



**U.S. WOMEN'S
MATCH RACING
CHAMPIONSHIP**



NOTICE OF RACE



2014 U.S. Women's Match Racing Championship
For the Allegra Knapp Mertz Trophy and the Mrs. C.F. Adams Memorial Trophy
July 10 – 14, 2014
Organizing Authority: US Sailing
Event Host: Oakcliff Sailing
Sponsored by Gill NA
Request for invitation deadline: June 22, 2014
Posted February 24, 2014

1 ORGANIZING AUTHORITY

The Organizing Authority (OA) will be US Sailing. The U.S. Women's Match Racing Championship Committee of US Sailing and Oakcliff Sailing will administer the event.

2 VENUE

The venue will be Oyster Bay, Cold Spring Harbor or Long Island Sound.

3 EVENT GRADING

The event is an ISAF Grade 3 event. This grading is subject to review by the ISAF Match Race Rankings Sub Committee. The event may be re-graded when there is clear reason to do so.

4 PROVISIONAL PROGRAM

4.1 Schedule of events

- a) A clinic coached by Dawn Riley will be held on July 10 from 0900-1700
- b) Registration will be on July 9 from 1700-1800 or on July 10 from 0830 – 0900.
- c) Weigh-in will be held during registration
- d) Skipper briefings will be held at 0900 on July 11, 12 and 13.
- e) First meeting with umpires shall immediately follow the skipper briefing on July 11
- f) The intended time of the first attention signal each day will be 1000 July 11, 12 and 13.
- g) Daily press conferences will be held 30 minutes after the last race of each day
- h) The tentative time for last warning signal is 1400 on July 13.
- i) Prize giving will occur as soon as possible after racing on July 13.

4.2 Unless excused by the OA, attendance at the following is mandatory:

- a) Initial briefing for skippers and crews
- b) Daily briefing, for skippers
- c) Prize giving



5 SKIPPERS ELIGIBILITY

5.1 Only skippers invited by the OA will be eligible to enter this event. Invitations will be issued in accordance with the [USWMRC Conditions](#).

5.2 A maximum of twelve (12) entries will be invited to this event. Invitations will be issued to:

- a) The current USWMRC champion.
- b) A representative selected through qualification by Oakcliff Sailing.
- c) The highest placing female skipper from the 2013 ICSA Match Race Nationals.
- d) The highest placing female skipper at the following qualifiers:
 - 1) Area ABC Qualifier at Oakcliff (April 4-6, 2014)
 - 2) Area GHJL Qualifier #1- St. Francis YC (April 12-13, 2014)
 - 3) CMRC Spring Invitational (May 17-18, 2014)
 - 5) Area GHJL Qualifier #2 – San Diego YC (June 14-15, 2014)
 - 6) Rose Cup at Oakcliff Sailing (June 18-22, 2014)
- e) The remaining skippers shall be decided by an invitation committee. The invitation committee will begin issuing invitations March 1st, 2014.

5.3 The registered skipper shall helm the boat at all times while racing, except in an emergency.

5.4 All competitors shall:

- a) Meet the eligibility requirements of ISAF regulation 19.2;
- b) Obtain an ISAF Sailor ID by registering online at <http://www.sailing.org/isafsailor> and notify the OA of their ISAF Sailor ID at registration;
- c) Meet the citizenship requirements as stated in the Championship Conditions; and
- d) Be members of US Sailing at the time of application and the event.

6 ENTRIES

6.1

- a) All requests for invitations and entries will be submitted and processed online at the regatta website: <http://championships.ussailing.org/Adult/USWMRC.htm>
- b) Non resident aliens may request an invitation to compete.
- c) To be invited, skippers must request an invitation online no later than midnight Eastern Daylight Time June 22, 2014.
- d) There is a non-refundable \$50 application fee due at the time the skipper requests an invitation. The fee will be payable online at the <http://championships.ussailing.org/Adult/USWMRC.htm>.
- e) Once invited, skippers shall enter by accepting the invitation online by the date specified on the letter of invitation:
 - (i) Skippers shall complete online registration and pay entry fee by July 10, 2014 (or the date specified on the letter of invitation).
 - (ii) Skippers shall complete online team registration, including names and US Sailing membership numbers for all crew by July 10, 2014.
- f) A non-refundable entry deposit (bond) of \$250 shall be paid by the dates set forth in the letter of invitation.
- g) A skipper accepting an invitation but withdrawing within 2 months of the event may be reported by the organizers to ISAF, and may receive a score of "zero" which must be counted for the competitor's rankings.
- h) To be eligible to compete, registered teams shall, by midnight Central Time July 10, complete all registration requirements, crew weighing and pay all fees and deposits.

i) In the event the USWMRC is not fully subscribed due to late cancellations or other unforeseen circumstances, and all skippers on the wait list have been offered the opportunity to sail, the USWMRCC shall convene to select additional teams to fill the event.

6.2 Entry Fee

An Entry Fee must be paid before a team can sail in the clinic or practice session. The entry fee is \$850 and must be paid online.

6.3 Damage Deposit

- a) An Initial Damage Deposit of \$2500 US shall be paid at registration. This deposit is the maximum payable by the skipper as a result of any one incident.
- b) In the event that a deduction from the damage deposit is decided by the OA, the OA 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 45 days after the event.

7 RULES

7.1 The event will be governed by the rules as defined in the RRS, including Appendix C, all US Sailing Prescriptions and the USWMRC Conditions, available online at the US Sailing Championship website: <http://championships.ussailing.org/Adult/USWMRC.htm>

7.2 The rules for the handling of boats will apply, and will also apply to any practice sailing. Class rules will not apply.

