



**2018 U.S. Women's Match Racing Championship**  
for the Allegra Knapp Mertz Trophy and the Mrs. C.F. Adams Memorial Trophy

**St. Francis Yacht Club - San Francisco, California**

**August 24 - 26, 2018**

Structured Practice and Debrief August 23, 2018

**NOTICE OF RACE REVISED August 1, 2018**

**REVISED SECTIONS: 5.1, 6.1, 8.2 and Added: 20, 21**

- 1 ORGANIZING AUTHORITY** The Organizing Authority (OA) is US Sailing and the St. Francis Yacht Club.
- 2 VENUE** The venue will be the City Front of San Francisco, California USA.
- 3 EVENT GRADING** The event has applied for World Sailing (WS) 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.
- 4 SCHEDULE (PROVISIONAL)**
  - 4.1 Schedule
    - (a) Registration open Thursday, August 23 from 1000 to 1700.
    - (b) Crew weigh-in is available Thursday, August 23 from 1000 to 1700.
    - (c) Practice Thursday, August 23 from 1200 to 1700 followed by debrief.
    - (d) First skippers' briefing shall be Friday, August 24 at 0900.
    - (e) First meeting with the umpires will be immediately following the first skippers' briefing
    - (f) Saturday and Sunday briefings will be at 0900.
    - (g) Racing days are August 24, 25 and 26.
    - (h) Time of first attention signal each day will be 1023.
    - (i) The latest time for an attention signal on the last day of racing will be 1700 on Sunday, August 26.
    - (j) Daily debriefs will be after racing each day.
    - (k) The Prize Giving will be held immediately following racing on Sunday, August 26.
  - 4.2 Unless excused by the OA, attendance at the following is mandatory:
    - (a) Initial briefing for skippers
    - (b) Daily briefing for skippers
- 5 SKIPPER ELIGIBILITY**
  - 5.1 Up to ten (10) female skippers will be invited. Only skippers invited by the Invitation Committee of the U.S. Match Racing Championships Committee (USMRCC) will be eligible to enter this event.
  - 5.2 To remain eligible, a skipper shall confirm acceptance of the invitation by registering on-line and paying the entry fee through link provided in the invitation by the date specified.
  - 5.3 All competitors shall meet the eligibility requirements of World Sailing regulation 19.2.
  - 5.4 All competitors shall obtain a [World Sailing Sailor ID by registering online](#). Skippers shall inform the OA of their World Sailing Sailor ID at registration.
  - 5.5 All competitors shall be members of US SAILING at the time of registration and during the event. International competitors must be members of US Sailing or their MNA.
  - 5.6 There is no citizenship or club/association membership requirement for this event.

## 6 ENTRIES

### 6.1 Entering

- (a) Entries will only be accepted from invited skippers, see section 16, herein.
- (b) The skipper shall be entered on completion of registration, crew weighing and the payment of all fees and deposits. All payments except the damage deposit shall be made through Regatta Toolbox. The damage deposit shall be paid to the host club at event registration.
- (c) The Selection Committee may issue up to six (6) invites by May 1 for those skippers who have submitted a Request for Invitation prior to April 25, 2018. Remaining invites will be issued August 10, 2018 based on requests received by August 8, 2018.
- (d) Requests for Invitation received after August 8, 2018 will be handled on a space-available basis.

### 6.2 Entry Fee

A non-refundable entry fee of \$800 USD shall be paid by the date and in the manner specified in the invitation letter.

### 6.3 Withdrawal

When a skipper accepts an invitation and later withdraws within two months of the event or leaves the event before the end 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)

### 6.4 Damage Deposit

- (a) An initial damage deposit of \$1,500 USD shall be paid at registration, prior to any practice sailing, unless extended by the OA. This deposit is the maximum payable by the skipper for any one incident.
- (b) If a deduction from the damage deposit is decided by the OA, it may require that the deposit be restored to its original amount before the skipper will be permitted to continue in the event.
- (c) Any remaining deposit after the event will be refunded within thirty (30) days after the event.

## 7 RULES

### 7.1 The event will be governed by the rules as defined by The Racing Rules of Sailing, including Appendix C and following documents:

- (a) [The US Sailing Regulations which govern all US Sailing Championships and Qualifying Events](#). Attention is drawn to regulations 2.02, 4.02, 10, 13, and 14.04, although other regulations may be applicable as well.
- (b) US Sailing's current Championship Conditions and Championships Code of Conduct.
- (c) [The current U.S. Women's Match Racing Championship Conditions](#).

