



RYA National Match Racing Championships 2009 Notice of Race

1. The Organising Authority

The Organising Authority will be the Royal Yachting Association in conjunction with the relevant Sailing Clubs.

2. Venue and Dates

Qualifier 1

25/26 April 2009, Queen Mary Sailing Club, Staines, London.

Qualifier 2

23/24 May 2009, Queen Mary Sailing Club, Staines, London.

Qualifier 3

19/20 July 2009, Plymouth (PPSA)

RYA Youth National Match Racing Championship (Youths)

29/30/31 August 2009, Queen Mary Sailing Club, Staines, London.

RYA Women's National Match Racing Championship (TBA)

4/5/6 September 2009, Queen Mary Sailing Club, Staines, London.

Qualifier 4

26/27 September 2009, Queen Mary Sailing Club, Staines, London.

RYA National Match Racing Championship Finals

9/10/11 October 2009, Queen Mary Sailing Club, Staines, London.

3. Event Grading

ISAF Grade 4 status has been applied for the Qualifiers and ISAF Grade 3 status has been applied for the Youth Championships, Women's Championships and Finals.

This grading is subject to review by the ISAF Match Race Advisory Board.

The events may be re-graded at any time when there is clear reason to do so.

4. Provisional Programme

- 4.1
 - a) The Race Office will be open from 0800 on each day of the events.
 - b) Registration from 0800 on the first day of each event.
 - c) Crew weighing to be completed by 0900 on the first day of each event.
 - d) Practice may be available on the day prior to the first day each event. Contact the Organising Authority for availability.
 - e) First briefing will be at 0900 on the first day of each event.
 - f) First briefing with umpires will be immediately on completion of the first briefing.
 - g) Racing days will be Saturday and Sunday (and Friday or Monday, where applicable) for each event.
 - h) The time of the first race on the first day will be 1000 and for the subsequent day(s) 0930.
 - i) Daily press conference may take place 60 minutes after the completion of the final race of the day.

- j) Prize giving on completion of the Sunday (or Monday, where applicable) press conference.

4.2 Unless excused by the O.A. attendance at the following is mandatory.

- a) First briefing for skippers.
- b) Daily press conference for skippers.
- c) Prize giving for final skippers and crews.

5 Skippers Eligibility

5.1 Qualifier Entries

- a) A maximum of 12 skippers for all events will be accepted. Only skippers accepted by the O.A. will be eligible to enter the appropriate event.
- b) The registered skipper shall helm the boat at all times while racing, except in an emergency.
- c) For an entry to be valid the entry form must be completed correctly and must be submitted to the OA with all the associated paperwork.
- d) An entry fee of £350 and a separate damage deposit of £250 shall accompany the entry form, for this to be valid.
- e) All competitors shall meet with the eligibility requirements of ISAF Regulation 19.2.
- f) All competitors shall obtain an ISAF Sailor ID by registering online www.sailing.org/sailor. Skippers shall inform the O.A. of their ISAF Sailor ID at registration.
- g) The highest placed GBR skipper of each qualifier event will be expected to attend the National Match Racing Championship Final, 9/10/11 October 2009.

5.2 Skipper and Crew Eligibility for RYA Youth National Match Racing Championships

- a) A maximum of 12 skippers for all events will be accepted. Only skippers accepted by the O.A. will be eligible to enter the appropriate event.
- b) The registered skipper shall helm the boat at all times while racing, except in an emergency
- c) For an entry to be valid the entry form must be completed correctly and must be sent in with all the associated paperwork.
- d) An entry fee of £350 and a separate damage deposit of £250 shall accompany the entry form, for this to be valid.
- e) All competitors shall meet with the eligibility requirements of ISAF Regulation 19.2.
- f) All competitors shall obtain an ISAF Sailor ID by registering online www.sailing.org/sailor. Skippers shall inform the O.A. of their ISAF Sailor ID at registration.
- g) All crew and skippers for the Youths shall be under 20 years old, as of 31 December 2009.
- h) The highest placed GBR skipper of this event will be expected to attend the National Match Racing Championship Final, 9/10/11 October 2009.

