



Sailing Instructions - Club Racing

1.0 Rules

1.1 Club racing in Swords Sailing & Boating Club [SSBC] will be governed by the Racing **Rules of Sailing 2025- 2028 (RRS)** the prescriptions of the Irish Sailing Association (ISA), and the rules of each participating class, except as any of these are changed by these sailing instructions and any amendments thereto.

2.0 Entries

2.1 You must be a fully paid up member and have completed the club membership form of SSBC to participate in club racing. Temporary members can crew in a race on 3 separate days only in any one sailing year.

2.2 Sign in / Results sheet : Must be signed before going afloat by or on behalf of everyone, including crew. Participants consent to and accept that signatures made on their behalf by their crew (or another member) are deemed to be acceptable.

2.3 Your boat must display the sail number under which it is entered.

2.4 Each Series is a "helms" event. A "helm(s)" is a competitor who starts, finishes and steers the majority of the upwind legs. A competitor who helms more than one boat or different variations or crew configurations of a boat will be treated as a new entry.

2.5 Your craft must have current appropriate racing/third party insurance as per rules of the club and entered on the club membership form. SSBC are not responsible for any loss or damage to boats or equipment or injury to competitors.

3.0 Safety

3.1 The decision to hold a club race will be decided by the RO, Committee members and senior members present on the day.

3.2 Ultimately, it is the sole responsibility of the member participant as to whether they decide to go afloat.

3.3 By participating in club racing, you are declaring that you have read and considered the SSBC 2 Step Personal Risk Assessment decision to go afloat.



(Note: Covid protocols are not currently valid) Rule 3 & 4 apply.

<https://swordssailing.ie/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Personal-Risk-Assessment-Final.pdf>

3.4 All competing boats must carry a securely fixed painter not less than 5m long and competitors shall wear an EN or BS approved buoyancy aid at all times whilst afloat. Competing boats at all times shall keep clear of safety boats.

4.0 Notice to Competitors

4.1 The RO will aim to hold a briefing. Occasionally because of time constraints, a briefing will not be held. The RO will let all participants know verbally, whether there will/won't be a briefing. Course(s) & the number of laps will be posted on the notice board not later than 20 minutes before the first warning signal. The briefing may include any changes to these sailing instructions

4.2 Courses will be as per Appendix 1: A, B, C, D & E as per these sailing instructions.

4.3 Shore starts: Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagpole. Audio signals may also be sounded from this location.

5.0 Courses, Marks & Starting Line

5.1 The racing area will be determined by the Race Officer based upon prevailing wind conditions, in an area with best available water depth and best suited to the courses listed in appendix 1 of these sailing instructions.

5.2 Courses will be set to Port with yellow "Pencil" marks.

5.2.1 Standard courses A, B, C, D & E are included at Appendix 1.

5.3 Starting line shall be a transit between the committee boat and a pink pin round mark or the shore flagpole and an outer limit mark. Pink inner limit marks to protect the committee boat may be used as and if required. Safety boats may be used if required.

5.4 Unless otherwise instructed by the Race Officer, boats sailing upwind shall pass through the start line on each lap. As per courses listed in appendix 1 of these sailing instructions.



5.5 Finish line Unless the course is shortened, the finishing line will be the same as the start line, however the Race Officer reserves the right to set an alternative finish line, where possible to windward of the leeward mark.

5.6 Change of Course. Mark positions may be changed after the start at the discretion of the Race Officer and advised by a pathfinder flying a flag. Rule 33 applies.

5.7 Shortened Course. Will be indicated by hoisting the S Flag and making two Sound Signals with the finish in accordance with [para 5.5]. Rule 32.2 applies.

6.0 Schedule of Races, Class Flags

Series	Race1 Warning Signal	Estimated Duration	Race 2 (Back to Back) Warning Signal	Estimated Duration
Earlybird Sunday	13.55	45 Mins	Approx 15.00	45 Mins
Bank Hol Mondays	13.55	45 Mins	Approx 15.00	45 Mins
First Wednesday	19.20	45 > 60 Mins	n/a	n/a
Summer Sunday	13.55	60 Mins	Approx 15.00	60 Mins
Second Wednesday	19.20	45 > 60 Mins	n/a	n/a
Topaz Champs	13.55	45 Mins	Approx 15.00	45 Mins
Autumn Sunday First 6 of 8 races	13.55	45 Mins	Approx 15.00	45 Mins
Autumn Sunday Final 2 races	11.55	45Mins	Approx 13.00	45 Mins
Special Races	Event Instructions	Event Instructions	Event Instructions	Event Instructions



6.1 Two boats crossing the starting line (within any starting time limit) will be required to constitute a race in each fleet (Monohull/ Multihull / skiff/ juniors).