### 7.2 Class rules will not apply.

### 7.3 US Sailing prescriptions 63.2 and 63.4 are deleted.

### 7.4 The rules for the handling of boats will apply and will also apply to any clinics, practice sailing and sponsor races.

### 7.5 Major Alterations to the RRS

- (a) Each competitor shall wear a USCG approved PFD while on the water, except for brief periods while adding or removing clothing. This changes RRS 40 and the preamble to Part 4.
- (b) 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.
- (c) RRS C8.6 and C6.3 will be changed in the sailing instructions.
- (d) When a boat in a match fails to sail the course in accordance with RRS 28.1, she will be disqualified without a hearing and scored zero points unless both boats in the match have sailed the same course in which case the boats will be scored as if they had sailed the course in accordance with RRS 28.1. This changes RRS 28, 35, 63.1, and A5.
- (e) Delete RRS C6.3 and replace with: A boat intending to request redress because of circumstances that arise while she is racing or in the finishing area, shall clearly display a red flag as soon as possible after she becomes aware of those circumstances, but no later than two minutes after finishing or retiring.
- (f) When the umpires proceed under RRS C8.6 they will follow the guidance in SI Addendum E. RRS C8.6 is changed to read: 'When the match umpires, together with at least one other umpire, decide that a boat has broken RRS 14 and damage resulted, they may impose a points penalty as described in SI Addendum E without a hearing. The competitor shall be informed of the penalty as soon as practicable and, at the time of being so informed, may request a hearing. The protest committee shall then proceed under RRS C6.6. Any penalty decided by the protest committee may be

more than the penalty imposed by the umpires. When the umpires decide a penalty greater than that described in SI Addendum E is appropriate, they shall act under RRS C8.4.'

- (g) Add the following sentence to C10.2: When a competitor withdraws from an event pursuant to the US Sailing Code of Conduct [voluntarily or by reason of being excluded by a protest committee], that competitor's team shall be removed from the final event scores and each team with a worse finishing place in the event shall be moved up one place.
- (h) If the first boat in a match has finished leaving the second boat in the match owing a penalty, the umpires may signal according to RRS C5.5 that the outstanding penalty is now completed and remove the corresponding penalty flag. Once she finishes, the second boat may then be scored with a loss without the requirement of completing her penalty turn before finishing. This changes RRS C7.4.
- (i) The OA reserves the right to amend this NOR. Any amendments to the NOR shall be posted to the [USWMRC website](#) and on the official notice board located in the hallway near the regatta entrance at StFYC.
- (j) If there is a conflict between the NoR and the SI's, the SI's will take precedence. This changes RRS 63.7.
- (k) The attention signal will be displayed 7 minutes before the first starting signal in each flight. This changes RRS C3.1.

## **8 BOATS AND SAILS**

- 8.1 The event will be sailed in J/22 type boats.
- 8.2 Ten (10) boats will be provided.
- 8.3 The following sails will be provided for each boat: Mainsail, Jib, and Spinnaker.
- 8.4 Boats will be allocated by draw and rotated daily. Boats may also be assigned during any stage by the OA or RC.
- 8.5 The OA or RC may require rotation of sails for any reason. Rotation of sails by the OA or RC shall NOT be grounds for redress by a competitor. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

## **9 CREW (INCLUDING SKIPPER)**

- 9.1 The number of crew (including the skipper) shall be four (4) females. All registered crew shall sail all races.
- 9.2 The total weight of the crew, including the skipper, dressed in at least shorts and shirts, shall not exceed 600 lb or 272 kg, determined at the time of registration or such time as required by the RC.
- 9.3 Crew weight shall be checked at registration, and no further weigh-in shall be required, except for substitute crew.
- 9.4 When a registered skipper is unable to continue in the event the OA may authorize an original crew member to substitute.
- 9.5 When a registered crew member is unable to continue in the event the OA may authorize a substitute, a temporary substitute or other adjustment.

## **10 EVENT FORMAT**

- 10.1 The event format will consist of Round Robin(s), Knock-out Series and Finals racing. The format will be specified in the sailing instructions.
- 10.2 The RC may change the format, or terminate any stage or the event when, in its opinion, it is impractical to attempt to hold the remainder of matches under the existing conditions or in the remaining time scheduled. Early stages may be terminated in favor of later stages.

## **11 COURSE**

- 11.1 The course will be windward/leeward with optional offset legs in the event of cross course current, resulting in either port or starboard roundings and finishing downwind.
- 11.2 The intended course area will be San Francisco Bay City Front.

