



## NOTICE OF RACE

**The Volvo Round Ireland Yacht Race (VRIYR) is organised by Wicklow Sailing Club in association with the Royal Ocean Racing Club and Royal Irish Yacht Club. The Volvo Round Ireland Yacht Race carries 1.4 scoring points factor for the RORC Season's Championship.**

### **1.0 GENERAL**

- 1.1 The Organising Authority referred to in this Notice of Race is Wicklow Sailing Club (WSC) in association with the Royal Ocean Racing Club (RORC) and administered by the Race Committee.
- 1.2 THE RACE START WILL BE AT WICKLOW ON SATURDAY, 18TH JUNE 2016.**
- 1.3 There will be separate starts for Monohulls and Multihulls.**
- 1.4 The RACE COURSE is "Leave Ireland and all its islands, excluding Rockall, to starboard."**
- 1.5 The distance is approximately 704 nm.
- 1.6 The notice of race and the terms of the contract created by acceptance of a boats entry to the VRIYR under this notice of race shall be governed by and construed in accordance with Irish law and any dispute which cannot be resolved under Part 5 of the Racing Rules of Sailing shall be referred to the exclusive jurisdiction of the Irish courts.
- 1.7 The Royal Irish Yacht Club (RIYC), will be the Dun Laoghaire base for the associate Race activities.
- 1.8 The Volvo Round Ireland Yacht Race will be governed by the following rules:
- The Rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) **2013-2016** of the International Sailing Federation (ISAF)
  - The ISAF Offshore Special Regulations (OSR) **2016 - 2017** for Category 2 Races
  - IRC Rule 2016, parts A, B and C
  - The rules and regulations for any one design class for which there is an eligible boat entered to that class in the race
  - MOCRA Rating Rule **2016**
  - This Notice of Race (NoR)
  - The Sailing Instructions (SI) issued by the Organising Authority and any amendments thereto. Sailing Instructions will be made available from the Race Office to confirmed entries by **Monday 6th June 2016.**
- 1.9 Between the official times for sunset and sunrise, the right of way rules of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (IRPCAS) shall prevail over the Rules of RRS Part 2.
- 1.10 In the event of conflict between the Sailing Instructions and this Notice of Race the Sailing Instructions shall prevail. The Sailing Instructions may invoke rule changes as allowed for in RRS Rule 86.

Volvo Round Ireland Yacht Race, 5 Wentworth Place, Wicklow Town, Co Wicklow, Ireland.

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- 1.11 The Organising Authority reserves the right to amend this Notice of Race and to alter the rules and conditions until not later than **16th May 2016**. These changes will be sent to owners whose entries have already been accepted and posted on the Event Website: [www.roundireland.ie](http://www.roundireland.ie)

## **2.0 ELIGIBILITY**

- 2.1 The Volvo Round Ireland Yacht Race is open to offshore boats that fully satisfy the requirements of the ISAF Offshore Special Regulations 2016-2017 for Category 2 races and RORC prescriptions.
- 2.2 Boats must have a current and valid rating certificate for the Rating Categories they enter for and must comply in all respects with that rating certificate.
- 2.3 The cut-off date for amended Rating Certificates shall be Wednesday **15th June 2016**. In very exceptional cases the Race Committee may grant a relaxation to this requirement.

## **3.0 ELIGIBLE ENTRIES:-**

### **3.1 IRC rated yachts:**

Of **LOA 9.15m/30 feet and over**, with a minimum SSS of 28 (as stated on IRC rating cert) or STIX of 32 combined with an AVS minimum of  $130-0.002 \times M$  (where M is minimum sailing weight in kg). Boats with a series date of 1995 and later may be categorised under STIX only. Boats prior to 1995 may be categorised under either STIX or SSS.

### **3.2 Multihulls:**

Having **LOA 9.00m/ 29.53 feet and over** and a current and valid MOCRA rating certificate may enter the Multihull Category.

### **3.3 Waiver:**

The Organising Authority reserve the right to permit entry to yachts whose length is considered to be acceptable as substantially compliant with the above and in exceptional circumstances may accept other indicators as to the suitability of the boats for a given category of the race.

## **4.0 EXPERIENCE / AGE:-**

- 4.1 The Volvo Round Ireland Yacht Race is not a race for novices. Every crew member must have experience of sailing a yacht offshore and be prepared to encounter heavy weather. Competitors may be required to provide evidence of prior offshore experience.
- 4.2 The minimum experience requirement is:-
- a) 300 nautical miles of offshore racing (at least 75 miles duration and include at least one night at sea) on the boat entered into the race, completed by a minimum of 50% of the crew (but not less than 2) including the Person in Charge.

