



IRISH FIREBALL ASSOCIATION

Fireball Autumn Open Championship 2023

21-22 October 2023 at Dun Laoghaire Motor Yacht Club

Sailing Instructions

1 Rules

The Championship will be governed by the Rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 2021 - 2024, the prescriptions of the Irish Sailing Association and the current International Fireball Class Rules, except where any of these is changed by the Notice of Race or by these Sailing Instructions. In the event of a conflict between the Notice of Race and these Sailing Instructions, these Sailing Instructions shall take precedence.

2 Notices to Competitors

Changes to the Sailing Instructions and/or Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board, in the entrance hall of the Dun Laoghaire Motor Yacht Club (DMYC) Clubhouse and may also be posted online at www.dmyc.ie. Any changes to the Sailing Instructions will be published before 09:30 on the day the change will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted not later than 21:00 on the day before it will take effect. All times are local time.

3 Signals made ashore

- 3.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the DMYC flagpole.
- 3.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 70 minutes' in the Race Signal "AP".

4 Schedule of races

- 4.1 Six races are scheduled over the two days of the event, Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd October, with a maximum of 4 races on one day. No race will start after 14:30 on the Sunday (except to restart a race which was subject to a general recall).
- 4.2 A briefing for competitors will take place at approximately 10:00 on the Saturday, at the DMYC clubhouse.
- 4.3 The scheduled time for the Warning Signal for the first race shall be 11:30 on Saturday and 11:00 on Sunday. Subsequent races will be started as soon as possible after the completion of the preceding race.

5 Safety

- 5.1 Competing boats shall remain within the vicinity of the Committee Boat after each race and should not proceed back to the shore without first informing the race committee, either directly or through one of the patrol boats.

5.2 Any boat wishing to retire and go ashore shall inform the race committee before doing so.

5.3 A Personal Flotation Device (PFD) shall be worn by each person on board each boat. A PFD of a least 50N buoyancy is recommended.

6 Class Flag

The Class Flag will be International Code Flag Numeral 1.

7 Race Area

Racing will take place in the Seapoint area of Dublin Bay, west of Dun Laoghaire Harbour, or in Dun Laoghaire Harbour, depending on conditions.

8 Courses

See **Appendix 1** for a description of the courses. The course to be sailed for each race will be signalled by a letter on a board on the Race Committee Boat, in accordance with RRS 27.1.

9 Marks

Marks are intended to be of the inflatable type and will be described at the briefing.

10 The Start

10.1 Races will be started in accordance with RRS 26.

10.2 The Starting Line will be between a red and white striped pole displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee Boat at the starboard end and the course side of a candy-striped mark at the port end. An Inner Limit Mark may be laid approximately on the Starting Line, and if so, boats shall not enter the triangle formed by this mark and the bow and stern of the Race Committee Boat.

10.3 A boat starting later than 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored as Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1 and A5.

11 Change of the next leg of the Course

11.1 To make a significant change ($> 20^\circ$) to the next leg of the course, the Race Committee will move the original mark to a new position. The change will be signaled before the leading boat has begun the leg, although the mark may not yet be in the new position. Any mark to be rounded after rounding the moved mark may be relocated without further signaling to maintain the course configuration.

11.2 Except at a gate, boats shall pass between the Race Committee Boat signalling the change of the next leg and the nearby mark, leaving the mark to port and the Race Committee Boat to starboard. This changes RRS 28.1.

12 Shortening the course

If Code Flag F is displayed, with repetitive sounds, at any mark or gate, all boats shall round that mark or pass through the gate as normal and then proceed directly to the Finish Line. This is in addition to RRS 32.2.

13 The Finish

- 13.1 The Finish Line will be between a red and white striped pole displaying a blue flag on the Race Committee Boat and the course side of a nearby mark, which may be in a different position to the start mark.
- 13.2 When a blue flag is displayed on the Committee Boat, indicating that the finish line is active, a boat shall not cross the finish line in either direction, except to finish. A boat doing so will be scored Did Not Sail the Course (NSC).

14 Time limit

- 14.1 The time limit for each race will be 60 minutes. Boats failing to finish within 10 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF).
- 14.2 After the first boat has finished, the race committee may offer a score to a boat that is still racing and in one of the last three places in the race. The score offered to a boat will be the number of boats ahead of it (both finished and still racing) plus 1. If the boat accepts this offer, it shall stop racing immediately. The offer may be made via a patrol boat, with or without flag W. This changes RRS 28.1, A3, A4 and A5.

