

Additional Guidance for Race Officials for Simple Club Racing RNIYC 2020

This is in addition to the 'Officer of the Day – Step by Step Guide' as available in the Starter's Box.

1. All Club members must be familiar with and comply with N I Executive Covid-19 Regulations as they apply to them individually (e.g not putting others at risk) and to the Club (e.g. following the Club protocols and guidance regarding hand sanitising, flow through the Club premises).
2. The Starter's Box will be cleaned and all hard surfaces wiped with sanitiser cloth daily, from Thursday morning to Sunday morning (Inclusive) by the Club cleaner.
3. All physical contact with Club equipment (keys, Starter's Box access and egress, timing equipment, switches, sighting monocular, fixed VHF radio, flags, flag box, flag halyards, paper documentation, writing equipment. etc.) must be with sanitised hands or suitable gloves. (Sanitiser is available at all entrances to the building, sanitiser and a supply of gloves are available in the Starter's Box).
4. The Race Officer will follow the Revised NoR and Sis for Simple Club Racing as provided.
5. The Race Officer will access a suitable short-range weather forecast such as XC Weather or Accuweather not more than 1 hour before the first scheduled Warning Signal of the day and will monitor this, and the ambient weather, throughout the period of racing and recovery of sailors and rescue crew.
6. The Race Officer will undertake a risk assessment with the senior Rescue Crew (or Hon. Rescue Officer, if available). This risk assessment will include at least:
 - a) Current and expected weather conditions,
 - b) Current & expected sea conditions,
 - c) Tidal information (Consider launch and recovery of Rescue boats),
 - d) Expected duration of racing,
 - e) Availability of appropriate Rescue boats and crews,
 - f) Types of vessels racing.
7. Having completed this Risk Assessment, the Race Officer will make a decision to commence Club racing at the scheduled, or postponed, time or abandon racing for the day.
8. In addition to the above, it is understood that competitors decide to race at their own risk but the Race Officer may advise on the safety of racing if he/she has concerns about the competency of any crew member. Ultimately he/she should not discriminate unlawfully but, during the Covid-19 Pandemic, the Club must not knowingly cause demand on maritime rescue services. Should such a risk arise the Race Officer may decide to abandon racing for this reason. This seeks to clarify RRS 27.3, during the Covid-19 Pandemic.
9. The Race Officer will monitor racing progress and will make decisions on the duration of any race and act accordingly, as per the Racing Rules of Sailing 2017-2020.

Denis Todd, Hon. Sailing Secretary

15 July 2020

