



# Dublin Bay Sailing Club

## 2025 General Sailing Instructions

### All Fleets

These Sailing instructions should be read in conjunction with the Supplementary Sailing instructions for individual fleets and series.

The notation [NP] in a rule in these Sailing Instructions means that breaches of these rules will not be grounds for protest or redress by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1 62.1 and 63.1

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

**All Charts, schedules and Course Cards Referred to in all DBSC Sailing Instructions are published and updated on [www.dbsc.ie](http://www.dbsc.ie). Please ensure that you have the latest version of these Charts/Course cards. After the 1<sup>st</sup> race of the season amendments will be posted on [www.dbsc.ie](http://www.dbsc.ie) and may be emailed to registered members.**

**The following rules are changed in these Sailing instructions. RRS 29.2, 42.1, 44.1, 60.1, 62.1, 63.1, A3, A5.1, A5.3**

#### **A 1 Rules**

1.1 All racing will be governed by the Racing Rules of sailing (RRS), the rules of each class concerned unless changed by these sailing instructions. Changes will be notified in the instruction that changes a rule.

#### **A 2 Notices to competitors**

Notices to competitors may be posted on a notice board in each of the waterfront clubs and Dun Laoghaire Marina. They will be displayed on [www.dbsc.ie](http://www.dbsc.ie)

#### **A 3 Changes to sailing instructions**

3.1 Any change in the sailing instructions will be posted on [www.dbsc.ie](http://www.dbsc.ie) before 12.00 hrs. on the day from which it will take effect. The waterfront clubs and Dun Laoghaire Marina will be asked to display Flag L under the DBSC burgee.

3.2 Changes may also be announced before racing on the relevant VHF channel. Failure to receive such a transmission shall not constitute grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1.

3.3 Changes shown on [www.dbsc.ie](http://www.dbsc.ie) shall be the official text until a further change is signalled.

#### **A 4 Signals made ashore**

4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed at the 4 waterfront clubs and Dun Laoghaire Marina.

4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, 1 minute is replaced with not less than 30 Minutes.

4.3 When a visual signal is displayed over a class flag or fleet pennant, the signal applies only to that class or Fleet.

#### **A 5 Schedule of races**

5.1 Please see full racing schedule on [www.DBSC.ie](http://www.DBSC.ie)

5.2 The schedule of start times for Red, Blue and Green fleets is shown on course card "Race Times Red, Blue and Green Fleets".

5.3 The schedule of start times for Dinghy Fleets is shown on course card "Dinghy Fleet Courses and Race Times".

#### **A 6 Class Flags**

6.1 Red, Blue and Green fleets, see course card "Race Times Red, Blue and Green Fleets".

#### **A 7 Starts, Late Arrivals**

7.1 A boat under power, or tow, after her preparatory signal in the starting area, may, having turned off her engine and/or cast off her tow, take a Two Turn Penalty on the pre-start side of the line before starting. This changes RRS 42.1 and 44.1

7.3 The Race Committee may after the starting signal, broadcast the sail numbers of boats that were OCS by VHF. Failure to do so or the order of the broadcast will not be grounds for a request for redress. (This changes RRS 29.1 and 62.1(a)).

7.4 Should there be a general recall the race committee may decide to continue the starting schedule and restart the race for the class recalled after all other scheduled starts have been completed. This will be signalled by displaying the class flag of the class due to start at the next starting signal. VHF communications may also be made. Failure to do will not be grounds for a request for redress. (This changes RRS29.2)

7.5 Should there be an AP displayed, the race committee may decide to continue the starting schedule and restart the race for the class AP'd after all other scheduled starts have been completed. This will be signalled by displaying the class flag of the class due to start at the next Warning signal. VHF communications may also be made. Failure to do will not be grounds for a request for redress. (This changes RRS29.2)

7.6 (NP)A boat that does not start within 10 minutes of her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1, A3 and A5.