## **12 ADVERTISING**

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

**13 PRIZES**

- 13.1 The Allegra Knapp Mertz Perpetual Trophy will be presented to the first-place team and the Mrs. C.F. Adams Memorial Perpetual Trophy presented to the second-place team.
- 13.2 US Sailing medals will be awarded to the competitors finishing in first through third places.
- 13.3 Invitations: The top placing eligible skipper (per U.S. Match Racing Championship Conditions) will be invited to the 2018 U.S. Match Racing Championship hosted by Chicago Yacht Club on October 19-21, 2018. Should the qualifying skipper decline her spot to the USMRC, or already be invited, the spot will be filled by the USMRCC’s Invitation Committee process per the USMRC Conditions.

**14 MEDIA, IMAGES and SOUND**

By participating in this event, competitors automatically grant to the organizing authority and the event sponsors the unconditional, perpetual right and authority to publish and broadcast anywhere in the world, for any purpose and in any media, the names, images, and biographical information relating to the crew and photographs, video footage, and audio recordings taken of the boat and its crew prior to, during, and after the race without compensation.

**15 COACH BOATS**

This event is designated as a US Sailing Grade 3 Event for coaching purposes. [See the US Sailing’s Coaching and Support Boat Policy.](#) There will be no private/team coaching nor US Sailing-supplied coaches during the regatta.

**16 INVITATIONS**

- 16.1 Invitations are by resume only. Requests for Invitation (RFI) must be filled out using the online RFI form which is available at the [USWMRC website.](#)
- 16.2 Although there are no Qualifier events for the 2018 USWMRC, participation at the 2018 USMRC Qualifiers is encouraged and will be taken into consideration by the Selection Committee.

**17 DISCLAIMER**

Sailing is an activity that has an inherent risk of damage and injury. Competitors in this race participate entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race. The race organizers (OA, race committee, PC, host club, sponsors, or any other organization or official) will not be responsible for damage to any boat or other property or the injury to any competitor, including death, sustained because of participation in this event. By participating in this regatta, each competitor agrees to release the race organizers from all liability associated with such competitor’s participation in this event to the fullest extent permitted by law.

**18 DISCIPLINE**

PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES (US Sailing Regulation 10.03)

- A. For adult US Sailing championship events, no competitor shall use or possess, either on or off the water, marijuana or any other substance if possession is illegal under state or federal law.
- B. For Junior and Youth events or for junior or youth competitors in any US Sailing championship, no participant or competitor shall use or possess, either on or off the water:
  - 1. marijuana or any other substance if possession is illegal under state or federal law; or
  - 2. any alcoholic beverages.
- C. An alleged breach of one of these regulations shall not be grounds for a protest. This changes RRS 60.1(a), 60.2(a), and 60.3(a). However, when the protest committee believes that a competitor may have breached one of these regulations, it shall follow the process described in the Championships Code of Conduct. If a competitor is found to have breached one of the elements within the Code of Conduct, they shall be excluded from the remaining races of the series and, where practicable, removed from the regatta venue and sent home.

**19 FURTHER INFORMATION**

Event Chairman	Bruce Stone	<a href="mailto:bruce@brucestone.com">bruce@brucestone.com</a>	(917) 882-4060
Event Coordinator	Graham Biehl	<a href="mailto:racing@stfyc.com">racing@stfyc.com</a>	(415) 655-7756
Principal Race Officer	Jeff Zarwell, NRO	<a href="mailto:jzarwell@regattapro.com">jzarwell@regattapro.com</a>	(415) 595-8364
Chief Umpire	Kathy Lindgren, IU	<a href="mailto:kat.lindgren585@gmail.com">kat.lindgren585@gmail.com</a>	(920) 980-1223

## 20 ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES FOR THE 2019 NATIONS CUP

*The skipper of the 2018 U.S. Women's National Match Racing Champion team will be nominated by US Sailing to represent the U.S. in the Nations Cup Grand Final. The highest finishing team that is all U.S. citizens or resident aliens at the 2018 U.S. Women's Match Racing Championship (USWMRC) will become the 2018 U.S. National Champion.*

### (a) Selection System

- (i) World Sailing requires that US Sailing select teams of athletes to be nominated to represent the USA in the Nations Cup Grand Final.
- (ii) The skipper of the 2018 U.S. Women's Match Racing National Champion team, decided at the 2018 USWMRC, will be nominated to World Sailing to represent the U.S. at the 2019 Nations Cup Grand Final.

