



THE RORY CHEETHAM CUP

NOTICE OF RACE

Royal Thames Yacht Club
Queen Mary Reservoir, West London
18th & 19th April 2026

1. GENERAL

- 1.1. The Organizing Authority (OA) is the Royal Thames Yacht Club Limited & Exeter University Sailing Club
- 1.2. The Rory Cheetham Cup is a Match Racing event for Alumni and friends of Exeter University.
- 1.3. The venue will be Queen Mary Sailing Club, Ashford, TW15 1UA

2. BOATS

- 2.1. Sonar type boats will be provided for competing teams by the OA.
- 2.2. The rules for the handling of boats will be described in the sailing instructions.

3. ADVERTISING

- 3.1. Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the OA. If this rule is broken, World Sailing Regulation 20.9.2 applies.
- 3.2. Teams may be required to wear bibs provided by the OA to indicate team identity while *racing*. [NP]

4. RULES

- 4.1. The regatta will be governed by the *rules* as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
- 4.2. RRS 40.1 shall apply at all times while afloat or on a pontoon. [NP] *Note: The RTYC can provide PFD's for visiting sailors.*
- 4.3. RRS Appendix C shall apply.
- 4.4. The event has applied for World Sailing Grade 4. This grading is subject to review by World Sailing. The event may be re-graded when there is clear reason to do so.
- 4.5. [NP] denotes a rule that shall not be grounds for protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1.
- 4.6. The right of appeal will be denied in accordance with RRS 70.3.
- 4.7. The RYA Racing Charter is in effect and competitors are 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 (the yellow pages after the definitions), or on the RYA website at www.rya.org.uk/racingrules.
- 4.8. All competitors are considered 'Users' of Queen Mary Sailing Club (QMSC) and therefore are subject to their byelaws. The QMSC byelaws can be located at <https://www.queenmary.org.uk/club/club-documents/>.
- 4.9. Major Alterations to the RRS:
 - a. Add to RRS 41: (e) help to recover from the water and return on board a crew member, provided the return on board is at the approximate location of the recovery.
 - b. RRS C8.6 and C6.3 will be changed in the sailing instructions.
 - c. In the case of any conflict between the NoR and the SIs, the SIs will take precedent.

5. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 5.1. A maximum of ten teams of **three or four** persons, invited by the OA will be eligible to enter this event.
- 5.2. All skippers shall obtain a World Sailing Sailor ID by registering online at <https://www.sailing.org/sailors/world-sailing-profile/>
- 5.3. The total weight of the crew, including the skipper, dressed in at least shorts and shirts, shall not exceed 300kg, determined at the time of registration or such time as required by the RC.
- 5.4. Crew weight may be checked during the regatta. When crew weight was checked prior to racing, at any re-weighing the total weight limit is increased by 10 kg. Any crew weighing in excess of this increased limit shall not be penalised, but they shall reduce their weight to the increased weight limit before racing again.

- 5.5. Teams can request an invite by [Completing this form](#) by the 30th March 2026
 - 5.6. After the date in 5.2 teams may be invited at the sole discretion of the OA
 - 5.7. Once invited, teams must pay a non-refundable deposit of £100 to hold their place. The full entry fee of £495 shall be paid by the 13th April or their invite will be rescinded and given to another team.
 - 5.8. A team is not considered entered until they have paid the entry fee in full and agreed to the conditions of the damage addendum.
 - 5.9. Any sailor under the age of 18 on the first day of the event shall complete a parental consent form.
 - 5.10. Each team shall submit a crew list which will include information for each competitor, including contact information and age, no later than 16th April. The RTYC Sailing Office will provide an electronic form closer to the due date.
- Crew substitutions will not be allowed after 17th April, except as approved by the OA. Requests for substitutions must be submitted in writing to the RTYC Sailing Office.

6. FORMAT

- 6.1. The regatta will consist of one or more round robins followed by semi-finals and finals with an option for a repechage.

7. PROVISIONAL SCHEDULE

- 7.1. Attendance at the briefing is mandatory for the skipper from each team. Other crew are encouraged to proceed with rigging of boats on arrival

	Saturday 18 th	Sunday 19 th
Race Office Open	0830	0830
Registration	0830-0850	N/A
Briefing	0900	0900
First Attention signal	0953	0953
Approx time of last attention signal	1700	1600
Prize giving	N/A	ASAP after racing

8. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The sailing instructions will be available no later than Wednesday 15th April on the RTYC website.

9. COURSES

- 9.1. The course will be 2 lap windward/Leeward with starboard roundings, finishing downwind.
- 9.2. The intended sailing area will be announced at the briefing.

10. PRIZES

- 10.1. The Rory Cheetham Cup will be awarded to the winner. The trophy will be retained by the OA for the year.
- 10.2. Other take home prizes may be awarded.

11. CODE OF CONDUCT [NP]

- 11.1. Competitors shall comply with any reasonable request from any official, including attendance at official functions and shall not behave so as to bring the event or the sport into disrepute.
- 11.2. Competitors are expected to comply fully with RRS 2 at all times. Abuse or intimidation of other competitors, race officials, or officials of the host club will not be tolerated. All such incidents whether or not they include umpire-initiated penalties, shall be reported to the Chief Judge or Umpire. Repeated incidents by individuals

or teams shall be reported to the protest committee and may be considered gross misconduct (i.e. a gross breach of sportsmanship).

- 11.3. Participation in this event is by invitation. Any team who, in the opinion of the OA, has demonstrated poor seamanship, poor sportsmanship, or misconduct may have their invitation revoked and be excused from the event. In addition, and separate from the decision of the OA, the protest committee may initiate proceedings under RRS 69.

12. RISK STATEMENT

RRS 3 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 inherently 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 are capable of competing in the anticipated conditions.

13. RIGHT TO USE LIKENESS

By participating in this event, competitors automatically grant to the OA unconditional, perpetual right and authority to publish and broadcast anywhere in the world, for any purpose and in any media, photographs, video footage, and audio recordings taken of them prior to, during, and after the event without compensation.

14. PRIVACY STATEMENT

The personal information competitors provide to the OA will be used to facilitate their participation in the event. If they 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 they are not bound by the rules, the legal basis for processing that personal information is legitimate interest. A competitor's 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 and/or World Sailing. The results of the event and the outcome of any hearing or appeal may be published.

15. INFORMATION

For more information contact

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