ISORA – Irish Sea Offshore Racing Association

2026 AGM Agenda

JB Room at National Yacht Club on Saturday 14th November 2026 at 1500 hrs

1. Welcome and Apologies
2. Agree minutes of 2025 AGM
3. Chairman's Report for 2026
4. Hon Sec Report for 2026
5. Accounts for 2026 (up to 14th November pre Prizegiving)
6. Election of Officers for 2027:
    - Chairman – Peter Ryan
    - Vice Chairman – Peter Dunlop
    - Secretary– Stephen Tudor
    - Treasurer - Grainne Ryan
    - General Sailing Committee - *See Remit and List*
    - Technical Committee - *See Remit and List*
    - Race Organiser (One per race – Ideally in the starting Club)
    - **Others:** Crew Manager, Sponsorship Leader, Junior Crew Boss, Tracker Master (One on each side of the Irish Sea), Shore-based Safety Officer, Trophy Boss, Shore based Controller / Monitor during all races, Annual Dinner Organiser
7. Race Management – see separate list of topics on page 2
8. 2027 Race Schedule – see proposal sheet
9. AOB

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Discussion Points (Agenda Item 7 - Race Management)

These points when agreed will be incorporated into the Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions.

Technical Committee Proposals shown below each section:

Race Risk Assessment – and the actions arising from the qualified assessment. Safety is the primary consideration. This is required for every race and will consider conditions expected in the race areas, ability of the fleet. Consequence of the assessment could be, but not limited to the following: continued, amendment to the course, postponement, or cancellation. The Race Officers' decision is final. These decisions need to be published at least two full days before the race start to allow boats to be delivered.

Technical Committee Proposal – To continue with the RA arrangements as above. PR

Changes to IRC, RRS and OSR - Changes (if any) to the regulations will incorporate these into the Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions

Technical Committee Proposal – To follow any changes in the rules and reflect them in the NoR and Sis.

OSR Categories - ISORA is following the World Sailing Category definitions, Category 3+ Life-raft, Category 3 and Category 4 which are published on the web site. These will be noted for each race accordingly.

Technical Committee Proposal – All ISORA Offshore (and Night Race) to be Cat 3 + and Coastal Races to be Cat 4. Show Category in Nor and Sis.

Entry to Racing – Boat Stability - The ISORA Races that are 'Category 3' and 'Category 3 with Life Raft' are open to all boats that have a valid IRC Certificate with STIX value not less than 23, AVS not less than 130 and Minimum SSS base number of 15 and comply with Section 3 of World Sailing Offshore Regulation

Coastal Races that are Category 4 are open to all boats that have a valid IRC Certificate

Technical Committee Proposal – No change for 2027 – as above.

Pre & Post Race Declarations. - Skippers' declaration is part of the on-line entry form. All boats to promote and use the 'ISORA Crew-Manager' app This lists all crew participating in each race and is a safety tool accessed by shore-based race Safety Officer.

Technical Committee Proposal – Change for 2027 – As above and that the pre and post-race declarations will be mandatory. If such a declaration is not received, no result will be allocated.

Crew Numbers –

- **Cat 3 Races – 2026 Position** IRC 22.4 is deleted and replaced by "The maximum number of crew that may sail aboard a yacht shall be as detailed below. There is no weight limit. This is also subject to sufficient safety equipment being carried, and complying with, the World Sailing Special Regulations. Different crew limits may be imposed where statutory or other exceptional circumstances may dictate and will be notified in the Sailing Instructions and any amendments for each race. IRC certificate number Allowed crew Up to 9 Certificate number plus 1 10 – 13 Certificate number plus 2 14 and over Certificate number plus 3

IRC certificate number	ISORA 2026 Allowed crew
Up to 9	Certificate number plus 1
10 – 13	Certificate number plus 2
14 and over	Certificate number plus 3

Technical Committee Proposal – Change to the crew number shall be as stated on the IRC Certificate. 'Max crew is the IRC cert number or Life Raft capacity if less than the IRC Cert' - *discussion*

- **Cat 4 races – 2026 Position** - No Limit - IRC 22.4 is deleted.

Technical Committee Proposal for 2027 – change to Max crew is the IRC cert number +2 - *discussion*

YB Tracker - ISORA has used the YB tracking system with great success since 2016 and are used not only for visual enjoyment of shore crew but as a safety tool and an invaluable race management tool for recording race finishes.

Technical Committee Proposal – No change for 2027 – as above.

TSS - TSS are not exclusion zone in ISORA in 2026 but will be subject to the usual rules of the road. A boat can only be protested by the sailing committee on receipt of a complaint from the Coastguard, or other Authority, and not from another competitor. This will be added to the Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions.

