

Irish National Optimist Championships 2017

No. 1 Change to the Sailing Instructions.

Reason: To Enable B3 visually impaired sailor to compete in main fleet.

Background

The Royal Irish Yacht Club has received an event entry for an Optimist sailor with a significant visual impairment (classification B3), but who has raced in a 2013 RYA zone championship and trained with a 2013/14 zone squad, and now wishes to compete in the main fleet at the 2017 Irish National Championship 2017.

Change No.1

REF 28.1 Supplementary Sailing Instructions

This change allows the sailor(classification B3), to carry a VHF radio to receive radio messages and a “buddy” who may communicate by VHF from a rib the distance and direction (clock face) pass information (observable facts only) but not judgements or tactical advice that other sailors would see for themselves.

Note: The VHF (to be specified) channel be will separate from the safety and race management channel.

Principles of support

1. To allow sufficient additional support to mitigate the effect of the sailor’s disability without extending this to provide any unfair advantage.
2. To do this in a way that is transparent to other sailors and their parents, and has the lowest possible impact on them.

The Sailor’s Issues: Albinism, reduced visual acuity and unable to see marks at a distance of c.20 m. loses direction if no other boats are nearby.

Boat Identification: Red circle in the peak and large telltales.

Signed: Henry Leonard NRO