**BALLYHOLME YACHT CLUB**

**Open Windsurfing Ulster Championships**

**Saturday 23rd October 2021**

Notice of Race

**GUIDELINES FOR RACING UNDER COVID 19**

**DO NOT attend Ballyholme Yacht Club or the Banks Lane car park if you, or anyone in your household, are feeling unwell or experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19 or you have come in to contact with someone who has tested positive within the last 10 days.**

**Social distancing of at least 1m must be adhered to at all times.**

**Please be aware of the risks with shared hard surfaces – this includes taps, buckets etc. Please bring hand sanitiser or use the sanitiser provided at various locations around the car park and Ballyholme Yacht Club.**

The notation ‘[NP]’ in a rule of the Notice of Race (NoR) or Sailing Instructions means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a).

*The Organising Authority is Ballyholme Yacht Club (BYC) in association with the Irish Windsurfing Association (IWA)*

**1. Rules**

**1.1** The events and the series will be governed by the *rules* as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing 2021-2024.* These include Appendix B (windsurfing fleet racing rules), the Prescriptions of the RYA, this Notice of Race, the Sailing Instructions, and the rules of the relevant International classes as amended by national class rules where applicable.

**1.2** Club, council rules and byelaws apply if displayed on the premises of the club or council land which will be used to accommodate the hosting of the event.

**1.3** Competitors should note that BYC implements the RYA Racing Charter and that they will be expected to sail in compliance with it. The Charter can be found at the front of the RYA edition of the Racing Rules of Sailing 2021 - 2024 (the yellow pages after the definitions), or on the RYA website at [www.rya.org.uk/racingrules](http://www.rya.org.uk/racingrules)

**1.4** The Post Race Penalty, Advisory Hearing and RYA Arbitration of the RYA Rules Disputes Procedures will be available.

**2 COMMUNICATION**

**2.1** The official noticeboard is located at the front door of Ballyholme Yacht Club.

**3. ADVERTISING**

**3.1** Advertising will be allowed in accordance with the class rules of the competing classes. If no limitations are prescribed within the class rules, WS Regulation 20- Advertising Code shall take precedence.

**3.2** Boards may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the Organising Authority.

**4. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY**

**4.1** Racing will be in the following fleets and sub-divisions where notified:

* Gold
* Silver
* Bronze / Novice

A competitor may use “fin” or “foil” in the gold fleet only

**Within these fleets the following age categories (divisions) maybe recognised:**

* Junior (aged 16 or under as at 31st December 2021)
* Youth (aged 18 or under as at 31st December 2021)
* Master (aged 35+ born 1985 or before)
* Grand Master (aged 45+ born 1975 or before)
* Veteran (aged 55+ born 1965 or before)
* Super Veteran (aged 65+ born 1955 or before)

**4.2** A sailor shall be a member of the IWA, UKWA, or a non-UK or Ireland resident shall be a member of either their national windsurfing association or a World Sailing Member National Authority.

**4.3** Entries should be made in advance through the BYC website www.ballyholme.com. Online pre-entry closes at 1200 on Thursday 21st October 2021

**4.4** Before competing, each competitor shall register their attendance at the Race Office at BYC and update or confirm entry as necessary.

**4.5** Parents of competitors under the age of 18 must agree a Parent/Guardian Declaration online at time of entry.

**4.6** Fleets may race together on a single start, depending on the number of entries. Individual classes within a fleet shall be raced and scored as a single fleet.

**4.7** Sailors must wear a numbered bib over their most outer clothing, which must be visible at all times whilst afloat. Breaches of NOR 4.7 shall not be grounds for protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a).

**4.8** Competitors must enter and race under their allocated number, other than with the express permission of the Race Officer or his / her deputy.

**4.9** A competitor not complying with 4.7 will be scored DSQ but may seek redress via a results query form and accept a 20% place penalty for each race whilst in breach of 4.7 without written permission of the Race Officer or his / her deputy. This amends A5.

**5. FEES**

**5.1** Entry fees are £30 as set out on the BYC website and IWA website. This cost will include a BBQ meal at BYC after the conclusion of racing.

**6. SCHEDULE**

**6.1** Competitors shall confirm entry and collect tally at the Race Office on Friday 22nd October 2021 between 1730 – 1900 hrs or on the morning of racing from 0800 to 0930 hrs at the Cadet Room in Ballyholme Yacht Club.

