SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The notation ‘[DP]’ in a rule in the Sailing Instructions means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.

1. RULES

1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing 2017-2020.

1.2 The prescriptions of the Royal Yachting Association and the rules of Topper Class Association of Ireland (ITCA IRL) shall apply.

1.3 If there is a conflict between these Sailing Instructions and the Notice of Race, these Sailing Instructions prevail. This changes rule 63.7.

1.4 Racing rule(s) will be changed as follows: Race Signal AP, 30.3, 40, 41, 60.1(b), 62.1(a) 63.7, A4, A4.2, A5, 66, P2.2, P2.3. The changes appear, in full, in these sailing instructions.

1.5 All times are BST and UT / GMT + 1 hr

1.6 Boats sailing with the 4.2m² sail shall, while racing, shall display a coloured streamer as supplied by the race office, from the masthead.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS AND COMMUNICATION WITH COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board located at the front of the Club house.

3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted at least one hour before the scheduled start time on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be notified by the race committee before 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

4. SIGNALS MADE AShORE

4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the Club’s main flagpole

4.2 When flag AP is flown ashore, ‘1 minute’ is replaced with ‘not less than 45 minutes’. This changes flag AP in the Race Signals.

5. SCHEDULE RACES

5.1 Scheduled time of the Briefing. The Warning signal time for the first race each day is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day/Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 5 July 2019</td>
<td>1015</td>
<td>Competitors’ Briefing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 5 July 2019</td>
<td>1155</td>
<td>Warning Signal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 6 July 2019</td>
<td>1025</td>
<td>Warning Signal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 7 July 2019</td>
<td>1025</td>
<td>Warning Signal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5.2 There are 9 Races scheduled (3 per day) for each Fleet with succeeding races being started as soon as practicable after the finish of the previous race. Depending on entries the two Fleets may be started at the same time.

5.3 To alert boats that a race or a sequence of races will begin soon, an orange flag will be displayed on a mast/pole on the Committee Vessel with one sound at least five minutes before a warning signal is displayed.

5.4 Depending on conditions, more than 3 races may be held on one day if deemed appropriate. To signal an additional race is to be run the race committee will display Numeral 1 on the finish boat at the finish of the last scheduled race of the day.

5.5 No warning signal will be made on the last day of the event after 1500hrs.

6. CLASS FLAGS
6.1 The class flag for the 5.3m² Full rig fleet will be Code Flag T
6.2 The class flag for ‘4.2m² fleet will be numeral pennant 6.

7. RACING AREA
7.1 The racing area will be to the east of club moorings and west of Grey point and may be available on the RNIYC and/or ITCA (IRL) website prior to the event.
7.2 On the Saturday the racing area will be further to the east, clear of the Club’s fixed marks for scheduled points racing. The details will be confirmed at the Competitors' Briefing on Friday.

8. THE COURSES
Appendix 1 shows the course diagram for each fleet. All races will be sailed on the same course area.

9. MARKS
9.1 Marks 1, 2 and 4 will be large yellow spherical buoys. Gate 3a & 3b will be large black spherical buoys.

10. AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS
10.1 There are no specific obstructions to be identified. Competitors are advised of the shipping channel that should be avoided.

11. THE START
11.1 The start line will be between a mast/pole displaying an orange flag on a Committee Vessel and a mark at the port/pin end of the line. This mark will be described at the Competitors' briefing.
11.2 There may be a RIB positioned at the port end and this is not considered a mark of the course.
11.3 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other fleets. [DP]
11.4 A boat starting later than four minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This changes rules A4 and A5.
11.5 If a start under rule 30.3, Black Flag Rule is recalled, the sail numbers of the boats identified will be displayed on a board at the stern of the Committee Vessel for a minimum time of 3 minutes. A repeated sound signal will be made as the numbers are displayed. Any boat so notified that she has been disqualified shall not sail in any restart or re-sail of that race. This changes rule 30.3.
11.6 The Race Officer may decide that the 4.2 fleet will start at the same time as the 5.3 fleet. If this is the case, competitors will be informed at the briefing and a notice placed on the Official Notice Board. This system would remain in place for the duration of the Event.

12. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE
12.1 To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will move the original mark (or the finishing line) to a new position. The change will be signaled before the leading boat has begun the leg, although the mark may not yet be in the new position. Any mark to be rounded after rounding the moved mark may be relocated without further signaling to maintain the correct course configuration.
12.2 Except at a gate, boats shall pass between a boat acting as a committee vessel signaling the change of the next leg and the nearby mark, leaving the mark to port and the committee vessel to starboard. This changes rule 28.
13. **THE FINISH**

13.1 The finishing line will be between a mast/pole displaying a blue flag on a Committee Vessel and a finishing mark at the port end. This mark will be described at the Competitors’ Briefing.

13.2 In addition to rule 32, the race committee may also award a finishing score to a boat still racing by displaying to her from a committee vessel (which may be in motion) code flag W with one sound signal. A boat so notified is no longer required to sail the course, shall stop racing and shall return to the starting area, or return ashore if there is no more racing. A finishing score under this sailing instruction will be the score she would have received had she sailed the course and finished within any time limit, without gaining or losing any place. However, when two or more boats that are overlapped are notified, they will be scored as if they were tied. The decision by the race committee to use this procedure or not to use it shall not be grounds for requesting redress. This changes rules 60.1(b) and 62.1(a).

13.3 After finishing and clearing the finishing line, boats shall keep clear of the finishing area and of all boats not yet finished.

