



2026 RYA Harken Youth Match Racing Championship

Organising Authority: Royal Yachting Association

27–28th June 2026

Venue: Weymouth & Portland National Sailing Academy

Notice of Race

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

PC: Protest Committee or International Jury

RRS: Racing Rules of Sailing

NoR: Notice of Race

SI: Sailing Instruction

OA: Organising Authority

RC: Race Committee

[NP]: A boat may not protest as per NoR 1.3

1. RULES

- 1.1. The event is 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 notation '[NP]' in a rule of the NoR or SI means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1.
- 1.4. The event has applied for World Sailing Grade 3. This grading is subject to review by World Sailing. The event may be re-graded when there is clear reason to do so.
- 1.5. The right of appeal from a protest committee decision is denied as provided in RRS 70.3(b).
- 1.6. The bye-laws of [Weymouth and Portland Harbour](#) shall apply.
- 1.7. RRS 40.1 (personal flotation devices) applies at all times whilst afloat.
- 1.8. **Major Alterations to the RRS:**
 - a) If there is a conflict between this Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions, 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. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The Sailing Instructions will be shared with the sailors via Telegram by 25th June 2026.

3. COMMUNICATION [NP]

- 3.1. Notices to competitors, 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.
- 3.2. The Race Committee will use a Telegram group to facilitate communications before and during the event. At least one member of each team should join the group for the event.
- 3.3. Signals made ashore will be displayed from the mast of the Committee Vessel.

4. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1. A minimum of six (6) and maximum of twelve (12) skippers will be invited. Skippers wishing to receive an invite may register their request with the OA by completing the [online entry form](#).
- 4.2. The OA intends to accept entries from eligible skippers/teams on a first come first served basis up to the maximum number of entries.
- 4.3. All 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 14 days before the event.
- 4.4. The non-refundable entry fee of £540 shall be paid upon entry and agreement to the damage deposit indemnity (£1000) shall be required for this to be valid. [See Damage Addendum](#). Earlybird entry of £440 is available until 1200 29th May 2026. To be considered an entry in the event, a boat shall complete all registration requirements and pay all fees.
- 4.5. 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).
- 4.6. All competitors shall be under 23 years old on 31st December 2026. 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 the event unless their parent or guardian has submitted [a completed parent/guardian declaration form](#) before the event. All crew and skippers for the **U19 Trophy** shall be aged under 19 years old on the 1st September 2026.

5. DAMAGE / DAMAGE DEPOSIT



- 5.1. DAMAGE DEPOSIT: A damage deposit is not required before racing however each boat is liable for up to £1000 of associated costs due to damage as a result of any one incident (this includes boats, sails, equipment, and property). A failure to comply with this instruction or an invoice issued may result in disqualification from the event without a hearing. This changes RRS 60.5(b). The OA may also file a RRS 69 report to the jury.

6. CREW (including skipper)

- 6.1. The number and total weight of crew (including skipper, but excluding persons placed onboard by the OA) shall be three (3) or four (4). All crew registered shall sail all races.
- 6.2. Teams shall consist of mixed or all female crews aged under 23 on the 31st December 2026. Entries shall comply with the Transgender and Non-Binary RYA Competition Eligibility Policy found <https://www.rya.org.uk/racing/british-sailing/policies-and-guidance/>
- 6.3. After a warning signal for a match, the registered skipper shall not leave the helm, except in an emergency.
- 6.4. When a registered skipper is unable to continue in the event, the OA may authorise an original crew member to substitute.
- 6.5. When a registered crew member is unable to continue in the event, the OA may authorise a substitute, a temporary substitute or other adjustment.
- 6.6. The total weight of the crew, including the skipper, dressed in at least shorts and shirts, shall not exceed 272kg, determined at the time of registration or such time as required by the RC.
- 6.7. 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.

7. EVENT FORMAT

- 7.1. The OA intends to provide six (6) Elliott 6M boats for racing in the event. Each boat will have the following sails: Mainsail, Jib and Spinnaker.
- 7.2. Boats will be allocated as decided by the race committee. The intention of the RC will be to allocate boats by draw, either daily or for each round. The RC may also require boats to be exchanged in a knock-out stage.
- 7.3. The sails to be used will be allocated by the RC.
- 7.4. While all reasonable steps are taken to equalise the boats variations will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.
- 7.5. The number of matches to be sailed each day will be determined by the RC with the intention of the RC to start each subsequent flight as soon as practicable after the previous flight.
- 7.6. The course will be windward/leeward with starboard roundings, finishing downwind.
- 7.7. The intended course area will be Portland Harbour.
- 7.8. 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.
- 7.9. Each event will likely consist of the following stages:-
- a) Series 1 – Round Robin(s)
 - b) Series 2 – Semi-Final
 - c) Series 3 – Final
- 7.10. 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.

8. PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

- 8.1. Registration, including weigh in, will open no earlier than 0800 on the first day of racing, and will close after 30mins. Followed by the skippers briefing and umpire briefing.
- a) Racing days for each event will be Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th June 2026.
 - b) The scheduled time of the first signal on the first day will not be before 0853.
 - c) The latest time for an attention signal on the last day will be approx. 1600.
- 8.2. Unless excused by the OA attendance at the following is mandatory.
- a) Initial briefing for skippers.
 - b) Prize giving for final skippers and crews.

9. ADVERTISING

- 9.1. [NP] Boats shall display advertising chosen and supplied by the OA.

10. [NP] CODE OF CONDUCT

- 10.1. 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.
- 10.2. 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.

10.3. 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.

11. [NP] SUPPORT PERSON

- 11.1. Support vessels shall conspicuously display identification of the team being supported.
- 11.2. Support persons shall stay approximately 100m from the racing area while boats are racing or comply with reasonable requests from the officials.
- 11.3. The OA will not provide berths for support vessels.

12. [NP] MEDIA, IMAGES and SOUND

- 12.1. 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.

13. 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.

14. RISK STATEMENT

- 14.1. 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.

15. PRIZES

- 15.1. The top GBR team may be awarded the RYA Youth Match Racing Championship trophy. The top U19 team will be awarded the U19 trophy.
- 15.2. Other prizes may be awarded.
- 15.3. The OA may reduce a prize in the case of misconduct or refusal to comply with any reasonable request, including attendance at official functions.

16. FURTHER INFORMATION

For more information contact

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