



IRISH SEA OFFSHORE RACING ASSOCIATION

GENERAL CONDITIONS, SAILING INSTRUCTIONS AND RULES: 2009

1. GENERAL CONDITIONS

1.1 RULES

Racing will be governed by the 'rules' as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the prescriptions of the Irish Sailing Association, ORC Special Regulations 2008/09, the prescriptions of the RORC and the General Conditions and Rules of ISORA . Refer also to sections 2.4 and 3.

1.2 ELIGIBILITY FOR ENTRY TO RACES IN THE ISORA PROGRAMME

Boats entering a race must be entered in the race and owned by, or on charter to a Sailing Club recognised by its National Authority, or a member or members of a sailing club. She must have a valid IRC Certificate with a minimum SSS Base Number of 20.

1.3 CATEGORY, REGULATIONS AND AMENDMENTS

Boats and their crews shall comply with ORC Special Regulations 2008/09 and RORC prescriptions ORC Category 3 plus liferaft.

1.4 INSURANCE

It is the obligation of all Skippers/Owners to ensure that competing boats shall be insured for 3rd party liability with a minimum cover of €3,000,000 or equivalent.

1.5 CLASSES

IRC and WHITE SAIL – The number of IRC Classes will be decided by the Committee at a later date. The ISORA Committee shall at all times have discretion as to the classes and entries and the right to amend at any time.

1.6 ENTRY FEES AND LATE ENTRY FEES

As per Entry Form

1.7 ENTRIES

Entries for events in the ISORA Programme should be made on an official entry form, duly completed and signed, and sent to:- **ISORA, c/o National Yacht Club, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, Ireland. Phone: +353 1 2805725 Fax: +353 1 2807837 E-mail : sailing@nyc.ie**

A boat that has not formally entered by lodging a completed entry form and the declaration with the race fee at least 2 hours before the start of the race with the Race Officer of the host club, shall not be considered a competitor in that race.

1.8 RETIREMENT

All owner/skippers must notify the finishing line/yacht club immediately by VHF or phone as soon as they are able should they retire from the race. Notification must also be sent by text to ISORA (+353 87 2545037) as soon as possible.

1.9 PARENTAL CONSENT

Skippers must have the written parental consent for all crew members under the age of 16.

1.10 ENTRY CANCELLATION

Race entry fees are NOT refundable following cancellation from a race.

1.11 SCORING

Points for the series will be awarded as provided in RRS Appendix A using the Low Point System.

1.12 MEASUREMENT AND RATINGS

Applications for IRC measurement/certificates should be made to the RORC Rating Office or to the Irish Sailing Association.

1.13 AWARDS OF PRIZES (depending on number of starters)

IRC and WHITE SAIL – Overall and Classes/ Season: Positions 1, 2 & 3 per race

1.16 SAILING COMMITTEE

The Sailing Committee shall consist of three Officers from the following: The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer of ISORA.

2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

2.1 GENERAL

Please note that these instructions apply to each race in the programme and should be read in conjunction with the specific instructions for particular races that are issued directly to competitors by ISORA.

2.2 RESPONSIBILITY

All those taking part in these races does at their own risk and responsibility. The RORC, ISORA and the host Clubs and the Sponsors of individual races are not responsible for the seaworthiness of any Boat whose entry is accepted. **THE DECISION WITH REGARD TO STARTING AND CONTINUING A RACE MUST LIE WITH THE SKIPPER OF EACH BOAT AS HE/SHE MUST AT ALL TIMES BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SAFETY OF HIS/HER OWN CRAFT.**

2.3 ALTERATIONS

If it is necessary to make a last minute alteration to the Sailing Instructions, International Code Flag 'L' will be hoisted at the starting point at least 60 minutes before the start. It is then the responsibility of owners to acquaint themselves with alteration before starting.

ISORA and the host Clubs reserve the right to make any alterations to the programme, rules and conditions, without notice other than the exhibition of International Code Flag 'L' at the starting line.

2.4 RACING RULES AND REGULATIONS

The race will be started and sailed during daylight hours under ISAF (RRS) Rules subject to ISA Prescriptions and RORC Special Regulations, but between sunset and sunrise navigation lights must be lit. These, and any emergency navigation lights carried, must conform to Rule 22 of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea. Boats which cannot comply with these Regulations must retire from the race. RRS Part 11 will cease to apply between sunset and sunrise, and will be replaced by Part D (Steering and Sailing Rules) of International regulations for preventing Collisions at Sea. Any contravention of Rules, Regulations or Sailing Instructions must be reported on the Declaration Card.

2.5 CLASS FLAGS

IRC will fly **Numeral I** "WHITE SAIL" boats will fly – **Numeral II**

2.6 MARK UNSEEN

If a mark is not seen, the Race Committee will require, with the Declaration, satisfactory evidence that the mark has been passed correctly. The onus will fall upon the competitor to satisfy the Race Committee and to appear before it if requested to do so within 72 hours of finishing the course; failing this the Boat may be disqualified.

