



Royal Ulster Yacht Club

Sailing Instructions

Opening Day

Saturday 2nd May 2026

Organising Authority

Royal Ulster Yacht Club (RUYC) is the Organising Authority (OA).

1 Rules & Classes

- 1.1 Racing will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing 2025 – 2028, the RYA prescriptions, and the appropriate class rules.

2 Changes to Sailing Instructions

- 2.1 Any changes to the sailing instructions will be posted to the official noticeboard before 6pm on any Thursday night of the series.

3 Starting Times, Class Flags and Starting Procedure

- 3.1 Signals will be made at three-minute intervals. After the first preparatory signal, code flag 'P' shall be left displayed until the last class starts and the hoisting of the Class code flag will be the preparatory signal for the class and the warning signal for the next class.

In amendment of RRS 26 the start times and procedure will be as follows:

	Class Flag	
Opening Day		
Warning Signal		14:00
Preparatory Signal		14:03
IRC 1 (IRC \geq 0.970) & YTC Unrestricted	1	14:06
IRC 2 (IRC $<$ 0.970) & YTC Unrestricted	2	14:09
Whitesail (YTC)	3	14:12
ILCA7/Laser Std & ILCA 6/Laser Radial	5	14:15
ILCA 4/Laser 4.7 & Topper	J	14:18
Large Dinghy (PY < 1200)	R	14:18

4 Identification

Class flags shall be displayed from or near the back stay on IRC/YTC 1, IRC/YTC 2, YTC and Whitesail Cruisers.



5 Courses

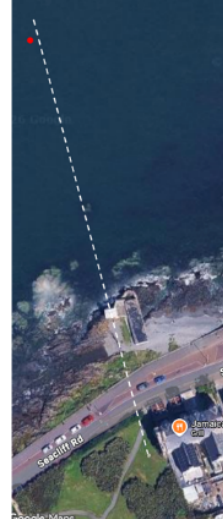
- 5.1** In amendment of RRS 27.1, the course for each class will be displayed with, or as soon as possible after the preparatory signal for that class. The course to be sailed will be displayed on numeral boards displayed on the front wall of the battery. These boards will have either a RED or GREEN backgrounds indicating how the marks are to be rounded (leaving them to port or starboard, respectively). Second and subsequent rounds may be sailed and will be displayed as above when the leading boats approach the finish of the previous round(s). See appendix A for approximate positions of the club racing marks.
- 5.2** Two buoys ('A' & 'B') will be laid to the South-West and North-East, respectively of the red starting line buoy and approximately in line with that buoy. The buoys 'A' and 'B' have no significance when starting. At the end of a round, or when Finishing, the Start/Finish (SF) line shall be crossed only in the direction that it was crossed when starting. When crossing the SF line West to East marks 'A' and 'B' shall be left to port. When crossing the SF line East to West marks 'B' and 'A' shall be left to starboard.
When a boat finishes (in accordance with the definition) the second of the two buoys ('A' or 'B' as appropriate) no longer has a required side.
- 5.3** When code flag 'W' is displayed at the marina and the RUYC battery, this will indicate a committee boat start from Mark 9. If no flag is displayed, the starts will be from the RUYC battery.
- 5.4** When code flag 'W' is displayed, the start line will be between Mark 9 and a committee boat displaying an orange pole with an orange flag. The start line will be between mark 9 and the orange pole. The Warning Signal, Preparatory Signal for each class will be signal flags. The signals will be repeated on the RUYC battery. Sound signals will be made on the committee boat.
- 5.5** The number of the first mark to be rounded will be displayed on a board on the committee boat, a Red (port) or Green (starboard) Flag will indicate the direction of rounding. After rounding this mark, boats will cross the finish line. Marks 'A' & 'B' will be marks of the course and 'A', 'B' & F will be left to the same hand as the first mark, Port or Starboard. On passing through the finish line, the course for Round 2, and any subsequent rounds, will be displayed on the battery wall as outline in SI 4.1 above.



6 Battery Starts, Starting Line

- 6.1 The starting line is between the transit of the white pillar with a white “X” in front of the Battery and the white mast behind the Battery (beside the Jamaica Inn – inner end), and a red buoy at the approximate outer limit (outer end).

A diagram of the transit:



7 Starting Time limit

- 7.1 A boat that does not start within SIX minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. The changes RRS A5.1 & A5.2.

8 Finishing

- 8.1 The finishing signal shall be code flag ‘S’ displayed on its own if all classes are to finish, or with class flags if only the classes designated by those flags are to finish. In amendment to RRS 32.2 sound signals will not normally be made when displaying this signal. The finishing line will be a red buoy (shown as ‘F’ in appendix A) and a white pole with an X mark in front of the battery.

9 Recrossing the finishing line

- 9.1 Boats that have already finished shall not re-cross the finishing line.

10 General Recalls

- 10.1 In amendment to RRS 26 and 29.2, a class subject to a general recall shall take as its preparatory signal the lowering of the class flag for the last class shown in SI 2. If a second or subsequent class is subjected to a general recall, its preparatory signal will be the lowering of the class flag of the preceding recalled class.



11 Time Limits

- 11.1** The time limit will be 16:30. In amendment to RRS 35, if a boat in any class finishes within the time limit, the time limit will be extended by 30 minutes for other boats in that class. If the final round is not completed within the time limit by the leading boat of a class, the finishing time of the penultimate round for that class will be taken and points awarded accordingly.

12 Protests

- 12.1** Protests shall be lodged with the Race Officer or Hon Sailing Secretary within 1 hour of the finishing time of the last boat in the class involved finishing.
- 12.2** Protest forms can be found behind the Main Bar in the clubhouse of Royal Ulster Yacht Club or on the Thursday Night Points Series section of Royal Ulster Yacht Club website; <https://www.ruyc.uk/sailing/>

13 Safety

- 13.1** The attention of competitors is drawn to the requirements of RRS 1.2 & 40.1 in respect of personal flotation devices. In amendment of RRS 40.1 all persons in the Multihull and dinghy classes shall wear personal flotation devices at all times whilst afloat.

Scoring

- 14** As per NoR 8

Insurance

- 15** As per NoR 12

Likeness

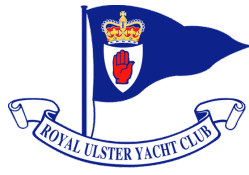
- 16** By participating in one or more of the events described, I grant to the Royal Ulster Yacht Club the right in perpetuity to make, use and show, from time to time at their discretion, any motion or still pictures of me without compensation.

Risk Statement

- 17** As per NoR 13.

Prizes

- 18** As per NoR 14.



Appendix A.