7.0 Starts

7.1 Warning signals as per rule 26.

26 STARTING RACES

Races shall be started by using the following signals. Times shall be taken from the visual signals; the absence of a sound signal shall be disregarded.

<i>Minutes before starting signal</i>	<i>Visual signal</i>	<i>Sound signal</i>	<i>Means</i>
5*	Class flag	One	Warning signal
4	P, I, Z, Z with I, U, or black flag	One	Preparatory signal
1	Preparatory flag removed	One long	One minute
0	Class flag removed	One	Starting signal

*or as stated in the notice of race or sailing instructions

The warning signal for each succeeding class shall be made with or after the starting signal of the preceding class.

7.2 Rule 30.1 will apply except that no flags will be flown and no sound signal will be given.

I Flag Rule

If flag I has been displayed, and any part of a boat's hull is on the course side of the starting line or one of its extensions during the last minute before her starting signal, she shall sail across an extension so that her hull is completely on the pre-start side before she starts.

7.3 Starts may be carried out from one of the following-

7.3.1 The committee boat.

7.3.2 One of the safety ribs.

7.3.3 On-shore at the club with signals from the flagpole.



7.4 Class flags are as follows

6.4.1	Monohulls	Numeral 1
6.4.2	Multihulls & Skiffs	Numeral 2
6.4.3	Juniors	Numeral 3

8.0 Changes of course after start

8.1 Rule 33 applies.

9.0 Penalty system

9.1.1 Monos will take penalty turns in accordance with the racing rules of Sailing 2021 - 2024.

9.1.2 Multihulls will take one full turn to include one tack and one gybe.

10.0 Time limit

10.1 Time limit will be 90 minutes for all classes for Wednesday racing. Sunday Series racing will be limited by the time limits set out in 6.0

10.2 Unless finished before completing the full number of laps and scored subject to average, boats failing to finish within 20 minutes of the leading boat will score DNF. This amends Rule 35

10.3 The Race Officer may abandon the race if the leading boat takes more than 20 minutes to complete any leg.

10.4 **Retiring Boats.** Shall inform a safety boat and obey the instructions of the safety boat crew.

11.0 Protests & Redress

Protests & Redress shall be written on official forms available in the clubhouse and delivered to a committee member **within 90 minutes of the last boat finishing** in the protestor's class. Protest requirements will be in accordance with rule 61.



12.0 Scoring

12.1 Scoring for monohulls will be timed finishes in accordance with RYA Portsmouth Yardstick (PY) ratings for the particular variant of the boat.

12.2 Scoring for Skiffs will be timed finishes in accordance with RYA Portsmouth Yardstick (PY) ratings.

12.3 For club racing only, single handed sailing of two person monohulls may be calculated in accordance with the formula [Crewed PY minus (Crewed PY divided by 63)] = Single handed PY. In accordance with 2.3 this helm will be treated as a new entry in accordance with [para 2.3].

Eg: for a two handed dinghy with a PY of 1244. $1244 - (1244/63) = 1224$ Single Handed PY.

****Note this will be kept under review and may be amended during the season. Participants entered in any series sailing two person monos may on occasions (but not for the entire of any one series) sail single handed and on such occasions will be scored as a new competitor.***

12.4 Scoring for Multihulls will be timed finishes in accordance with current SCHRS ratings or measurement protocols.

12.5 Low Points scoring system will be used as per appendix A2.2 RRS except that First place will be awarded one point.

12.6 Helms & Crews carrying out Club Duties (Race Officer/ Rescue) or their arranged replacements, will be awarded average points. These points will be awarded no more than the number of dates rostered plus one additional occasion. Average points will be calculated using all races excluding discards.

12.7 club members who participate in outside events will be awarded average points.

