

Royal St George Yacht Club

The Elmo Trophy 2026

“Saturday and Sunday August 8th and 9th 2026”

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1 Rules

- 1.1 The event will be governed by the rules as defined in the *Racing Rules of Sailing*, including Appendix D, the Notice of Race, these Sailing Instructions, and the prescriptions of Irish Sailing.
- 1.2 When registering, each team will designate a person in charge. This person shall be over 18 on the day of the competition and not be sailing on the team. They shall be always available when competitors are on the water or ashore at the event venue.
- 1.3 Rule D1.1(d) (room to tack – arm signals) is deleted
- 1.4 Except during the knock-out round, a boat that is capsized at, or capsizes after her preparatory signal shall retire immediately. A boat is capsized when her masthead touches the water (this changes rule 22).
- 1.5 Personal flotation devices shall be always worn when afloat except briefly while changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment. Wet suits and dry suits are not personal flotation devices. This changes rule 40.
- 1.6 Competitors may be required to always wear a wet suit or dry suit when afloat.
- 1.7 Breaches of rules 28.1 and 28.2 seen by the Race Committee or an umpire shall be scored by the Race Committee without a hearing. This changes rule A5.
- 1.8 This a Clean Regatta. Pursuant to Rule 47 of the RRS, competitors and support persons shall not intentionally put trash in the water. This rule applies at all times while afloat. The penalty for a breach of this rule may be less than disqualification.

2. Notices to competitors

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located outside at the entrance to the Junior Room at the Royal St. George Yacht Club.
- 2.2 All briefings will be held outside.

3. Changes to Sailing Instructions

- 3.1 Amendments to the Sailing Instructions will be posted at least 15 minutes before the start of any race affected.
- 3.2 Oral instructions may be given on the water by the Race Committee and/or the umpires prior to the warning signal.
- 3.3 Any changes to the starting time of the first race of the day will be posted by 1900 on the day before it will take effect.

4. Boats

For each race, the Race Committee will allocate boats to the participating teams.

5. Signals made ashore

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the main flag mast on the forecourt of the Royal Saint George Yacht Club.
- 5.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 10 minutes.'

6. Format of racing

The format of racing will consist of a 'Swiss league' system which strives to race teams of equal wins and losses. Race orders will be displayed dynamically on various screens in the club and via a mobile link. It is the responsibility of teams to inform themselves of their own schedule. Knock-out quarter final, semi-final and final rounds may be sailed if weather permits. The format will be clarified at the briefing but may be changed by the race committee to achieve a fair result.

7. Schedule

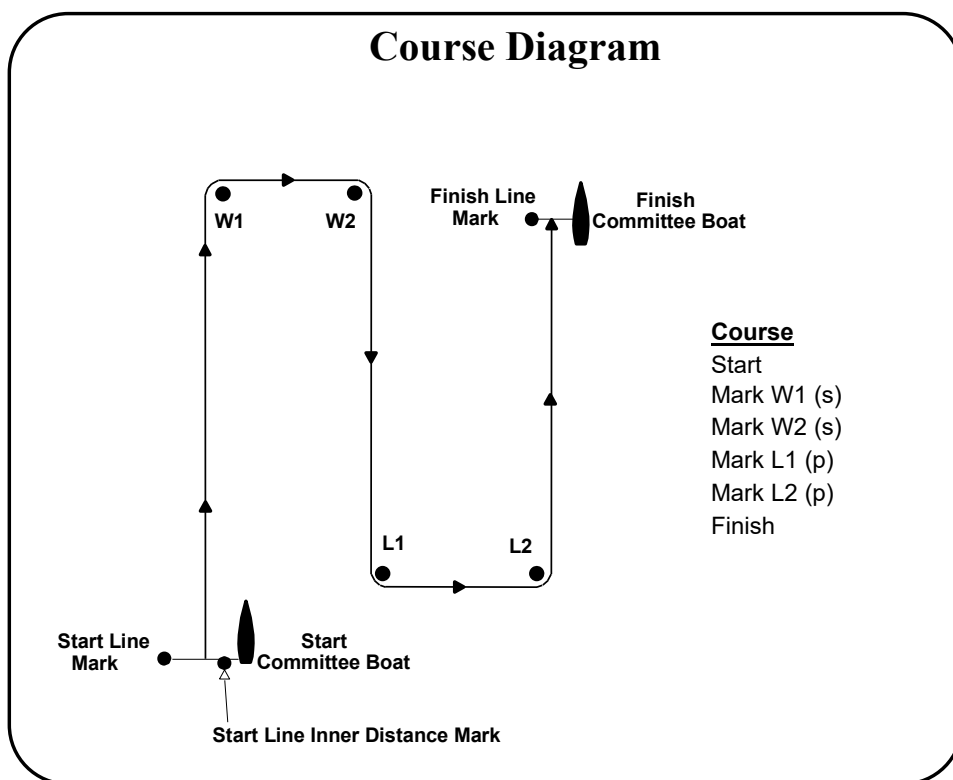
- 7.1 Racing will take place on Saturday 8th and Sunday 9th August.
- 7.2 The **first warning signal will be at 10:30** on Saturday 8th August.