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Or

- b) Non-stop passage of at least 300 miles.
- c) Other qualifications similar to (a) – (b) above to be proposed to and agreed by the Organising Authority by **30th MAY 2016**
- d) Qualification experience must be within 12 months prior to the start of the Race.
- e) Any crew member still under the age of 18 by the 17<sup>th</sup> June 2016 shall supply the written consent of a parent or legal guardian, which consent shall be attached to the crew list submitted on registration before the race
- f) For the Two Handed Class within the IRC Category the skipper of an entry in this class shall ensure that he and his crew have adequate knowledge and experience to sail a Category 2 race and that the boat is suitably set up for two handed racing.

## **5.0 CREW TRAINING:-**

- 5.1 The Skipper of each participating boat shall ensure that there is adequate knowledge and experience among his crew to take part in a Category 2 offshore race.  
At least 30% of the crew, including the Skipper, shall have undertaken training to OSR. Section 6, (Appendix G)
- 5.2 In the case of two-handed entries, both crew members must have completed training to OSR, Section 6, (Appendix G) (including training in survival at sea as required by OSR 6.01.)
- 5.3 In addition at least one member of the crew shall hold a current First Aid Certificate (in accordance with OSR 6.05.2) or equivalent.
- 5.4 The above training must have been completed within five years of the start of the race.
- 5.5 Copies of these certificates should be lodged with WSC prior to the start of the race.

## **6.0 CATEGORIES AND CLASSES**

- 6.1 Racing will take place under IRC & MOCRA Classes.
- 6.2 Classes will be allocated according to the number and type of entry. Yachts may enter as a team, but RRS Appendix D, Team Racing Rules, will not apply. Details will be provided on application.
- 6.3 **IRC Category**
  - IRC Class CK – 0.850 and greater
  - IRC Class Z - 1.276 and greater
  - IRC Class 1 – 1.101 - 1.275
  - IRC Class 2 – 1.051 - 1.100
  - IRC Class 3 – 1.007 - 1.050
  - IRC Class 4 - 0.850 - 1.006

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- Class 5 – Cruisers, Hull factor 7.5 or less
- Class 6 – Two handed class
- Class 7 – TBA

6.4 IRC entrants may enter in more than one category if eligible.

6.5 Should the rating bands for the division of the IRC Categories into classes stated above prove to be manifestly unsuitable to the composition of the fleet of entries, the Organising Authority reserves the right to adjust these bands as it deems appropriate.

#### **6.6 Multihull Category**

- Multihulls having a current valid MOCRA rating certificate and TCC of 1.200 or greater.

#### **6.7 Other Classes**

Subject to the participation of a sufficient number of entries, the following additional classes may be established:

- One Design Classes for boats complying with one design rules for their class.

6.8 The formation of any of the above categories or classes is at the discretion of the Organising Authority and subject to a minimum of four entries. However, should there be less than four entries in a particular class, the Organising Authority reserves the right to include these entries within another class or, at the discretion of the Organising Authority, a class may be formed with less than four entries.

6.9 The Organising Authority reserves the right to accept entries or classes that are not listed above and reserves the right to decline an entry.

### **7.0 CREW LIMITS**

7.1 IRC Rule 22.4.2 is deleted and replaced by “The maximum number of crew that may sail aboard a boat shall be the number as specified on her rating certificate” (There is no weight limit)

7.2 The above provision overrides IRC Rule 22.4.2 in respect of One-Design classes. However a Class may wish for its own purposes to apply its own crew limits of less than the certificate number. It is recommended that the Person in Charge consult their Class Association.

### **8.0 COMPLIANCE WITH RULES – REGULATIONS & INSPECTIONS:**

8.1 Skippers shall sign a declaration that they are in full compliance with the requirements of the ISAF Offshore Special Regulations 2016-2017 for Category 2 races (including the training requirements of OSR 6.01) and RORC prescriptions.

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- 8.2 Each entrant must complete an ISAF Offshore Special Regulations Check List. The completed Check List must be submitted to the Race Office prior to the start of the race and a copy must also be retained on board the yacht.
- 8.3 Yachts shall assemble at either Wicklow Harbour or Dun Laoghaire Marina no later than **0900 hours on Thursday, 16th June 2016** for Special Regulations inspections. Entrants are required to give advance notice as to their choice of venue for SR inspections.
- 8.4 Notwithstanding the mandatory time for assembly referred to at 8.3 above inspections will be available **on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2016**.
- 8.5 It is mandatory that the Skipper or his authorised representative be present at the time of inspection. Further inspections may be carried out to any boat after the race. Inspections must be booked in advance by arrangement with Safety Inspectors.