14. **PENALTY SYSTEM**

14.1 Appendix P shall apply.

14.2 Rule P2.3 shall not apply and Rule P2.2. is changed to that it will apply to all penalties after the first one.

14.3 The Exoneration Penalty and RYA Arbitration procedure of the RYA Rules Disputes Procedure will be available. See the Official Notice Board for details.

15. **TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES**

15.1 If no boat has passed Mark 1 within 30 minutes of the start the race will be abandoned.

15.2 The target time for the first boat is 45 minutes. However, a shorter or longer race time will not be grounds for redress. This changes rules 60.1(b) and 62.1(a).

15.3 If no boat finishes within 90 minutes, the race may be abandoned.

15.4 Abandonment under SI 15.1 or 15.3 will not be grounds for redress. This changes rules 60.1(b) and 62.1(a).

16. **DECLARATIONS**

A boat that retires before finishing or takes a one-turn penalty or a two-turn penalty under rule 44.2 shall record the details on the Declaration Form before the end of protest time. Declarations may be made in the Race Office. [DP]

17. **PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**

17.1 Protests forms are available at the Race Office or near the tally board. Protests and requests for redress shall be delivered to the Race Office within the time limit.

17.2 For each Fleet, the protest time limit is 30 minutes after the last boat has come ashore after the last race of the day. The same time limit applies to protests by the race committee and protest committee about incidents they observe in the racing area and to requests for redress.

17.3 A notice will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. This is also the notification required by rules 61.1(b) and 63.2. Hearings may begin without a notice and within protest time when the parties are available.

17.4 On the last scheduled day of racing, a request for re-opening a hearing shall be delivered:

(a) within the protest time limit if the party requesting re-opening was informed of the decision on the previous day.

(b) no later than 15 minutes after the party requesting re-opening was informed of the decision on that day. This changes rule 66.

17.5 Arbitration as a means of settling a protest may be available if both parties agree.

18. **SCORING**

The event will be scored by Appendix A, low point system..
18.1 The first sentence of rule A4.2 is deleted and replaced with:
All other boats, including a boat that did not start, a boat that finishes and thereafter retires or is disqualified, shall be scored points equal to one more than the number of boats entered in their respective fleet. This changes rule A4.2

18.2 A minimum of one race is required to constitute any championship.

18.3 When fewer than four races have been completed, a boat’s series score will be the total of her race scores. When four to seven races have been completed a boat’s series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score. When eight or more races have been completed a boat’s series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her two worst scores.

19. SAFETY REGULATIONS

19.1 Competitors shall wear personal flotation devices at least CE50 Newtons or equivalent at all times when afloat except when adjusting clothing. Wet suits and dry suits are not adequate personal buoyancy. Flag Y will not be displayed. This changes rule 40.

19.2 A boat shall comply with an instruction from the organising authority, the race committee, a patrol boat of the race committee or an equipment inspector that she shall not go afloat, or shall return ashore or shall take some other action. The instruction will not be grounds for requesting redress. This changes rules 60.1(b) and 62.1(a).

19.3 A patrol boat in close attendance to a competitor in difficulty is an obstruction.

19.4 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the Race Committee or the Race Office as soon as possible.

19.5 All competitors shall tally out before launching, and tally in after returning ashore.

19.6 A £5 donation to the RNLI for each infringement shall exonerate a competitor for failing to comply with an infringement of this sailing instruction. Or other appropriate penalty that shall not affect results.

20. EQUIPMENT & MEASUREMENT CHECKS

20.1 Equipment may be inspected or measured at any time. Boats must comply with current class regulations.

21. SUPPORT BOATS

21.1 Support boats and Coach boats shall not enter the racing area from the time of the preparatory signal for the first fleet until all boats have finished or retired or the race committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment.

21.2 Except when requested by or agreed with the race committee, coaches and supporters may not tow competitors to the race area.

21.3 Except when helping a boat or competitor in danger, a support boat shall not
   a) communicate with a competitor from the time of the preparatory signal for the first start of a race until the competitor boat has finished or retired or the race committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment.
   b) come within 100 metres to leeward of the starting line during starts, within 50 metres of any course mark or of a boat that is racing, or within any other area designated by the race committee.
   c) make excessive wash.

21.4 A registration process will be in place for all Support Boats. On registration Support Boats will be requested to declare their availability to support safety activities as directed by the Safety Officer, in the event of deteriorating circumstances.

21.5 At registration Support Boats shall provide mobile phone contact details.

21.6 Support Boats shall carry a numbered flag, provided at registration for identification.

21.7 Support Boats shall have operating VHF radios and maintain a watch on the dedicated working channel in the event that they are called by the Safety Officer to assist in the event of an emergency.

21.8 Support boats shall comply with race committee safety instructions.

22. OUTSIDE HELP
22.1 In addition to the exceptions of Rule 41, this is changed to allow help from a race committee vessel to assist in a recovery after a capsize or to return the competitor to the boat. Change of rule 41. See the official Notice Board for guidance on Outside Help.

24 TRASH DISPOSAL
Trash (waste) may be placed aboard support and official boats. [DP]

25 RADIO COMMUNICATION
A boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones. [DP]

26 PRIZES
Prizes shall be awarded in line with the Notice of Race.

27 RISK STATEMENT
As per Notice of Race.

28 INSURANCE
As per Notice of Race.
Appendix 1
4.2m² Course

ITCA (IRL) - 4.2m² Course
1p - 2p – 3b(p) – 4p Finish

Competitors SHALL pass through the gate leaving 3a to Starboard
If a gate mark is missing, competitors shall leave the remaining mark to port

Sailing Instructions - Topper Irish National Championship Final Version
If a gate mark is missing, competitors shall leave the remaining mark to port