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TRALEE BAY SAILING CLUB



**West of Ireland
Offshore Racing Association**

50th Anniversary

West Coast Championships 2026

July 1st to July 4th

Notice of Race

1) Organising Authority:

1.1) The Organising Authority (OA) is Tralee Bay Sailing Club (TBSC) in conjunction with the West of Ireland Offshore Racing Association (WIORA).

2) Rules:

2.1) The event is governed by The Racing Rules of Sailing.

2.2) The prescriptions of Irish Sailing, the IRPCAS, the IRC rule, Irish Sailing's ECHO rules, this Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions shall apply to the event.

2.3) Class Association rules where applicable.

3) Sailing Instructions:

3.1) The Sailing Instructions (SIs) shall be published prior to the event and in any case not later than 5pm on Monday 29th June 2026.

3.2) The SIs shall be available at <https://www.racingrulesofsailing.org>

4) Communication:

4.1) The Official notice board is located at <https://www.racingrulesofsailing.org>.

4.2) All boats shall carry a functioning VHF radio.

4.3) On the water the race committee boat may make courtesy broadcasts on VHF. The channel to be used will be specified in the SIs.

4.4) From the first warning signal to the finish of the last race of the event, except in an emergency, no boat shall make or receive voice or data signals not available to all boats.

4.5) Signals made ashore shall be displayed on a flagpole immediately adjacent to the TBSC clubhouse.

5) Eligibility and Entry:

5.1) The event is open to all monohull boats which hold ECHO and/or IRC certificates. At the discretion of the OA boats affiliated to another National Governing Body may be assigned an ECHO handicap for the event.

5.2) IRC certificates shall be Endorsed with a validity date not later than the 20th of June 2026. In exceptional circumstances the OA May accept a later date. After the cutoff date no downward changes in IRC rating shall be accepted except in the case of a Rating Office error

5.3) Boats which hold two IRC certificates must indicate which certificate they will use prior to the date in 5.2) above. Failure to do so shall result in the higher rated certificate being applied.

5.4) Boats which do not comply with the Irish Cruiser Racing Association's definition of a cruiser race shall not be eligible to race under the IRC rule. (cruiserracing.ie/downloads/ICRA%20Constitution%2015%20Feb%202025.pdf).

5.5) The initial ECHO handicap for each boat shall be that listed by Irish Sailing as ECHO Base number (see also 7.4 below). Handicaps may be adjusted after each race in accordance with the ECHO Progressive Handicap System. Adjustment or failure to adjust shall not be grounds for protest or request for redress.

5.6) Boats may enter the event by completing the entry form available at traleebaysailingclub.ie and paying the appropriate entry fee.

5.7) Late entries may be accepted by the OA but shall pay an additional late entry fee determined by the OA.

5.8) Entry fees may only be paid online.

5.9) All sailors competing in the event must be paid up members of WIORA. Membership fees may be paid Wiora.ie.

5.10) Entry fees are as follows:

Date	White Sails entries	Spinnaker entries
Up to May 30th	€160	€180
May 30 th to June 20 th	€180	€200

6) Classes:

6.1) Racing shall be held in Spinnaker and non-Spinnaker (White sail) classes.

6.2) These classes may be further divided depending on the number of entries and handicap splits.

6.3) If sufficient entries are received one design classes may also be used. Such classes may race as a standalone class or as part of a larger class and receive results extracted from this class. Results may be given in Scratch and/or IRC and/or ECHO.

6.4) Class splits shall be published after the closing date for entries.

7) Crew limitations:

7.1) IRC rule 22.4 shall not apply to the event.

7.2) Crew numbers are limited to IRC certificate crew number plus 1.

7.3) Notwithstanding 7.2 above a boat may carry one extra female or under 18 sailor i.e. Certificate plus 2.