Selection Grievance Procedure: Once selection is announced, athletes who have a grievance based on the selection process shall have one week (7 days) from the official publication of selection to file a grievance online to an independent panel who will review the selection and may consult with the Selection Committee Chair. The Grievance Committee will issue its decision within one week (7 days) from the close of the grievance deadline. Grievances are to be sent to Lee Parks at US Sailing: [LeeParks@ussailing.org](mailto:LeeParks@ussailing.org)

(iii) The qualifying/invited skipper shall nominate the members of her crew prior to the entry deadline of the Nations Cup Grand Final. The Nations Cup Selection Committee (\*) will be required to approve the nominated crew and will be comprised of the following four individuals:

- (A) US Sailing Match Racing Committee Vice-Chair
- (B) USA member of the World Sailing Match Racing Committee
- (C) Member of the US Match Racing Championship Committee representing the USWMRC; this person will chair the selection committee
- (D) The qualifying skipper (for all issues other than the selection of the women's skipper)

Subsequent crew modifications may be made by the skipper but must be approved by the Selection Committee.

- \* At least one of the above 4 individuals shall be an A or B Level Athlete – or A or B Level Athletes will be added to make up at least 20% of the committee.

### (b) Eligibility

To be eligible to represent the USA in the Nations Cup Grand Final, the skipper and crew must be Passport Holders of the USA, must not be currently representing another MNA, and must be members of US Sailing.

### (c) Replacement

If the qualifying skipper is, for any reason, not going to represent the USA at the Nations Cup Grand Final, that skipper will be replaced by the next highest placing, eligible (see section b) skipper from the 2018 USWMRC, or if no skipper is available from the 2018 USWMRC, then the next skipper on the Selection Committee's invitation list. The replacement skipper shall promptly nominate her crew to the Nations Cup Selection Committee for approval.

## 21 PROCEDURES FOR PROTECTED COMPETITIONS

21.1 US Sailing Regulation 12.03, Protected Competitions, will be in effect for this event. The following rules and procedures will apply:

- (a) The US Sailing prescriptions to rules 63.2, and 63.4 shall apply to a Protected Competition, except that the words "when practicable" in the first sentence of the prescription to rule 63.4 are deleted.
- (b) Protest committees shall include 20% "sailor-athlete" representation. "Sailor-athlete" has the meaning of "athlete" set forth in USOC Bylaw, Section 8.8.2 (the 10-year rule) or Level A or B Sailor-Athlete as defined by US Sailing Sailor Athlete Council (SAC) Bylaws 3.3.1 and 3.3.2 (except that the US Sailing member class referred to in SAC Bylaw 3.3.2.3 shall be an international class recognized by World Sailing at the time of the sailor-athlete's qualification).

- (c) The right of appeal will not be denied under rule 70.5 (a), (b), or (c), but an expedited appeal process may be used that balances the needs of the competitor for certainty with respect to berths in future competitions and sufficient time to prepare the arguments and evidence for the appeal. Note, there is no appeal from a decision made under rule C5, C6, C7 or C8 (see rule C9.1).
- (d) Any boat that is a party to a redress hearing may be represented by up to two individuals. This changes rule 63.3(a).
- (e) If a hearing is scheduled after the event is concluded and after the sailors and officials have left the venue, it will be scheduled as soon as possible, and in a place and manner chosen with deference to the competitor's preferences or circumstances; and parties to the hearing have the right to be present telephonically or via video feed as appropriate, provided all participants can hear and speak to each other.

21.2 The following rule changes shall be made:

- (a) Rule 65.2 is changed as follows: "seven days" is changed to "24 hours" and "promptly" is changed to "within 24 hours"
- (b) Rule 66 is deleted and replaced by:

**Rule 66 REOPENING A HEARING**

- (i) The protest committee may reopen a hearing when it decides that it may have made a significant error, or when significant new evidence becomes available within a reasonable time. However, if an appeal of its decision has been sent to the national authority, the hearing shall not be reopened unless the national authority requires reopening under rule R5.4 or decides the appeal cannot be considered.
  - (ii) A party to the hearing may not ask for a reopening (see rule C9.1).
  - (iii) When a hearing is reopened, a majority of the members of the protest committee shall, if possible, be members of the original protest committee.
- (c) Rule 70.2 is deleted.

21.3 Expedited appeals procedure

The expedited appeals system in rule R8, Expedited Appeals, will be used. See:

<https://www.ussailing.org/competition/rules-officiating/appeals/#expedited-appeals>