



ROCHESTER YACHT CLUB

Established in 1877



2023 U.S. Match Racing Championship
for the Prince of Wales Bowl
U.S. Sailing – Organizing Authority
Rochester Yacht Club – Organizing Authority/Host Club
5555 St Paul Blvd.
Rochester, NY 14617, USA

September 21-24, 2023

NOTICE OF RACE

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

PC:	Protest Committee or International Jury	RC:	Race Committee
NoR:	Notice of Race	SI:	Sailing Instruction
OA:	Organizing Authority	TD:	Technical Delegate
RRS:	Racing Rules of Sailing	[NP]:	A boat may not protest as per NoR 1.4
WS:	World Sailing		

1 RULES

- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*, including 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 following US Sailing documents apply:
 - (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](#)
 - (c) US Sailing's [Championships Code of Conduct](#).
 - (d) [The current U.S. Match Racing Championship Conditions.](#)
- 1.4 The notation '[NP]' in a rule of the Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a).
- 1.5 The US Sailing prescriptions to Rules 63.1 and 63.2 do not apply except as provided in **NoR 16**.
- 1.6 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.

- 1.7 Regulation 10.04 A.1 and D: Per U.S. Regulations **10.04, A.1**. “[f]or US Sailing Adult qualifying and championship events in keelboats, each competitor shall wear a USCG approved PFD at all times while on the water, except for brief periods while adding or removing clothing.” (This modifies RRS 40 and the preamble to Part 4.) In addition, per US Sailing Regulations **10.04 D** “A violation of this Instruction may be protested by race officials or a competitor; however, an inadvertent and momentary breach of this instruction may receive a penalty less than disqualification at the discretion of the protest committee. This changes **rule 64.1**”
- 1.8 **[DP]** Competitors and support persons shall comply with any reasonable request from an event official. Failure to comply may be misconduct. Reasonable actions by event officials to implement COVID-19 guidance, protocols or legislation even if they later prove to have been unnecessary, are not improper actions or omissions.
- 1.9 When a boat in a match fails to *sail the course*, she will be disqualified without a hearing and scored zero points unless both of the boats in the match have sailed the same course in which case the boats will be scored as if they had sailed the course. This changes RRS 28, 35, 63.1, 90.3(a), A5, and C10.7
- 1.10 Errors or omissions by the RC will NOT be grounds for redress by a competitor. In the event of an error or omission, the Match or Chief Umpire may notify the RC of the incident and request postponement or abandonment. This changes RRS 62.1 (a).
- 1.11 A Protest Committee (PC) shall be appointed by the OA.
- 1.12 The OA reserves the right to amend this NOR. Any amendments to the NOR shall be posted at <https://www.rochesteryc.com/default.aspx?p=dynamicmodule&pageid=402051&ssid=328702&vnf=1> and on the [US Sailing Match Racing Championship event page](#)

2 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The sailing instructions will be available no later than 1200 on Wednesday, September 26, 2023 on the official notice board at <https://www.rochesteryc.com/default.aspx?p=dynamicmodule&pageid=402051&ssid=328702&vnf=1> and on the [US Sailing Match Racing Championship event page](#)

3 COMMUNICATION

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted online at <https://www.rochesteryc.com/default.aspx?p=dynamicmodule&pageid=402051&ssid=328702&vnf=1>
- 3.2 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the Rochester Yacht Club flag pole located near the main club house.

4 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1 Up to **Ten (10) skippers** will be invited to the 2023 US Match Racing Championship. Only skippers invited by the Invitation Committee of the U.S. Match Racing Championships Committee (USMRCC) will be eligible to enter this event. Invitations will be issued pursuant to the USMRC Conditions.
- 4.2 Automatic Invitations will be issued to:
 - (a) The 2022 U.S. Match Racing Champion.
 - (b) The highest placing eligible skipper (per the current US Sailing Match Racing Championship Conditions) at the US Women’s Match Racing Championship on August 18-20, 2023 at Annapolis Yacht Club who is not already qualified for the 2023 USMRC.
 - (c) The highest placing eligible skipper (per the current US Sailing Match Racing Championship Conditions) from each qualifier of the 2023 USMRC Qualifier Series who is not already qualified for the 2023 USMRC.
- 4.3 Open positions will be available by resume and will be filled by the Invitation Committee of the USMRCC in accordance with the USMRC Conditions. To requests an Invitation please send an email with your interest and resume to the chair of the US Sailing Match Racing Champion Committee, Karen Butler, at sabot2593@gmail.com
- 4.4 The Invitation Committee will commence issuing invitations to the 2023 USMRC following the qualifier

events and issue any open invitations beginning on **June 26, 2023**, and will continue to issue invitations until the event is fully subscribed.

