

# Requesting an Invitation

- ◆ Skipper and crew members must reach their 16th birthday in 2026, 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, 2026 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/2026-u-s-youth-match-racing-championship/>

**For more information, please contact:**

**Ryan Davidson, US Sailing representative for the USYMRC**

[R.Davidson9630@gmail.com](mailto:R.Davidson9630@gmail.com)

**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](http://www.govcupracing.com)



Oakcliff Sailing wishes to thank the members of the Seawanhaka Corinthian Yacht Club for their assistance in hosting the 2026 Rose Cup!



## United States Youth Match Racing Championship for the Rose Cup



**June 27–July 1, 2026  
Oakcliff Sailing  
Oyster Bay, New York**



# The Rose Cup and the Nick Scandone Trophy

The Rose Cup started as an invitational youth match racing event in 2010. It was founded by members of Balboa Yacht Club in Newport Beach, California, and the Newport-Balboa Sailing & Seamanship Association ("NBSSA"). Its mission is to assist in the promotion of youth match racing in the United States and improve the quality of US competitors in national and international competition.



Thanks primarily to the efforts of US Sailing Match Racing Committee Vice-Chair and five-time US Match Racing Champion, Dave Perry, US Sailing made the event one of its three match racing championships, and it officially became the U.S. Youth Match Racing Championship in 2015.

At each USYMRC, the presentation of the Nick Scandone Sportsmanship Award is always a highlight. This trophy, named for the late US Paralympic Gold Medalist Nick Scandone who, in addition to winning the Gold Medal at the Beijing Olympics 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.

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 for the Governor's and Rose Cups.



## Venue and Host

This year's USYMRC will be hosted by Oakcliff Sailing with the assistance of the Seawanhaka Corinthian Yacht Club, both located in Oyster Bay, New York. These two groups hosted the 2014 Rose Cup in 2014, as well as 2018 after the event had

become an official U.S. Championship.

Oakcliff Sailing is a non-profit training center dedicated to raising the level of sailors and sailing in the United States. It is a match race training center, a high-level racing school and a center dedicated to training sailors, boat workers, owners and teams.

Before Oakcliff, there was no clear route from dinghy sailing and college sailing to high-level keelboat racing. Oakcliff's Acorn program for teenaged students and their Sapling program for young adults are filling a gap in the growth path of sailors by providing training in every aspect of the game.

The Seawanhaka Corinthian Yacht Club was founded in 1871 and it has a long history of supporting all disciplines of the sport for adults and youth sailors including match racing. Oakcliff is grateful for their support for the 16th Rose Cup.



## Event Schedule

### Wednesday, June 24

Registration, practice and informal coaching by Pearson Potts and other match racing experts.

### Thursday, June 25

Advanced Racing Clinic coached by Pearson Potts —Catch up on the latest match racing tactics including both classroom and on the water coaching.

### Friday, June 26

First day of round robin series. All teams will sail against each other team at least once.

### Saturday, June 27

Round robin series continues. Depending on weather, semi-final series begins.

### Sunday, June 28

Semi-final and final races. After racing, award-ing of Rose Cup and Scandone Sportsmanship awards.



## Requesting an Invitation

The USYMRC is an invitational event based on resumes submitted to US Sailing. Information on how to submit your RFI and other details about qualification and selection are found on the back page of this brochure and at

<https://www.ussailing.org/competition/championships/2026-u-s-youth-match-racing-championship/>

## The 2025 Rose Cup & 2026 Governor's Cup

**Last year's Rose Cup**, on its 15th anniversary (and 10th anniversary as an official U.S. Sailing Championship), was hosted by the Balboa Yacht Club in Newport Beach, California which was in recognition that BYC members founded the event.

At right is a sequence of pictures of the final series between Dylan Sih of Newport Harbor YC and 16 year old Siena Nichols of NHYC's neighbor, BYC. Sih ended up with the Rose Cup in a final perhaps matched in excitement only by the 2022 Rose Cup final between Morgan Pinckney and Justin Callahan. At top right, Nichols luffs Sih immediately after the spinnaker set. A close cross in the second picture, and in the third, Sih's last few boat lengths to the finish and victory. The bottom picture is Dylan and crew with the Rose Cup.

### Governor's Cup Invite for Rose Cup Winner

The 2025 Rose Cup was sailed in the purpose built Governor's Cup 22s and the Rose Cup winner will be able to enjoy the boats and the "GovCup" with a win in the Rose Cup if the skipper has filed an RFI for Gov Cup or asked that his or her Rose Cup RFI be considered as a GovCup RFI. The Governor's Cup is the oldest international youth match racing regatta in the world and features "alumni" sailing in, and/or winning events from the America's Cup, the Olympics, and the World Match Racing Tour.

Further Information about the Governor's Cup can be found on the back page and/or at [govcupracing.com](http://govcupracing.com)



## Past Winners

- |                        |                          |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 2025 Dylan Sih*        | 2016 Romain Screve*      |
| 2024 Morgan Pinckney*  | 2015 Christophe Killian^ |
| 2023 Chapman Peterson* | 2014 Christophe Killian  |
| 2022 Morgan Pinckney*  | 2013 Scott Buckstaff     |
| 2021 Jeffrey Petersen* | 2012 Will Holz           |
| 2020 Not sailed        | 2011 Nevin Snow          |
| 2019 Cameron Feves*    | 2010 Chris Segerblom     |
| 2018 Jack Parkin*      |                          |
| 2017 David Wood*       | *USYMRC                  |