



THE SHIPMAN
ASSOCIATION



Irish Shipman Association National Championship 2026

Irish Ruffian Association Leinster Championship 2026

Sailing Instructions

1 Organising Authority

- 1.1 The Organising Authority (OA) for each event is Dun Laoghaire Motor Yacht Club (DMYC), in association with the Irish Shipman Association and the Irish Ruffian Association, respectively.

2 Rules

- 2.1 The events will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing. The prescriptions of Irish Sailing will apply.
- 2.2 For the Shipman National Championship, the class rules of the Irish Shipman Association will apply, along with the Notice of Race for the championship, these Sailing Instructions and any amendments to those documents.
- 2.3 For the Ruffian Leinster Championship, Part 1 of the Equipment Rules of Sailing will apply, along with the rules of the Ruffian 23 Class Association, the Notice of Race for the championship these Sailing Instructions and any amendments to those documents.
- 2.4 Racing Rules 27.1, 27.2, 29.2, 35, 60.3, 61.2, 61.4(b), A5 and Race Signals are changed as detailed in these Sailing Instructions.

3 Notices to Competitors

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the DMYC web site, www.dmyc.ie. For the Ruffian championship, notices may be repeated on event WhatsApp group.
- 3.2 These Sailing Instructions refer to some Dublin Bay Sailing Club (DBSC) documents. Links to those documents are provided in these Sailing Instructions and also at www.dmyc.ie.

4 Changes to Sailing Instructions

- 4.1 Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be announced at least 2 hours before the first warning signal on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 21:00 on the day before it will take effect.

5 Signals made Ashore

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the yard arm of the DMYC.
- 5.2 If flag AP is displayed ashore, the warning signal for the first race will be made not less than 45 minutes after flag AP is removed. This changes RRS Race Signals.

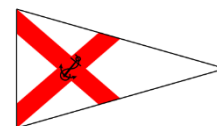


6 Schedule of Races

- 6.1 Four races are scheduled, as shown below:

Race	Day	Warning Signal	Committee Boat
1	Friday 21 August	Ruffian 15:30, Shipman 15:35	Hawaiian Goose, VHF Ch.68
2	Friday 21 August	Soon after completion of Race 1, in the same order as above.	Hawaiian Goose, VHF Ch.68
3	Saturday 22 August	Ruffian 11:00, Shipman 11:05	Hawaiian Goose, VHF Ch.68
4	Saturday 22 August	Ruffian 14:15, Shipman 14:20	Corinthian, VHF Ch.74

- 6.2 Races 1 to 3 will be run by DMYC, and Hawaiian Goose will display the DMYC Burgee (as at the top of this document).
- 6.3 Race 4 will be run by DBSC, and Corinthian will display the DBSC Burgee. There will be other classes racing, so the starts will be part of a longer sequence of starts, as shown in the [DBSC Keelboat Race Times](#) document.



7 Class Flags

- 7.1 The class flags are shown below. These will be used as warning signals.

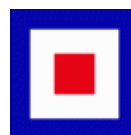
Ruffian

Q



Shipman

W



8 Marks

- 8.1 The marks of the course will be DBSC fixed racing marks, by kind permission. Each mark is identified by a letter, as shown on the [DBSC Racing Marks](#) chart. The colour or colours of each mark will be approximately as shown on the chart. The approximate position of each mark, and the bearings and distances from each mark to each other mark, are in the [DBSC Marks, Bearings and Distances](#) table.
- 8.2 The start mark and finish mark may be a pin-type mark with a flag or a striped inflatable mark.

9 The Course

- 9.1 The course will consist of a number of fixed marks, to be rounded to port or starboard as specified, in the order specified.
- 9.2 The course to be sailed will be displayed on the Committee Boat for at least 3 minutes before the starting signal. This changes RRS 27.1. The course may also be announced on the appropriate VHF channel. Failure to receive such an announcement shall not constitute grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.4(b).
- 9.3 The course may be chosen from those on [DBSC Course Card 1](#), Saturday, Committee Vessel Starts. A letter and number, displayed on the committee boat, will designate the particular course to be sailed.
- 9.4 Alternatively, the Race Officer may design a course that is not on the course card (a "Platonic course"). This will be signalled by the display of a sequence of letters on the committee vessel, designating the marks to be rounded and the order of rounding. A number at the end of the sequence designates the number of laps to be sailed. If no number is displayed, one lap is to be sailed. A red flag, displayed on the committee vessel, indicates that the marks should be rounded to port. A green flag indicates that the marks should be rounded to starboard.

