



2025 IRC Welsh National Championship

Pwllheli, North Wales

2nd - 4th May 2025

A Nations Cup Event

Incorporating J70 Welsh Championships and Sonata Welsh Championships



Notice of Race



Organising Authority

The Organising Authority is Plas Heli Cyf and Clwb Hwyllo Pwllheli Sailing Club (CHPSC).

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

The notation '[DP]' in a rule means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification. (This changes RRS A5)

Unless stated otherwise, all times are BST.

1. Rules

- 1.1 The Event is governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
- 1.2 The prescriptions of the National Authority will apply.
[https://www.sailing.org/tools/documents/NationalPrescriptionsGBR-\[26794\].pdf](https://www.sailing.org/tools/documents/NationalPrescriptionsGBR-[26794].pdf)
- 1.3 Competitors should note that Plas Heli and Clwb Hwyllo Pwllheli Sailing Club, implement the RYA Racing Charter and that they will be expected to comply with it. <https://www.rya.org.uk/racing/rules/racing-charter>
- 1.4 IRC rules part A, B & C shall apply to IRC racing, including the following changes: Crew numbers and weight, IRC Rule 22.4.2 Crew Number/Weight is deleted and replaced by: The maximum number of crew onboard when racing shall be equal to the crew number shown on the IRC certificate plus one. When there is a female crew member or a crew member aged less than 25 years onboard when racing, this shall be increased to the crew number shown on the IRC certificate plus two. There is no weight limit.
- 1.5 Handicapping by RYA YTC shall apply as appropriate.
- 1.6 It is strongly recommended that boats, as a minimum, comply with World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations Category 4.

2. Sailing Instructions

- 2.1 The Sailing Instructions (SIs) will be published on the Official Notice Board (ONB) by 1st May 2025.

3. Communication

- 3.1 The ONB is located at <https://www.racingrulesofsailing.org/>
- 3.2 [DP] All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communicating on channels 17 and 72.
- 3.3 [NP] Each boat shall provide at least one mobile number at registration for a device connected to the internet, with WhatsApp installed. This device shall be carried onboard at all times.
- 3.4 Communication with competitors will be via the ONB, emails and WhatsApp. Additionally, the race committee may make broadcasts to competitors on VHF.
- 3.5 [DP] From the first warning signal until the end of the last race of the day, 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

- 4.1 The Championship is open to all boats of the following Classes. The OA reserves the right to add and/or amend classes.
- 4.2 Handicap Classes and Sportsboats
 - 4.2.1 Boats will race either using IRC rating, or YTC handicap.
 - 4.2.2 Endorsed IRC certificates are not required.
 - 4.2.3 IRC Boats shall present a valid 2025 IRC certificate at registration, and this shall be available for inspection by another competitor at any time.
 - 4.2.4 [NP] [DP] IRC certificates shall have a Validity Date no later than 28th April 2025.
 - 4.2.5 No alteration in a boat's TCC will be permitted after this cut-off date except as a result of a rating protest, or to correct Rating Office errors. Such errors shall be certified in writing as such by the Rating Office.
 - 4.2.6 YTC: entries will be accepted from boats in the cruiser class with a valid YTC handicap, which must be presented at registration.
 - 4.2.7 YTC is a free handicapping system and boats can apply for a YTC rating online at www.RORCRating.com/ryaytc/
- 4.3 One-Design Classes
 - 4.3.1 J70s and Sonatas.
 - 4.3.2 One-design classes will race within the IRC fleet, separate starts will not be provided.
- 4.4 Entries may be made online using the link on the event website <https://www.ircwelshchamps.com/>
- 4.5 The closing date for entries is noon on 28th April 2025.
- 4.6 Late entries will be accepted, subject to payment of the Late Entry Fee.
- 4.7 To be considered an entry in the event, a boat shall complete all registration requirements and pay all fees.
- 4.8 IRC and YTC classes may be split, the final class splits will be confirmed after the closing date for entries.
- 4.9 A minimum of 3 entries is required for each class.

5. Entry Fees

5.1 Entry fees are as follows:

Class	Entry Fee (£)	Late Entry Fee (£)
IRC (TCC >=1.000)	180	250
IRC (TCC <1.000)	150	200
Cruisers YTC	150	200
Sportsboats	150	200
J70	150	200
Sonata	150	200

5.2 The above entry fees include free raft berthing for visiting boats on the Academy events and visitor pontoons as detailed in NoR 12.

5.3 The Organising Authority may cancel the event and reject or cancel entries in its absolute discretion, subject to RRS 76.

6. Advertising

6.1 [SP] [NP] Boats may be required to display identification and advertising chosen and supplied by the Organising Authority.

