



2026 Irish National & Open Optimist Championship

13th to 16th of August 2026

Royal Cork YC, Crosshaven, Co. Cork, Ireland

SUPPLEMENTARY SAILING INSTRUCTIONS (SSIs)

1 RULES

- 1.1 These Supplementary Sailing Instructions (SSIs) are to be read in conjunction with the current IODAI Major Event Sailing Instructions (MESIs).
- 1.2 If there is a conflict between the Notice of Race or MESIs and these SSIs, these SSIs shall prevail.

2 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 2.1 The official notice board (ONB) and all required forms referred to in the MESIs are online at [Optimist Nationals 2026 Official Notice Board](#).
- 2.2 The race office is located at RCYC Dinghy Centre, telephone +353 87 2377654, email optinats2026@royalcork.com
- 2.3 On the water, the Main Fleet Race Committee may make courtesy broadcasts on VHF radio channel 71 and the Regatta Fleet Race Committee on VHF radio channel 72.
- 2.4 A mandatory safety briefing for rescue, coach and support boat crews will be held at 18:00 Wednesday 12th of August 2026 in front of, or in, the Club House, depending on the weather. Attendance for support persons is mandatory.
- 2.5 A competitors briefing for Main Fleet sailors will be held at 09:30 Thursday 13th of August 2026 at the same location as in 2.4.
- 2.6 A competitors briefing will take place for the Regatta Fleets, at the discretion of the Regatta Fleet Race Officer and Head Coach when the main fleet have departed the club for their race area.

3 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 3.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed at club flagpole located in front of the main clubhouse.



- 3.2 The signal to competitors to both tally and launch will solely be via the D flag and one sound signal. Flag T will not be used and this amends MESI sections 5.4 and 5.5.

4 RACING AREAS

- 4.1 The Main Fleet racing area is in the Port of Cork, Lower Harbour and Approaches as shown in Appendix A. Specifically; Curlane Bank, Cuskinny, Trabolgan as shown.
- 4.2 The Regatta Fleet racing area will race on the Curlane Bank or other area as advised by their Race Officer and Head Coach.

5 COURSES

- 5.1 The Main Fleet course may be either course A or B from MESI, Attachment A. The Main Fleet Race Officer will signal the course being sailed by way of display board on the side of the Starting Committee Vessel. This changes MESI 9.1.
- 5.2 The intended starting sequence is Junior Fleet followed by Senior Fleet. The class flags as described in MESI 7.5 will be used to signal the fleet being started and will always take precedent to inform competitors of the fleet being started.
- 5.3 When course A is being sailed, the course for the Junior Division will be the Outer Loop Course (O2) and course for the Senior Division will be Inner Loop Course (I2), this changes MESI 9.3.
- 5.4 The Regatta Fleet will use Course C as per the MESI 9.5.

6 MARKS

- 6.1 Main Fleet Marks 1,2, 3a & 3b, 4a & 4b are orange cylindrical buoys.
- 6.2 Main Fleet Finish Mark will be an orange danbuoy with a blue flag.
- 6.3 Regatta Fleet Marks 1, 2 & 3 are orange spherical buoys.
- 6.4 Regatta Fleet Finish Mark is a white spherical buoy.

7 OBSTRUCTIONS

- 7.1 There are no designated obstructions in the Race Area.



7.2 While transiting to and from the race are due regard must be given to port traffic and obligations to keep clear.

8 OFFICIAL VESSELS

8.1 Official vessels, other than those listed in the table below will be distinguished by;

- Safety and mark laying vessels will display green flags that must be collected at the race office at registration.
- Jury boats will display a yellow flag.

Role	Name	Description
Main Fleet Committee Vessel	Irish Mist	40' Motor Vessel
Port end starting boat	Kilise	8m Navy Rib
Finishing boat	Gem	10.5m Motor Vessel
Regatta Fleet Committee Vessel	Nemo	8m Motor Vessel

8.2 When the race committee permits towing, Support Person Vessels shall take a minimum of 8 boats on tow. This changes MESI 24.6

9 ADVERSE WEATHER

9.1 MESI Attachment B will apply.

10 SCHEDULE of RACES

10.1 The schedule of racing remains as published in the Notice of Race, Section 7, see beneath for reference.

Date	Warning Signal	No. races
Thursday 13th August	11:55	3
Friday 14th August	10:55	3
Saturday 15th August	10:55	3
Sunday 16th August	10:55	2



11 Support Teams

- 11.1 Support Team vessels may be launched at the host venue slipway before 22:00 on Wednesday the 12th of August 2026 and may not recover until after all fleets have finished and been recovered on Sunday the 16th of August 2026.
- 11.2 The OA reserves the right to further restrict launching and recovery of support vessels during these times as it sees fit and without amending these SSIs.
- 11.3 Support vessels including coaches, spectators etc. must register at the race office and display the flag as assigned at the time of registration.

12 PROTEST ROOM

- 12.1 The protest room will be in the event office located in the main club car park.
- 12.2 The OA reserves the right to use additional rooms or spaces in the club as may be required.

12 FURTHER INFORMATION

- 12.1 For further information please contact optinats2026@royalcork.com

Appendix A – Race Areas