5.3 Skipper and Crew Eligibility for RYA Women's National Match Racing Championships

- a) A maximum of 12 skippers for all events will be accepted. Only skippers accepted by the O.A. will be eligible to enter the appropriate event.
- b) The registered skipper shall helm the boat at all times while racing, except in an emergency
- c) For an entry to be valid the entry form must be completed correctly and must be sent in with all the associated paperwork.
- d) An entry fee of £350 and a separate damage deposit of £250 shall accompany the entry form, for this to be valid.
- e) All competitors shall meet with the eligibility requirements of ISAF Regulation 19.2.
- f) All competitors shall obtain an ISAF Sailor ID by registering online www.sailing.org/sailor. Skippers shall inform the O.A. of their ISAF Sailor ID at registration.
- g) All crew and skippers for the Women's National Championships shall be female.
- h) The highest placed GBR skipper from this event will be expected to attend the National Match Racing Championship Final, 9/10/11 October 2009.

5.4 Skippers Eligibility for the RYA National Match Racing Championship Finals

- a) Only skippers invited by the Organising Authority (OA) are eligible for the Championship Finals. Up to twelve (12 skippers' entries will be accepted. Skippers shall be British passport holders, or eligible to receive a British passport. Their crew shall be British passport holders, or eligible to receive a British passport, or resident in the UK, for at least 6 months in the previous 12 months up till the 31st March 2009.
- b) The top 3 ranked British (GBR) skippers, taken from the ISAF Ranking list, July 2009, will automatically be offered places to the National Match Racing Championship Finals. Should a skipper(s) refuse an entry, the place shall be offered to another Skipper at the discretion of the RYA Match Racing Committee.
- c) The top placed British (GBR) skipper, taken from the ISAF Women's Ranking list, July 2009, will automatically be offered a place to the National Match Racing Championship Finals. Should the skipper refuse an entry, the place shall be offered to another Skipper at the discretion of the RYA Match Racing Committee.
- d) The highest placed GBR skipper of each event will be expected to attend the National Match Racing Championship Final, 9/10/11 October 2009.
- e) The winner of the National Schools Sailing Association Match Racing Championships will be awarded a place at the Youths.
- f) The Runner-Up from the Youths, may also be invited to attend the National Match Racing Championship Final, 9/10/11 October 2009.
- g) If a skipper(s) qualifies for the Finals:-
 - (a) by the ISAF Ranking list route or
 - (b) is placed first in a qualifier, BUSA Finals, Youth or Women's Championships, he/she shall not again qualify for the Finals, from another Qualifier. Qualification for the Finals shall be open to the remaining skippers in the event.
- h) Should a skipper qualify for the Finals from more than one event, the skipper shall qualify for the Finals, from their first qualifying event.
- i) Only in exceptional circumstances will crew changes be allowed between qualifying and the National Finals and if necessary need to be made in writing to the OA.
- j) The OA reserves the right to allocate wildcard entries and remaining places to the Finals, in a manner that it sees fit.

6 Entries

6.1 The skipper shall be entered on completion of registration, crew weighing and the payment of all fees and deposits. All payments shall be made by sterling, bankers card or cheque.

6.2 Entry Fee

A non-returnable entry fee of £350 shall be paid with the entry acceptance and prior to registration for each event.

The Entry fee for the RYA National Match Racing Championship Finals shall be £350.

6.3 Damage Deposit

- a) An initial damage deposit of £250.00 shall be paid with the entry form and prior to registration, unless extended by the O.A.
- b) In the event that a deduction from the damage deposit is decided by the O.A., it may require 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 the 10 days after the event.
- d) Damage deposits may be destroyed or returned, upon request to the AO.
- e) In the event of substantial damage the skipper may be required to pay the full insurance excess of £500.