#### **A 8 Club fixed Marks**

8.1 Each Club fixed mark, except the limit marks will bear its appropriate letter as per DBSC "Racing Marks" chart. Note, due to manufacturing processes for new marks, the mark colours shown on the chart "DBSC Racing Marks" may not be the actual colour of the Mark

8.2 Any mark may be replaced without further notice by a temporary inflatable buoy.

#### **A 9 Racing areas**

9.1 Red, Blue, and Green fleet racing area is the environs of Dublin Bay

9.2 Dinghy fleets refer to course card “Dinghy Fleet Courses and Race Times”

## **A 10 Disclaimer of Liability**

10.1 It shall be the sole responsibility of each boat’s skipper to decide whether to start or continue to race: and each owner/helm shall sail or race his/her boat entirely at his/her own risk; and that Dublin Bay Sailing Club Ltd. and its committee, race officers and organisers shall not be liable in the event of any accident or mishap.

10.2 All boats shall be adequately covered for the DBSC season’s racing with 3<sup>rd</sup> party and civil liability insurance, with a minimum coverage of €3.0 million.

10.4 Dublin Port Company (See A12.1) will not be responsible for damage to any boat or other property, nor for injury to any competitor, including death, sustained as a result of participation in this series/event. By participation in this series/event, each competitor agrees to release Dublin Port from any and all liability associated with such participation to the fullest extent permitted by law.

10.5 The Committee reserves the right to accept or reject a boat/skipper entry on grounds of safety or other grounds as it deems appropriate.

## **A 11 Prohibited areas.**

11.1 [NP] Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races. The Race Committee may penalize a boat without a hearing for failing to comply with this Sailing Instruction by adding 3 points to her race score. (This changes RRS 63.1 and A5.1)

11.2[DP] A boat entered in a DBSC series shall not cross the start or finish line of any race in which she is not racing. The Race Committee may penalize a boat without a hearing for failing to comply with this Sailing Instruction by scoring her DSQ in the race or races she has sailed that day. (This changes RRS 63.1 and A5.1)

11.3 [DP] On Saturdays boats, other than Dinghy Classes, having finished their race shall not sail between the Orange Black or Green Starting Marks and the DBSC Hut. Should a boat, in the opinion of the Race Officer, obstruct the view of the race committee or interfere with another boat the Race Committee may penalize her without a hearing by giving her a 20% penalty in the race or races she has sailed that day. (This changes RRS 63.1 and A5.1).1

1.4 [DP]Boats that have finished shall avoid boats still racing. The Race Committee may penalize a boat without a hearing for failing to comply with this Sailing Instruction by adding a 20% penalty to her race score. (This changes RRS 63.1 and A5.1)

11.5 A boat shall not enter the “No Go” area as denoted on DBSC Racing marks bounded by the following:

Poolbeg Lighthouse, Navigation Marks 6.4, Dublin Bay Buoy, Navigation Marks 1,3,5 and North Bull lighthouse.

11.6 A boat shall not pass between Dalkey Island and the mainland nor between the shore and the special yellow buoys marking the Dun Laoghaire Rathdown coastal swimming areas.

11.7 On Tuesdays, a boat of the keelboat classes shall not enter the area of Scotsman’s Bay bounded by the racing marks of the dinghy courses.

11.8 Notices to Mariners as published on DBSC website and on-line, clearly state that clear fairway priorities are to be given to Cruise Ships and their Tenders. This notice must be observed by all competitors

11.9 The race committee give a penalty to any boat breaking A 11.1 – 11.5 without a hearing. When the boat has broken one of these instructions when not racing her penalty shall apply to the race sailed nearest in time to that of the incident. (This changes RRS 63.1 and A5.1).

## **A 12 Commercial shipping**

12.1 All boats will give way and keep clear of commercial shipping. A boat reported by a harbour master for interference with commercial shipping in Dublin Bay will be disqualified from all races sailed on that day without a hearing. (Amends RRS63.1). Please note that breaches may incur a fine from the Port authorities.

