



Dublin Bay Sailing Club
incorporating
The Royal Alfred Yacht Club
www.dbsc.ie



AIB DBSC Summer Series

23 April 2026 to 26 September 2026

Notice of Race – Keelboats & Water Wags

Including Amendment 1 of 19 January 2026

The Organising Authority is Dublin Bay Sailing Club (DBSC).

The Notice of Race for Dinghies other than Water Wags is a separate document.

1 Rules

- 1.1 Racing will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 2025-28, including the prescriptions of Irish Sailing, the class rules of the relevant classes, this Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions.
- 1.2 The Sailing Instructions will be available at www.dbsc.ie no later than 9 April 2026. Any amendments or other notices will be posted on the same site.
- 1.3 Any changes to the Racing Rules of Sailing, as permitted by RRS 86.1(b), will be highlighted in the relevant section of the Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions.
- 1.4 Class rules may be changed to allow the use of GPS or similar, and VHF radio.
- 1.5 Prohibited Areas and other restrictions on the movement of boats before, during and after racing will be defined in the Sailing Instructions. The Sailing Instructions will define penalties for breaches of these rules.

2 Classes and Handicaps

- 2.1 Racing will be provided for monohull keelboats and dinghies in the classes listed below. Classes may be changed if necessary, depending on the number of entries in each class.
- 2.2 One-design racing will be provided for Beneteau 211 (including 21.7), Beneteau 31.7, Dragon, Dublin Bay 21, Flying Fifteen, Glen, Mermaid, Ruffian 23, SB20, Shipman 28, Sigma 33 and Water Wag.
- 2.3 Sportsboats not listed above will race together in the (Mixed) Sportsboats class and will be scored using VPRS.
- 2.4 Other boats not listed above will race using handicap systems. Boats using spinnakers will be divided into classes Cruisers 0, Cruisers 1, Cruisers 2 and Cruisers 3, based on their handicap. Boats not using spinnakers may race in Cruisers 4 or, with roller furling jib, in Cruisers 5. Cruisers 4 and 5 may be subdivided, based on handicap, to form Cruisers 4A, 4B, 5A and 5B.
- 2.5 Any divisions based on handicap may be adjusted at the discretion of the Committee, before the start of the season, to achieve a reasonable number of boats and a small spread of handicaps in each class.

- 2.6 Cruisers 0, 1, 2 and 3 will be scored using ECHO (progressive), IRC and ORC (if ORC rating is requested by a class before the start of the season). YTC or VPRS ratings may be substituted for IRC for one or more of these classes, if requested by the class before the start of the season.
- 2.7 Cruisers 4A and 5A will race together and be scored using VPRS. Cruisers 4B and 5B will race together and be scored using VPRS. YTC rating may be substituted for VPRS for one or both of those groups, if requested by a majority of the competitors in the relevant group who choose to race using a rating system, before the start of the season. In addition, Cruisers 5A and 5B will be scored using ECHO (progressive).
- 2.8 Sigma 33 will race as part of Cruisers 2 and be scored as Cruisers 2, and will also be scored as a one-design fleet.
- 2.9 Beneteau 211 and Beneteau 31.7 will be scored using ECHO (progressive) handicap in addition to one-design.
- 2.10 If there are fewer than three Mermaid entries, Mermaids and Glens may race together and be scored using PY handicap, in addition to one-design racing for Glens.

3 Conditions of Entry

- 3.1 Boats shall have third party and civil liability insurance, including cover for racing, with a minimum cover €3 million per incident.
- 3.2 Entries shall be accepted only from an individual person, not from a group or partnership.
- 3.3 A Person in Charge, as defined by RRS 46, shall be on board at all times when racing. The Irish Sailing prescription to RRS 46 will apply. For those ordinarily resident in Ireland, this means that the Person in Charge shall be an Irish Sailing Personal Member, or a member of an affiliated Category 1 Club (or an equivalent club in Northern Ireland).
- 3.4 All keelboats shall be of monohull design and construction.
- 3.5 A boat racing under ECHO, IRC, ORC, VPRS or YTC shall not be scored unless a current ECHO, IRC, ORC, VPRS or YTC handicap has been issued for the boat. A copy of any relevant certificate may be requested by the Honorary Secretary.
- 3.6 A boat entering Cruisers 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 shall acknowledge that racing will be conducted on the basis that all boats meet CE Category C – capable of operating in coastal waters and large bays, with winds up to and including Beaufort Force 6 and significant wave height up to 2 m.
- 3.7 A boat in Cruisers 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 shall comply with World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations, Appendix B (Special Regulations for Inshore Racing), and in addition, shall carry the following items, in working order:
 - A permanently installed manual bilge pump, with a handle made fast and freely available.
 - A marine VHF radio, freely available. If this is a handheld unit, it must be safely secured and protected from accidental transmission.
 - A first aid kit and first aid manual.
 - Two orange smoke flares.
 - An effective means to disconnect or cut the standing rigging quickly.
- 3.8 Boats in other classes shall comply with their class safety rules.
- 3.9 All boats shall carry a suitable personal flotation device (PFD) for each person on board. Rule 40.1 Personal Flotation Devices shall apply whenever the Race Committee displays flag Y as required by RRS 40.2. When flag Y is displayed from the West Pier Hut, RRS 40.2 (a) applies.
- 3.10 DBSC recommends that a PFD be worn by each person on board while racing.

