Notice of Race

Ulster Schools Team Racing Championship

Royal North of Ireland yacht Club (RNIYC)

Saturday 7th November 2026

The Organising Authority (OA) is Royal North of Ireland Yacht Club (RNIYC) in association with Irish Schools Sailing (ISS).

1. Introduction

1.1. The Ulster Schools Team Racing Championship will take place on Saturday 7th November 2026 at RNIYC, Holywood.

1.2. The event is for three boat teams in boats sailed by two people. The boats, the Firefly dinghy, will be supplied by the OA.

2. Rules

2.1. The Event will be governed by the Rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) including Appendix D.

2.2. Races will be umpired.

2.3. The right of appeal is denied in accordance with RRS 70.3(b)

2.4. Rule 40.1 (Personal Floatation Devices) applies at all times while afloat or on any slipway or pontoon.

2.5. The notation '[DP]' in a rule means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.

3. Eligibility [NP]

3.1. The competitors in a team shall be in full-time secondary education, be bona-fide members of the School or Organisation they represent and should not change during the event.

3.2. Teams shall consist of

a) competitors representing a single School or Organisation

b) competitors representing combined Schools or Organisations from a clearly defined geographical area, or a recognised group of educational institutions

3.3. No competitor may represent a combined team and also be a member of a school entered under NoR3.2(a) unless given written approval by the OA.

3.4. No competitor may sail for more than one team.

3.5. After an entry has been submitted, the nominated helms or crews shall not be changed without the prior written approval of the race committee.

3.6. Where more than one team is entered by a school or organisation, each team shall be identified by a suffix, suffixes shall not be numbers or letters.

3.7. All organisations must be accompanied by a designated adult chaperone who is over 18 and must not be sailing in the event.

3.8. All organisations are required to make at least one person available who can assist the OA with conducting the regatta, either on or off the water. Organisations that have three or more entered teams are required to make at least two people available.

3.9. All competitors, under the age of 18, must provide a completed Guardianship Form prior to registration. Any competitor that fails to meet this requirement will be deemed ineligible to race.

3.10. If the event is over prescribed, preference will be given to teams in such a way that caters for as many different schools as possible before subsequent teams can enter.

4. Entry Fees and Deposit

4.1. The entry fee per team is £300 and is payable to RNIYC. The link for payment will be provided at time of entry.

4.2. Unless expressly agreed by the Organising Authority, the entry fee must be paid at time of entry.

4.3. Each team will be liable for the cost of damage to boats, equipment, and property up to a maximum of £500 per incident. This fee will be payable to RNIYC and a link will be sent out with entry forms. A deposit for this amount will be required before a team may sail. When a team is assessed as liable for damage, it shall restore the deposit to the original value to continue sailing. Damage attributed to competitors generally or to an unidentified team will be attributed equally between all teams. A team may apply to the protest committee to determine their responsibility for any damage.

Event Schedule

4.4. Registration will take place in RNIYC on the morning of the event from 08.00 to 09.00.

4.5. There will be a briefing for competitors and team managers at 08.30 in RNIYC.

4.6. The first warning signal on the day of racing will not be before 09.27.

4.7. There will be no warning signal, for any stage other than Knockouts after 16.30.

5. Clothing

5.1. All competitors will be required to wear wet suits or dry suits, unless indicated by the race committee on each racing day [DP].

6. Course and Format of Racing

6.1. The courses will be described in the Sailing Instructions.

6.2. The format of the event will be described in the Sailing Instructions.

7. Prizes

7.1. The Ulster Trophy will be awarded to the overall winners of the event

7.2. Additional Prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the OA.

8. Data Protection, Rights to use Name and Likeness

8.1. The personal information you provide to the OA will be used to facilitate your participation in the event and may be shared with third party organisations; a list of whom may be obtained by contacting the OA. If you have agreed to be bound by the Racing Rules of Sailing and the other rules that govern the event (the rules), the legal basis for processing that personal information is contract. If you are not bound by the rules, the legal basis for processing that personal information is legitimate interest. Your personal information will be stored and used in accordance with the OA's privacy policy. When required by the rules, personal information may be shared with your national authority and/or World Sailing. The results of the event and the outcome of any hearing or appeal may be published.

8.2. By participating in this event competitors automatically grant to the OA the right in perpetuity to make use and show at their discretion any photography, audio and video recordings and other reproductions of them made at the venue or on the water from the time of their arrival at the venue until their final departure, without compensation.

9. Risk Statement

Rule 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”.
Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk.

9.1. 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) The provision of a race management team, patrol boats, umpires and other officials and volunteers by the OA does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;

e) The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances.

f) It is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks specific to the host venue or the 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.

g) It is their responsibility to ensure that they are familiar with the type of boat used, and the supplied equipment and are suitably experienced with its operation.

h) It is their responsibility for ensuring all supplied equipment is carried on board.

i) They are fit to sail and that they believe the crew and the boat and crew is capable of competing in the anticipated conditions.

10. Cancellation

10.1. The OA reserves the right to cancel the event. The entry fee and any deposits will be refunded less any unavoidable costs.

Attachment X –Damage Assessment

It is expected that all competitors show due care and attention to the boats that are provided for their use during the Event. Damage to boats causes conflict, delay and impacts everyone involved at the event. This attachment intends to help minimise damage; ultimately providing more racing at less cost for everyone.

In the unfortunate case of damage occurring, this attachment provides guidance to competitors and officials on how damage may be assessed, penalised and costs allocated as equitably as possible.

X1. DAMAGE AGREEMENT

X1.1 By entering the event, the team expressly agrees to follow and comply with this system without delay or dispute. A failure to comply with an instruction or invoice issued may result in disqualification from the event without a hearing.

X1.2 On submission of entry, a link for paying the damage deposit will be circulated to schools.

X1.3 Each team is liable for up to £500 of damage associated costs per incident (this includes boats, equipment and property).

X1.4 Any decision on the allocation and quantum of any damage associated costs is solely for the OA to determine. Subject to RRS 61, the decision of the OA is final and teams agree to accept it without dispute.

X2. DAMAGE ASSESSMENT

X2.1 An initial assessment of damage will be made as soon as possible following an incident.

X2.2 Onward assessment of the damage after further inspection will have no effect on a penalty given in accordance with RRS 14 but may affect any damage associated costs.

X3. DAMAGE ASSOCIATED COSTS

X3.1 The Race Committee may require a team to make an intermediate payment, to the amount defined in this attachment; against allocated damage costs before the team may sail another event boat.

X3.2 If a team is allocated damage associated costs, and these are not paid at the event, the OA will issue an invoice to the team. Invoices must be paid (without setoff or deduction) within 14 days unless an extension is agreed with the OA.

X3.3 Failure to comply with a damage invoice within 14 days (or any extension period) is a breach of this agreement and the OA may:

(a) disqualify the team in question without a hearing;

(b) reject any future entries from the team’s organisation.

X3.4 The OA may amend or cancel a damage notice at any time and may reinstate a team disqualified.