**6.2** There will be a welcome and briefing for all competitors on the morning of racing at 1000, (in person) at the Banks car park

**6.3** The scheduled time of the first warning signal is 1057 hrs.

**6.4** There will be 3 races back-to-back unless the Race Officer or his / her deputy indicate otherwise, before a short break. After which a similar format will follow.

**6.5** There will be no warning signal made after 1530 hrs.

**6.6** The normal programme for each fleet will be 11 races on the day

**7. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

**7.1** These will be posted on the BYC & IWA websites no later than 15th October 2021

**8. VENUE**

**8.1** The sailing area will be inBallyholme Bay / Belfast Lough, Bangor, Co.Down.

**8.2** Staging post will be at the Banks Lane Carpark, Banks Lane, off the Groomsport Road, Bangor, Co.Down (54 40’01N 5 38’05W)

**9 Courses**

**9.1** The courses to be sailed will be “Slalom” and “Figure of 8” – details will be on the Sailing Instructions.

**10. SCORING**

**10.1 GENERAL**

**10.1.1** One race is required to be completed

**10.1.2** The Low Point Scoring System of Appendix A will apply. Appendix A A8 Series Ties does not apply.

**10.1.3** A competitor does not become eligible for series or event points by ‘pre entering’, but only by registering at the event and being capable of sailing and intending to do so.

**10.2 SERIES SCORING**

**10.2.1** The board’s series score will be the total of her race scores

**10.2.2** If all 11 races are completed at the event for a fleet, their score will be the total of those races completed, A discard will be applied after the completion of race 4, 7 and 11.

**10.2.3** Rule A5 does not apply. A board which does not start / did not sail the course / did not finish / retired or was disqualified will be awarded a score of the number of sailors entered for that race plus 1.

**11 SAFETY REGULATIONS**

**11.1** All competitors should carry at all times a SOLAS approved whistle.

**11.2** All junior sailors who will be aged 17 or under on 31st December 2021 shall always wear a personal flotation device appropriate to class rules when afloat except briefly when changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment. Excluding windfoils.

**11.3** All windfoil crew shall wear an impact vest which may also act as personal flotation device in accordance with 11.5

**11.4** Sailors who enter on a Windfoil must wear a helmet at all times.

**11.5** If the Y flag is flying, all competitors shall always wear a personal flotation device appropriate to class rules when afloat except briefly when changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment. A personal flotation device may include an impact vest with a minimum of 50 Newtons.

**11.6** If conditions dictate, the organisers may require all competitors to wear personal floatation devices and/or wet or dry suits.

**11.7** A tally system will be in use

**11.8 Mandatory Instructions on the Water - Boards and Competitors in Difficulty.** When the race committee considers that a board, its equipment or sailor are not adequate for the existing or anticipated conditions, or that a board or sailor is in difficulty, it may instruct the board or sailor not to launch, or to retire or to sail ashore or to accept outside help. The board and sailor shall comply with such instructions without delay.

**12 ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION**

**12.1** DP] While racing, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

**13 PRIZES**

**13.1** Prizes will be awarded to the first competitor in each fleet with 3 or more registered at the event, provided that at least one race has been completed. Additional fleet prizes, and category /sub-division prizes, may be awarded depending upon the numbers of competitors.

**14 SUPPORT & COACH BOATS / PERSONS**

**14.1** No coach boats or support boats will be permitted within 50m of the race course where boats are racing from the time of the preparatory signal for the first start until all boats have finished or retired or the race committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment. An exception to this will be when directed by the Event Safety Office, Race Officer or his/her Deputy.

**14.2** When afloat all support persons on that vessel, shall wear a personal flotation device and when the engine of a support vessel is running, the support vessel driver shall use a kill cord.

**14.3** All support & coach boats must register with BYC no later than 1200 hrs on Thursday 21st October 2021 by visiting [www.ballyholme.com](http://www.ballyholme.com) and completing the online event support & coach boat document under the Event tag

**15 RISK STATEMENT**

**15.1** RRS 3 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states: “The responsibility for a boat’s decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone.”

**15.2** Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:

* 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;
* They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their property whether afloat or ashore;
* They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;
* Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
* 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;
* The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances.
* It is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risk specific to this venue or this event drawn to their attention in any rules and information produced for the venue or event and to attend any safety briefing held for the event, in person or virtually.

**16 INSURANCE**

Each participating board shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of five million per event or the equivalent. This cover is automatically provided as part of IWA or UKWA membership.

**17 FURTHER INFORMATION**

**17.1** Further information relating to the event including, Covid, news, directions to the event site, parking and camping, accommodation, and the social programme, will be published on the BYC website prior to the event.