



NOTICE TO MARINERS

No. 17 of 2026

Gp14 World Championships

Mariners are advised that the International GP14 Class World Championship 2026, hosted by the Royal North of Ireland Yacht Club, will take place in Belfast Lough from Sunday 9th August to Friday 14th August 2026.

Up to 100 sailing dinghies may participate in the event.

Racing is scheduled as follows:

Date	Scheduled racing
Sunday 9th August	Practice race from 1200 followed by first points race at 1330
Monday 10th August	Racing from 1100
Tuesday 11th August	Racing from 1100
Wednesday 12th August	Optional race day
Thursday 13th August	Racing from 1100
Friday 14th August	Racing from 1100



Figure 1: Racing Area locations provided by organisers

Commercial shipping and other mariners should expect significant concentrations of sailing dinghies and race management craft within Belfast Lough, particularly in the vicinity of the racing area and approaches to Royal North of Ireland Yacht Club at Cultra.

Race organisers have assured the Port Authority that dinghies will not be racing across the shipping channel.

Should the Fleet need to cross the shipping channel to access that day's Racing Area they will cross in the vicinity of Beacon 6. The Fleet will be controlled by a committee vessel located close to Beacon 6.

This committee vessel will be in communication with Belfast VTS on VHF ch.12.

Boats must cross close to the committee vessel when it is flying a green flag. When a Red flag is flying, crossing the channel is not permitted.

On returning after racing the same system shall operate with a committee vessel positioned close to Beacon 5.

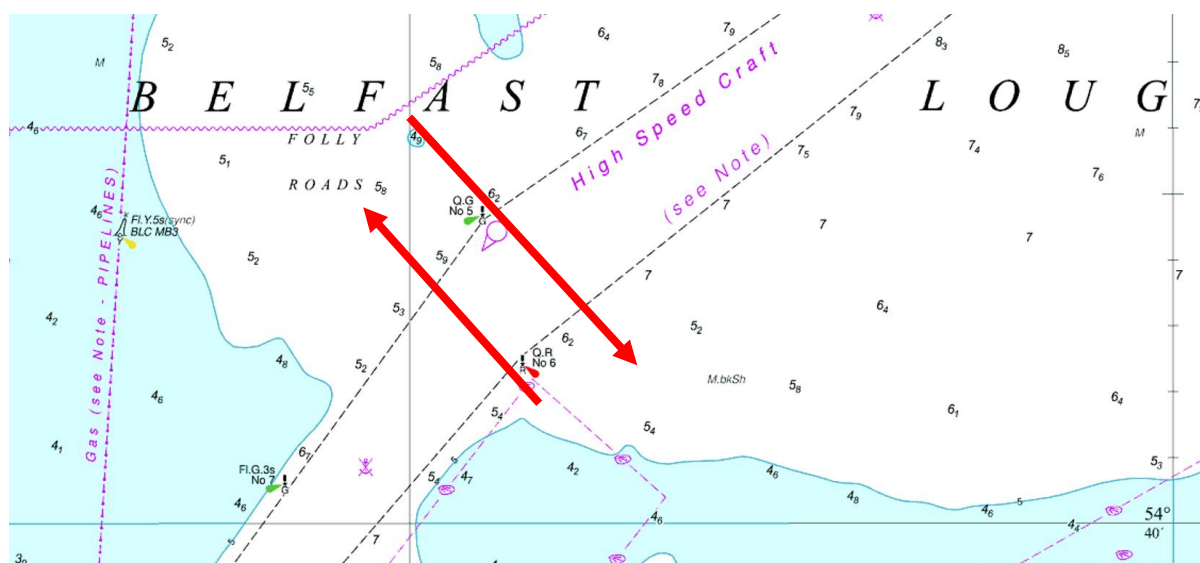


Figure 2: Competitor crossing Area- Beacon 5 and 6

All vessels are requested to:

- maintain a proper lookout and proceed with caution when navigating in the vicinity of the regatta
- be alert for sailing dinghies transiting to and from the racing area
- avoid creating excessive wash when passing concentrations of small craft
- comply with any instructions issued by Belfast VTS

All are reminded of their obligations under Rule 9 of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (COLREGs). Vessels of less than 20 metres in length and sailing vessels shall not impede the passage of a vessel which can safely navigate only within a narrow channel or fairway.

Mariners should maintain a listening watch on **VHF Channel 12** when operating within the Belfast Harbour area.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K G Allen', written in a cursive style.

CAPTAIN K G Allen
HARBOUR MASTER
Belfast
7th August 2026