



Belfast Lough Autumn Series 2017

sponsored by Mackey Opticians

10th September to 22nd October 2017

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Organising authority

This event will be organised by Ballyholme Yacht Club (BYC)

1 RULES

1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.

1.2 The prescriptions of the RYA will apply.

1.3 Racing rules 27.1, 28.1, 32.2, 61.3, 62.1(a), 62.2, 63.1, 66, A2 and A4 will be changed. The changes will appear in full in the sailing instructions.

1.4 Rules of the IRC Class, the Sigma 33 Offshore One Design Class and the National Handicap for Cruisers (Regatta) will apply.

2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located at Ballyholme Yacht Club

3 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 0900 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed at Bangor Marina.

4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 60 minutes' in the race signal AP.

5 SCHEDULE OF RACES

5.1	Date	Race
	Sunday 10 th September	Race 1; weekly until
	Sunday 22 nd October	Race 7

5.2 Seven Races are scheduled

5.3 The scheduled time of the first warning signal each day is 1030.

6 CLASS FLAGS

IRC	Numeral 1
Sigma 33	Numeral 2
NHC	Numeral 3
Quarter Ton	Q
Waverley	E

7 RACING AREAS

Racing will take place in Belfast Lough close to Bangor.

8 THE COURSES

8.1 The courses to be sailed will be as shown in Addendum A

9 MARKS

9.1 Marks 1, 2, 3P and 3S will be yellow inflatables. The Start and Finish Mark will be a green inflatable.

9.2 In the event that either 3P or 3S is missing – the remaining mark is to be rounded to port.

10 THE START

10.1 The starting line will be between an Orange mast on the committee boat displaying an orange flag at the starboard end and the green port-end starting mark.

10.2 To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, the orange starting line flag will be displayed with one sound at least five minutes before a warning signal is made.

10.3 A boat starting later than 5 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A4 and A5.

10.4 Classes may be started alongside other classes depending on number of starters.

11 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

11.1 To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will move the original mark (or the finishing line) to a new position.

11.2 Minor changes may not be signaled.

12 THE FINISH/ SHORTENING THE COURSE

12.1 The finishing line will be between a mast on the committee boat displaying a blue flag at the starboard end and the green port-end finishing mark.

12.2. In addition to the provisions of RRS 32.2 the race may be shortened by displaying Flag F with repetitive sound signals near to the leeward gate. Boats should round Mark 3 and sail directly to the finish.

13 TIME LIMITS

Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat in their Fleet sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish. This changes RRS 35 and A4.

14 ARBITRATION

14.1 An Arbitration System will be available for this event and competitors are recommended to resolve disputes using this method. Boats penalised under this System may accept a 25% penalty. See the Official Notice Board for details

15 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

15.1 Protest time is 60 minutes after the finish time of the last boat to finish on that day. The same time limit applies to protests by the race committee and the protest committee about incidents they observe in the racing area and to requests for redress. This changes RRS 61.3 and 62.2

15.2 Protest forms are available at Ballyholme Yacht Club. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within Protest Time. The expiration of Protest Time will be posted on the Official Notice Board.

15.3 Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the protest committee room, located at Ballyholme Yacht Club.

15.4 Notices of protests by the race committee or protest committee will be posted to inform boats under rule 61.1(b).

15.5 A request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered (a) within the protest time limit if the party requesting reopening was informed of the decision on the previous day; (b) no later than 30 minutes after the party requesting the reopening was informed of the decision on that day. This changes RRS 66. .

16 SCORING

16.1 2 races are required to be completed to constitute a series.

16.2 When fewer than 4 races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.

17 SAFETY REGULATIONS

17.1 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible.

17.2 Boats shall not race with an anchor on deck projecting forward of the bow. Boats infringing this instruction shall be disqualified without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1.

17.3 Persons competing in the Waverley Class shall wear adequate personal buoyancy at all times when afloat. Wetsuits or drysuits are not adequate buoyancy.

18 REPLACEMENT OF EQUIPMENT

Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed unless authorised by the race committee. Requests for substitution shall be made to the committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

19 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions. On the water, a boat can be instructed by race committee equipment inspector or measurer to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.

20 RADIO COMMUNICATION

Except in an emergency a boat that is racing shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

21 PRIZES

Prizes will be given as follows:

21.1 Prizes will be given as follows:

Prizes will be awarded to the Overall Class Winners. If five or more boats, there will be a 2nd prize. The Overall Prize Giving will be held on 22nd October at BYC after Sailing.

21.2 There will be weekly prizes for class winners as provided by our Sponsor Mackey Opticians at BYC. Boats may not win more than one weekly prize in Race 1-3 or Race 4-7. If a boat has already won a weekly prize in the mini-series, it will pass to the next highest competitor.

22 RISK STATEMENT

Rule 4 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone"

Sailing by its nature is an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, 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 event;
- (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 event 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, particularly in extreme weather conditions as can be practically provided in the circumstances.

23 INSPECTIONS

The fact that the race committee conducts inspections of a boat does not reduce the responsibilities of each competitor set out in these Sailing Instructions.

24 INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £3,000,000.00 Pounds Sterling or the equivalent.

ADDENDUM A

The course is as follows:

IRC and Sigma 33	1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 3, Finish
NHC	1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 3, Finish
Quarter Ton	1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 3, Finish
Waverley	1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 3 Finish

Marks 1 and 2 are to be rounded to port.

Marks 3S/3P are a gate.