## **9.0 TRACKING / AIS TRANSPONDER :**

- 9.1 It will be mandatory for yachts to carry a Tracker Unit for the duration of the race. The Organising Authority may use the information received from the system for media coverage of the race as well as for technical and safety purposes. Participants shall be responsible for the beacon while on board and shall return it to the Race Office after the race. On registration, participants will be required to give a credit card number from which account the Organising Authority may charge the sum of £700 (stg) if the beacon is not returned.
- 9.2 All yachts must be equipped with an operational AIS Transponder. Competitors shall use their best endeavours to ensure that their AIS Transponder is switched on (transmitting and receiving) at all times for the entire duration of the race.

## **10.0 APPLICATION FOR ENTRY AND REGISTRATION**

- 10.1 Application for entry should be made by using the on-line entry format on the Event Website [www.roundireland.ie](http://www.roundireland.ie)
- 10.2 Entry applications may be submitted on-line from Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2016.
- 10.3 The closing date for entries is midday on Monday 16th May 2016.
- 10.4 Application for entries after 16<sup>th</sup> May 2016 will only be accepted at the discretion of the Organising Authority and be subject to a payment of additional 30% excess on standard fee.
- 10.5 The Skipper must complete the registration process at the Race Office at Wicklow Sailing Club and include a full crew list with names, addresses and telephone numbers of competitors and their next of kin which must be lodged with the Race Office in the format provided by the Organising Authority.

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10.6 The submission of documents requested by the Organising Authority does not exonerate the Entrant from any of his/her responsibilities and receipt by the Organising Authority shall not imply verification of the validity or adequacy of the documents submitted to it.

10.7 Entrants should include, with their entry, a recent photograph of the yacht for the programme and for publicity purposes.

### **11.0 ENTRY FEES**

#### 11.1 ENTRY FEE (LOA) (Euro)

- |                        |                    |                       |
|------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| • 9.00 - 12.00 meters  | Two Handed         | €360                  |
| • 9.00 – 12.00 meters  | 29.53 – 39.37 feet | €450                  |
| • 12.01 – 15.00 meters | 39.40 - 49.21 feet | €600                  |
| • 15.01 – 18.00 meters | 49.25 - 59.06 feet | €750                  |
| • 18.01 – 22.50 meters | 59.10 – 73.82 feet | €1000                 |
| • 22.51 & over meters  | 73.85+ feet & over | €50 per m length LOA. |

#### 11.2 DEPOSIT:-

**A non-refundable deposit of €100 will be required for a valid entry application with the balance of the appropriate entry fee paid not later than 16<sup>th</sup> May 2016.**

### **12 CANCELLATION POLICY**

12.1 Cancellation prior to closing date, where the full fee has **not** been paid, shall not be reckonable for a refund of the deposit.

12.2 Cancellations subsequent to payment of full entry fee can be accepted either:

- before the closing date, when a refund, minus the non-refundable deposit of €100, may be claimed or
- Between the closing date and the start, when 50% of the fee may be claimed.

### **13.0 SCHEDULE OF EVENT**

13.1 Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June to Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2016

- Registration / Scrutineering (09:30 - 13:00 & 14:00 - 17:00)
- A race office will be open during the above hours at WSC Wicklow and RIYC Dun Laoghaire.

#### 13.2 Friday 17th June

- Skippers' reception and Briefing at Wicklow Sailing Club at 18:00. Two crew members of a boat intending to compete in the Volvo Round Ireland Yacht Race should attend the whole of the Race Briefing. It is strongly recommended that these briefings be attended by the Skipper and the Navigator.

### **13.5 Saturday 18th June**

#### **Start Times for Volvo Round Ireland Yacht Race**

- **Monohulls will be 13:00 hrs.**
- **Multihulls will be 13.10 hrs.**

### **13.5 Friday 24th June**

- **Trophy/ RORC Medallions presentation – See Section 17**

## **14.0 SCORING**

14.1 The IRC Category shall be scored on corrected time by IRC TCC.

14.2 The Multihull Category shall be scored on corrected time using the MOCRA TCC.

## **15.0 CHANGES TO RULES**

15.1 The use of an autopilot is permitted in Two handed entries. This changes ISAF RRS Rule 52.

15.2 A boat may carry one spare mainsail which may only be used while racing as a genuine replacement if during the race the mainsail the boat started the race with becomes damaged beyond repair and not for the purpose of improved performance. The first mainsail may not thereafter be repaired and re-used while racing. In the case that the spare mainsail is used the substitution shall be declared in the Skipper's race declaration describing the circumstances and giving the reasons for its use. The skipper may be required to produce the damaged mainsail for inspection by the Race Committee.