12.2 For Information: Dublin Port jurisdiction of the bay area commences from, but excludes the Matt Talbot Memorial Bridge in the City of Dublin, and extends to an imaginary straight line drawn from the Baily Lighthouse on the North in the County of Dublin, and extending through the North Burford Bank Buoy and thence through the South Burford Bank Buoy and thence to Sorrento Point on the south including the harbours of Bulloch and Sandycove, but excepting the limits of the harbours of Dun Laoghaire, Coliemore and Sutton.

## **A 13 Hearing Requests**

*A hearing request is a request to the protest committee to hear a protest, a request for redress or a request to reopen a hearing. The person writing the request is the initiator, the other parties are the respondents.*

13.1 Hearing requests shall be delivered electronically on the DBSC website. Click on [Hearing/Protest Form](#) within the time limit.

13.2 The time limit for delivering hearing requests is 48 Hours of the start of the race for the requesting boat's class. The time stamp recorded on the Hon. Protest Secretary's system shall be deemed evidence of the time submitted. In the case of a diagram being considered necessary this shall also be submitted on the hearing system.

13.3 A request for redress by a boat disqualified without a hearing or for any other scoring action shall be made within seven days of the race results being posted on the DBSC Website (This changes RRS 62.2)

13.4 Notices will be emailed to inform competitors of the time and place of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. If any party is absent from the hearing 15 minutes after the scheduled time, the protest committee may proceed with the hearing in their absence under RRS 63.3 (b).

13.5 If the Hon Protest Secretary receives a hearing request that is outside the time limit, or if for any other reason he is of the opinion that the protest committee is likely to decide that the request is invalid he shall inform the initiator. The initiator may ask to withdraw the request. The Hon Protest Secretary may then act on behalf of the protest committee in accordance with RRS 63.1 and allow the request to be withdrawn.

13.6 All correspondence concerning a hearing will be addressed to the email address supplied to DBSC. Failure to receive such due to incorrect addresses supplied will not be grounds for redress.

## **A 14 Scoring**

**Note all scoring queries must be made through the results query facility at [https://www.racingrulesofsailing.org/scoring\\_inquiries/new?event\\_id=10961](https://www.racingrulesofsailing.org/scoring_inquiries/new?event_id=10961)**

**Queries sent to the Honorary Secretary or Race officers will not be addressed. Race queries must be received in the correct way within 7 days of the published results for the race in question.**

14.1 RRS Appendix A will apply with the following changes:

14.2 A race shall be scored if it is not abandoned and if **two or more boats come to the starting area** and, at least one of them starts and sails the course in compliance with rule 28 and *finishes within the time limit*, even if she retires after finishing or is disqualified. This changes RRS 90.3(a).

14.3 If less than 4 races are completed a boat's series score shall be the total of her race scores.

14.4 When four or more races have been completed a boat's series score shall be the total of her race scores excluding the number of worst scores as follows:

No of Races Sailed	No of Worst Scores Excluded
From 4 to 6 Incl	1
From 7 to 11 Incl	2
From 12 to 17 Incl	3
From 18 to 24 Incl	4
From 25 to 31 Incl	5
32 or more	6

14.5 RRS A5.3 shall apply but is amended to read: a boat that came to the starting area but did not start, did not sail the course, did not finish, retired or was disqualified shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats that came to the starting area, and a boat that did not come to the starting area shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats that came to the starting area. This changes RRS A5.3

14.6 Any scoring queries from a race must be received by the Results Secretary within seven days of the publishing of the queried results.

15.1 Boats will be handicapped using one or more of following:

ECHO (Progressive)

IRC

One Design

Portsmouth Yardstick (PY)

VPRS

15.2 Boats racing in a handicap or rating series shall comply with the rules of any handicap or rating system

15.3 A boat competing under a handicap or rating system shall be in possession of a valid current certificate for that system. Such certificate may be required to be produced for inspection by the Hon Secretary or other committee nominee. DBSC will adopt the handicap or ratings from the relevant authority for use in the results system. It is the

responsibility of each boat to ensure that handicaps or ratings are applied for in sufficient time to be input into the DBSC results system.

