



RYA National Match Racing Championship Series 2025

Notice of Race

The following abbreviations apply to this Notice of Race and related Sailing Instructions:

PC: Protest Committee or International Jury

NoR: Notice of Race

OA: Organising Authority

RRS: Racing Rules of Sailing

SI: Sailing Instruction

RC: Race Committee

1. Rules

- 1.1. The series and all series events are governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing, including RRS Appendix C
- 1.2. The rules for the handling of boats and the equipment list, detailed as part of the Sailing Instructions, will apply, and will also apply to any practice sailing and sponsor races. Class rules will not apply.
- 1.3. The bye-laws of the host club for each event shall apply.
- 1.4. RRS 40.1 (personal flotation devices) applies at all times whilst afloat.
- 1.5. The Series Organising Authority (SOA) will be the Royal Yachting Association. The Organising Authority (OA) for each individual event is specified in NOR 2.
- 1.6. **Major Alterations to the RRS:**
 - a) If there is a conflict between this Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions for an event listed in NOR 2., the Sailing Instructions will take precedence unless specifically stated otherwise. This alters RRS 63.5(c).
 - b) Add to RRS 41: (f) information provided by those appointed by the OA.
 - c) RRS C8.7 and C6.3 will be changed in the sailing instructions.

2. Series Events

Dates 2025	OA	Event (Title/Grade/Venue)	Fees* NoR 6.2(h)	Boats/Max Entries	Crew/Weight
18/19 th January	RYA	National Match Racing Qualifier 1 (G4) WPNSA	Entry - £440/Team Late Entry - £540/Team	Elliott 6M 9 Teams	3/4 crew Max weight 272kgs
8/9 th February	RYA	Women's Winter Championship (Incorporating BUSA Women's University Championship) (G4) WPNSA	Entry - £440/Team Late Entry - £540/Team	Elliott 6M 9 Teams	3/4 crew Max weight 272kgs
15/16 th February	RTYC	National Match Racing Qualifier 2 (G4) QMSC	Entry - £500/Team Late Entry - £600/ Team	Sonar 9 Teams	3/4 crew Max weight 300kgs
TBC	RCYC	National Match Racing Qualifier 3 (G4) Royal Corinthian YC, Burnham-On-Crouch	TBC	Hunter 707 8 teams	4/5 crew Max weight 350kgs
28-30 th March	BUSA	BUCS/BUSA Match Racing Championship (G4) WPNSA	See separate NOR	Elliott 6M	3/4 crew Max weight 272kgs
28/29 th June	RYA	Harken Youth Championship* (G3) (includes U19 Trophy) WPNSA	Entry - £440/Team Late Entry - £540 Team	Elliott 6M 12 Teams	3/4 crew Max weight 272kgs
TBC	RSC	National Match Racing Qualifier 4 (G4) Rutland SC, Rutland	TBC	RS21 8 teams	4/5 crew Max weight 350kgs
13/14 th September	RYA	Marlow Ropes Women's Championship* (G3), WPNSA	Entry - £440/Team Late Entry - £540/Team	Elliott 6M 10 Teams	3/4 crew Max weight 272kgs
27/28 th September	RYA	National Match Racing Qualifier 6 (G4) WPNSA	Entry - £440/Team Late Entry - £540/Team	Elliott 6M 10 Teams	3/4 crew Max weight 272kgs
4/5 th October	RN&CYC	National Match Racing Qualifier 7 (Ceilidh Cup & SSS MRC). (G4) RN&CYC, Helensburgh www.rncyc.com	Entry - £330/Team Late Entry - £360/Team	Sonar 12 Teams	4/5 Crew Max weight 350kgs
17 th -19 th October 2025	RYA	RYA National Match Racing Championship Grand Final (G3) QMSC INVITATION ONLY	£700	Sonar 12 Teams	3/4 Crew Max weight 300kgs

*Restrictions apply, see NOR 6

3. Event Grading

World Sailing Grading, as stated in NOR 2, for each event has been applied for.

This grading is subject to review by World Sailing. The events may be re-graded at any time when there is clear reason to do so.

4. Communication

- 4.1. Notices to competitors, for each event, will be posted on the online official notice board which is located at <https://www.matchracingresults.com/> and on an event [Telegram](#) group circulated to teams before the event.

5. Provisional Programme



5.1. Schedule

- a) Practice may be available on the afternoon prior to the first day of each event. Contact the OA for availability and costs.
- b) Registration, including weigh in, for each event will open no earlier than 0745 on the first day of racing, and will close after 30mins.
- c) Racing days for each event will be, as per NOR 2.
- d) The scheduled time of the first signal will not be before 0853, and 0753 on subsequent days.