7.4) A boat may carry an ISAF Category 3 sailor for one day only. The OA must be informed in advance, and the boat's ECHO handicap shall be adjusted upwards by 100 points for that day (eg from 0.890 to 0.990). The new handicap shall also be used to calculate subsequent handicaps. Except in an emergency the category 3 sailor may not take the helm.

7.5) 7.4 above shall not apply to a Category 3 sailor who enters their own boat in the event, their name must appear on the boat's certificates and the OA may adjust the opening ECHO handicap upwards by a minimum of 100 points.

8) Advertising:

8.1) Boats may be required to carry or display advertising supplied by the OA.

9) Schedule:

9.1) Registration shall take place in the TBSC Clubhouse on Tuesday June 30th from 5 pm to 9pm and on Wednesday July 1st from 9 am to 10am.

9.2) A briefing for competitors shall be held on Wednesday July 1st at 1030am.

9.3) The warning signal for the first race is scheduled for 1pm on Wednesday July 1st.

9.4) The warning signal on subsequent days is scheduled for 11am.

9.5) Up to seven races are scheduled for each class and may include at least one coastal/long distance race.

9.6) On the last day of the event no race shall start after 3pm unless previously abandoned or recalled.

10) Inspection:

10.1) A boat shall produce a copy of her certificates at registration.

10.2) A boat may be inspected at any time by the OA or its nominee to ensure compliance with her certificate.

10.3) A boat not in compliance may be excluded from the event without a hearing [changes RRS 60.5 (b) (1)] and may be reported to Irish Sailing for a breach of Rule 69.

10.4) No equipment or sail substitution shall be permitted without the written consent of the OA.

11) Venue:

11.1) The venue for the event is Tralee Bay Sailing Club, Fenit, Co. Kerry

11.2) Racing shall take place in Tralee Bay and its surrounding waters.

12) Courses:

12.1) Courses may be round the cans, on laid courses or coastal in nature.

12.2) Courses may combine any or all features of 12.1.

12.2) The course to be sailed shall be displayed on a board on the race committee board at least 5 minutes before the warning signal for each race and may be communicated from the race Committee boat via VHF. The appropriate channel will be listed in the Sis.

12.4) TBSC fixed marks are located approximately as follows:

North: N 52.16'650 W 009. 54'300

South: N 52.15'200 W 009. 53'500

East: N 52.16.300 W 009. 52'300

West: N 52.15.950 W 009. 55.400

SouthWest: N 52.15'000 W 009. 55'600

12.5) TBSC fixed marks are yellow cylinders with a black conical base.

12.6) Laid marks are orange cylindrical buoys.

13) Penalty system:

13.1) The scoring penalty system shall apply. The scoring penalty shall be two points except that a boat which accepts a penalty shall not be scored worse than a boat which is scored DNF.

13.2) A boat which accepts a penalty shall fly a yellow flag from her backstay and shall draw the attention of the Race committee boat to the flag when finishing.

14) Scoring System:

14.1) Scoring shall be in accordance with Appendix A of the RRS

14.2) Three races are required to constitute an event

14.3) A boat's series score shall be the sum of her race scores when four or fewer races are completed.

14.4) When five or more races are completed a boat's series score shall be the sum of her race scores excluding her worst score.

15) Berthing:

15.1) Visiting boats shall be assigned a berth in the Fenit Harbour Marina but may be required to raft up.

15.2) Berths will be provided free of charge from Sunday 28th of June to Sunday 5th of July.

15.3) A crane service will be provided for lift in from 10am to 4pm on Tuesday 30th of June. A lift out service will be available on Saturday 4th of July after racing.

15.4) Lift in or out outside of these times may be organised with the harbour Office on 066 7136231 at your own expense.

16) Haul out restrictions:

16.1) Boats may not be hauled out or use scrubbing posts at any time during the event without the permission of the OA.

17) Diving equipment and plastic pools

17.1) Diving/SCUBA equipment or plastic pools may not be used around boats between the first warning signal of the event and the end of the last race. In the event of underwater damage the OA may vary this restriction.