15.4 Any changes in handicap or rating must be notified to the Hon Secretary (or a person nominated by him) immediately.

15.5 When a race has been completed, changes to a boat's handicap or rating will not be used to change a boat's corrected time or finishing place, except that:

- a) If an IRC certificate with a higher rating is received by the Hon Secretary after the specified date for registration.

15.6 Boats in cruiser classes will be divided as follows on the basis of their IS Standard ECHO reference handicap rating or IRC handicap rating (subject to the Committee's right to allocate a boat to any class).

Cruisers 0 Boats at 1.035 and above

Cruisers 1 Boats at 0.980 to 1.034

Cruisers 2 Boats at 0.920 to 0.979 and Boats from 0.908 to 0.919 with an overall length exceeding 9mts

Cruisers 3 Boats at 0.800 and below to 0.919

Cruisers 5 shall be assigned to A or B divisions by class agreement.

15.7 IRC rule 22.4.2 shall not apply. There will be no limits on crew number or weight.

15.8 For the purposes of RRS 49.2 lifelines complying with OSR 3.14(i) shall be deemed to be taut.

15.9 Endorsed certificates are required for cruisers 0, 1 & 2.

15.10 Should DBSC require the helm of a Keelboat competitor to serve as a Race Officer their boat shall receive their average points for races which the boat does not sail while they are acting as Race Officer

## **A 16 Class Insignia and Sail Numbers**

16.1 All boats shall comply with RRS 77 save as provided below:

16.3 Changing Sail Numbers

a) Should a boat (other than a dinghy) wish to change her sail number or use a sail with a number other than that notified in her entry form (or any amendment thereto) she shall notify the Hon. Secretary at [honorarysecretary@dbsc.ie](mailto:honorarysecretary@dbsc.ie) at least 24 hours before the changed sail number is used. The new sail number will continue to be used until a further similar notification is given to the Hon. Secretary.

b) In the case of boats competing on the dinghy course, Dinghy Sailing Instructions D.8. applies.

16.4 A boat in a cruiser class shall conspicuously display the numeral pennant of her class on her backstay, or if no back stay is fitted, on both port and starboard shrouds.

16.5 [DP] The race committee may record boats displaying indistinct, illegible or missing sail numbers as DNC, Did not start; did not come to the starting area and score them accordingly. This changes A5

### **A 17 Retractable Bow Sprints**

A boat may extend her bowsprit only when continuously hoisting, flying or a continuously retrieving her gennaker. At all other times, the bowsprit shall be retracted. When approaching a windward mark without the spinnaker/ gennaker set, the bowsprit shall not be extended until the bow of the boat passes to windward of the mark. For the purposes of this rule, a mark is a windward mark when the direct course from the previous mark (or the start line if there is no previous mark) is less than 90 degrees from the direction of the wind.

### **A18 “Starred” Races**

Each class may request prior written approval for racing on one or more Saturdays per season to be ‘starred’. Races sailed on that day will not be included in series scores or count for prizes.

### **A 19 Penalties given by the race committee without a hearing**

Penalties given by the race committee without a hearing will be recorded in the results published by DBSC. No other notification will be given.

### **A20 Under 30 Racing and Discounts**

All competitors wishing to enter in Green, Red or Blue Fleets with an entire crew made up of individuals aged 30 or under on the 1<sup>st</sup> of April will receive a 25% Discount and will be eligible for age related prizes

### **A21 Women on the Water Series (WOW)**

Boats which on a Tuesday evening have a minimum female complement of 50% with a female helm are eligible to enter this series. \*NB should a boat entered in this series have insufficient female crew on any evening they can still race in the normal series but shall radio the Hut and ask not to be scored in WOW.