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— David Branigan

SAILING: Fresh southerly winds gusting to 30 knots at times yesterday marked the opening day of the Volvo Dun Laoghaire Regatta where a fleet of Cruisers, One-designs and dinghies have turned out. The opening salvo in all 23 classes yesterday saw Conor Phelan's Jump Juice from the Royal Cork YC lay down a clear signal of intent to Division Zero. This week he is racing in the IRC Coastal fleet which he

won yesterday.

Also in Phelan's class is Nigel Biggs, the defending overall winner of this regatta from two years ago.

However, the British sailor has traded in his half-tonner for Checkmate XVI, a C&C one-design 30-footer that shifts him into the exotic boats of Division Zero.

A piece of Irish sailing history is also taking part this week. Huff of Arklow, the Uffa Fox design that was a revolutionary keelboat in 1950 has been fully refurbished to compete in Division 3.

The boat was the first to achieve 'planingspeeds' with a design based on a dinghy but capable of ocean racing passages.