Irish Multihull Association
Northern Championship
2026
Sponsored by Victoria Pinkerton

Ballyholme Yacht Club

Saturday 8th. to Sunday 9th. August 2026

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The Organising Authority (OA) is Ballyholme Yacht Club (BYC).

The notation '[NP]' in a rule of the sailing instructions (SIs) means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1

1 RULES

1.1 The event is governed by the Rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)*.

1.2 Racing rules Race Signals AP, 33, 35, 44.1, 60.1, 60.1(b), 61.3, 62.1, 62.2, A5.1 and A5.2 will be changed. The changes appear, in full, in the notice of race or in these sailing instructions.

2 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.

3 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located in the Club.

4 CODE OF CONDUCT

[DP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials and all official volunteers.

5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed at the main flagpole at BYC.

5.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 45 minutes' in Race Signals AP. This changes race signals AP.

6 SCHEDULE OF RACES

See NoR 9

7 CLASS FLAGS

Class flag will be:

- F18 Class flag
- F20 Flag F

8 RACING AREA

The racing area will be Belfast Lough

9 COURSES

9.1 Courses to be sailed will be Windward Leeward. The diagrams in Appendix A show the course, the order in which marks are to be passed and the side on which each mark is to be left. If gate mark 2P or 2S is missing, the remaining mark shall be rounded to port. This changes RRS 34.

9.2 The course to be displayed will be displayed on a board on the starboard side of the committee vessel.

10 MARKS

Start mark – Green inflatable

Course marks – Yellow inflatable

Finish – Red inflatable

11 OBSTRUCTIONS

Official boats, including a safety boat in close attendance to a craft or competitor in difficulty are designated as an obstruction.

12 THE START

12.1 The starting line will be between a staff on a committee vessel displaying an orange flag at the starboard end and the course side of the port end mark.

12.2 A boat that does not start within 5 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.

13 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

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

13.2 The Race Committee may make minor course changes without a signal. This changes RRS 33.

14 THE FINISH

The finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on the committee vessel and the course side of the finishing mark.

15 PENALTY SYSTEM

See NoR 14.

16 TIME LIMITS

16.1 The time limit for the class is 50 minutes.

16.2 Boats failing to finish within a 10-minute finishing window after the first boat in her class sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF) without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, A5.1 and A5.2

16.3 In addition to RRS 32 the Race Committee may also award a finishing score to a boat that is still racing by displaying to them from a committee vessel (which may be in motion) flag W with one sound signal. A boat so notified is no longer required to sail the course, shall stop racing and shall return to the starting area, or return ashore if there is no more racing. A finishing score under this sailing instruction will be the score they would have received had they sailed the course and finished within the time limit, without gaining or losing any place. However, when two or more boats that are overlapped are notified, they will be scored as if they were tied. The decision by

the Race Committee to use this procedure or not to use it shall not be grounds for requesting redress. This changes rules 61.1(a) and 61.4(b)

17 HEARING REQUESTS

17.1 The protest time limit is 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 the later. This changes RRS 61.3(b) and 61.4(b)

17.2 Hearing Request forms are available at the Race Office or Members Lounge.

17.3 Boats intending to protest or request redress, for an incident on the racecourse, shall inform the Race Committee finishing vessel upon finishing the race and receive acknowledgement, or if they do not finish, inform a safety or mark boat as soon as practicable after they retire. This changes RRS 61. (Protest Requirements and RRS 61.2 Redress)

17.3 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 Race Office, located in the clubhouse.

18 SCORING

As per NoR 15

19 SAFETY REGULATIONS

19.1 [DP][NP] A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee, safety fleet or jury at the first reasonable opportunity.

19.2 [DP] [NP] Boats shall display a clearly visible sail number on their mainsail compliant with the class rules. No two boats of the same fleet shall display numerically identical sail numbers.

20 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

20.1 [DP] [NP] Substitution of competitors is not allowed without prior written approval of the race committee.

20.2 [DP] [NP] Substitution of damaged or lost equipment is not allowed unless authorised by the race or protest committee. Requests for substitution shall be made in writing at the first reasonable opportunity via the race committee.

20.3 If equipment substitution is required less than 90 minutes before the first scheduled start on a racing day, and before the start of the last race of the day, provisional verbal permission shall be obtained from the race committee before using the equipment in a race and equipment replacement authorisation shall be requested before the end of the protest time limit at the end of the day in which the substitution takes place.

21 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

[NP] A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules, NoR and SIs.

22 SUPPLIED BOATS

Does not apply.

23 OFFICIAL VESSELS

Committee vessel is a Bavaria 38 sailing yacht “Ravyn”. Safety & Mark boats are BYC ribs.