- 4.5 Skippers wishing to be invited to one or more of the 2023 USMRC Qualifiers may request an invitation by clicking on the following link:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSclqrdknp5mT3naYivBT_Z8wnWXQV8OAFjrB7LUs-G8_8dVxQ/viewform?usp=sf_link
Or by going to the USMRC website at
<https://www.ussailing.org/competition/championships/2023-u-s-match-racing-championship/> and clicking on the link on the 2023 USMRC Qualifier Series Critical Data Sheet.
- 4.6 Only skippers invited by the OA, and who confirm acceptance of the invitation to the 2023 USMRC will be eligible to enter this event. Skippers will be given **two (2) weeks** to accept their invitation unless otherwise indicated in the invitation letter. To remain eligible an invited skipper shall confirm acceptance of the invitation in writing in the manner and by the date and time specified in the letter of invitation. A **non-refundable entry bond** in the amount of **\$400.00 USD** shall accompany the acceptance of the invitation for this to be valid. In addition, the skipper shall complete all other reasonable requests of the OA.
- 4.7 There is no citizenship or club/association membership required for this event.
- 4.8 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.
- 4.9 All competitors shall meet the eligibility requirements of World Sailing regulation 19.4
- 4.10 All competitors shall obtain a World Sailing Sailor ID by registering online at [World Sailing - Categorization](#) Skippers shall inform the OA of their World Sailing Sailor ID at registration.
- 4.11 The entry fee is **\$1,000.00 USD** payable to *Rochester Yacht Club*, including the **\$400.00 USD** entry bond in NOR 4.6 above.
- 4.12 The skipper shall complete registration, pay any entry fees and arrange for the damage deposit of **\$1,500.00 USD** all in the manner and by the dates and times specified in the invitation letter. In addition, the skipper shall ensure that all crew complete crew weighing between 1000 and 1800 on Thursday, September 21, 2023, or 0800 and 0830 on Friday, September 22, 2023 unless extended by the OA. All payments except the damage deposit shall be made through **Yacht Scoring**. The damage deposit shall be paid to the host club at event registration by credit card.
- 4.13 Both the entry fee and the damage deposit must be paid before a team can sail in any practice session or the event.
- 4.14 Final competitor list will be noted in **SI Addendum A**.
- 4.15 When a skipper accepts an invitation and later withdraws within **forty-five (45) days** of the event or leaves the event before the end without written approval from the OA, a zero score may be applied to their Ranking points for that event by WS. (World Sailing Regulation 27.2.2(d)).

5 DAMAGE / DAMAGE DEPOSIT

- 5.1 Each skipper is responsible for the damage or loss to their boat unless responsibility is otherwise assigned by the umpires or PC. The damage deposit is the limit of liability of each skipper for each incident. If a deduction is made from the deposit, the skipper will be required to restore the deposit to the original value to continue in the event.
- 5.2 The remaining damage deposit will be refunded within **forty (40) days** after the event.

6 CREW (INCLUDING SKIPPER)

- 6.1 The number of crew (including the skipper) shall be 3 or 4. All registered crew shall sail all races.
- 6.2 After the warning signal for a match, the registered skipper shall not leave the helm, except in an emergency.
- 6.3 When a registered skipper is unable to continue in the event the OA may authorize an original crew member to substitute.
- 6.4 When a registered crew is unable to continue in the event, the OA may authorize a substitute, a temporary substitute or other adjustment.
- 6.5 The total weight of the crew, including the skipper, dressed in at least shorts and shirts, shall not exceed shall not exceed 578.7 lbs. or 262.5 kg, determined at the time of registration. No further weigh-in shall be required, except upon crew substitution.

