



Beneteau 31.7
Irish National Championships 2026

Saturday 19th / 20th September 2026

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

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

1. RULES

The regatta shall be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing, the Prescriptions of the Irish Sailing Association, the Beneteau First 31.7 Ireland One Design Class Association Rules, the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions. In the event of any conflict, the Sailing Instructions shall prevail. Particular attention is drawn to Class Rule Article 13.2 regarding Crewing.

2. NOTICE TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors shall be posted on the Official Notice Board on the website or on the deck of the NYC.

3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

These Sailing Instructions may be changed by posting a notice not later than 09.30hrs, on the day on which it is to take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races shall be posted by 20.00hrs on the day before it takes effect.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

4.1 Signals made ashore shall be displayed from the club mast.

4.2 When Flag 'AP' under IC Numeral 9 is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 60 minutes' in the race signal AP.

5. SAFETY

5.1 Competitors are advised to wear adequate personal flotation devices PFDs at all times (except when adjusting clothing).

5.2 The speed limit within Dun Laoghaire Harbour is 6kts.

6. SCHEDULE OF RACES

Five (5) races are scheduled for the championship.

Saturday & Sunday races will be a W/L laid course.

Date	No. of Scheduled races	Time of Warning Signal	High Water	Height
Saturday 19 th	3	1130	0557/1816 hrs	3.14 /3.25
Sunday 20 th	2	1100	0727 hrs	3.04

--	--	--	--	--

7. CLASS FLAG

IC Numeral 9

8. RACING AREA

Racing will take place in the waters of Dublin Bay (Admiralty chart no 1468).

9. CREW LIMITS

The maximum number of crew is limited to 9 for any 1 race.

10. THE COURSE

10.1 Saturday & Sunday races will be Windward-Leeward type.

10.2 The diagram in Addendum A shows the course, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.

10.3 The approximate magnetic bearing to Mark 1 may be displayed on the committee boat.

11. THE MARKS

11.1 Marks 1,2, 3a and 3b will be large inflatable buoys on the windward-leeward.

11.2 In the event of a gate not being laid mark 3 shall be rounded to port.

11.3 The starting/finishing mark will be a distinctive inflatable or dan buoy.

11.4 The inner distance marks (SI 12.3) will be inflatable or dan buoy of a smaller size.

11.5 A race committee vessel signaling a change of a leg of the course is a mark as provided in SI 13.2.

12. THE START

12.1 Races will be started in accordance with RRS 26

12.2 The starting line will be between a mast displaying an **orange flag** on the committee boat at the starboard end and a starting mark at the port end.

12.3 Inner distance marks may be laid adjacent to the race committee boats, not necessarily on the starting line, and, if laid, are starting marks according to RRS 18.1(a) and RRS 31. No boat shall pass between this inner distance mark and the race committee boat after the preparatory signal.

12.4 A boat starting later than 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored (DNS). This changes A4.

12.5 In addition to RRS 29.1, the Race Committee, no earlier than one minute after the start, will if possible broadcast individual OCS recalls by sail number on the course VHF channel. Failure to do so or delay or the order of the broadcast will not be grounds for a request for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a)

13 CHANGE OF POSITION OF THE NEXT MARK

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

13.2 Except at a gate, boats shall pass between the race committee vessel signalling the change of the next leg and the nearby mark, leaving the mark to port and the race committee vessel to starboard. This changes RRS 28.

14. PENALTY SYSTEM

14.1 Rule 44.1 and 44.2 are changed so that only one turn, including one tack and one gybe, is required.

15 THE FINISH

15.1 The finishing line will be between a mast displaying a **Blue flag** on the committee boat at the starboard end and the port end finishing mark

15.2 If a mark boat is positioned at a mark and is displaying ICF F' with intermittent sound signals all boats after rounding that mark, will then sail directly to the finish and finish by crossing the line from the direction of the last mark. This is in addition to RRS 32.2 (Shortening course).

16. RETIRALS

Any boat that intends to leave the race area before racing is finished, shall inform the committee boat (on VHF Ch. 73) or the race office as soon as possible afterwards. [DP]

17. TIME LIMIT

The target time for races will be 60 minutes. Boats failing to finish within 15 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes, will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF). This changes RRS 35 and A4.1

17. PROTESTS

- 17.1** A boat intending to protest shall inform the Race Officer immediately after racing, and wait for acknowledgment.
- 17.2** Protest forms are available at the Race Office.
- 17.3** Protests shall be lodged within 90 minutes of the finishing time of the last boat to finish in the last race of the day. The protest time limit shall be posted on the event notice board
- 17.4** Protest hearing schedule shall be posted on the event notice board, to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named witnesses. It is the responsibility of competitors to make themselves available at the time and place indicated.
- 17.5** Breaches of SIs 16 and 19.1 will not be grounds for a protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a).
- 17.6** 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 RRS 62.2.
- 17.6** Arbitration option (paragraph 17) which may speed up protest management (and require only one judge) for "minor" incident not resulting in damage.