12.8 Where a competitor helms more than one entry within a series the average points will be awarded to one entry only. The average points will be allocated to the best placed entry for that helm within the series results at the time of duty/away event. This allocation will not be altered or amended retrospectively.

12.9 Discards: One will apply to one in every 4 races.

12.10 **DNF/RET/OCS** will score two more than the number of finishers



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DNS/DNC/ DSQ will score three points more than the number of finishers

13.00 Prizes & Annual trophies will be awarded at the clubs laying up supper for the various series throughout the season.

13.1 Other Prizes

13.1.1 The Sailing Secretary will award other prizes for categories such as best improver etc.



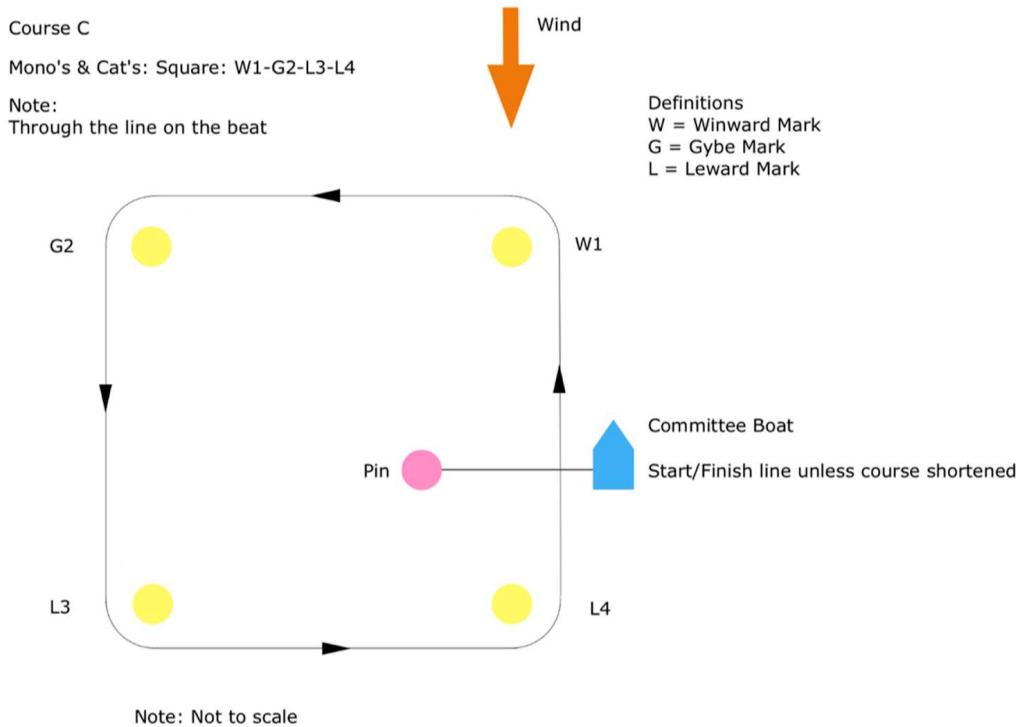
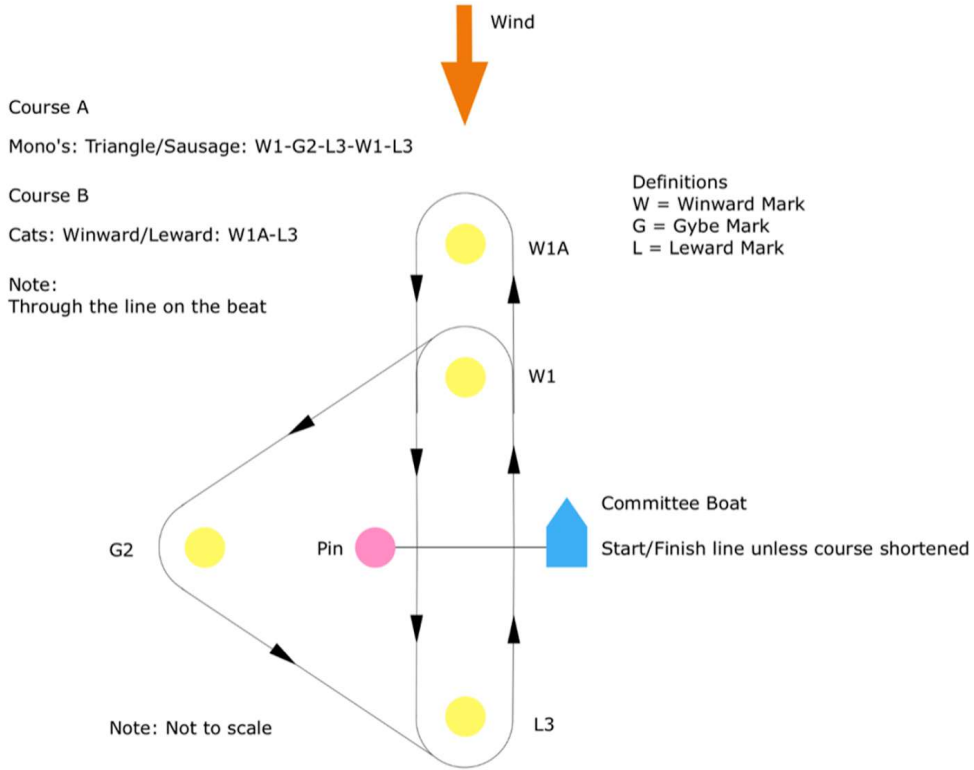
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Document Version Control & History:

	Name	Position	Date
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Reviewed by:		Club Committee	

Revision	Date	Reviewed by	Modification or Description
1	Feb 2023	Club Committee	2,3,4 & 6 & App 1 D & E
2	Feb 2025	Club Committee	1,6, 12

Appendix 1 Course Diagrams A, B & C.

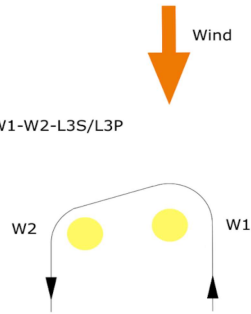


Appendix 1 Course Diagrams D & E.

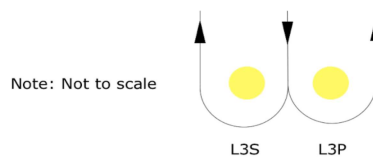
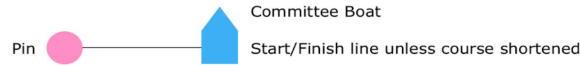
Course D

Mono's & Cat's: Winward/Leward: W1-W2-L3S/L3P

Note:
 Through the line on the beat
 You can also go through the line downwind.



Definitions
 W1 = Winward Mark
 W2 = Spreader Mark
 L3S/P = Leward Gate Port/Stbd



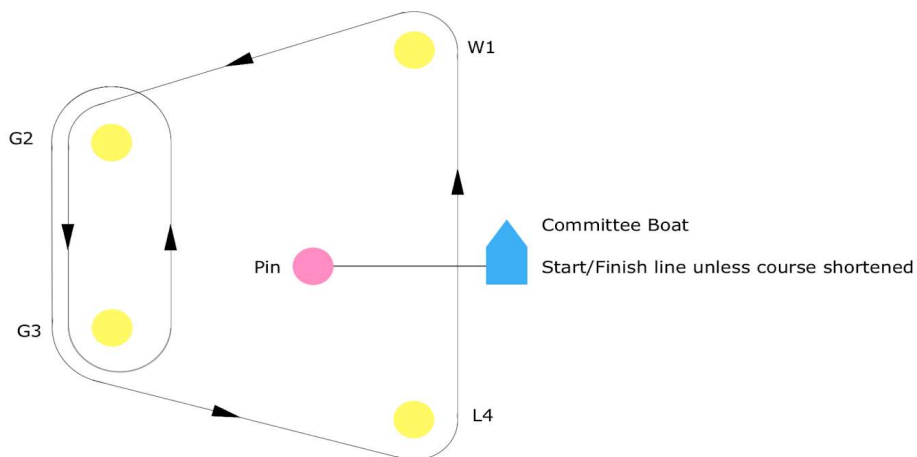
Course E

Mono's & Cat's: Trapezoid: W1-G2-G3-G2-G3-L4

Note:
 Through the line on the beat



Definitions
 W = Winward Mark
 G = Gybe Mark
 L = Leward Mark



Note: Not to scale