7 EVENT FORMAT

- 7.1 The OA intends to provide eight (8) Sonar 23 type boats for racing in the event. Each boat will have the following sails: Mainsail and Jib. In addition, a Spinnaker will be provided to each skipper at on sight registration which the team will use for the entire event.
- 7.2 Boats will be allocated as decided by the OA or the race committee. The intention of the OA and RC is to rotate boats per race as needed to ensure the maximum amount of races are completed. 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 OA or RC. 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).
- 7.4 While all reasonable steps are taken to equalize the boats variations will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.
- 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, and finishing downwind.
- 7.7 The intended racing area is on Lake Ontario out of the Genesee River.
- 7.8 Skippers will be seeded into a round robin based on World Sailing ranking list 30 days prior to the event.
- (a) After the **First Stage** the following will apply:
- (1) Skippers will be paired based on ranking in the First Stage with the highest ranked skipper paired with the lowest and the other skippers paired accordingly, unless the stage specifies a different arrangement.
 - (2) In reference to RRS C4.1, the highest ranked skipper from the first stage shall choose their end for the first match and boats shall alternate every odd match.
 - (3) Crews will exchange boats after odd matches of the series, unless otherwise agreed by both skippers.
 - (4) Further matches in the series will not be sailed once the first skipper scores the points required for that stage.
- 7.9 The event will consist of the following stages:
- (a) **First Stage – Double Round Robin**
- (1) All skippers will sail a double round robin.
 - (2) The eight highest scoring skippers shall qualify for the next stage.
- (b) **Second Stage – Knock-Out Quarterfinals**
- (1) The first skipper of each series to score at least **2 points** shall proceed to the semi-finals.
- (c) **Third Stage – Fifth to Eighth Place Knock-Outs**
- (1) The losing quarter finalists shall sail for fifth to eighth places.
 - (2) In each series the first skipper to score at least **one point** will be the winner.
 - (3) The two winners in each series shall sail against each other for Fifth and Sixth places.
 - (4) The two losers in each series shall sail against each other for Seventh and Eighth places.
- (d) **Fourth Stage – Semi Final Knock-Outs**
- (1) The skipper finishing first in Stage One shall select his opponent when requested by the RC to do so. The remaining two skippers shall race each other.
 - (2) The first skipper to score at least **2 points** shall proceed to the Sixth Stage for the Knock-Out Finals for First and Second place, the losing skippers shall proceed to the Fifth Stage for the Petit Finals for Third and Fourth Place.
- (e) **Fifth Stage – Knock-Out Petit Finals for Third and Fourth Place**
- (1) The losing semi-finalists shall race to determine Third and Fourth place.
 - (2) The first skipper to score at least **2 points** shall be awarded third place, the losing skipper awarded fourth place.
- (f) **Sixth Stage – Knock-Out Finals**
- (1) The first skipper to score at least 3 points shall be awarded third place, the losing skipper awarded second place.

- 7.10 Per **USMRC Conditions 9.2** "Should wind, weather or other conditions make it unlikely to complete the scheduled number of races within the time schedule, the event format may be terminated, shortened or altered in order to declare a Champion. A one race knockout series will be avoided if at all possible. The US Sailing Representative in conjunction with the Race Committee shall determine actions and decisions to be taken regarding results when not resolved by RRS Appendix C."

8 PROVISIONAL PROGRAM

8.1 Schedule

- (a) Registration Thursday, September 21, 2023 from 1000 to 1800, and Friday, September 22, 2023 from 0800 to 0830.
 - (b) Crew weighing Thursday, September 21, 2023 from 1000 to 1800, and Friday, September 22, 2023 from 0800 to 0830.
 - (c) Boat available for practice Thursday, September 21, 2023 from 1000 to 1800.
 - (d) Practice race Thursday, September 21, 2023 at approximately 1300.
 - (e) First Briefing on Friday, September 22, 2023 at 0900.
 - (f) First meeting with umpires immediately following First Briefing.
 - (g) Daily debrief after the first and second day of racing approximately 30 minutes after the last boat returns to the dock.
 - (h) Racing days from Friday, September 22, 2023 through Sunday, September 24, 2023
 - (i) Saturday and Sunday briefings at 0900.
 - (j) Time of the first attention signal each day will be 1000 or as announced at daily briefings.
 - (k) The latest time for an attention signal on the last day of racing will be approximately 1400 on Sunday, September 24th.
 - (l) Prize Giving will be held approx. 30 minutes after the last boat returns to the dock on Sunday, September 24, 2023.
- 8.2 Unless excused by the OA, attendance at the following is mandatory:
- (m) Initial briefing for skippers
 - (n) Daily briefing for skippers
 - (o) Prize giving for the top three skippers and crews

9 [NP] ADVERTISING

- 9.1 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.
- 9.2 The OA intends to supply the following equipment: Boats and Sails. Advertising as supplied by the OA is to be displayed on this equipment.
- 9.3 Competitors may be permitted to display advertising ashore at the venue, but this is subject to individual negotiation with the OA.
- 9.4 Boats shall not be permitted the right to protest for infringements of any rules regarding advertising. This changes **RRS 60.1**.