8. Racing Area

The racing area will be situated in Dun Laoghaire Harbour.

9. Courses

- 9.1 The course will be a Starboard 'S' course.
- 9.2 The Race Committee may move marks of the course at any time. Rule 33 will not apply. The moving of a mark by the Race Committee will not give grounds for redress.



10. Marks

Details of the marks will be made available at the briefing. For knockouts a vessel flying code flag M may replace mark 2. (The spectator mark)

11. Breakdowns

- 11.1 Competitors shall inspect a boat before taking charge of the boat.
- 11.2 Competitors shall report any defects, damage, or breakdown to the Race Committee at the first reasonable opportunity.
- 11.3 When to continue racing after damage reasonably risks further damage to the boat, she shall retire immediately. The Race Committee will decide redress in accordance with rule D5.
- 11.4 The Race Committee may postpone a re-sail indefinitely and shall score each team half a race win unless the result is relevant to progress to, but not seeding in, the next round.

Sailing with four boats due to breakdown (***'Two on two & last boat loses'***).

- 11.5 In the case of breakdown that is through no fault of either the teams about to race, and signalled before the preparatory signal of the race, the race committee may decide to sail a race with only 2 boats per team. The race committee's decision will be communicated to teams either verbally ashore or afloat or by the race umpires. Each team captain shall decide which two boats will sail. The crew of the broken-down boat may switch to another team boat and race.
- 11.6 When the race committee decides to run a 2-boat per team race, D.3.3 is modified to read "The team with the lower total points wins the race. If the totals are equal, the team that did not have the last-place boat wins."
- 11.7 When the race committee decides to run a 2-boat per team race and when D4.4 (b) or (d) apply, the boats that did not race will be considered to have scored points equal to 5th place.

12. The Start

12.1 Rule 26, *Starting Races*, will not apply.

12.2 A series of short sounds may be made prior to the first warning signal of a starting sequence. This will be detailed further at the briefing.

12.3 A coloured lollipop **may** be displayed on the start boat for each start with the colours representing each flight.

12.4 Visual signal for timing may be used as a courtesy.

The starting sequence will be either a 3-minute sequence or a 2-minute sequence:

12.3(a) 3 minute sequence. **Numeral pennant 3** flown from start boat.

3 long hoots at 3 min,
2 at 2 min,
1 long at 1 min,
3 short at 30 sec,
2 short at 20,
1 short at 10 & 5,4,3,2,1 sec & 1 long at start, one start only)

12.3(b) 2 minute sequence. **Numeral pennant 2** flown from start boat.

2 long hoots at 2 min,
1 long at 1 min,
3 short at 30 sec,
2 short at 20,
1 short at 10 & 5,4,3,2,1 sec & 1 long at start, one start only)

In both sequences the preparatory signal will be at two minutes.

12.4 Times shall be taken from the start of each sound signal.

12.5 The race number may be displayed on the start boat before the preparatory signal.

12.6 The starting line will be between a staff on the start boat and the starting mark.

12.7 An inner limit mark may be laid adjacent to the start boat. No boat shall pass between this mark and the start boat.