18. SCORING

- 18.1** Two races are required to be completed to constitute a series
- 18.2** The low point scoring system shall be used in accordance with RRS Appendix A
- 18.3** When fewer than four races have been completed, a boat's series score shall be the total of her race scores.
- 18.4** 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.

19. RADIO COMMUNICATION

- 19.1** A boat shall neither make radio transmissions nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones. [DP]
- 19.2** The Race Committee may draw attention to Race Signals by announcement through VHF Channel 73. Boats which are OCS may be advised by the race committee on VHF. Failure to make or receive any VHF communication or the order in which numbers may be called, shall not be grounds for redress.

20. PRIZES

- 20.1** Prizes shall be awarded to the first three competitors in both Scratch and Handicap divisions. A competitor may not receive a Scratch and a Handicap prize. The Scratch prize shall take precedence.
- 20.2** Perpetual Trophies shall be presented to the winners in both Scratch and Handicap divisions.

21. INSPECTION

Boats winning day and overall prizes may be inspected to ensure compliance with class regulations.

22. WASTE

As per RRS 55, competitors are forbidden from disposing of waste overboard. Any boat whose crew is found to have infringed this rule may be subject to disqualification from the Championship.

23. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 23.1** Competitors participate in the championships entirely at their own risk. See rule 4, Decision to Race. The National Yacht Club and The Beneteau 31.7 Class Association their officers, servants and agents accept no responsibility in respect of loss of life, personal injury or loss of or damage to property sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during or after the championships.
- 23.2** It is the sole and exclusive responsibility of each owner or owner's representative to decide whether or not to start or continue to race. Owner's shall acknowledge their responsibility on the official Entry Form and draw attention to their crew and associates to this disclaimer.
- 23.3** Boat owners and crew shall ensure that they are adequately insured against loss, damage or injury to persons, boats or equipment at all times and however occurring.

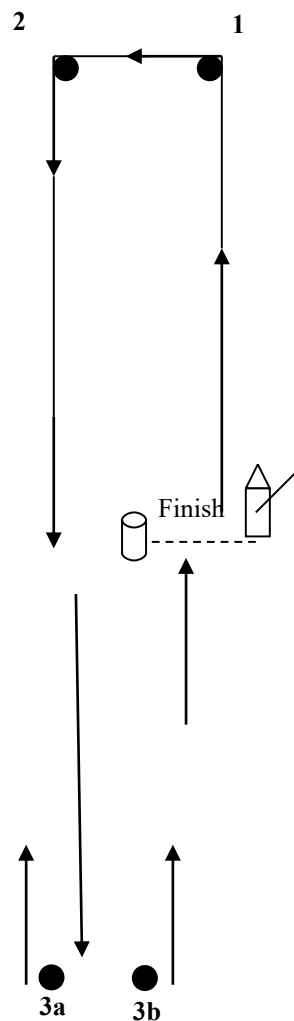
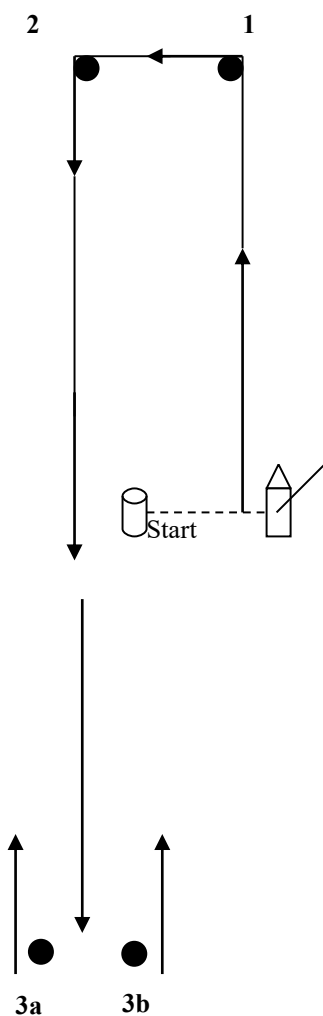
24. INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third party liability insurance with a minimum cover of not less than three million EURO.

Beneteau 31.7**Irish Open and National Championships 2026****Addendum A****Windward-Leeward Course**

Round 1 **Start – 1(p) – 2(p) – 3a(s) or 3b(p)**

Round 2 **1(p) – 2(p) – 3a(s) or 3b(p) – Finish**



At the gate boats shall sail between the gate marks from the direction of the previous mark and round 3a to Starboard and 3b to port.

In the event a gate is not laid Mark 3 will be rounded to port

**** Mark 2 may be smaller than mark 1.