15 Protests

- 15.1 Protest Forms are available at the DMYC Race Office. Protests shall be delivered there within the Protest Time Limit.
- 15.2 The Protest Time Limit is 1.5 hours after the last boat finishes the last race on each day. This changes RRS 61.3 and RRS 62.2.
- 15.3 Boats intending to protest shall, where possible, inform the Race Committee after finishing the race in which the incident occurred.
- 15.4 Protest Arbitration will be available, and details will be available at registration.

16 Alternative penalties

RRS 44.3 (yellow flag scoring penalty) shall not apply.

17 Scoring

- 17.1 The scoring system of Appendix A will apply.
- 17.2 Appendix A5.3 will apply to this championship.
- 17.3 A minimum of one race constitutes the championship.
- 17.4 Discards to be applied based on the number of races sailed:
 - 1 - 3 races completed - no discard
 - 4 - 6 races completed - 1 discard.

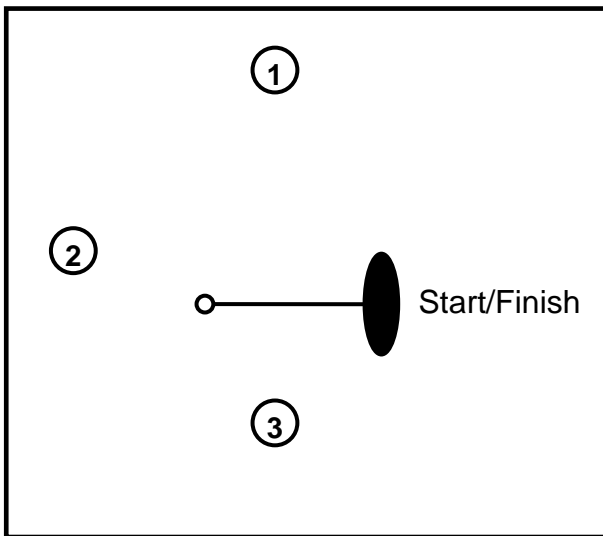
18 Prizes

Prizes will be awarded to the winners of the event as designated by the Fireball Class Association. Perpetual prizes remain the property of the Irish Fireball Association and must not leave the island of Ireland.

19 Disclaimer

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See Rule 4, Decision to Race. The DMYC, including its officers, employees and agents, the race management team, the patrol boats and anyone helping to run the event shall not be liable for any loss, damage, death or personal injury however caused to the owner, competitor or crew as a result of their taking part in the event.

Appendix 1 – Courses



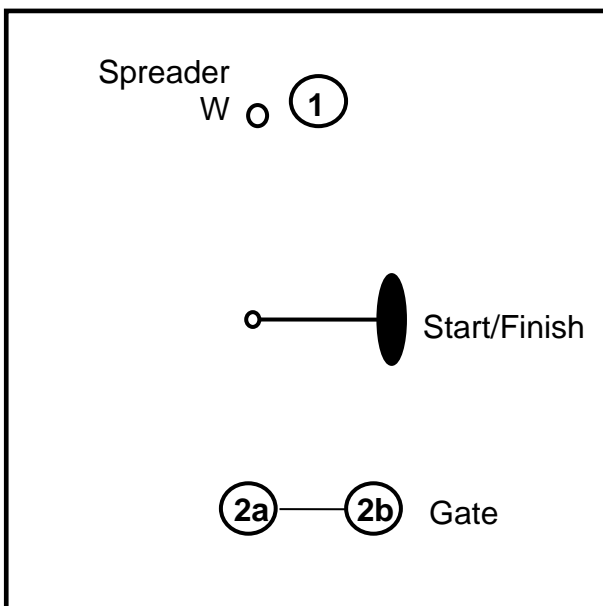
COURSE O

Olympic Triangle

Signalled by a board with the letter **O**

All marks to be rounded to port in the following order:

Start - 1 - 2 - 3 - 1 - 3 - 1 - 2 - 3 - Finish



COURSE W

Windward-Leeward

Signalled by a board with the letter **W**

Marks 1 and W are to be rounded to port. At the gate, a boat may choose to round mark 2a to starboard or to round mark 2b to port.

The sequence of marks is:

Start - 1 - W - Gate - 1 - W - Gate - Finish