



U.S. YOUTH
MATCH RACING
CHAMPIONSHIP
FOR THE ROSE CUP

Rose Cup 15th Anniversary



June 25-29, 2025

Balboa Yacht Club 🚩 Newport Beach, California 🚩 U.S.A.

*The best boats, the best young match racers in the U.S., AND
Southern California in the summer. What's not to like!*

The Rose Cup celebrates its 15th Anniversary in 2025 and returns to its founding Balboa Yacht Club. It was founded as an invitational youth match race event in 2010 by members of BYC and the Newport Balboa Sailing & Seamanship Association (“NBSSA”) in Newport Beach, California. In 2015, thanks to 5-time U.S. Match Racing Champion, Dave Perry, working with U.S. Sailing, it became the U.S. Youth Match Racing Championship, one of US Sailing’s three match racing national championships.

The Rose Cup

The original purpose of the founders was spurred by the growth of youth match racing in other countries which had led to many more of their sailors winning or gaining podium positions in such events as the Governor’s Cup International Youth Match Racing Championship. It was founded to try to close that gap by assisting in the promotion of youth match racing in the United States and improve the quality of US competitors in national and international competition.

The Rose Cup was named by NBSSA for America’s Cup, Congressional Cup and offshore tactician Andy Rose for his contributions to youth match racing in many ways including his support for the Governor’s and Rose Cups.

At each USYMRC, the presentation of the Nick Scandone Sportsmanship Award is always a highlight. This trophy, named for the late U.S. Paralympic Gold Medalist Nick Scandone who, in addition to winning the Gold Medal at the Beijing Paralympics in 2008, was beating both able-bodied and physically-challenged competitors throughout the last year of his life as he fought ALS or “Lou Gehrig’s Disease”. Nick’s persistence against seemingly insurmountable odds provides inspiration to winners of the Scandone Sportsmanship Trophy and to all sailors.



Competitors must have reached their 16th birthday in 2025 but cannot have reached their 21st birthday by December 31, 2025. Four crew will be required with at least one male and one female. US Sailing requires eligible skippers to complete a

Getting Invited

selection criteria, success in dinghies or other small keelboats is also a major factor in selection decisions.

Requests for invitation received by **April 1, 2025** will be given preference, and selected skippers will be notified by **April 7, 2025**

Request for Invitation (“RFI”) as described on the back page. A US Sailing Selection Committee will select up to twelve skippers from among those submitting RFI’s.

While match racing experience is a component of the selection criteria, success in dinghies or other small keelboats is also a major factor in selection decisions.

Requests for invitation received by **April 1, 2025** will be given preference, and selected skippers will be notified by **April 7, 2025**

Balboa Yacht Club was founded in 1922 as the Southland Sailing Club and has evolved into one of the more successful clubs in Southern California. Members enjoy years of tradition, the best view of the harbor, a clubhouse location closest to the harbor entrance, BYC’s Catalina Island Station, Whites Cove, and worldwide reciprocity with other clubs.



The Venue

BYC embraces its competitive racing heritage whether it’s

large or small boats, local to the bay or crossing oceans, members are serious about racing and have sailed in the America’s Cup, the Olympics, and Transpac race, to name a few.

Three BYC members are among the fifty featured in Gary Jobson’s 2020 book, “*Legends of American Sailing*”. BYC hosts a number of annual regattas and series including Sunkist, BeerCans, Twilights, Long Point Race Week, and more. Modern match racing really started with Long Beach YC’s Congressional Cup followed two years later by BYC’s Governor’s Cup.

Racing will take place in the Pacific Ocean. Sailing conditions will likely feature lighter winds (5-7 kts) from the South in the morning and a low “marine layer” cloud cover. On most days, the layer will “burn off” and the wind gradually shift to the southwest at 8-12 kts. As noted on the next page, the boats were purpose-built for these conditions so fair races can be held in virtually any conditions.



Schedule of Events

Wednesday, June 25

Registration, weigh in, and practice with informal coaching by Janel Zarkowsky Martin and other instructors.

Thursday, June 26

Final chance for registration & weigh in (0830-0900); Advanced Match Racing Clinic coached by Janel Zarkowsky Martin and her instructors; Opening Ceremony (1900)

Friday, June 27 & Saturday, June 28

First & second days of racing. Racing format will include a single round robin series where each team will sail against each other team once. This will be followed by quarter finals, semi and final knockout series & consolation rounds through Sunday, June 29.

Sunday, June 29

Racing continues. Awarding of Rose Cup and Scandone Sportsmanship trophies immediately after racing ends. No attention signal after 1400.



Saturday and Sunday racing at the Rose Cup will again be live streamed on Facebook and You Tube with expert commentary by the GovCupTV team which has received considerable praise for its four camera, two drone, on the water coverage of the

“GovCup” for many years. The team previously provided coverage for Prior Rose Cups in San Diego and Long Beach.