7.3 Major Alterations to the RRS

- a) RRS 63.7 is replaced by: "If there is a conflict between the USWMRC Conditions and this Notice of Race, the Notice of Race shall govern. If there is a conflict between the USWMRC Conditions or the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions, the Sailing Instructions shall govern.
- b) RRS 40 and the preamble to Part 4 of the RRS are modified in accordance with US Sailing Regulation 10.01.D: "Competitors in US Sailing championships or qualifiers for US Sailing championships shall wear a U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) approved personal floatation device (PFD) while on the water, other than for brief periods while adding or removing clothing. Where the ISAF Offshore Special Regulations (OSR) apply, they replace this requirement. Competitors from outside the U.S. may wear a PFD approved by their nations' certification authority to the extent permitted by international treaty."
- c) US Sailing Regulation 10.01.C, Prohibited Substances will apply:
 - (i) Regulation 10.01.C.1 states: "For adult US Sailing championship events, no competitor shall use, either on or off the water: marijuana or any other controlled substance (as defined in 21 U.S. Code 802) the possession of which is unlawful under 21 U.S. Code 841.."
 - (ii) Regulation 10.01.C.3 states: "An alleged breach of one of these regulations shall not be grounds for a protest. However, when the protest committee believes that a competitor may have breached one of these regulations, it shall follow the process described in racing rule 69.1, and a competitor found to have breached one of these regulations shall be excluded from the remaining races of the series and, where practicable, removed from the regatta venue and sent home. The competitor's boat shall be disqualified from all races of the series."

8 BOATS AND SAILS

8.1 The event will be sailed in Match 40 type sailboats provided by Oakcliff Sailing

8.2 Up to Ten (10) boats will be provided.

8.3 The following sails will be provided for each boat: Mainsail, Genoa, Jib, and Spinnaker.

8.4 Boats will be allocated by draw, either daily or for each round as decided by the Race Committee.

9 CREW (INCLUDING SKIPPER)

9.1 The number of crew (including the skipper) shall be six or seven.

9.2 All crew must be female

9.3 Maximum crew weight determined prior to racing shall be 432 kg, when wearing at least shorts and shirts.

9.4 All registered crew shall sail all races.

9.5 With the permission of the OA, a designated alternate may replace any member of a team aboard a boat before any race of a given flight.

10 EVENT FORMAT

The intended event format is:

Stage 1 - Single Round Robin

Stage 2 - Round Robin to determine places 5-10

Stage 3 - Semi Final knockout series

Stage 4 - Petit Final for places 3 and 4

Stage 5 - Final knockout series for places 1 and 2

The final event format will be provided in the Sailing Instructions.

The OA may change the format, or terminate or eliminate any round, when conditions are not expected to permit the completion of the intended format.

11 COURSE

11.1 The intended course will be a windward/leeward/windward/leeward course with starboard rounding, finishing downwind.

11.2 Leeward gates may be used.

12 ADVERTISING

12.1 As boats and equipment will be supplied by the OA, ISAF regulation 20.4 applies. Each boat will be required to display advertising supplied by the OA.

12.2 Boats shall not be permitted the right to protest for breaches of any rules regarding advertising (amends RRS 60.1).

13 PRIZES

13.1 Perpetual Trophies will be awarded for first and second place: The Allegra Knapp Mertz Trophy, emblematic of the U.S. Women's Match Racing Championship; and the Mrs. Charles Francis Adams Memorial Trophy, emblematic of the Runner-up position.

13.2 US Sailing Gold, Silver and Bronze medals will be awarded to the skippers and crews placing first through third, respectively. Only a US citizen may be declared US National champion.

13.3 The winning skipper will be awarded an automatic invitation to the 2014 Buddy Melges Challenge September 23 – 28, 2014 at Sail Sheboygan.

Acceptance of invitations to these events must be made by August 1, 2014. Drop-downs will be considered if the winning skipper cannot attend every event.

14 MEDIA, IMAGES AND SOUND

14.1 If required by the OA:

- (a) Television personnel and equipment (or dummies) supplied by the OA shall be carried on board while racing.
- (b) Competitors shall wear microphones supplied by the OA during racing and be available for interviews when advised by the OA or RC.
- (c) Registered skippers shall wear communications equipment supplied by the OA that will allow commentators to communicate with them whilst racing.

14.2 Competitors shall not interfere with the normal working of the OA supplied media equipment.

14.3 The OA shall have the right to use any images and sound recorded during the event free of any charge.

15 COACH BOATS

This event is designated as a US Sailing Grade 1 Coached event. Details available online at:

http://championships.ussailing.org/Adult/Coaching_and_Support_Vessels.htm

- (a) Coach boats shall conspicuously display identification of the team being coached. A coach boat is any boat that is under the direction or control of a person gathering information or giving material support for the benefit of particular competitors either on the water or off.
- (b) The organizers will not provide berths for coach boats.
- (c) Any interference by a coach boat with the racing or event organization may result in a penalty applied at the discretion of the protest committee to the appropriate skipper or team.

16 HOUSING

16.1 Limited housing available on a first come basis. Please indicate if you will need housing on your entry form.

16.2 A list of local accommodation can be found [here](#).

17 DISCLAIMER

All those taking part in the event do so at their own risk. The OA, their sponsors, their agents, employees, representatives, trustees, members, race committee, and officials accept no responsibility for any loss, damage, injury or inconvenience incurred, how so ever caused.

18 CONTACT

U.S. Women's Match Racing Championship Chair: Maggie Shea maggie@chicagomatchrace.com

Oakcliff Sailing Event Chair: Bill Simon bsimon@oakcliffsailing.org

Regatta website: <http://championships.ussailing.org/Adult/USWMRC.htm>

Oakcliff Sailing Event Page:

<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=gstinjdab&oeidk=a07e8pqsxvu8c8f698c>

US Sailing Championships Director: Liz Walker, LizWalker@ussailing.org