Technical Committee Proposal – No change for 2027 – slight change in wording.

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Scoring and Weighting:

Scoring System – re confirm IRC as the only scoring system for ISORA

Technical Committee Proposal – No change for 2027 – as above.

Scoring method technical – reconfirm our use of Sailwave.

Technical Committee Proposal – No change for 2027 – as above.

Weighting – Races are presently scored using the ISORA High Points system the more difficult races are weighted as follows:

- Day Coastal 0.7
- Night Coastal 0.9
- Offshore < 70 mile 1.1
- Offshore > 70 miles 1.2
- James Eadie Race 1.3

Discuss if the weighting needs to be adjusted

A win in a large fleet is presently scored better than a win in a small fleet using the CHIPS 3 formula. For 2026 ISORA adjusted the fleet size to the number entered the race and not those that competed on the day.

Technical Committee Proposal – No change for 2027 – as above but will consider proposals.

Class Split - The Class split is usually considered when entries are known but aim to maintain the three classes at 2026 levels with IRC Class 0 for boats of 1.070 or more. IRC1 1.010 to 1.069 and Class IRC2 1.009 or less. ***Discuss***

Technical Committee Proposal – No change for 2027 – as above but will consider proposals.

Number of Classes – may be increased to 4 – dependant on numbers.

Technical Committee Proposal – No change for 2027 – as above but will consider proposals.

Two Handed Class – included. ***Discuss***

Technical Committee Proposal – No change for 2027 but with an emphasis on supporting and encouraging participation

Silver Class – extended to increase participation by formula and invitation. ***Discuss***

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Technical Committee Proposal – Consider options for another class and pre-define a Silver fleet - consider proposals. Working Group to look at this option.

Virtual Waypoints - Virtual Waypoints form part of the tool menu available to the technical committee to set courses and in particular to keep the fleets away from shipping lanes and other dangers. These can be turning marks, deflecting marks or gates.

Technical Committee Proposal – No change for 2027 – as above but will consider proposals.

Auto Helms - Auto Helms were allowed since 2023. The spirit of the intention is to encourage participation not to provide leading boats an added advantage and this will be monitored.

Technical Committee Proposal – No change for 2027 – as above but will consider proposals.

AIS - The use of AIS is mandatory for all competitors in Category 3 and Category 3+ Life Rafts races. Category 4 races – AIS is recommended and encouraged.

Mandatory in Cat 3+ Advisory in Cat 4 (working towards compulsory in 2028)

For Coastal Races - all competitors are encouraged to purchase a transmitting and receiving AIS on safety grounds and will work towards compulsory use in Cat 4 in 2028. ***Discuss***

ISORA has arranged for AIS shore bases to give better coverage in the Irish Sea.

Technical Committee Proposal – No change for 2027 – as above.

Professional Crews – There are presently no restriction applicable since 2023.

Technical Committee Proposal – No change for 2027 – as above.

Number of Sails Carried on Board – Delivery /Regatta Sails – The IRC position is clear only the sails declared on the Cert to be carried on board for a race. This can' be amended by our Notice of Race or the Sailing Instructions. There are no allowable proscriptions to vary the 'Rule'.

ISORA recognises the need for delivery sails to be carried for our style of racing, and that boats will use offshore races as deliveries to regattas which will require different race sails.

Technical Committee to look at developing an 'ISORA Sail Protocol' to allow sails to be carried above the offshore sail wardrobe. This would be under strict tagging and recording of sails used/not used.

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Race Schedule Proposal.

RACE SERIES TITLE	DESCRIPTOION
ISORA EXTRA	A separate band of Races - where the organisation element is not ISORA. Not count for the Classic Championship but will count for the Overall ISORA EXTRA Series
ISORA CLASSIC	Our traditional cross channel racing - 5 to count for the Wolf's Head Trophy. In the Irish Sea Catchment area.
ISORA COASTAL UK & IRELAND	Our two Coastal Race Series

- Coastal being a safe introduction to offshore.
- Offshore being mostly, a day sail and exposes crew to the experience of Offshore and strange ports. These races completed within a weekend (including deliveries). We recognise the need for associated social gatherings with these races. These are all in the traditional Irish Sea catchment area.
- Boats (or the people in the boats) drift upwards through the system, and many are quite content with that.
- We then get skippers and crew wanting more! Longer and more complex races. These longer races are outside our remit, but we have now allowed them! These races are often much more than a weekend - and often a whole week off work. They should not be seen as a barrier to our traditional series and the progression. The demand an appetite is there, and we must meet the demand.

This is a suggestion by Hon Sec. developed on listening to the calls from the fleet for such a varied and wide variety of offshore racing.

Discuss before the Race schedule item on the Agenda