15.4 Valid rating certificates shall be produced by the due dates specified in this Notice of Race. This changes ISAF RRS Rule 78.2.

## **16.0 ADVERTISING**

16.1 Boats taking part in any class in the event may display advertising as permitted by their class in accordance with ISAF Regulation 20 - Advertising Code.

16.2 Competitors will be required to display advertising for the event sponsor in accordance with ISAF Regulation

16.3 The Organising Authority requires all competitors to display bow decals and to hoist a sponsor's pennant for the duration of the race and, The decals and the pennant will be provided by the Organising Authority.

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## **17.0 PRIZES - TROPHY PRESENTATIONS:**

- 17.1 A dedicated Volvo Line Honours Battleflag will be presented to the line honours boats in Monohull and Multihull classes on completion and arrival at Wicklow Sailing Club.
- 17.2 Trophies for winning positions as determined by the Organising Authority will be presented to the winning yachts at a Prizegiving to be held at Wicklow clubhouse at **18.00hrs on Fri 24<sup>th</sup> June 2016.**  
Awards of trophies not determined by the above time will be held over and presented at a later time.
- 17.3 The Volvo Round Ireland Yacht Race Trophies will be awarded to the winners as set out in the schedule attached to Appendix 1. The Organising Authority reserves the right to modify the schedule of intended trophies.
- 17.4 It is also intended to award first, second and third prizes in each class where the number of entries is six or more boats and first and second prizes where there are only five but not less than three boats in a class.
- 17.5 WSC holds the winners of trophies responsible for all damage or loss and will require that winners take out adequate insurance. Winners are responsible to get the trophy suitably engraved, and are also liable for all return carriage costs. If a trophy is returned not engraved WSC reserves the right to charge the cost of the engraving to the winner. Trophies will be returned to WSC when requested by the Organising Authority. WSC require an indemnity form to be signed in respect of each trophy.
- 17.7 **RORC Medallions will be presented at the Prizegiving.**

## **18.0 LIABILITY and DISCLAIMER**

- 20.1 By making an application for entry in the race, the owner of a boat acknowledges that the various terms of this Notice of Race including any amendments thereto, as well as all the rules and regulations referred to in this Notice of Race and in the Sailing Instructions, shall be complied with.
- 20.2 The Owner or Charterer of a participating boat shall hold current adequate marine legal liability insurance cover with respect to the boat, valid when racing and will ensure that all crewmembers are aware of the importance of effecting appropriate personal insurance. Boats must carry a third party liability indemnity limit of at least €3 million.
- 20.3 As part of the registration process, the person making the on-line entry shall be deemed to be Person in Charge of the yacht with full authority to confirm, on the on-line registration system, a Declaration, on behalf of each individual participating

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crewmember, accepting a disclaimer of liability prepared by the Organising Authority which shall, inter alia, confirm:-

