

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

World and European Championships in DN Junior and Ice-Optimist Classes

January 21–25, 2026 – Żnin, Poland

1. Rules

All races will be sailed in compliance with the EPIC and RMA agreement, the Specifications of the International DN Class, the Constitution and Organisation Rules of the International DN Ice Yacht Racing Association – Europe, and the Racing Rules of the National Iceboat Authority as modified herein. The Sailing Instructions may be modified at the skippers meeting by written or verbal notice. In the event of conflict, the Sailing Instructions shall prevail.

2. Course Location

The racing area will be indicated on a map posted on the official notice board or verbally announced at the skippers meeting.

3. Marks

Marks will be described at the skippers meeting. Dolly marks will be used near windward and leeward marks. A dolly mark is part of the mark. Passing between the main mark and the dolly mark results in disqualification by the Race Committee without protest hearing.

4. Starting Times

First Day January 22nd Thursday:

11:00 - Skippers meeting in harbour on the ice. Opening ceremony.

12:00 - First DN Junior race

Other racing days:

10.00 - Skippers meeting

11.00 - First possible start

All times are local time and may be changed by the Race Committee or Junior Program Manager (JPM).

5. Starting and Finishing Signals

The starting signal will be the swift lowering of the starter's flag after the preparatory raise. If the start is delayed, the starter will slowly withdraw the flag. The finish of the first boat will be indicated by raising a flag.

6. Starting line

The starting line will be marked with red flags. The wire starting system or numbered stands may be used. All sailors must position their leeward runner at their designated place on the line. Sailing over the starting line results in disqualification without hearing. After finishing, sailors must turn right or left; the starting line is not an open gate.

7. Safety zone

The safety zone is the rectangular area leeward from starting line marked by blue flags in the corners. Sailing in the safety zone may lead to disqualification by Race Committee without a protest hearing. Safety signals will be displayed at the skippers' meeting.

8. Fleet flags

- DN Junior Fleet - yellow flag with letter A
- Ice-Optimist Fleet – white flag with letter B

Sailors have to bring their iceboats to starting positions after the flag of their fleet is placed on the notice board. There will also be verbal information.

9. Schedule of Races

Order of races of World DN Junior and Ice-Optimist Championships:

- 1) DN Junior
- 2) Ice-Optimist
- 3) DN Junior
- 4) Ice-Optimist
- 5) DN Junior
- 6) Ice-Optimist
- 7) Junior, Ice-Optimist, Junior, Ice-Optimist...etc. Seven (7) races in each class are scheduled for JEC 2023. Minimum of tree (3) races in each class shall be sailed for a valid regatta.

There will be a maximum of 5 races per fleet per day in both classes.

The Race Committee may change the order of races.

The order of races of European Championships will be announced by the Race Committee.

10. Time limit

The lap time limit for DN is 8 minutes per kilometer distance between the marks.
(e.g.: distance between marks is 1,00 km Lapttime = 8'00" Minutes. Distance = 2,10 km Lapttime = 16'48"). The lap time limit for Ice-Optimist is 12 minutes per kilometer distance between the marks.

11. Grand Prix system

“Grand Prix” system will be used. The first yacht finishes her race after completing the scheduled number of laps. Any following yacht finishes the race when she crosses the Finish Line after the finish of the first yacht. In each race, a yacht will be scored ahead of all yachts with fewer laps. Any yacht not finished within 10 minutes of the first yacht will be scored according to her finish in the previous lap (if no laps have been completed she will be scored DNF. After finishing, yachts should make every attempt to approach the parking area (Safety Zone) by sailing around the end of the starting line.

12. Race abandonment.

A black flag displayed at the leeward mark signals race abandonment.

13. Protests

Intention to protest must be reported to the Race Committee immediately after the race. A written protest must be filed with the Race Committee Chairman within one hour after the finish of the last race of the day.

14. Talking to the scorers

A skipper or coach/parent who attempts to speak with the scorers or judges while a race is in progress may be disqualified from the regatta.

15. Notice board

The notice board on the ice will be used by the Race Committee to provide information on starting positions, changes to the race schedule, amendments to the Sailing Instructions, protests, and other official announcements.

16. Measurement

Random measurements may be conducted at any time during the event. The measurement area will be located in a rectangular zone marked with green flags in the central part of the safety zone.

The first five boats in each race must proceed immediately to the measurement area without stopping at the pits. The Race Committee may also select any other DN or Ice-Optimist for measurement at any time. Failure to report directly to the

measurement area will result in disqualification (DSQ) for that race. This procedure is intended to minimise delays and prevent illegal adjustments or changes by competitors.

All two-piece masts and masts with internal stiffeners must be declared at check-in and shall be marked and/or signed by the measurer prior to the first DN Junior race.

A parking brake must always be available for immediate use. Any unattended boat must have its parking brake engaged. Failure to comply will result in DSQ for the last race sailed or for the entire regatta.

Voluntary measurement will be available in the harbour on the ice for sailors who wish to check their equipment.

17. Propulsion

A yacht may use no means of propulsion other than the action of the wind on the sails. The crew (unassisted by anyone except in the case of an approved physical disability) may push the yacht only to leave the starting line or to regain wind propulsion when necessary.

Pushing around marks, over the finishing line, or to gain advantage is strictly prohibited. The Race Committee will closely monitor any pushing and assess whether it complies with this rule under the prevailing wind conditions and course layout. Any pushing not permitted under this rule will result in disqualification.

Sailing on the racecourse by non-participants during an active race is forbidden and will result in disqualification without a protest hearing.

Junior Program Manager,
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