

Keelboat Racing – Thursday evenings 2026

First race 30th April – Last race 27th August

Notice of Race and **Sailing Instructions** are in preparation and will be published shortly. Some changes to Thursday racing have been made, with a view to improving racing.

YTC results for Cruisers

Cruisers will use YTC Rating in place of IRC for club races. YTC is a simplified rating system developed by the RYA and administered by RORC. It has been endorsed by Irish Sailing/ICRA & is now available for all clubs in the Republic of Ireland. See <https://www.rya.org.uk/racing/ytcrating/> for more information and apply at <https://rorcrating.com/ryaytc/ryaytcapplicationform>

YTC is easier to apply for and requires no weighing or measurement for production boats. At £30 Sterling It is low cost compared to IRC. All Cruiser entrants are requested to obtain a YTC certificate. Results will also be provided under ECHO as usual, apply at <https://www.sailing.ie/Racing/Racing-Services/Handicapping>

ECHO results for Ruffians

This has not been decided to date – an announcement will be made shortly.

Schedule of Races

The race schedule is attached. It has been decided to skip the Pursuit Rally at the start of the season, giving a total of 18 evenings between 30th April and the end of August, with three Series of 6 races each. The End-of-season Pursuit Rally will take place on 3rd September.

Sprint Races for Cruisers

Five Sprint races are scheduled, front-loaded in the season to avoid the earlier sunsets in late August.

Start Times

The five minute gap between starts on Thursdays will be eliminated; the Warning Signal for the second class to start will be made at the time of the first starting signal. This is normal practice around the country. The Race Committee still has the option to delay the second start for any reason such as safety or a technical issue. Boats not in their start sequence will be required to keep clear of boats starting. If this change is not seen to work, we can revert to the five minute gap.

Setting the Course

The Race Committee intends to introduce a course card as soon as practicable. If there is no one on the committee boat who can set courses, a skipper from each class will be asked to do so - the course card will make this easier for everyone.

Manning the Committee Boat

As in 2025, each keelboat will be required to provide one able-bodied person on one occasion during the season. Details will be published in the Notice of Race.

In case of any queries, please contact Colin on 086-8354732.

Good Sailing !

Issued 22nd April