5.2. Unless excused by the OA attendance at the following is mandatory.

- a) Briefing for skippers.
- b) Prize giving for final skippers and crews.

6. Skippers Eligibility and Entries

6.1. With the exception of the Grand Final, the OA intends to accept entries for each event from eligible skippers/teams on a first come first served basis up to the maximum number of entries specified in NOR 2.

6.2. For an entry to be valid the online entry form must be submitted to the OA with all the required information.

- a) The non-refundable entry fee shall be paid upon entry and agreement to the damage deposit indemnity (£1000) shall be required for this to be valid. [See Damage Addendum](#).
- b) Entry withdrawal: When a skipper enters an event and later withdraws within two months of the event or leaves before the end of the event without written approval from the OA, a zero score may be applied to their Ranking points for that event by World Sailing (World Sailing Regulation 27.2).
- c) All competitors shall meet the eligibility requirements of World Sailing Regulation 19.6.
- d) Teams shall either be of mixed gender or all female, except events referenced in NoR6.4.
- e) Skippers shall have a World Sailing Sailor ID. Skippers that do not have one should register [online](#). Skippers shall inform the OA of their World Sailing ID no later than 7 days before the event.
- f) All crew must register online for each event at least 7 days before the event is due to start.
- g) All crew must be at least 14 years old (on the first day of the event), unless a parent/guardian is sailing in the same boat. No sailor under the age of 18 years old shall compete at an event unless their parent or guardian has submitted [a completed parent/guardian declaration form](#) before the event.
- h) Entries:
 - Standard entry fees are valid until 23.59 on the Wednesday 2 weeks before the event. Late entry fees are valid thereafter until 23.59 on the Wednesday 1 week before the event. (For example: NMR Q1 Standard entry closes at 23.59 on 01/01/25, late entries close 23.59 on 08/01/25.) Entries received after this may be accepted at the sole discretion of the OA.

6.3. Harken Youth Championship

- a) All crew and skippers for the **Harken Youth Championship** shall be aged at least 14 years old but under 23 years old on 31st December 2025, i.e. born after 31/12/2002.
- b) All crew and skippers for the **U19 Trophy** shall be aged under 19 years old on the first day of the event.

6.4. Women's Championships

- a) All crew and skippers for the two **Women's Championship** events (**Winter/BUSA and Marlow Ropes**) shall be female or have identified as female in the run up to the event.
- b) Teams who fulfil the following criteria may also enter the 2025 BUSA Women's University Championship:
 - The Team shall consist of sailors from the same institution, representing a university or higher education establishment that is a member of, and in good standing with, the British University Sailing Association;
 - Each competitor must meet the BUCS General Regulations (Regulation 6)
 - Each competitor shall present valid Student I.D. for inspection at registration.

6.5. Grand Final

- a) Only skippers invited by the OA will be eligible to enter the Championship Grand Final. Up to twelve (12) skippers' entries will be accepted.
- b) "GBR skipper" is defined as someone who holds or has held a valid British passport.
- c) Skippers will "be invited to the Final in this order:
 - The current defending National Match Racing Grand Final skipper.
 - The highest placed GBR skipper in each NMR Series event (NMR Qualifiers, Women's Winter & Marlow Women's Championship and Youth Championship).
 - The highest placed GBR skipper at the BUCS Match Racing Championship.
 - Wildcards will be allocated based on performance at NMR Series events, and may be prioritised by:
 - GBR skippers requesting a wildcard who have attended a NMR Series event.
 - Skippers who have previously held the NMR Grand Final title
 - International skippers who have attended a NMR Series event.
 - Additional skippers may be invited based on WS MR rankings; but GBR skippers will take priority over international teams.

- d) Those skippers that qualify for the Grand Final as a result of being the highest placed GBR skipper in a NMR Series event or the BUCS Championship will receive a discounted entry fee of £600 if they enter and pay by the 17th September (or by the deadline for entry stated in their invitation if later). Qualifiers from events in September and October, will also receive the discounted entry fee of £600 and will be given a deadline for entry in their invitation. Finalists invited from past winners and wildcards will be required to pay an entry fee of £700.
- e) Applications for wildcards must be [submitted online](#) or emailed to the Keelboat Racing Team (keelboatracing@rya.org.uk) by 17th September 2025, unless extended by the OA.

7. Boats and Sails

- 7.1. The events will be sailed in the boats stated in NOR 2.
- 7.2. Boats will be provided.
- 7.3. The following sails will be provided for each boat:- Mainsail, Jib and spinnaker.
- 7.4. Boats will be allocated by draw either daily or for each round as decided by the Race Committee.

