

Sailing-In-Dublin Keelboat Cruising/Racing Rules and Guidance

(Updated 28-04-2026)

Three types of cruising events are outlined here:

Mini-Cruise (1-3 nights), Summer Cruising Schedule (7 nights) and ISORA racing.

SID membership includes insurance to cover damage to the hull of any SID boats, or damage caused by SID boats to either people (incl. other members of the club) or property. Members can get personal insurance at their own choice.

General Rules

All members engaged in cruising must follow the club sailing [safety policy](#).

All cruise fees must be paid in advance. All cruise fees are payable irrespective of bad weather. The captain must ensure that all crew members have paid up beforehand. There is no refund.

For cruises the minimum number of crew aboard is four. In exceptional circumstances, with the prior consent of the Commodore, an experienced crew of three may be permitted. For ISORA races the minimum is five, except where overnight watches are required, there should be a crew of 6.

Captains on cruises or races should inform themselves of the sailing ability of the crew joining the event, it is the captain's responsibility to balance the overall crew experience required for the event to allow a safe sail. Cruising crews should practice an MOB manoeuvre together either prior to heading on a cruise together, or during the first or second full day of cruising (i.e. as early as possible but allowing for weather/cruising restrictions). It is the responsibility of aspiring cruise and race crews to undertake external practical and theory courses and to build their experience to enable safe participation in cruises and races.

Crew members on a cruise or overnight race should make the captain aware of any medical complications or contravening medications that (s)he has, the knowledge of which may be required in case of emergency. The captain should temporarily record the information of such passengers in a safe place, untouched except in case of emergency.

Boats used for cruises or overnight races should be left tidy and ready for the next crew, whether that is a follow-on cruise, or a day race/day sail. This includes undertaking, or the organisation of:

- Refuelling
- Sail stowing incl. drop for repairs if required
- Charging of VHF and battery booster
- Cleaning the boat

A list of any running repairs should be forwarded by the captain or VC to the maintenance team – ideally in advance of concluding the race or cruise – otherwise after coming home from a cruise or overnight race.

Handover during the summer cruise season is at 12:00 midday, unless by prior agreement between handover captains.

Mini-Cruise

All mini cruise places must be paid three days in advance. 1 to 4 nights live aboard. It is the captain's responsibility to plan to sail in wind and sea state conditions in which they are confident they can manage a safe sail for the crew and boat.

Desired Crew Selection:

Captain and Vice-Captain; 1-2 Competent Crew with previous live-aboard experience; 1- 2 Novice crew with day-sail-keelboat experience. The organising of crews is undertaken off-line, so it is managed by the captain rather than self-selected crews as generally happens on daysail sessions. A general email/text is put out to all members from the organising Captain, who selects balanced crew and creates opportunities for novice crew. An effort should be made to allocate a space for any new applicants over crew who have already been allocated a cruise slot (when possible) in same season.

Provisions; Fuel; Mooring & Marina fees are payable by the crew. Gas is paid for by the club.

Cruise Fees:

Club cruising fee of €30 per night on Spiral Moon and €25 per crew per night on Silverwind or Mayfly. Fees are payable in advance and are counted from the 2nd night, with first night free of charge.

Summer Cruise Schedule

All summer cruise places must be paid one month in advance.

A cruise can consist of more than 4 nights, and up to 14 nights live aboard (depending on availability and enabling of cruise destination to be realised). Distance can be >100NM per week if weather allows, including night sailing, watch rotas, and long passages (up to 20 hours). It is the captain's responsibility to plan to sail in wind and sea state conditions in which they are confident they can manage a safe sail for the crew and boat. Due regard for small craft warnings should be taken in the sailing area.

Desired crew selection:

Captain and Vice-Captain; 2-3 Competent Crew with previous live-aboard experience on mini cruises; 1-2 Novice crew with day-sail keelboat experience. Delivery crews should have a captain and at least an experienced VC on board, but preferably a second captain. Delivery crews should all be experienced day sailors and capable of undertaking watch rotas.

Cruise space for new applicants should be prioritised over applications by crew who have already sailed in same season, as above.

An initial survey is undertaken to select captains and VC's who are available and amenable to undertaking the responsibility for individual cruise weeks and deliveries. Following this, an on-line survey is made open to all members. Application to join a cruise week is made through the captain or VC, with some limited involvement from the cruising secretary. Places are usually allocated on a first come first served basis, although the final discretion lies with the cruise captain to ensure sufficient experience onboard and to provide opportunities for novice crew who have daysail-keelboat experience.

Cruise Fees:

Provisions; Fuel; Mooring & Marina fees are covered by the cruising crew. In addition, club cruising fee of €30 per night on Spiral Moon and €25 per night on Silver Wind or Mayfly is due, starting from the 2nd night, with first night free of charge. The fuel costs for the delivery part of any cruise week are funded by the club, but remaining fuel costs before and after a delivery are borne by the crew.

Captains are given an extra two nights cruising fee paid by the club (i.e. 4 nights paid per cruise week), as a gesture of appreciation for undertaking the responsibility of captaining a cruise week.

Racing

Race Fees are generally paid by the keelboat secretary with club funds for race entry, and then reimbursed by the crew via the captain. Associated cruise fees must be paid three days in advance. Competitive Racing events will involve delivery and night sailing, watch rotas and long passages. It is the captain's responsibility to plan to sail in wind and sea state conditions in which they are confident they can manage a safe race for the crew and boat. Due regard for small craft warnings should be taken in the sailing area.

Crew Selection:

Two captains for any overnight offshore event. It would be advisable and encouraged that participating captains undertake a sea survival course.

3-4 Competent Crew with DBSC racing experience.

New applicants prioritised over previous crew in same season, as above.

A general email is circulated by the keelboat secretary to gather the names of those interested in racing. The keelboat secretary then allocates the race captains and race crew into the race schedule from this list. Provisions and racing fees are payable by the relevant crew. Fuel, Gas, marina and mooring fees are paid for by the club.

Further clarification on any details may be sought from the Commodore of the club or the Cruising Secretary or the Keelboat Secretary.