17.2) Boats may not be scrubbed or cleaned below the waterline at any time between the first warning signal of the event and the end of the last race.

18) Risk statement:

18.1) 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. 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 vessel cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances; and

(g) It is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks 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.

18.2) Personal Floatation Devices. Please note that the wearing of personal flotation devices is a statutory requirement in Ireland for anyone on board a boat under 7 metres in length and by anyone under the age of 16 on the deck of a boat.

19) Insurance:

19.1) It is a strict condition of entry for each boat owner to have their boat adequately insured against any risk, including civil liability to third parties and to ensure that such insurance remains valid for the entirety of the event.

20) Prizes:

20.1) Prizes shall be awarded to the first three boats in each class.

20.2) The winner of each class shall receive a WIORA perpetual trophy which may be retained by the association. A boat which wins an IRC overall trophy shall not be eligible to be awarded an overall ECHO trophy.

20.3) The best female helm shall receive the Jacquie Browne Memorial Trophy

20.4) Overall Regatta Prize shall be awarded to the best performing boat in the IRC and ECHO fleets. The calculation shall be made in accordance with Appendix A below.

20.5) The OA may award day prizes each day. No boat shall win more than one day prize during the event

21) Data Protection and Media Waiver

21.1) The personal information you provide to the OA will be used to facilitate your participation in the event. 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 Irish Sailing, your national authority and/or World Sailing. The results of the event and the outcome of any hearing or appeal may be published.

21.2) Competitors automatically grant to the OA and/or ICRA, without payment, the right in perpetuity to make, use and show any motion pictures and live, taped or filmed television of or relating to the event provided that they do not infringe the privacy rights of participants.

21.3) Tralee Bay Sailing Club (TBSC), ICRA Burgees and all other associated logos shall not be used by any club or individual without prior

written permission of TBSC or ICRA.

22) Further information

22.1) For further information contact Liam Lynch (087 9798603, drillynch@gmail.com) or Cormac Murphy (087 2209105, csmurchadha@gmail.com)

Appendix A

The class winners in each class shall be eligible for the relevant overall Trophy. Boats sailing in a White sails fleet are not eligible for the overall IRC Trophy

The Trophy shall be awarded to the boat with the lowest overall score calculated as follows:

- 1) Her series score.
- 2) In IRC each race in which a category 3 sailor is carried will be scored 0.5 points extra (excluding discarded races). ECHO handicaps are adjusted for boats carrying a category 3 sailor.
- 3) If there is a difference in the number of boats in each class then the boat(s) in the smaller class(es) shall be scored 0.25 extra points for every boat in the difference.
- 4) A boat which wins every race in her class (excluding discarded races) shall be scored two extra points. A boat which wins all but one race in her class (excluding discarded races) shall be scored one extra point
- 5) No boat shall have more than 5 points added to her series score under items 2 - 4 above.
- 6) If there is a difference between classes in the number of races counted in the Series Score then the Series total score under items 1 – 5 above shall be divided by the number of races counted in the Series score
- 7) In the event of a tie then RRS rules A8.1 and A8.2 shall apply. If there is still a tie then the boat from the largest class shall be declared the winner. If a tie still persists then the boat with the largest aggregate winning margin (using corrected times) from all races in 1) above shall be declared the winner

Notes

3) Example: Class 1 has ten boats, class 2 has eight and class 3 has six.

Class 2 winner has 0.5 points added to her score

((10-8) X 0.25).

Class 3 winner has 1 point added to her score

$((10 - 6) \times 0.25)$

4) This is to allow for an uncompetitive class

7) RRS A8.1 and A8.2 relate to ranking boats with equal scores. The aggregate margin is the sum of the winning margin in each counted race. A boat that wins a race would have a positive margin in that race. The margin will be negative when another boat wins a race.

Example: Boat A wins five races by one minute each, she is third in race 6 – 2 mins behind the winner. Her margin is then $(1 \times 5) - 2 = 3$ mins.