7. Schedule

7.1 Registration will take place at Plas Heli 17:00 – 19:00 Thursday 1st May and 08:30 – 09:30 Friday 2nd May.

7.2 A briefing for all classes will be held in Plas Heli at 09:00 on Friday 2nd May.

7.3 The event will consist of up to 9 races for IRC Classes, 6 races for YTC Classes.

7.4 The intended race schedule is as the table below:

	1 st Warning Signal	Maximum Number of Races (IRC)	Maximum Number of Races (YTC)
Friday 2 nd May	10:15	4	2
Saturday 3 rd May	10:35	4	2
Sunday 4 th May	11:55	4	2

7.5 Subsequent races will be started as soon as practicable after the finish of the previous race.

7.6 On the last scheduled day of racing no warning signal will be made after 16:00.

8. Equipment Inspection

- 8.1 Inspections may be carried out at any time to ensure a boats compliance with its IRC certificate.
- 8.2 The fact that event officials may conduct inspections does not reduce the responsibilities of each competitor set out in this Notice of Race.

9. Race Area

- 9.1 Racing will be on 'The Race-Course Areas' in Cardigan Bay covered by Admiralty Chart Number 5609.

10. Courses

- 10.1 The courses to be sailed will be described in the Sailing Instructions.
- 10.2 IRC Classes will sail either windward/leeward, fixed mark or coastal courses.
- 10.3 In the event a coastal course is sailed, there will only be 2 races that day. This amends NoR 7.4.
- 10.4 YTC Classes will sail fixed mark courses only.

11. Scoring

- 11.1 The low point system of Appendix A will apply, including the following changes:
- 11.2 When fewer than four races have been completed, a boats series score will be the total of her race scores. When four or more races have been completed, a boats series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score. When six or more races have been completed, a boats series score will be the total of her race scores, excluding the two worst scores.
- 11.3 IRC Classes
 - 11.3.1 Two races are required to constitute a series.
 - 11.3.2 A boats score in a race designated as coastal race (NoR 10.3) shall not be excluded.
- 11.4 YTC Classes
 - 11.4.1 One race is required to constitute a series.

12. Berthing

- 12.1 Visiting yachts will be raft berthed on the Academy events and visitor pontoons at no charge for the duration of the Championship.
- 12.2 Visitors requiring a free raft berth for the championship must advise the Championship Secretary by email to secretary@ircwelshchamps.com or with Plas Heli by email to ops@plasheli.org not later than 28th April 2025, but preferably earlier. Free berths may be restricted in number so early application is advised to secure.

- 12.3 Competitors requiring berths outside the Championship dates should make arrangements with the Championship Secretary by e-mail to secretary@ircwelshchamps.com or with Plas Heli by email to pontoons@plasheli.org.
- 12.4 [DP] Boats shall be kept in their assigned places in the harbour, unless directed otherwise by the Championship Secretary, Plas Heli or their representative.
- 12.5 [DP] [NP] Boats shall not be hauled out during the event except with and according to the terms of prior written permission of the Race Committee.

13. Privacy Statement

- 13.1 The personal information you provide to the organizing authority will be used to facilitate your participation in the event. If you have agreed to be 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. If you are not bound by the rules, the legal basis for processing that personal information is legitimate interest. Your personal information will be stored and used in accordance with the organizing authority's privacy policy. When required by the rules, personal information may be shared with the RYA, your national authority and/or World Sailing. The results of the event and the outcome of any hearing or appeal may be published.

14. Rights to use Names and Likenesses

- 14.1 Competitors automatically grant to the Organising Authority, without payment, the right in perpetuity to make, use and show any motion pictures, still pictures and live, taped, or filmed television of or relating to the event.

15. Risk Statement

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.

- 15.1 By taking part in the event, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:
- 15.1.1 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;
 - 15.1.2 They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;
 - 15.1.3 They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;
 - 15.1.4 Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
 - 15.1.5 The provision of a race management team, patrol boats and other officials and volunteers by the event organizer does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;

- 15.1.6 The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances;
- 15.1.7 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;
- 15.1.8 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 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.
- 15.2 The organisers accept no liability whatsoever for loss, damage, death or personal injury of any description whatsoever that may be sustained by boats, owners, crews or guests taking part in this series of races using jetties, ramps, moorings, parking premises or any other facilities or using or accepting assistance from launches or boats by them or otherwise, however occasioned – whether by negligence of their members or servants or not.

16. Insurance

- 16.1 Each participating boat shall ensure that their boat is adequately insured against all third-party claims.
- 16.2 The Organising Authority is not responsible for verifying the status or validity of a boat's insurance.

17. Prizes

- 17.1 Prizes will be awarded for each class (IRC and YTC), with trophies presented by RDYC/CHPSC and prizes provided by our Sponsors.
- 17.2 Prizes will also be awarded for the highest placed J70, Sonata and Sportsboat.

NOTICE OF RACE ENDS

Further Information

All competitors will be welcome at Ples Heli during the event.

Plas Heli will be open for drinks and meals, with normal menus in operation. A Deck Party is planned with live music and a BBQ, subject to the weather.

Drinks with Flag Officers is planned for after racing on Friday 2nd May, further details will be published, along with the social program on the website at <https://www.ircwelshchamps.com/>

Why not consider staying after the Championship for a full program of Club and ISORA racing - check www.pwllhelisailingclub.co.uk/racing.

For any further information, please email racing@PwllheliSailingClub.co.uk