24 [DP] [NP] SUPPORT TEAMS

As per NoR 16

25 TRASH DISPOSAL

Trash may be placed aboard official or support person vessels.

26 BERTHING

[DP] [NP] Boats shall be kept in their assigned places in the dinghy park.

27 HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS

Does not apply.

28 DIVING EQUIPMENT AND PLASTIC POOLS

Does not apply.

29 PRIZES

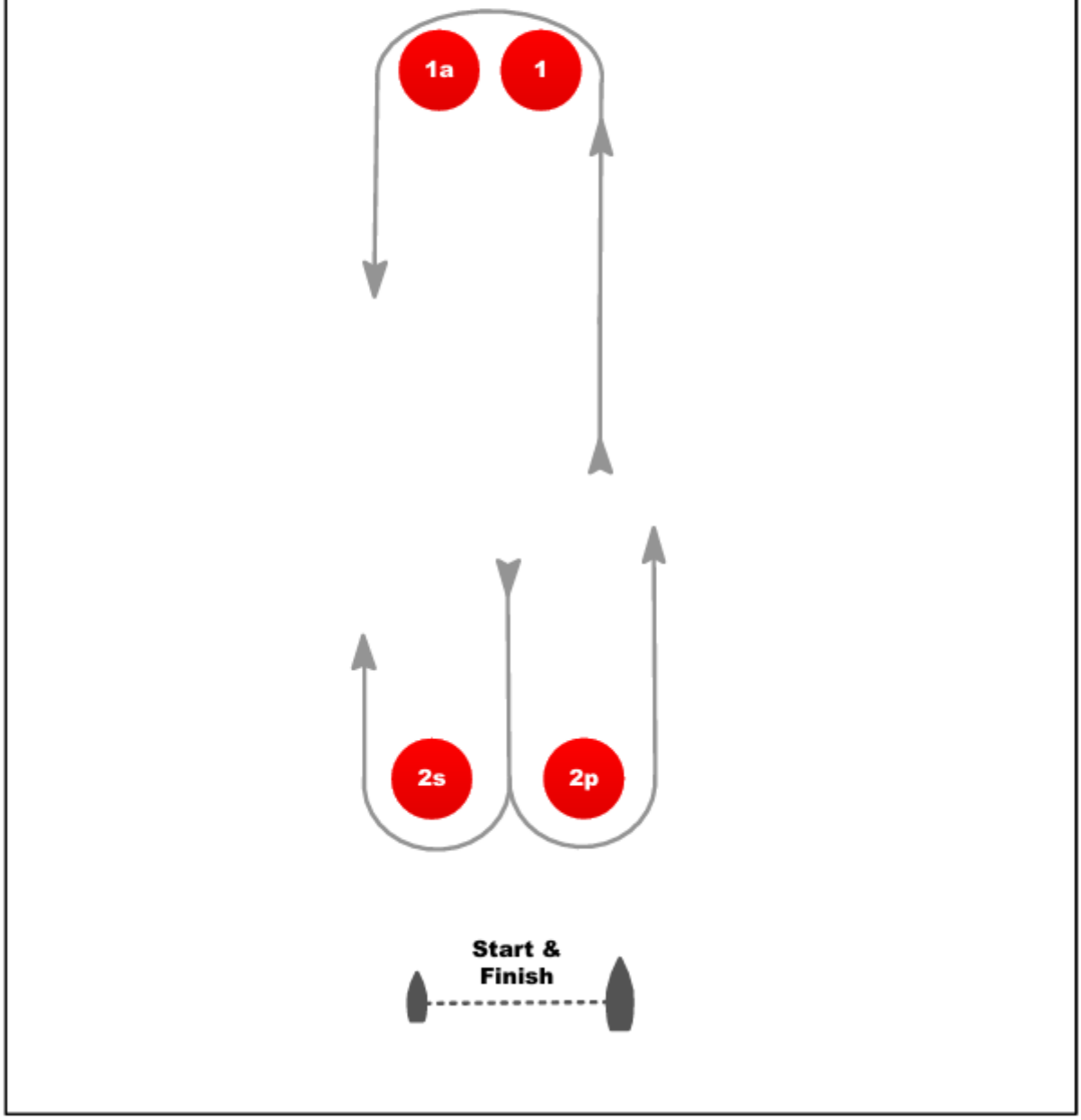
As per NoR 24

24 RISK STATEMENT

As per NoR 22.

25 INSURANCE

As per NoR 23

Appendix A

LA	COURSE: WINDWARD / LEEWARD with spreader mark
Signal	**Mark Rounding Order**
LA2	**Start – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – 1 – 1a – Finish**
LA3	**Start – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – 1 – 1a – Finish**
LA4	**Start – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – 1 – 1a – Finish**