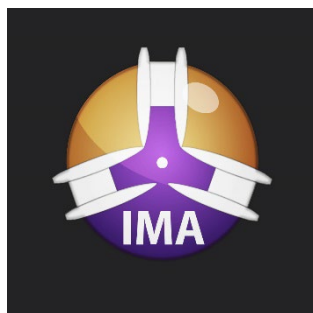
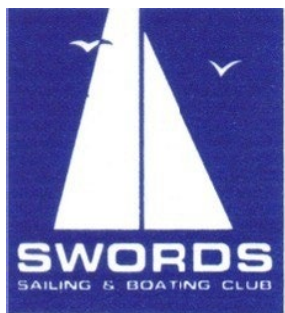




IMA National Championships 2026

12th and 13th September 2026

Swords Sailing and Boating Club

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

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

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 regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028*.
- 1.2 The prescriptions of the ISA will apply.
- 1.3 The rules of the Irish Multihull Association will apply.
- 1.4 Racing rule(s) Signals AP, 35, 44.1, 60.1, 60.3, 61.2b, 63.7b, A4, A5 will be changed. The changes are detailed in the sailing instructions.

2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the SSBC Online official noticeboard only

3 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 20:00 on the day before it will take effect.

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed at main flagpole at Swords Sailing Club
- 4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 45 minutes' in the race signal AP.

5 SCHEDULE OF RACES

5.1 Date	Schedule	Warning Signal
Saturday 12 Sep	Races 1, 2, 3, 4,	11.55am
Sunday 13 Sep	Races 5,6,	10.55am

- 5.2 Six races are scheduled. Three races are required to be completed to constitute a championship.
- 5.3 An additional race may be sailed on either day at the discretion of the race committee, this is to allow flexibility to maximise the chances of completing 6 races.
- 5.4 **BRIEFING.** There will be a briefing ashore at 10:30am on Sat 12th Sep.

6 CLASS FLAGS

- 6.1 The Class Flag will be Numeral Pennant 2.

7 RACING AREAS

- 7.1 Racing will take place on Broadmeadows Estuary

8 THE COURSE

- 8.1 The diagrams in Attachment A show the courses, including the approximate angles between legs, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.

9 MARKS

- 9.1** Marks will be orange pencil marks.
- 9.2** An inner mark may be laid on the starting line. The inner mark will be a yellow or white buoy.

10 THE START

- 10.1** THE START – starting signals will as per rule 26 unless amended by these instructions.
- 10.2** The starting line will be between a vertical pole amidship on the committee boat and Mark 3S.
- 10.3** Mark 3P will be laid after the start of each race is complete to avoid being an obstruction on the start line.
- 10.4** A boat starting later than 5 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes rules A4 and A5.

11 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 11.1** To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will move the original mark (or the finishing line) to a new position.
- 11.2** Minor Course changes may not be signaled.

12 THE FINISH

The finish line will be between Mark 3P and Mark 3S when the vertical pole amidship on the committee boat is displaying the blue flag. A blue flag will be used as the About to Finish signal.

13 PENALTY SYSTEM

Rule 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

14 TIME LIMITS

Boats failing to finish within 20 minutes after the lead boat sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes rules 35, A4 and A5.

15 PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 15.1** Protest forms are available at the race office, located at the race office. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit.
- 15.2** The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day or the race committee signals no more racing today. This changes rule 60.3 and 61.2b.
- 15.3** 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 protest room, located at the club house beginning at the time posted. Decisions of any protest will be completed prior to the prize giving. An appeal may be lodged after this time and may result in a retrospective change in the result.
- 15.4** Notices of protests by the race committee or protest committee will be posted to inform boats.
- 15.6** Breaches of instructions 17, 18, 19 or 20 will not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes rule 60.1. Penalties for these breaches may be less than disqualification if the protest committee so decides. The scoring abbreviation for a discretionary penalty imposed under this instruction will be DPI.
- 15.7** On the last scheduled day of racing a request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered (a) within the protest time limit detailed in 15.2 if the requesting party was informed of the decision on the previous day; (b) no later than 30 minutes after the requesting party was informed of the decision on that day. This changes rule 63.7b.
- 15.8** On the last scheduled day of racing a request for redress based on a protest committee decision shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the decision was posted. This changes rule 61.2b.

16 SCORING

- 16.1** The Low Point Scoring System in RRS Appendix A4 will apply with the following changes:
 - (a) The first placed boat in each fleet will receive 1 point.
 - (b) DNS, DNC, DSQ, DNE shall score 3 points more than the number of finishers.
 - (c) DNF, OCS, RET, NSC, UFD, BFD shall score 2 more than the number of finishers
- 16.2** 1 discard will apply after 4 races are completed. No further discards will apply.
- 16.3** Scoring may be on the basis of average lap times. Corrected times will be calculated using the boats elapsed time, its SCHRS handicap and number of laps completed.

17 SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 17.1** **[DP] [NP]** Personal flotation devices shall be worn at all time afloat except briefly while changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment. Wet suits and dry suits are not personal flotation devices.
- 17.2** **[DP] [NP]** A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible.

18 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

18.1 [DP] [NP] Substitution of competitors will not be allowed without prior written approval of the race committee.

18.2 [DP] [NP] Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed unless authorised by the race committee. Requests for substitution shall be made to the committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

19 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

[NP] A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions. On the water, a boat can be instructed by a race committee equipment inspector or measurer to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.

20 TRASH DISPOSAL

[NP] Trash may be placed aboard support and race committee boats.

21 RADIO COMMUNICATION

Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.

22 PRIZES

Prizes may be awarded in the IMA National Championship at the discretion of the OA in Overall results.

Prizes may be awarded in the IMA National Championship at the discretion of the OA in Class 2 results, depending on number of entrants.

23 RISK STATEMENT

23.1 Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3, Decision to Race.

The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

Sailing by its nature is 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 boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions as can be practically provided in the circumstances.
- (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
- (h) They are responsible for ensuring that their boat is equipped and seaworthy so as to be able to face extremes of weather; that there is a crew sufficient in number, experience, and fitness to withstand such weather; and that the safety equipment is properly maintained, stowed and in date and is familiar to the crew.

24 INSPECTIONS

24.1 The fact that the race committee conducts inspections of a boat does not reduce the responsibilities of each competitor set out in this Notice of Race.

25 INSURANCE

25.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of €3,000,000 per incident or the equivalent.

26 TEMPORARY MEMBERSHIP

26.1 All competitors and Race Officials will be granted Temporary Membership of SSBC for the duration of the event.

ATTACHMENT A

Windward/Leeward -

Approximate positions of marks

Multihull Fleet

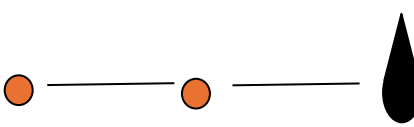
Start

1 – 2 - 3S OR 3P

Mark 2



Mark 1



Mark 3S

Mark 3P

Marks 1, 2, 3P to be left to port

Mark 3S to be left to starboard

The starting line will be between a vertical pole amidship on the committee boat and Mark 3S

Mark 3P will be laid once the start of each race is complete to avoid being an obstruction on the start line

Continue sailing the course until blue flag is displayed