Rose Cup “Alumni” Top Leaderboards Worldwide

Morgan Pinckney, Newport Beach, California became the second skipper to win the Rose Cup twice, matching his 2022 win with another victory in 2024. Christophe Killian is the other two timer with consecutive wins in 2014 and 2015. Morgan has two podium finishes at the Governor’s Cup in hand and will be a favorite in that event this year. Most recently, he placed third in the U.S. Match Racing Championship by beating World #1 match racer, Chris Poole, in the *petit final*! Morgan is going to continue to “make some noise” on the match racing circuit!

Two former Rose Cup winners, David Wood and Jeffrey Petersen, became Youth MR World Champions in 2021 and 2023, respectively. Which Rose Cup skippers this year will be added to that list of “Rock Stars”?

Janel Zarkowsky Martin, assistant coach at Georgetown University, will be coaching and conducting the advance match racing clinic at Rose Cup. Under her mentorship, the team has claimed



“All Star” to Host MR Clinics

more than 40 All-America individual awards, more than 35 MAISA Conference Championships, seven ICSA national titles and a gold medal at the 2014 FISU World University Championship on Lago di Ledro, Italy in match racing. Zarkowsky actively competes at a national and international level in fleet, team, and match racing.



Governor’s Cup Invitation on the Line at Rose Cup

The winner of the USYMRC will receive an invitation to the Governor’s Cup International Youth Match Racing Championship provided he or she has filed an RFI for the Governor’s Cup by **Friday, April 11, 2025**.

The “GovCup” is the oldest, and arguably the most prestigious, youth match racing event in the world and will be sailed this year for the 58th time at the Balboa Yacht Club, Newport Beach, California from July 29-August 3, 2025.

This may be your chance to become part of the incredible Governor’s Cup “alumni” who have won the America’s Cup, Olympics, World Match Racing Tour, Volvo Round the World Race and many other championships. That group includes 2-time America’s Cup winner James Spithill among *many* others.

If the winner cannot or does not wish to sail in the Governor’s Cup, no other *automatic* invitation will be issued. But, Rose Cup sailors who file an RFI will be considered for invitations which will be issued no later than **April 25, 2025**.



For those Rose Cup sailors more accustomed to Sonars or J-22 sloops that are used in many match race series in the U.S., the “GovCup 22s” to be provided to 2025 entrants will come as a bit of a surprise. The 22s are a high performance design with fractional rigs, “flat top” mains, mast head

spinnakers, and a modern “T” keel. They were designed and purpose-built for events like the Governor’s and Rose Cups and the conditions prevalent in Newport Beach. As such they can race fairly in as little as 4-5 knots of wind but in 18kts, they really put on a show, planing and surfing downwind.

Requesting an Invitation



Above, top to bottom: The Rose Cup; the GovCup22s waiting at the BYC dock; Former Rose Cup champ Jeffrey Petersen and team approach the windward mark at GovCup; Fast downwind leg for GC22s; Fully hiked at pre-start.

- ◆ Skipper and crew members must reach their 16th birthday in 2025, but not have reached their 21st birthday during this year.
- ◆ The event is expected to be an ISAF Grade 3 Event.
- ◆ The U.S. Youth Match Racing Championship (“USYMRC”) for the Rose Cup is an invitational event based on Requests for Invitation from qualified skippers. Teams will consist of crews of 4 with a maximum crew weight of 660 pounds. Crews must consist of at least one female and one male. All sailors must be members of US Sailing.
- ◆ The USYMRC Selection Committee, organized by the US Sailing Match Racing Championships Committee as organizing authority (“OA”), in its sole discretion, will select up to ten skippers. If there are more RFIs filed than available spots in the Championship, the Selection Committee will choose the invitees from among qualified requests in its sole discretion. **Requests for Invitations received by April 1, 2025 will receive preference.** Selected invitees will be notified by April 7, 2025.
- ◆ The Selection Committee will base its selection on a number of factors including experience in match racing as well as fleet racing in dinghies and larger boats, with some consideration for geographic diversity among the entrants in order to attract a nationally representative entry list. Those requesting invitations should have sufficient experience to handle 4 person small keelboats including experience with spinnakers of this size. If the Committee deems two or more of those skippers requesting invitations equal in experience and ability, it may favor the older applicant over the younger given that it is an age limited event.
- ◆ Teams need not be composed of members of the same yacht club or sailing association.
- ◆ The NoR, Request for Invitation (“RFI”) and all the information necessary to prepare an RFI are available on the US Sailing website:

<https://www.ussailing.org/competition/championships/2025-u-s-youth-match-racing-championship/>

For more information, please contact:

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NOTE ON THE GOVERNOR’S CUP: The USYMRC winning skipper will receive an invitation to the Governor’s Cup International Youth Match Racing Championship, June 29-August 3, 2025, **but only if the skipper has filed a Request for Invitation with the Governor’s Cup by the deadline therefor, April 11, 2025.** If the winning skipper cannot attend, no additional *automatic* invitations will be issued although the Governor’s Cup Selection Committee may choose to invite USYMRC skippers filing RFIs at any time without regard to the USYMRC results. Therefore, in addition to your Rose Cup RFI, we encourage you to file the “GovCup” RFI as well. For RFI link, event brochure and NoR are expected to be posted by January 23, 2025 please go to

www.govcupracing.com