8. Crew (including skipper)

- 8.1. The number and total weight of crew (including skipper) as stated in NOR 2 for each event, dressed in at least shorts and shirts, shall not exceed the maximum weight limit, determined at the time of registration or such time as required by the RC. All registered crew shall sail all races.
- 8.2. Crew weight may be checked during the event. At any re-weighing the total weight limit is increased by 10kgs. Any crew weighing in excess of this increased limit shall not be penalised, but they shall reduce their weight to the increased limit before racing again.
- 8.3. The registered skipper shall helm the boat at all times while racing, except in an emergency. Such an emergency shall be reported to the RC immediately after completion of that race.
- 8.4. If a registered skipper is unable to continue helming in the event, the OA may authorise an original crew member to be their substitute.
- 8.5. When a registered crew member is unable to continue in the event, the OA may authorise a substitute, a temporary substitute or other adjustment.

9. Event Format

- 9.1. Skippers will be seeded into a round robin or divided into groups based on the World Sailing ranking list 30 days before the appropriate event.
- 9.2. Each event will likely consist of the following stages:-
 - a) Series 1 – Round Robin(s)
 - b) Series 2 – Semi-Final
 - c) Series 3 – Final
- 9.3. The RC may change the format, terminate or eliminate any stage or the event when, in its opinion, it is impractical to attempt to hold the remainder of the matches under the existing conditions or the remaining time scheduled. Early stages may be terminated in favour of later stages.

10. Course

- 10.1. The course will be windward/leeward with starboard roundings, finishing downwind.
- 10.2. The intended course area will be published in the relevant event's Sailing Instructions.

11. Advertising

- 11.1. As boats and equipment will be supplied by the OA, World Sailing Regulation 20.4. applies. Each boat will be required to display advertising as supplied by the OA.
- 11.2. Competitors may be permitted to display advertising ashore at the venue, but this is subject to individual negotiation with the OA.
- 11.3. Competitors shall not be permitted the right to protest for breaches of any rules regarding advertising (amends RRS 60.1).

12. Code of Conduct

- 12.1. Competitors and Support Persons shall comply with any reasonable request from any official, including attendance at official functions, co-operation with event sponsors and shall behave so to not bring the event into disrepute.
- 12.2. Competitors and support persons shall handle any equipment provided by the organising authority with care, seamanship, in accordance with any instructions for its use and without interfering with its functionality.
- 12.3. Competitors should note that the RYA implements the RYA Racing Charter and that they will be expected to sail in compliance with it. The charter can be found at the front of the RYA edition of the Racing Rules of Sailing 2025-2028 (the yellow pages after the definitions), or on the RYA website at www.rya.org.uk/racingrules.

13. Prizes

- 13.1. Prizes may be awarded at the Championship Grand Final. Prizes may also be awarded at the other events.
- 13.2. The OA may reduce a prize in the case of misconduct or refusal to comply with any reasonable request, including attendance at official functions.

14. Media, Images and Sound

- 14.1. The OA have the right to use any images and sound recorded during the event free of any charge. Official photography taken at the event by a person designated by the OA is the property of the OA, and can be used for other marketing purposes.

15. Competitors' Support Vessels

- 15.1. Support vessels shall conspicuously display identification of the team being supported.
- 15.2. The OA will not provide berths for support vessels.
- 15.3. Any interference by a support vessel with the racing or event organisation may result in a penalty applied at the discretion of the Protest Committee to the appropriate skipper or team.

16. Risk Statement

Rule 3 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone."

Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:

- a) They are aware of the inherent element of risk involved in the sport and accepts responsibility for the exposure of themselves and their crew to such inherent risk while taking part in the event.
- b) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew and any property they may bring, whether afloat or ashore.
- c) They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions.
- d) The provision of a race management team, patrol boats and other officials and volunteers by the event organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities.
- e) The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances.
- f) It is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks specific to this venue or this event drawn to their attention any rules and information produced for the venue or event and to attend any safety briefing held for this event.
- g) It is their responsibility to ensure that they are familiar with the type of boat used, and the supplied equipment and are suitably experienced with its operation.
- h) It is their responsibility for ensuring all supplied equipment is carried on board.
- i) That they are fit to sail and that they believe the crew and the boat and crew is capable of competing in the anticipated conditions.

17. Privacy Statement

The personal information you provide to the organising authority will be used to facilitate your participation in the event. If you have agreed to be bound by the Racing Rules of Sailing and the other rules that govern the event (the rules), the legal basis for processing that personal information is contract. If you are not bound by the rules, the legal basis for processing that personal information is legitimate interest. Your personal information will be stored and used in accordance with the organising authority's privacy policy. When required by the rules, personal information may be shared with the RYA, your national authority and/or World Sailing. The results of the event and the outcome of any hearing or appeal may be published.