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 and co-operation with event sponsors, and shall behave so as to not bring the event into disrepute.
- 10.2 Competitors and support persons shall handle any equipment provided by the organizing authority with care, seamanship, in accordance with any instructions for its use and without interfering with its functionality.
- 10.3 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 rules 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. When a competitor withdraws from part of an event pursuant to the Code, the scores of all completed races shall stand for the purposes of determining the seeding of subsequent rounds or stages in the event. However, that competitor's boat/team will no longer be eligible to compete in the event, shall be removed from the final event scores, and each boat/team with a worse finishing place in the event shall be moved up one place.

11 [NP] SUPPORT PERSONS

- 11.1 This event is designated as a US Sailing Grade 3 Event for coaching purposes. See the US Sailing's Coaching and Support Boat Policy at <https://www.ussailing.org/competition/resources/coaching-and-support-boat-policy/> There will be no private/team coaching nor US Sailing-supplied coaches during the regatta.
- 11.2 Private/Team spectator boats are not allowed. The OA may arrange spectator boats and boat drivers. Availability will be based on first come first served.

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.

13 DATA PROTECTION: RESERVED

14 RISK STATEMENT

RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. **Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.**

15 PRIZES

- 15.1 The **Prince of Wales Bowl** will be presented to the first-place team.
- 15.2 Only a team that is composed of 100% US citizens or resident aliens throughout the Championship Final event may be declared U.S. National Champion. A "US citizen" is a person who has, or is eligible to have, a US passport. A "resident alien" is a person who does not have a US passport but who has a Permanent Resident Card ("Green Card"). (USMRC Conditions 12.4 and 12.5)
- 15.3 US Sailing Medals will be awarded to the competitors finishing in first through third places.
- 15.4 Invitations: The top placing eligible skipper at the 2023 USMRC (per U.S. Match Racing Championship Conditions) will be invited to the **2024 U.S. Match Racing Championship** hosted by St. Francis Yacht Club on October 4-6, 2024. Should the qualifying skipper decline his or her spot to the 2024 USMRC, the spot will be filled by the USMRCC's Invitation Committee process per the USMRC Conditions.
- 15.5 Invitations: If there is a Nations Cup held in 2024, the top placing skipper at the 2023 U.S. Match Racing Championship who is a U.S. Passport holder and not representing another MNA will be the U. S. Representative for the Open Nations Cup event. Should the qualifying skipper decline their spot, the next highest placing eligible skipper shall receive the invitation. The skipper going to the Nations Cup shall promptly nominate their crew (US Sailing Members and U.S. Passport holders who are not representing any other MNA) to the US Sailing's International Selection Committee for approval.

16 NATIONS CUP QUALIFIER

- 16.1 If there is a Nations' Cup in 2024 then U.S. Sailing Regulation 12.03, Protected Competitions, will be in effect for this event and following rules and procedures will apply:
- (a) The US Sailing prescriptions to rules 63.1 and 63.2 shall apply to a Protected Competition, except that "when practicable" in the prescription are deleted.
 - (b) Protest committees shall include at least 33.3% Sailor Athlete representation as per Section 105 of the US Sailing Bylaws <https://www.ussailing.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/US-Sailing-Bylaws-2022-12-05-FINAL.pdf> and USOPC Bylaws Section 8.5.1(b). At least half those Sailor athletes must be either 10 year Sailor Athletes and the remaining Sailor Athletes must be 10 Year Sailor Athletes or 10 Year + Sailor athletes.
 - (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.
 - (d) Note: There is no appeal from a decision made under rule C5, C6, C7 or C8 and a party to the hearing may not ask for a reopening (see rule C9,1).
 - (e) Any boat that is a party to a redress hearing may be represented by up to two individuals. This changes rule 63.3(a).
 - (f) 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.
- 16.2 Other Rule Changes:
- (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 66.1, Reopening a Hearing, second sentence is deleted and replaced by: 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.
- 16.3 Expedited appeals procedure. The expedited appeals system in rule R8, Expedited Appeals, will be used see https://www.ussailing.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Expedited-Appeals-Rule-R8_3.18.2019.pdf

17 FUTHER INFORMATION

Event Chair:	Jeffrey Sullivan	jeff.r.sullivan@gmail.com	585-750-2815
Chief Umpire:	Richard Sullivan	rsulliv1@rochester.rr.com	585-233-7744
Waterfront Director:	Holly Huston	holly@rochesteryc.com	585-342-5511x140

Document History

Version	Change	Justification	By	Date
1	Initial Release	N/A	J. Sullivan	March 3, 2023

