of the committee boat (or other boat displaying a Blue Flag where the course is shortened) and the mark adjacent to it, or (b) a mast displaying a blue flag and a yellow and red pole on Goose Island as indicated on the course board. The Finish boat shall be identified by a blue flag when on station at the finishing line.
  - b. After the first yacht in a race has finished, the race committee may offer a finishing position to the yacht still racing in last place. The placed offered will be the number of yachts ahead of it (both finished and still racing) plus 1. A yacht is not obliged to accept such offer unless it is the last boat still racing, If the yacht accepts such offer, it shall immediately cease racing, and the race committee may repeat this process with the next boat in last place until all boats still racing have been finished. This changes rule 35, A4 and A5.
  - c. If the race committee is absent when a boat finishes, she should report her finishing time, and her position in relation to nearby boats, to the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

14. **TIME LIMIT:** The time limit of each race shall be 75 minutes (for Cruisers 180 minutes in the Garraunfada Cup, otherwise 130 minutes) from the start thereof. Boats failing to finish within 15 minutes (Cruisers 45 minutes) after the first boat in her class sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF). This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5.
15. **PROTESTS:**
- a. A boat intending to protest shall notify the Race Officer immediately after finishing, or if she does not finish, shall notify the Race Office immediately on coming ashore. This changes Rule 60.
  - b. Protests shall be in writing and delivered to the Race Office within the protest time limit. Protest forms are available at the Race Office or can be downloaded from World Sailing.
  - c. The protest time limit will be 60 minutes after the last boat finishes the last race prior to the fleet returning ashore, whether at lunchtime, tea time, or on completion of racing each day.
  - d. Protest Notices, including notices of protests by the Race Committee and/or technical committee, will be posted on the official notice board as soon as possible after the protest time limit has expired to inform competitors of the time and place for the hearing.
  - e. Appendix T ARBITRATION may be used at the discretion of the race committee to expedite protest hearings. A Post-Race Penalty of 30% will then apply.
  - f. On the last scheduled day of racing a request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered no later than 10.00hrs if the requesting party was informed, by notice on the official notice board, of the decision on the previous day. This changes rule 66(a).
16. **SCORING SYSTEM & PENALTIES:** The Low Points scoring system of Appendix A will apply. Discards as per the Notice of Race will apply. In place of the TWO Turn's Penalty specified by Rule 44.1, a ONE turn penalty shall apply. This changes Rule 44.1.
17. **RETIRING:** A boat that retires from a race shall notify the flagship, either directly or through the race office as soon as possible afterwards.
18. **SOD and other HANDICAPS:** A SOD may not win a handicap race if she has previously finished 1st, 2nd or 3rd in a Scratch Race other than the Gaviotta Trophy, '61' Trophy and the Tisdall Cup. If a race has both scratch and handicap trophies, the scratch race will be calculated first. A boat may only win one Handicap Prize.
- Cruiser handicaps shall be set by the Regatta Race Committee at its absolute discretion, based on the handicap system in use by each of LDYC, Garrykennedy and Iniscealtra Sailing Clubs for their combined cruiser races.
19. **SILVER and BRONZE FLEETS:** Eligibility for the Silver and Bronze Fleets shall be calculated by and be at the absolute discretion of the Regatta Race Committee.
20. **RESULTS and PRIZES:** Results will be posted on the window of the Race Office as soon as possible after the finish of the race. Prize details are set out in the Notice of Race.
21. **RADIO COMMUNICATIONS:** Competitors are encouraged for both safety and communications purposes to carry a hand-held VHF Radio. The Race Committee may use the VHF Radio (Channel 72 or as otherwise specified by the Race Committee) to communicate with competitors while afloat, but in the case of a conflict between the VHF communications and the signal flags, the signal flags shall prevail.
22. **RUBBISH/TRASH DISPOSAL:** As sailors, we seek to protect our lake and river waters. Boats shall not intentionally put trash in the water (Rule 55). Trash may be placed aboard support and race committee boats.

23. **DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY:**

- a. **Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See rule 4.**
- b. Neither Lough Derg Yacht Club (or their officers, employees, members and volunteers) accepts any liability for loss of life or property, or personal injury or damage caused by or arising out of the regatta.
- c. All competitors are required to keep their boats in a safe and seaworthy condition and shall be in good health and be a competent sailor capable of racing their boat in open water in all conditions including high winds. The provision of a Regatta Race Committee, or of safety boat support, does not relieve competitors of their responsibilities.

24. **INSURANCE:** All competitors shall be insured with valid third-party insurance with a minimum liability cover of €3,000,000 (reduced for singlehanded boats to €1,500,000) or other currency equivalent per incident. Competitors are recommended to have personal accident and health insurance that covers them while attending the regatta and racing therein.

25. **COVID-19 Requirements:** Competitors, their families and non-sailing visitors to LDYC are required at all times, and in their own interests and that of all other competitors and visitors, to comply with the COVID-19 Guidelines as advised by the Irish Government and Irish Sailing. The general disclaimer set out in the Regatta Programme and Notice of Race Document with regard to COVID-19 applies to all competitors, their families and non-sailing visitors to LDYC.