- 3.11 DBSC recommends that boats entering DBSC races should also enrol in their local class association.

4 Schedule

- 4.1 **Water Wags:** Races will be scheduled on Wednesday evenings from 29 April to 23 September. There is usually one race each day, with the option of a second race at the discretion of the Race Officer. The first warning signal is scheduled at 18:40 on dates up to 1 September, and at 18:25 after that date.
- 4.2 **Keelboats:** Races will be scheduled as in the table below, subject to the exceptions in the following paragraphs.

Day	Dates	First Warning	Races per Day	Number of Series
Tuesday	28 April to 25 August	18:50	1	1 + WOW (see 4.4)
Thursday	23 April to 27 August	18:35	1	2
Saturday	25 April to 26 September	14:00	1	2

- 4.3 **Regattas:** There will be no DBSC racing on the Saturdays of the Dun Laoghaire waterfront club regattas: 6 June, 13 June, 27 June and 4 July.
- 4.4 **Women on the Water (WOW):** A boat in the SB20, Sportsboats, Flying Fifteen or Ruffian class, racing on Tuesday with at least 50% female crew, including a female helm, may enter the Women on the Water series. In that series, boats in the four classes will race together and be scored using ECHO. The races will also be scored in the normal Tuesday series for the relevant class. If a boat has entered the WOW series, but has insufficient female crew for a particular race, it shall inform the Race Committee and will be scored DNC in the WOW series for that race – this will not affect the normal Tuesday series.
- 4.5 **Cruisers 0, 1, 2, 4, 5 and Beneteau 31.7:** Coastal races may be scheduled on a small number of Saturdays. These may start earlier than the normal Saturday races. Details will be in the Notice of Race for the RAYC Super League Cup, which will be published at least two weeks before the start of the season. On Tuesdays, all these classes will race together under ECHO.
- 4.6 **SB20, Mixed Sportsboats, Dragon, Flying Fifteen, Beneteau 21:** These classes are in the Green Fleet on Saturdays, and may have two races each Saturday, with the first warning signal at 14:15.
- 4.7 **Dublin Bay 21:** There will be no racing on Thursdays.
- 4.8 **Mermaid:** There will be no racing on Tuesdays.

5 Location

- 5.1 Keelboat racing will take place in Dublin Bay, South of the Shipping channel. For Cruisers 0, 1, 2, 4, and 5 and Beneteau 31.7, the coastal races on Saturdays may extend over a larger area.
- 5.2 Water Wags will normally race in Dun Laoghaire Harbour, subject to permission from the Harbour Master. If racing outside the harbour, the race area will be close to the North of the harbour.

6 Courses

- 6.1 Most courses will use fixed marks. Details of the marks and courses will be provided in the Sailing Instructions and associated Course Cards.
- 6.2 One-design keelboats racing in the Green Fleet on Saturdays (see 4.6 above) will have windward-leeward courses using laid marks.
- 6.3 Water Wag courses may be windward-leeward or triangular, using laid marks.

