



## **RYA National Match Racing Series 2016 Notice of Race**

### **1. The Organising Authority**

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

### **2. Venues and Dates:**

**RYA Winter Match Racing 1 (Elliotts)** – *See separate NOR, Entry form.*  
23/24 January 2016, Weymouth.

**RYA Winter Match Racing 2 (Elliotts)** – *See separate NOR, Entry form.*  
20/21 February 2016, Weymouth.

**RYA Winter Match Racing 3 (Elliotts)** – *See separate NOR, Entry form.*  
19/20 March 2016, Weymouth.

**Royal Southern YC Match Cup Qualifier/ RYA Qualifier 1/FISU Selection (J80s)** – *See separate NOR, Entry form.*  
9/10 April 2016. RSYC, Solent.

**BUCS Championships (Elliotts)** – *See separate NOR, Entry form.*  
15/16/17 April 2016, Weymouth.

**Royal Southern YC Match Cup (J80s)**– *See separate NOR, Entry form.*  
15/19 June 2016. RSYC, Solent.

**RYA Youth National Match Racing Championships (Elliotts)**  
3/4 September 2016, Weymouth. (All crew under 22 on the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016.)

**RYA Womens Match Racing Championships (Elliotts)**  
10/11 September 2016, Weymouth.

**RYA Qualifier 2 (J80s)**  
1/2 October 2016, Queen Mary Sailing Club, Staines, London.

**Ceilidh Cup (Sonars)** – *See separate NOR & Entry form.*  
8/9 October 2016, RN&CYC, Scotland.

**NSSA Match Race Championships (Elliotts)**  
5/6 November 2016, Weymouth.

**RYA National Match Racing Championship Grand Finals (J80s)**  
18/19/20 November 2016, Queen Mary Sailing Club, Staines, London.

### **3. Event Grading**

ISAF Grade 4 status has been applied for the RYA Events and ISAF Grade 3 status has been applied for the BUCS, RYA Youths, RYA Womens, RYA Championships Grand 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. Grading for the other events is the responsibility of the host club and should be clarified in their individual NORs.

### **4. Provisional Programme for RYA events**

- 4.1 a) The Race Office will be open from 0830 on each day of the events.
- b) Registration from 0830 on the first day of each event, except for the Youths which will be on the Friday at 1900.

- 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 racing day of each event.
- f) First briefing with umpires will be no later than or immediately after completion of the first briefing.
- g) Racing days will be Saturday and Sunday (and Friday 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) Prizegiving on completion of the Sunday press conference.

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

- a) Daily briefing for skippers.
- b) Daily press conference for skippers.
- c) Prizegiving for final skippers and crews.

## **5 Skippers Eligibility**

### **5.1 Entries for RYA events**

- a) Up to 10 skippers can be invited to a qualifier. Only skippers accepted by the O.A. will be eligible to enter the appropriate event.
- b) For an entry to be valid the entry form must be completed correctly and must be submitted to the O.A. with all the required paperwork.
- c) An entry fee of £295 and a separate damage deposit of £500 shall accompany the entry form, for this to be valid.
- d) The entry fee for the Youth & Women's championships shall be £105 per person, which includes accommodation and food at Portland House.
- e) If your entry is accepted and you later withdraw within two months of the event or leave the event before the end without the written approval for the OA, it is possible for a zero score to be applied to your Ranking points for that event by ISAF.
- f) All competitors shall meet the eligibility requirements of ISAF Regulation Appendix 3 19.2.
- g) Skippers shall inform the O.A. of their ISAF Sailor ID no later than registration.
- h) All crew and skippers for the Youths shall be aged over 15 but under 22 years old, by 31 December 2016.
- i) Requirements for the NSSA Championships:
  - The entry fee will be £275 per team.
  - Helms must be at least 16 years old and the crew must be at least 14 years old, but under 19 on the 31<sup>st</sup> August 2017.
  - Competitors must be personal members of the NSSA.
  - Competitors must have an adult to be responsible for them.
  - Parents must complete the parent/guardian declaration form and return it before registration at the event (no form = no racing).
  - Teams that have not sailed a keelboat before will be required to do some training on the Saturday morning, before racing starts.
- j) The highest placed GBR skipper of each qualifier event will be expected to attend the National Match Racing Championship Grand Final, November 2016.

