

NOTICE OF RACE

for

OPTIMIST TRIALS 2016

The Organising Authority is the Howth Yacht Club (HYC) in conjunction with the International Optimist Dinghy Association of Ireland (IODAI).

1. Rules

1.1. The Selection Trials will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).

1.2. I.S.A. prescriptions will apply.

1.3. I.O.D.A Class Rules will apply.

2. Advertising

2.1. Advertising will be restricted to Category A.

2.2. All Competitors’ Boats may be required to display a Sponsor's logo as instructed. If required, the Logo will be available at registration.

3. Eligibility and Entry

3.1. Entry is by invitation only.

3.2. Competitors must be Members of the Irish Sailing Association and paid up members of IODAI.

3.3. Entry shall be carried out online via www.iodai.com.

3.4. The Entry Fee is €120.

3.5. The closing date for entries is the 4th March 2016. (Late Entry €240 till 9th March)

3.6. A completed declaration of the Parent/Guardian Consent Form shall be submitted at registration.

4. Venues

4.1. Howth Yacht Club, Howth, Co. Dublin (Website – [www.hyc.ie](http://www.hyc.ie) ).

5. Schedule

5.1. Registration / Measurement Validation at HYC on Wed 30th March 2016 from 1700 2000 hrs. There is no Registration/ Measurement Validation on the morning of Thursday 31st March.

5.2. Dates of Racing

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| HYC | 31st March – 3rd April 2016 |

5.3. The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race is 1130 hours on the first day of racing and 1030 on subsequent days.

5.4. Three races are scheduled for day 1 and day 4, and 4 races on day 2 & day 3. The race officer may at his discretion get one race ahead of schedule.

5.5. The Trials shall consist of a maximum of 14 races.

5.6. 8 races shall constitute a series.

5.7. No race shall be started after 1500 on 3rd April. However a race, that would have started prior to 1500 if not for a general recall, may be re started after 1500.

5.8 A reserve weekend of April 9th & 10th will be used if a series is not completed (HYC as host)

6. Registration / Measurement Validation

6.1. There will be no Measurement at the trials. You are required to have your spars, foils and sails measured by a qualified measurer in advance of the trials. You are required to complete the IODAI Trials Measurement form clearly and present it, together with the official Registration and Measurement book, at registration in HYC.

6.2. Measurement validation will not take place after Wednesday 30th March.

6.3. Measurement Validation will consist of the following steps:-

6.3.1. Your boat will be weighed.

6.3.2. Your Measurement Book will be presented and the serial numbers of the spars, foils, sail and hull will be checked against the Measurement Form you submitted.

6.3.2. Your sail will be stamped/marked for the 2016 Trials (note that the same sail must be used for the entire series).

6.4. Spot checks will be performed on equipment including weighing of hulls on a random basis prior to, and during the trials.

7. Scoring

7.1. When from one to five races have been completed, a boat’s series score will be the total of her race scores.

7.2. When from six to nine races have been completed, a boat’s series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

7.3. When from ten to fourteen races have been completed, a boat’s series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her two worst scores.

8. Penalty Systems

8.1. RRS Appendix P will apply.

9. Team Selection Process

The highest placed sailors from the Trials results will be selected to represent Ireland at the Optimist Worlds Vilamoura, Portugal (the Worlds Team), European Optimist Championships Crotone, Italy (the European Team) and the French Open National Championships in Loctudy, France (the International Development Squad) in the following manner.

9.1. Team Selection will be based on the results acquired at the Trial Process and full compliance with such terms as IODAI may require.

9.1.1. However in the event of a sailor being unable to compete in a number of races, an IODAI appointed Committee may at their discretion award him/her (a) average points for those races or (b) a place on a team. Such an IODAI appointed Committee will be chaired by a suitable independent person and consist of the chairman and 2 suitable IODAI Committee persons whose sailor will not be effected by any decision reached.

9.1.2. It should be emphasized that this action will only be taken in regard to a sailor who, in the opinion of the committee referred to in 9.1.1, would have been one of the top performing sailors in the Trials as clearly demonstrated by their performance in the Trial races in which they sailed.

9.1.3. It must be emphasised that the circumstances which prevent a sailor from competing will have to be compelling and absolute, and if appropriate, supported by such medical evidence as IODAI may require.

9.1.4. No other exceptions to the qualification process will be considered.

9.2. World Championships –Any of the five highest placed sailors can elect to attend the world championships.

9.3. European Team - Once the top five sailors that may elect to attend the world championships have declared their intention the next 7 sailors will be offered European Team places (subject to a minimum of 3 of one gender and 4 of other gender).

9.4. International Development Squad - the next 7 highest placed sailors (minimum of 2 of one gender) shall be offered places. Please Note, the International development team is a development team and a sailor may only have a place on this team if they have not previously represented IODAI at a World / European or IDT event.

9.5. A sailor must have finished within the top 30 in the trials to be eligible for a World, Europeans or International Development place. In the event that this results in there being none or only one of a particular gender eligible for the International Development Team then that place or places shall be offered to the next highest place sailor of the other gender.

9.6 Sailors aged 11 or under in the year of the trials are not eligible for a team place on the World, European or International Development team.

9.7 Under 12 Squad – All invited under 12 sailors who participate in the trials qualify for the under 12 squad for the British Nationals.

10. Team Membership Rules

Continued membership of a team will be dependent upon:

10.1. Conformance with the code of conduct for sailors and conformance with the code of conduct for parents and supporters.

10.2. Conformance with the programme requirements and reasonable IODAI and ISA requests including full participation as members of the team during the relevant championship event (This includes a commitment to stay at the nominated accommodation with other team members).

10.3. Attendance at designated training sessions, fitness tests and build-up regattas as part of the programme.

10.4. In the event of such default and forfeiture, expenses incurred by IODAI will be payable.

11. Acceptance of Team Place [costs to be determined and notified in advance of trials)

11.1. Team places will be offered and must be accepted or decline immediately after publication of the final results.

11.2. Sailors wishing to elect to attend the world championships must declare their intention immediately after the final trials results are posted and must commit to the team membership rules and pay by cheque or electronic transfer ( within 24 hours) a non-refundable deposit of €TBC to be followed by a 2nd payment of €TBC by June 1st. The final cost may be more or less and a final balancing payment or refund will be made as soon as possible after the event.

11.3. Sailors wishing to accept their place on the European team must commit to the Team Membership Rules and pay, by cheque or electronic transfer (within 24 hours) a non-refundable deposit of €TBC. The final cost may be more or less than the initial deposit and a final balancing payment or refund will be made as soon as possible after the event.

11.4. Sailors wishing to accept their place on the Development team must commit to the Team Membership Rules and pay, by cheque or electronic transfer (within 24 hours), a non-refundable deposit of €TBC. The final cost may be more or less than the initial deposit and a final balancing payment or refund will be made as soon as possible after the event.

11.5. Note that parents travelling to events are required to stay at accommodation other than that of the team. By accepting a place on a team it is deemed that this requirement is also accepted.

12. Sailing Instructions & Briefing

12.1. The 2016 Major Event sailing instructions will be used prior to this event and will be available on the IODAI website.

12.2. Supplementary sailing instructions will be available at the venue.

12.3. There will be a briefing for competitors at 0930 on the first day of the event.

13. Support Boats

13.1 Support boats must register with the Race Office, and nominate each competitor they are supporting.

13.2. There will be a briefing for support boat skippers at 0900 on the first day of racing.

13.3 An ID flag will be supplied to each registered boat at registration on payment of a €20 deposit, repayable on return of the flag. Each support boat shall conspicuously display the ID flag.

14. Disclaimer of Liability

14.1. Competitors participate in the trials entirely at their own risk (See RRS 4 - Decision to Race). The Organising authority and host clubs will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during or after the trials.

15. Insurance

15.1. Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of €1,500,000 per event or the equivalent.