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Round Rockall Race 2016 - Notice of Race

1. ORGANISING AUTHORITY

The Race is organised by the Round Rockall Race Committee and the Galway Bay Sailing Club (GBSC).

2. RULES

2.1 The race will be sailed under the Racing Rules of Sailing, the ISAF Offshore Special Regulations, and the additions detailed below:
2.1(a) This Notice of Race, the Entry Form and the Sailing Instructions.
2.1(b) The Race is subject to ISAF Offshore Special Regulations Category 1 with the exceptions/ amendments listed in this Notice of Race.
2.2 In the event of conflict the Sailing Instructions shall prevail.

3. START

The start will be from inner Galway Bay on Sunday 17th July 2016 at 1700hrs (IST).

4. COURSE

The course will be from a start line in inner Galway Bay, Ireland and around the islet of Rockall in the North East Atlantic and to a finish line in inner Galway Bay, Ireland. Marks of the Course will be defined in the Sailing Instructions. The approximate distance is 652 Nautical Miles

5. ENTRIES

5.1 Entry forms can be completed online at http://roundrockallrace.com.

5.2 The closing date for entries is 1st July 2016.

5.3 Late entries will be accepted, for which there will be a late entry fee.

5.4 Entries will be from IRC rated yachts of LOA 9.15m/30 feet and over, with a minimum SSS of 34 or STIX of 32 combined with an AVS minimum of 130-0.002 x M (where M is minimum sailing weight in kg). STIX and AVS data is required for boats with a series date of 1995 and later.

5.4 A yacht which meets the entry requirements but does not have an IRC rating may enter the Cruiser Class.

6. ENTRY FEE

€300

7. LATE ENTRY

7.1 Late entries will be subject to the entry fee +50%.

7.2 No entry will be accepted after 15th July 2016.

8. CANCELLATIONS

Cancellations can be accepted either:

(1) before the closing date, when a refund minus €50 may be claimed or(2) between the closing date and the start, when 50% of the fee may be claimed.

9. ENTRY

The organisers reserve the right to decline an entry.

10. ENTRY LIMIT

The number of starters shall not exceed forty.

11. CLASSES

11.1 Racing will take place under IRC. Classes will be allocated according to the number and type of entry.

11.2 Classes for cruiser and one design yachts may be assigned subject to the number of entries.

11.3 Indicative Class bands are as follows, (these may be modified based on entries received)

Class 1 : IRC 1.055 - 1.149

Class 2 :1.00 - 1.054

Class 4 : Two-handed Class

Class 5: Single-handed class

Class 6 : Cruiser Class

12. RULES ALTERATION

The organisers reserve the right to alter the rules and conditions of the race at any time. Changes will be posted on http://roundrockallrace.com. Yachts whose entries have been accepted will be advised directly.

13. EXCEPTIONS AND AMENDMENTS TO THE ISAF OFFSHORE SPECIAL REGULATIONS CATEGORY 1

The following exceptions and amendments to Category 1 regulations apply:

Regulation 3.21.1 not applicable (two separate water tanks not required) Regulation 3.29.13 not applicable (AIS not required)

14. EXPERIENCE QUALIFICATION

14.1 The Round Rockall Race is an open ocean race. Every crew member must have experience of sailing a yacht offshore and be prepared to encounter heavy weather. Competitors will be required to provide evidence of offshore experience.

14.2 The Skipper and at least half the crew must have completed, in the yacht in which they will race the Round Rockall Race, in the 24 months preceding the start:

1. 300 miles of offshore racing* or

2. Non-stop passage of at least 300 miles.

3. Other qualifications similar to 2. above to be proposed to and agreed by the organisers by 1st June 2016.

*To qualify as offshore racing a race must be at least 75 miles duration and include at least one night at sea.

15. TRAINING

It is the Skipper's responsibility to ensure that the following criteria are met and that a certificate or letter of attendance from an establishment recognised by the ISA/RORC should be provided on completion of the following:

1. At least 30% of the crew, including the Skipper, shall have undertaken training to Section 6, (Appendix G) of the ISAF Offshore Special Regulations.

2. In the case of two-handed entries, both crew members must complete training to Section 6, (Appendix G) of the ISAF Offshore Special Regulations.