10 The Start

- 10.1 The starting line will be between a red and white pole on the committee boat at the starboard end and the start mark at the port end.
- 10.2 Races will be started in accordance with RRS 26. The warning signal for each succeeding class will be made with the starting signal of the preceding class.
- 10.3 The Race Committee may, no later than three minutes before the starting signal of a class, move either end of the starting line. This changes RRS 27.2.
- 10.4 After the starting signal, the race committee may broadcast the sail numbers of boats that were OCS. Failure to do so or the order of broadcast shall not constitute grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.4(b).
- 10.5 Should there be a general recall, and the recalled class is not the last class in the starting schedule, the Race Committee may decide to continue the starting schedule and restart the race for the class recalled at the end of the starting schedule. This will be signalled by continuing to display the warning signal (class flag) of the class scheduled to start after the recalled class. The recall signal (First Substitute) will be removed at the preparatory signal of the next class, with no additional sound signal. This changes RRS 29.2.
- 10.6 A boat that does not start within 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.



11 The Finish

- 11.1 The finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on the committee boat at the starboard end and the finish mark at the port end. Note that for Race 3, the finish committee boat may be a RIB.
- 11.2 The finishing line will be located approximately upwind of the last mark of the course, unless the course is shortened at one of the marks in accordance with RRS 32.2.

12 Shortening the Course

- 12.1 If a race committee vessel is positioned at a mark of the course and displaying flag F, with sound signals, boats should round that mark as normal, then sail directly to the finishing line and cross the finishing line from the direction of the mark where flag F was displayed. If only certain classes are being shortened in this way, the class flags will be displayed with the F flag. This is in addition to RRS 32.2.

13 Time Limit

- 13.1 In Races 1 to 3, the time limit for the first boat to finish shall be 2 hours after the start. In Race 4, the time limit shall be 17:00.
- 13.2 A boat that does not finish within 20 minutes after the first boat in her class sails the course will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF) without a hearing. This changes RRS 35 and A5.

14 Hearing Requests

- 14.1 Hearing request forms are available at the DMYC race office.
- 14.2 Completed forms shall be delivered to the race office no later than 90 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day, or the Race Committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later. This changes RRS 60.3 and 61.2.
- 14.3 Notices will be posted within 30 minutes of the time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses.
- 14.4 A hearing may be held on the day of racing or on a later day. A hearing may be held in person or via online meeting.
- 14.5 Breaches of Sailing Instruction 16 shall not be grounds for protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1.

15 Sail Numbers

- 15.1 Boats shall display their correct sail number while racing. An exception to this requirement may be granted by the Race Committee but must be requested in writing before the start of racing.
- 15.2 No boat shall display the sail number of another boat competing in its class.

16 Competitors' Responsibility and Safety

- 16.1 No responsibility shall be accepted by the Irish Shipman Association, the Irish Ruffian Association, DMYC, its members, servants or agents, nor those officials or members connected with the event for any loss, damage, injury or other claim of whatever nature howsoever arising or caused in connection with participation in or intended participation in this event.
- 16.2 The safety of a boat and her crew is the sole and inescapable responsibility of the owner(s) or the owner's representative whose obligation it is to ensure that the boat is fully sound, seaworthy, manned by an experienced crew and equipped with all the necessary safety gear. Neither these Sailing Instructions nor any action of the organising authority in any way limits or reduces the complete and unlimited responsibility of the owner(s) or owner's representative.
- 16.3 Attention is drawn to RRS 4 - Part 1 Fundamental Rules.
- 16.4 Boat owners and competing crews shall ensure that they are adequately insured against loss, damage or injury to persons, boats or equipment at all times and however occurring and shall maintain third party insurance cover of not less than three million euro (€3,000,000) and shall produce a valid certificate of insurance upon request.
- 16.5 International Code flag "Y" may be flown at any start in accordance with RRS 40 and if flown then it is mandatory that all competitors wear approved personal buoyancy. However, it is strongly recommended by the Race Committee that all competitors wear approved personal buoyancy and a safety harness as appropriate.
- 16.6 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the Race Committee as soon as possible. This may be done by VHF, on channel 68 for races 1 to 3 or channel 74 for race 4.
- 16.7 Competing boats shall keep clear of commercial shipping, naval vessels, cruise ship tenders and other larger vessels.



17 Equipment and Measurement

- 17.1 Substitution of boats, hulls or sails is not permitted without prior written approval of the Race Committee.
- 17.2 Boats may be checked and measured at any time, at the discretion of the Race Committee.
- 17.3 Underwater breathing apparatus and plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used during the championship.
- 17.4 A boat shall not be removed from the water during the championship without the prior written permission of the Race Committee. The Race Committee may restrict the work that can be done and the time spent out of the water.

18 Radio Communication

- 18.1 Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction applies to mobile telephones and to voice, text and data communication.

End of Sailing Instructions