7 Rules

- 7.1 a) The events will be governed by the current rules as defined in the RRS, and include Match Racing Appendix C.

- b) The 'Rules for the Handling of Boats' will apply, and will also apply to any practice sailing. Class rules shall not apply.
- c) The National Authority prescriptions shall apply.
- d) The bye-laws of Queen Mary Sailing Club and Weymouth and Portland National Sailing Academy shall apply. **(Note: Buoyancy aids must be worn whilst afloat and when on the pontoons.)**
- e) The right of appeal will be denied in accordance with RRS 70.5(a).

8 Boats and Sails

- a) The events will be sailed in J80s.
- b) 6 boats will be provided.
- c) The following sails will be provided for each boat: - Mainsail, Jib and symmetrical spinnaker.
- d) Boats will be allocated by draw either daily or for each round as decided by the Race Committee.

9. Crew (including skipper)

- a) There is no limit on the number of crew for each event.
- b) All registered crew shall sail all races.
- c) The maximum total crew weight for all events determined prior to racing shall be 350kg, when wearing at least shorts and shirt.
- d) The registered skipper shall helm the boat at all times while racing, except in an emergency.
- e) When a registered skipper is unable to continue in the event, the Protest Committee/O.A. may authorise an original crew member to substitute.
- f) When a registered crew member is unable to continue in the event, the Protest Committee/O.A. may authorise a temporary substitute or other adjustment.

10. Event Format

- a) Skippers will be seeded based on the most recently published ISAF ranking list 5 days before the appropriate event.
- b) Each event will consist of the following stages: -
 - Series 1 - Single Round Robin
 - Series 2 - Semi-Finals
 - Series 3 - Finals
- c) The O.A. may change the format, terminate or eliminate any round, when conditions do not permit the completion of the intended format.

11. Course

- a) The course will be windward/leeward with starboard roundings, finishing downwind.
- b) The intended course area will be announced at the first briefing.

12. Advertising

- a) As boats and equipment will be supplied by the Organising Authority, ISAF Regulation 20.4.1.3 applies. Each boat will be required to display advertising as supplied by the O.A.
- b) Competitors may be permitted to display advertising ashore at the venue, but this is subject to individual negotiation with the Organising Authority.
- c) Boats may not protest for breaches of any rule regarding advertising (amends RRS 60.1).

13. Prizes

- a) Prizes will be awarded at the Championships Final.
- b) The highest placed GBR team (see 5.4 (a)) from each qualifier will be invited to the RYA National Match Racing Championship Finals in October 2009.
- c) The O.A. may reduce a prize in the case of misconduct or refusal to comply with any reasonable request, including attendance at official functions.

14. Media, Images and Sound

The O.A. may require television personnel and equipment (or dummies) to be carried on board while racing and may require competitors to be available for interviews. The O.A. shall have the right to use any images and sound recorded during the event free of any charge.

15. Coach Boats

- a) Coach boats shall conspicuously display identification of the team being coached.
- b) The organisers will not provide berths for coach boats.
- c) Any interference by a coach boat with the racing or event organisation may result in a penalty applied at the discretion of the Protest Committee to the appropriate skipper or team.

16. Disclaimer

Identification and Acknowledgement of Risk.

Skippers, crew and their parental guardians (if under 18 years old) should be fully aware and conscious of the actual and potential risks involved in active watersports, including drowning, hypothermia and other physical injuries including head injuries. Skippers and crew should be aware of particular risks of match racing where yachts are manoeuvred in close proximity and that the actions of other competitors, the actions or inactions of the organisers, including drivers of escort craft, can also endanger their safety.

The safety of the yacht and her crew and her entire management are the sole responsibility of the skipper and he/she should satisfy him/herself that the yacht and crew are adequate to face the conditions that may arise in the course of the Event.

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