3. In addition at least one member of the crew shall hold a current Senior First Aid Certificate or equivalent and should be familiar with the management of medical emergencies that may occur at sea, including hypothermia, and radio communications operations for obtaining medical advice by radio.

4. Copies of these certificates must be lodged with the organisers prior to the start of the race.

16. CREW LIST

A full crew list with names, addresses and telephone numbers to be lodged with the Race Office on Registration.

17. INSPECTIONS

Yachts shall assemble at the Port of Galway no later than 1200hrs on Friday, 15th July 2016 for Special Regulations inspections.

18. SPECIAL REGULATIONS CHECK-LIST

Each entrant must complete an ISAF Offshore Special Regulations Check List and entrants must submit their completed copy to the organisers prior to the start of the race and retain a copy onboard.

19. ADVERTISING

Yachts may carry advertising according to the Racing Rules of Sailing and their class or rating authority. Yachts will be required to fly a race flag and may be required to apply a race sticker to each side of the hull.

20. TRACKING

It may be mandatory for yachts to carry a Tracker Unit for the duration of the race. A refundable deposit, which may be set against a credit-card, may be required.

21. TIDES

Port of Galway, Sunday 17th July 2016. Times are local and are approximate.

HW:	04:16	4.65m
LW:	10:10	2.03m
HW	16:31	4.97m

22. RATING CERTIFICATES

22.1 Where necessary, all competitors must apply to the RORC Rating Office as early as possible prior to the race, in order to obtain their current Certificates in good time.

Please note, STIX and AVS data is required for boats with a series date of 1995 and later.

22.2 The cut-off date for amended Rating Certificates shall be the 1st July 2016.

23. PHOTOGRAPHS

Entrants should include, with their entry, two recent photographs of the yacht for publicity and safety purposes.

24. RADIOS, COMMUNICATIONS & TRACKER SYSTEMS

24.1 If required, entrants shall fit the satellite tracker provided by the organisers.

24.2 The organisers shall be authorised to claim payment for the cost of the tracker if it is not returned at the end of/retirement from the Race.

24.3 Entrants shall have a satellite communication system that allows two way communication throughout the duration of the race (eg Satcom C, mini M, Iridium).

25. SKIPPERS / OWNERS RESPONSIBILITIES

25.1 The safety of each Skipper and boat and her entire management is the sole and inescapable responsibility of the Skipper.

25.2 The Skipper and crew must be physically and psychologically fit to start and continue the Race in the worst of conditions encountered in the North Atlantic.

25.3 The boat must be insured, be of appropriate design and construction, adequately maintained, equipped and provisioned to meet these conditions.

25.4 Neither the establishment of the Notice of Race, its use by the organisers or any Sponsoring Organisations, nor any spot check of the boat, under the NOR in any way limits or reduces the complete and unlimited responsibility of each Owner/ Skipper.

25.5 It is the sole and exclusive responsibility of each Skipper and crew to decide whether or not to start or continue to race.

26. DISCLAIMER

26.1 NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER RULE AND CONDITION, THE ORGANISING AUTHORITY, RACE COMMITTEE AND RACE SPONSORS, IF APPLICABLE, JOINTLY AND SEVERALLY ARE PROVIDING THIS RACE ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THEY OR THEIR REPRESENTA-TIVES BEAR NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY LOSS, DAMAGE, INJURY, OR INCONVENIENCE TO BOATS OR PERSONS HOWSOEVER ARISING DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY FROM THEIR RULES, POLICY, OR RULINGS BEFORE OR DURING THE RACE OR RELATED ACTIVITIES.

26.2 BY PARTICIPATING IN THE RACE EACH SKIPPER AND CREW AGREES TO RELEASE THE ORGANISING AUTHORITY, RACE COMMIT-TEE AND RACE SPONSORS FROM AND AGAINST ALL CLAIMS, DAM-AGES, COSTS, TORTS, SUITS AT LAW OR IN EQUITY OR OTHERWISE, ARISING OUT OF OR IN ANY WAY RELATING TO THE RACE. THIS RELEASE SHALL BE BINDING UPON EACH ENTRANT AND THEIR HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, REPRESENTATIVES, AND ESTATES OF EACH ENTRANT.

27. INSURANCE

The Skipper / Owner shall have Third Party Liability insurance cover to a minimum of euro \pounds 1,250,000.00 or equivalent.