### **5.2 Skippers Eligibility for the RYA National Match Racing Championship Grand Finals**

- a) Only skippers invited by the Organising Authority (O.A.) 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 prior to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016.
- b) A skipper qualifies for the Finals from:-
  - (a) is placed first GBR Team in a qualifier,
  - (b) by the ISAF Ranking list (July 2016)
  - (c) the defending champion
  - (d) a past winner of the Finals.

- c) Should a skipper qualify for the Finals from more than one event, the skipper shall qualify for the Finals, from their first qualifying event.
- d) Finalists qualifying through 2016 qualifiers will receive a discounted entry fee of £100. Finalists invited from the ISAF rankings, past winners and wildcards will be required to pay an entry fee of £295.
- e) Only in exceptional circumstances will crew changes be allowed between qualifying and the National Finals and any request for a change of crew shall be made in writing to the OA.
- f) The OA reserves the right to allocate wildcard entries and remaining places to the Finals, in a manner that it sees fit. Applications for Wildcards must be received by the Keelboat Racing Team (keelboatracing@rya.org.uk) by 1<sup>st</sup> October 2016.

## **6 Entries for RYA events**

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 £295** (£105 per person for Youth/Women's, £275 for NSSA) shall be paid with the entry acceptance and prior to registration for each event (except for the Finals see 5.2 (d)).

### 6.3 Damage Deposit

- a) In the event of material damage the O.A. may require payment of part or all of the original damage deposit of £500 at their discretion.
- b) The O.A. may require the deducted amount to be made up to restore a deposit balance of £500 prior to the skipper starting any subsequent race in the regatta.
- c) The balance of any remaining deposit paid in cash will be refunded within 10 days after the date of the last race of the regatta.
- d) Un-cashed deposit cheques will be returned on request, otherwise they will be destroyed.

## **7 Rules for RYA events**

- 7.1
- a) The events will be governed by the current rules as defined in the RRS including 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 the host club for each event shall apply. **(Note: Personal floatation devices approved by the National Testing Authority or equivalent must be worn at all times whilst afloat and when on the pontoons.)**
  - e) The right of appeal is denied in accordance with RRS 70.5(a).

## **8 Boats and Sails for RYA events**

- a) The events will be sailed in J80s, or Elliott 6M.
- b) 4 to 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) for RYA events**

- a) For the J80s crews are 4-5 sailors weighing no more than 350kg, when wearing at least shorts and shirt.
- b) For the Elliott 6M crews are 3-4 sailors weighing no more than 250kg, when wearing at least shorts and shirt.
- c) All registered crew shall sail in all races.
- d) The registered skipper shall helm the boat at all times while racing, except in an emergency. Such an emergency shall be reported to the OA immediately after completion of that race.
- e) When a registered skipper is unable to continue in the event, the Protest Committee/O.A. may authorise an original crew member to be their 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 considered to be equitable.

**10. Event Format for RYA events**

- a) Skippers will be seeded based on the most recently published ISAF ranking list one month before the appropriate event.
- b) Each event will likely 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 for RYA events**

- 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 for RYA events**

- a) As boats and equipment will be supplied by the Organising Authority, ISAF Regulation Appendix 1 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 Grand Final. Prizes may also be awarded at the BUCS, Youth, Womens and NSSA events.
- b) 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. Risk Statement**

Rule 4 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone."

Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:

- a) They are aware of the inherent element of risk involved in the sport and accept responsibility for the exposure of themselves, their crew and their boat to such inherent risk whilst taking part in the event;
- b) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;
- c) They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;
- d) Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
- e) The provision of a race management team, patrol boats, umpires and other officials and volunteers by the organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
- f) The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances.