



# 2026 YOUTH NATIONALS

BALLYHOLME YACHT CLUB 9-12TH APRIL

## Irish Sailing Youth National Championships 2026 Ballyholme Yacht Club

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April to Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2026

### NOTICE OF RACE

*The Organising Authority (OA) is Irish Sailing, in conjunction with Ballyholme Yacht Club.*

*The Irish Sailing Youth National Championships 2026 (hereinafter called the Event) may form part of the selection trials for the 2026 World Sailing Youth Worlds, IODAI Team selection, Irish Sailing National Squads and an indicator, amongst other events, for the Irish Sailing Academy. Please refer to [www.iodai.com](http://www.iodai.com) for information about the IODAI selection policy.*

*The notation '[NP]' in a rule means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1*

#### 1 RULES

- 1.1 The Event will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing.
- 1.2 The prescriptions of Irish Sailing apply.
- 1.3 Racing rules Race Signal AP, 28.1, 29.2, 60.1, 61.1(b), 62.2, 63.1, 63.2, 63.7, P2.2, T1(a), 64.1, A4 and A5 will be changed. Changes to the Racing Rules of Sailing appear in full in either this Notice of Race or in the Sailing Instructions.
- 1.4 All boats are required to have a painter not less than 8m (3m for toppers) attached to the bow (29ers painter to be stored on support vessel).

#### 2 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The Sailing Instructions will be available at <https://www.sailing.ie/Events/Irish-Sailing-Youth-National-Championships> approximately one week prior to the Event.

#### 3 COMMUNICATIONS

- 3.1 The official notice for the event is <https://t.me/+TtmREWIqo4gyMDFK>
- 3.2 [DP] While racing, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

#### 4 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY (NP, DP)

- 4.1 The Event is open to all boats of the 29er, 420, RS Feva, ILCA 6, ILCA 4, Topper 5.3 and Optimist Classes except as restricted below.
- 4.2 Competitors in the 420 and 29er shall be under 21 yrs. on the 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2026.
- 4.3 Competitors in the ILCA 6 shall be under 19 yrs. on the 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2026.
- 4.4 Competitors in the ILCA 4 shall be under 17 yrs. on the 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2026.
- 4.5 Competitors in the Topper 5.3 and RS Feva shall be under 16 yrs. on the 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2026.

4.6 Competitors in the Optimist shall be limited to those invited by IODAI (via a list published on iodai.com), be members of Irish Sailing and IODAI.

4.7 Competitors in all classes will be expected to have completed at least one regional event in the last 9 months.

4.8 Overseas entries are welcome in the 29er, 420, RS Feva, ILCA 6, ILCA 4 and Topper 5.3 Classes.

4.9 Eligible boats should enter online here. [isyouthchamps2026byc.com](http://isyouthchamps2026byc.com)

4.10 Competitors under 18 years of age shall return a completed Parent/Guardian Declaration Form. This form will be available online at the host club event website. [isyouthchamps2026byc.com](http://isyouthchamps2026byc.com)

4.11 If less than 7 boats are registered to compete in a class, the organising authority reserves the right to cancel racing for a fleet after the closing date if this entry number has not been met. Ballyholme Yacht Club will offer a full refund to anyone whose fleet has been cancelled.

4.12 Entries close at midnight, 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2026. Entries will not be accepted after this date except at the discretion of the OA. Contact [stephen.oshaghnessy@sailing.ie](mailto:stephen.oshaghnessy@sailing.ie)

4.13 To be considered an entry in the Event, a boat shall complete all registration requirements and pay all fees.

## 5 FEES

The required entry fees are as follows:

Class	If paid BEFORE midnight 23rd March 2026	If paid AFTER midnight 24th March 2026
ILCA 4, Topper 5.3, Optimist, ILCA 6	€ 195	€ 255
420,29er,RS Feva	€ 295	€ 355

For families entering more than one boat, a 10% fee refund will be applied.

## 6 CREW LIMITATIONS

DOES NOT APPLY

## 7 ADVERTISING (NP, DP)

Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the OA.

## 8 QUALIFYING SERIES AND FINAL SERIES

DOES NOT APPLY

## 9 SCHEDULE

### 9.1 Registration, Briefings and Prize Giving

Day/Date	Schedule	Time
Wednesday 8th April	Registration – 29er, 420, RS Feva, Topper 5.3, ILCA 4, ILCA 6 and Optimist Classes Optimist Equipment Measurement	1400-1900
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> April	Registration – All Classes	0815-0930
	Event briefing (Race officials, competitors, coaches and support person vessels) 1000	
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> April	Prize giving	1600 or earlier if notified

### 9.2 Racing, Number of Races and Time of First Warning Signals

Date	No. of Races	First Warning Signal		
		Optimist	ILCA 6, 420, 29er	ILCA 4, Topper 5.3, RS Feva
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> April	3	1200	1200	1200
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> April	3	1100	1100	1100
Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup> April	3	1100	1100	1100
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> April	2	1100	1100	1100

### 9.3 Eleven races are scheduled for all classes.

### 9.4 One extra race per day may be sailed, provided that no class becomes more than one race ahead of schedule and the change is in accordance with the sailing instructions. If this is to occur, pennant numeral 4 will be displayed from the committee boat before the end of the last scheduled race of the day.

### 9.5 On Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April, no warning signal will be made after 1400.

## **10 EQUIPMENT INSPECTION**

- 10.1 Optimist competitors are required to update their sailor profile in their IODAI online account no later than the 6<sup>th</sup> April 2026 and produce a valid measurement book including sail certificate at Registration.
- 10.2 Boats may be inspected for compliance with Class Rules at any time during the Event.

## **11 CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT**

- 11.1 RRS 40.1 shall apply at all times while afloat.
- 11.2 [DP] [NP] Competitors shall collect a trolley tag at registration.
- 11.3 Competitors are required to have a launching trolley suitable for their particular class of boat that is fully serviceable and clearly marked with their Tag Number. Any trolleys that may cause damage to boats, MUST be made good before the first day of the event by the owner.

## **12 VENUE**

The race areas will be specified in the event Sailing Instructions but will be in the environs of the Eastern end of Belfast Lough.

## **13 COURSES**

The courses to be sailed will be Windward-Leeward, Trapezoid and Optimist Worlds Course and will be set out in the Sailing Instructions

## **14 PENALTY SYSTEM**

- 14.1 For the 29er Class only, RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.
- 14.2 RRS Appendix T, Arbitration, will apply. If a party, having been informed that an Arbitration Meeting will be held, does not attend, other parties may take a Post-Race Penalty at any time until the protest committee has completed taking evidence. This changes RRS Appendix T1(a).
- 14.3 RRS Appendix P, Special Procedures for RRS 42 applies with the following changes:
  - 14.3.1 For the 29er Class only, RRS P2.1 is deleted and replaced by: "P2.1 When a boat is first penalised under rule P1.2, her penalty shall be a One-Turn Penalty under rule 44.2. If she fails to take it, she shall be disqualified without a hearing."
  - 14.3.2 For all classes, RRS P2.3 does not apply and RRS P2.2 is changed so that it applies to any penalty after the first one
- 14.4 It is the intention of the OA to request approval of the denial of the right of appeal.

## **15 SCORING**

- 15.1 29er, 420, ILCA 6, ILCA 4, Topper 5.3, RS Feva and Optimist Classes - 4 races required to be completed to constitute a championship.
- 15.2 Optimist Class - When fewer than six races have been completed, a boat's score will be the total of her race scores.
- 15.3 Optimist Class - When from six to nine races have been completed, a boat's score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
- 15.4 Optimist Class - When ten or more races have been completed, a boat's score will be the total of her race scores excluding her two worst scores.
- 15.5 All other Classes - When fewer than four races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- 15.6 All other Classes - When four or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

## **16 [DP] [NP] SUPPORT PERSON VESSELS**

16.1 Support Person Vessels, including parent ribs and coaches, shall pre-register online before the 1<sup>st</sup> of April using the following form [isyouthchamps2026byc.com](http://isyouthchamps2026byc.com). Support Person Vessels shall also register with the OA in the race office to confirm details (Colour and Size, Owner/Driver's Name, Name and Sail Number of supported competitor(s)) and helms must have a minimum of National Powerboat Certificate or equivalent which must be presented on registration of that vessel before going afloat. They will be required to carry identifying flags. These will be issued by the OA at registration confirmation with a returnable deposit of €30.00.

16.2 Support teams, including all support persons and support person vessels shall stay 150m outside areas where boats are racing and not have any communication with competitors from the time of the preparatory signal for the start of the first fleet on course until all boats have finished or retired in that class or sailed 150m from race area after finishing/retiring. The race committee may give permission for support person vessels to enter the zone if there is a prolonged delay.

16.3 Optimist, 29er, 420 and ILCA 6 sailors shall not be registered to more than one coach.

16.4 Except when requested by, or agreed with, the race committee or Event Safety Leader, support person vessels shall not tow competitors to or from the race area or enter the race area.

16.5 When afloat, all persons on a support vessel shall wear a personal flotation device at all times. When the engine is running the support vessel helm shall use a kill cord at all times.

16.6 In addition, for the 29er, 420 and ILCA 6 Classes, coaches shall be a nominated coach from the club or class, with an endorsement letter from club/class committee.

16.7 In addition, for the 29er, 420 and ILCA 6 classes, support boats shall not communicate with competitors. 16.7 does not apply to those registered under 16.6

16.8 The person in charge of any support boat may be required to attend the support boat briefing each day as per schedule. All support boats must carry a working VHF radio and the working channel for the fleet that they are following shall be monitored at all times when afloat.

16.9 Irish Sailing selectors with designated flags displayed are permitted to be in the race area when boats are racing.

## **17 CHARTERED OR LOANED BOATS**

A chartered or loaned boat may carry national letters or a sail number in contravention of her Class rules, provided that the race committee has approved her sail identification before the first race.

## **18 BERTHING**

[DP] When allocated, boats shall be kept in their assigned places in the dinghy park.

## **19 HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS**

DOES NOT APPLY

## **20 DIVING EQUIPMENT AND PLASTIC POOLS**

DOES NOT APPLY

## **21 DATA PROTECTION AND USE OF IMAGES**

At registration competitors and support persons will be requested to give consent to the following:

## Data Protection

Any personal information provided to the OA will be used to facilitate participation in the Event. Competitors and support persons are 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. For any person not bound by the rules, the legal basis for processing that personal information is legitimate interest. Personal information will be stored and used in accordance with OA privacy policy.

When required by the rules, personal information may be shared with Irish Sailing, a competitor's or support person's national authority and/or World Sailing. The results of the Event and the outcome of any hearing or appeal may be published. Competitors and support persons accept that the OA may arrange for images or videos to be taken at the Event both on the water and on shore.

Competitors and support persons give consent to the taking of such images and to the use, reuse, publication and republication of such images in any media, in conjunction with the competitor's name or not, without compensation and without the competitor's approval of such images or any use thereof. The images may only be used for the promotion of the Event, its sponsors, the OA and the Class associations.

The Privacy Policy is available on the Ballyholme Yacht Club Website [Privacy Policy | Ballyholme Yacht Club](#) and the [Irish Sailing Website](#)

## 22 RISK STATEMENT

22.1 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, race management 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;

22.2 All competitors will be required to sign a Competitor Liability Waiver form as part of the Registration process.

**23 INSURANCE**

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid and adequate insurance against any risk, including civil responsibility to third parties, for the entirety of the Event.

**24 PRIZES**

Prizes will be awarded to the first three boats overall in each Class.

**25 FURTHER INFORMATION**

All material relating to the Event, including news, detailed schedules, entry lists etc. will be published on <https://www.sailing.ie/Events/Irish-Sailing-Youth-National-Championships> in due course. Questions may be emailed to [stephen.oshaughnessy@sailing.ie](mailto:stephen.oshaughnessy@sailing.ie)

END OF NOTICE OF RACE

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