12.8 A boat shall start not more than 2 minutes after her starting signal.

12.9 When at a boat's starting signal any part of her hull, crew or equipment is on the course side of the starting line, the Race Committee shall promptly display flag X with one sound and may hail the sail numbers of premature starters. The flag shall be displayed until all such boats are completely on the pre-start side of the starting line or its extensions, but not later than **one minute after the starting signal**. Failure to hail, or failure of a boat to hear a hailed number, shall not be grounds for redress. This changes rules 29.1 and 62.1(a).

13. The Finish

The finishing line will be between the finish boat observer and a finishing mark.

14. Abandoning a race.

The Race Committee may abandon a race for any reason. Abandonment(s) may be advised orally by the umpires of that race. This changes rule 32 and Race Signals.

15. Time limits

The time limit for each race shall be 20 minutes. Boats that fail to finish within 5 minutes after the first boat finishes will be scored DNF. This amends RRS 35 and A5

16. Continuity and termination of responsibility

16.1 The handover of boats between competitors shall be completed without delay.

16.2 A boat shall remain the responsibility of the team until handed over to a Race Committee representative or the next team to use that boat. Boats shall be handed over as empty of water as practical and in racing trim. Any defects shall be reported to a Race Committee representative at handover.

17. Umpiring and protests

17.1 Races shall be umpired and RRS D2 applies.

17.2 The protest committee may hear protests on the water. They may refuse to hear a protest or request for redress unless its outcome is relevant to progress to, but not seeding in, the next round of the competition. This changes rule 63.1.

17.3 Breaches of SI 16, 19 will not be grounds for protest by a boat. This changes rule 60.1(a). Penalties for these breaches may be less than disqualification.

18. Official boats and Ferry Ribs

Official boats may be marked. Details will be posted on the official notice board. Competitors may only changeover into fireflies at the dock or via the Ferry Ribs. The use of private ribs for changeovers is not allowed.

19. Support boats

Coach/Support boats will not be allowed on the racecourse during racing.

20. Prohibited areas

Competitors should always keep clear of the fairways. This fairway area will be defined at the event briefing.

21. Right of use of name and likeness

Competitors automatically grant to the Organising Authority without payment the right in perpetuity to make, use and show any text, motion pictures, video and still pictures, as well as live, taped, or filmed television of, or relating to, the event.

22. Prizes

The following prizes will be awarded. The Elmo Trophy for the winning team. Prizes will be awarded to teams that came 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 9th, 15th, 26th as well as the overnight leaders on Saturday night. The winners will win the Elmo Trophy. The team that just missed the knockouts (usually 9th) will win the Elmo Plate. The Trophy and the plate are perpetual and live in the RSGYC

23. Disclaimer of liability

- 23.1 It is the sole responsibility of the person in charge of each team to decide if that team should race in the prevailing conditions or not. It is the sole responsibility of the person in charge of each boat to decide if that boat should race or continue to race.
- 23.2 Competitors compete in the event entirely at their own risk – see Rule 4, *Decision to Race*. The Organising Authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during or after the event. The Organising Authority encompasses everyone helping to run the event.

24 Code of conduct

- 24.1 Competitors shall comply with any reasonable request from any official, including attendance at official functions, co-operation with event sponsors and shall not behave to bring the event into disrepute.
- 24.2 Competitors shall handle the boats and equipment with proper care and seamanship.
- 24.3 The penalty for breaking instruction 24.1 and 24.2 is at the discretion of the protest committee and may include exclusion from further participation in the event, the withdrawal of any prize or the withholding of deposits.

25 Crew substitution

25.1 Substitutes are not encouraged this year. In the past when we had capacity, this was welcomed as it increased participation. With over 5 teams on a waiting list and now with 36 teams, we just cannot manage more sailors. A change to your team line up will be allowed until Friday 7th August at 16:00. In event of unavoidable circumstances, **one** substitute can be made per team. This must be agreed by the race office and is a permanent substitution.

The team must continue to meet the age requirements as set out in the NOR. The substitute can replace a crew and not a helm on the team. If a helm cannot participate, his/her replacement should be from the original three crews entered.

Substitution cannot be strategic. Final decision as to allowance of a substitute is with the event director.