- a) That the named applicant making the on-line entry is the Person in Charge and has authority to confirm this Declaration on behalf of the full crew compliment.
- b) 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;
- c) That the sole and inescapable responsibility for the nautical qualities of the yacht participating in the VOLVO ROUND IRELAND YACHT RACE 2016, her rigging, the safety equipment on board and the competence, behaviour and competency of the crew is that of the Entrant/Charterer of the yacht.
- d) They are acquainted with ISAF Part 1 Fundamental Rule 4: "A boat is solely responsible for deciding whether or not to start or to continue racing".
- e) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;
- f) They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omission;
- g) Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
- h) The provision of a race management team and other officials and volunteers by the event organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
- i) They are responsible for ensuring that their boat is equipped and seaworthy so as to face extremes of weather; that there is a crew sufficient in number, experience and fitness to withstand such weather; and that the safety equipment is properly maintained, stowed, in date and familiar to the crew.
- j) To be bound by International Sailing Federation Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 2013/2016, by the Sailing Instructions and the Notice of Race.
- k) To take any and all responsibility for all damages whatsoever caused to third persons or their belongings ashore and at sea as a consequence of my participation in the VRIYR,
- l) To relieve from any responsibility, and agree to indemnify on a full indemnity basis and hold harmless, the Organising Authority, WSC, the RORC, the RIYC, the race sponsors VOLVO Irl., in particular and affiliated companies together with their servants, agents and representatives in respect of any claim arising therefrom.
- m) That the Organising Authority, the RORC, the RIYC, the race Sponsors, and other organising clubs associated with the event accept no responsibility or liability for loss of life or injury to participants, members or others, or for the loss of, or damage to, any vessel or property.
- n) That before racing the Person in Charge of the yacht will ensure that the crew is aware of:
  - the undertaking in this Declaration
  - the importance of effecting appropriate personal insurance
  - their responsibility in rules observance, and in particular RRS 1.2 (wearing personal buoyancy adequate for the conditions). See also RORC Prescription to the Special Regulations 5.01.5
- o) The yacht will be available for inspection.
- p) If any alteration likely to affect the handicap or rating is made, e.g. to sails, rig, mast, ballast, trim, engine or propeller, the Person in Charge will notify the Rating Authority and Race Committee immediately.

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- q) Ensure that no crew member races on the yacht contrary to the terms of any ban imposed by ISAF, or a National Authority or the RORC.
- r) Understand and agree that the information given in this race entry and also the race entry lists and results will be maintained on the Organising Authority Club's computer to be used for all aspects of the race organisation.
- s) That the Organising Authority may seek the written confirmation of the terms of this Declaration from any or all of the participating yacht members/crew.

## **21.0 MEDIA RELEASE AND IMAGE RIGHTS WAIVER**

- 21.1 Competitors and crew members on the competing yachts grant, at no cost, Wicklow Sailing Club, Volvo Irl., and affiliated companies the absolute right and permission to use their name, voice, image, likeness, biographical material as well as representations of the boats in any media (being television, print and internet media), including video footage, for the sole purposes of advertising, promoting, reporting and disseminating information relating to Volvo Irl., involvement in sailing events, in particular the VOLVO ROUND IRELAND YACHT RACE, and to the competitors and crew members' participation in such events.
- 21.2 Competitors and crew members' name, voice, image, likeness and biographical material shall not be used by Volvo Irl., and affiliated companies in a way which constitutes an endorsement of Volvo Irl., products by said Competitors and crew members, unless the relevant competitor or crew member is engaged by Volvo Irl., or affiliated companies to endorse Volvo Irl., products or gives his/her prior written consent to such use.

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<b>APPENDIX 1 - TROPHIES</b>	
<b>AWARD</b>	<b>ACHIEVEMENT</b>
Line Honours MONOHULL	First IRC yacht to finish.
Line Honours MULTIHULL	First MOCRA yacht to finish.
Overall IRC winner	Overall IRC winner
Multihull MOCRA 50+ft	First Multihull 50+ft in MOCRA class
Multihull MOCRA <50ft	First Multihull under 50ft in MOCRA class.
C Class CK	First in class IRC
IRC Class Z	First in class IRC
IRC Class 1	First in class IRC
IRC Class 2	First in class IRC
IRC Class 3	First in class IRC
IRC Class 4	First in class IRC
Class 5 –Cruisers	First in class IRC
Class 6 -2 Handed	First in Class
ICRA Award	Best IRC Irish Yacht
Ladies Award	Fully crewed ladies entry
ISORA Award	Best ISORA Entry
Team Award	3 Boat team in IRC.
Best Sailing School	Best IRC Sailing school entry
Best Overseas Award	Best Overseas Yacht in IRC - Excluding winner under any of the above classes/ category.

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## **NOTES (Not part of Notice of Race)**

### **Team Entry:-**

1. A Team will consist of 3 boats.
2. A Team may be a Club Team or any 3 individual boats.
3. Each Entrant to a Team must represent a separate Class.
4. Teams shall comprise yachts of Monohull IRC categories only.

### **Sailing School Yacht:-**

Must be entered by a bona fide sailing school, affiliated to a National Authority and having on board a crew consisting of at least 50% students (not instructors).

### **Best Overseas Yacht:**

For the purpose of assigning the Best Overseas Yacht trophy, the Nationality of a boat will be the nationality of the entry referred to in the entry submission. The award will be presented to the Best Overseas Yacht in IRC, (outside of the Island of Ireland) which does not qualify for any of the other trophies listed on the schedule of Trophies attached to the Notice of Race.

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