7 Entry and Fees

- 7.1 A boat's entry is complete only when a properly completed entry form and entry fee have been accepted by the Honorary Secretary (see RRS 75, Entering an Event).
- 7.2 The online entry form is available at www.dbsc.ie and includes details of the entry fee for each class. The entry fee includes membership of DBSC for a specified number of crew, depending on the size of the boat. Additional crew may be included in the entry as associate members, for an extra fee.
- 7.3 A keelboat with a full crew aged 30 or under on 1 April 2026 will receive a 25% discount on the entry fee and will be eligible for age-related prizes.
- 7.4 Boats visiting the area to compete in local club events or championship races or making a temporary stop in a waterfront club or marina while on a passage, may enter for DBSC racing for a period of up to 14 days. The current entry fee is €50. A visitor entry form and declaration (available at www.dbsc.ie) must be completed, and the fee must be paid, before racing.

8 Scoring

- 8.1 **Keelboats:** RRS appendix A, Scoring, shall apply. RRS A5.3 shall apply except that a boat that did not come to the starting area shall be scored points for the finishing place 1 more than the number of boats that came to the starting area. This changes RRS A5.3.
- 8.2 **Water Wags:** Boats may be assigned to one of three divisions by the class. Some series may include boats from more than one division. RRS appendix A, Scoring, shall apply. RRS A5.3 shall apply except that a boat that did not come to the starting area shall be scored points for the finishing place 2 more than the number of boats entered in the series. This changes RRS A5.3.
- 8.3 NoR 2 sets out the classes for which a boat's finishing place shall be determined by her corrected time.
- 8.4 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 sails the course and finishes within the time limit, even if she retires after finishing or is disqualified. This changes RRS 90.3(a).
- 8.5 If less than 4 races are completed in a series, a boat's series score shall be the total of her race scores. When 4 or more races have been completed in a series, a boat's series score shall be the total of her race scores excluding her worst scores, with the number of scores excluded increasing with the number of races completed. Details will be in the Sailing Instructions.

9 Prizes

- 9.1 Prizes will be awarded to the boat with the lowest score in each class in each series. Where a class is scored under more than one handicap system, or as one-design and under a handicap system, separate prizes may be awarded.
- 9.2 In the Cruisers 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 classes, a boat winning a prize under IRC or VPRS (or other rating system that might replace IRC or VPRS) shall not be eligible to win a prize under ECHO for the same series. In the Beneteau 211 and Beneteau 31.7 classes, a boat winning a one-design prize shall not be eligible to win a prize under ECHO for the same series. A class may choose to remove this restriction but must notify the Honorary Secretary before the start of the season.
- 9.3 DBSC may award Class Perpetual Trophies. Each class shall deliver a complete list of the Perpetual Trophies, together with the conditions on which they will be awarded, to the Honorary Secretary no less than 7 days before the start of the season. DBSC reserves the right to refuse to score a Perpetual Trophy Series, in which case DBSC will provide the class with race results for the races in question. The class can then decide which boat should be awarded the trophy.

10 Risk Statement

- 10.1 RRS 3 states that the responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone.
- 10.2 Sailing is, by its nature, an unpredictable sport, and therefore inherently involves an element of risk. By participating in any of these races, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:
- a) They are aware of the inherent element of risk involved in the sport and accept responsibility for the exposure of themselves, their crew and their boat to such inherent risk whilst taking part in the race.
 - b) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore.
 - c) They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions.
 - d) Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the race and they are fit to participate.
 - e) The provision of a race management team, patrol boats and other officials and volunteers by the event organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities.
 - f) The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance as it is practical to provide in the circumstances, particularly in extreme weather conditions.
 - g) It is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks specific to the race or to the racing area.

11 Data Protection

- 11.1 Any personal information provided to DBSC will be used to facilitate participation in the series (plural). Competitors and support persons are bound by the Racing Rules of Sailing and the other rules that govern the series (see section 1), and the legal basis for processing their personal information is contract. For any person not bound by the rules, the legal basis for processing their personal information is legitimate interest.
- 11.2 Personal information will be stored and used in accordance with the [DBSC privacy policy](#). When required by the rules, personal information may be shared with Irish Sailing, a competitor's national authority and/or World Sailing.
- 11.3 Details of each boat entered, including the name and club membership of the person entering the boat, may be published. The results of the races and series and details of any hearing or appeal may be published.

12 Use of Images

- 12.1 DBSC may arrange for images or videos to be taken of racing and associated events, both on the water and on shore. By participating in DBSC sailing, competitors give consent to the taking of such images and to the use, reuse, publication, and republication of such images in any media, in conjunction with the competitor's name or not, without compensation and without the competitor's approval of such images or any use thereof. The images may only be used for the promotion of DBSC's activities, DBSC's sponsors, and the relevant class associations.