2.7 PROTESTS

Any boat protesting must hand in its protest form within **two hours** of the Boat finishing to the ISORA representative at the finish of the race.

Boats finishing between 21.00 hours and 10.00 hours the following morning, must submit their protest form by mid-day. Boats finishing between 10.00 hours and 21.00 hours must submit their protest form within two hours of finishing. A Boat which is unable to finish the race or which does not enter harbour, must email the protest form to the National Yacht Club to arrive within **2 days** of the finishing of the last Boat, or at a later date at the discretion of the Sailing Committee.

2.8 RETIREMENTS

Boats retiring must contact the finishing Club by VHF or by telephone and ISORA by text. Once a retirement has been accepted by the Finishing Club's OOD, that retirement is irreversible.

2.9 IRC RATING

The RORC Rating Office published lists, applicable at the start of a race, will be final for that race

2.10 RECALLS (Amends Rule 29.1 and 30.1)

In the offshore races, if a Boat is over the line at the start and fails to respond to the recall, that Boat shall receive a 20% place penalty.

2.11 WARNING ON MOVEMENT OF BALLAST

The notice available on the website, "Warning on the movement of ballast" must be signed and displayed permanently on the main bulkhead adjacent to the mast.

3. RULES

3.1 CREW LIMITATIONS

Crew numbers shall be limited to the maximum capacity of the liferaft carried on the boat.

3.2 ELECTRONIC AIDS, RADIO TRANSMISSION AND RECEPTION

The use of electronic aids and linked electronic devices is permitted. VHF Transceivers are mandatory to offshore races only.

3.3 USE OF ENGINE

An engine may be used to recover a man overboard, to render assistance, or in any other grave emergency and full details must be reported on the Declaration.

An engine or power pump may be used for charging batteries, pumping bilges or supplying power for weighing anchor.

In amendment of Rule 42.1 and at the discretion of the Race Committee, an engine or tow may be used by a Boat arriving late at the start provided that she:-

- a. Switches off her engine or drops her tow and then completes a 360 turn before starting
- b. Does not start until five minutes after the starting signal.
- c. Reports the incident to the ISORA as soon as possible after the race.

3.4 BOATS MOORED AFTER THE PREPARATORY SIGNAL

The Race Committee at its discretion may waive RRS 45 when a Boat does not leave her mooring before the preparatory signal. The incident shall be reported to ISORA as soon as possible after the race.

3.5 BOARDING, LEAVING AND GOING ASHORE WHILST RACING

Crew may board their Boat by any means up to hours after her starting signal and may leave by any means to take no further part in the race, but otherwise crew, gear or stores may be taken to or from the shore only in her dinghy propelled by oars.

3.6 RESPONSIBILITY UNDER IRC AND WHITE SAIL

The IRC and WHITE SAIL under which ISORA race, contain sections affecting owners, and through them crews. It is important that all those taking part in racing understand that breach of these rules mean that the Boat is either no longer eligible before the race even starts because the Rating Certificate is invalid, or is liable to disqualification if any contravention occurs during the race.

It is the Owner's responsibility for the presentation of his Boat for ashore and afloat measurement and the arrangement of the measurement of sails and spars.

It is the Owner's general responsibility after measurement to inform the Rating Office of changes to ballast, tankage, engine and propeller installations, change affecting trim and flotation, the movement of measurement bands and changes in spars including any renewals and any changes in hull shape.

It is the Owner's responsibility whilst racing to comply with any limitation on sail setting and sheeting, the securing of the propeller, devices to fix drop keels or moveable appendages. The shipping, unshipping or moving of ballast and moving from stowage of any equipment is FORBIDDEN. Anchor and chain shall be secure in clearly marked stowage

3.7 WHITE SAIL RULES

Boats racing in the WHITE SAIL class shall comply with the following:

1. White Sail Boats shall be mono hull with minimum of 2 sleeping bunks, seating accommodation for 4 persons, an Inboard Engine, Cooker etc. etc. - in fact a genuine Cruising boat.
2. Spinnakers, Bloopers, and Gennikers are not allowed.
3. Whisker or spinnaker poles are allowed.
4. Sail identification number on main sail is required.
5. Sails shall not be Hi-Tech and made from high modulus materials such as "Kevlar, Carbon Fibre, and Spectra etc
6. Membership of the ISA or any equivalent national sailing association is required if you want to race.
7. Where a boat wishes to race, a current IRC Certificate must be submitted with the Entry Form.
8. Crew; Minimum of 2 (including the helm) Maximum based in life raft limitations.

Objectives

The White Sail Class is to encourage those with cruising boats who would not normally be engaged in racing to venture out to the water, improve boat-handling skills, seamanship, enjoy racing for fun and to meet and enjoy the company of like-minded boat owners and discourage chequebook sailing.