



RYA National Match Racing Series 2017 Notice of Race

1. The Organising Authority

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

2. Event Information

Dates 2017	Event (Title/Grade/Venue)	Fees	Boats/Max Entries	Crew/Weight	Key Timings (Registration/Briefing/Umpires Briefing)
28/29 January	Winter Match Racing 1 (G4) WPNSA, Portland	£105*/ Person (Includes half board accommodation)	Elliott 6M 8 Teams	3/4 crew Max weight 260kgs	Registration: 1830-1900 Friday Briefing: 2000 Friday Umpires Briefing: 0800 Saturday
11/12 March	Winter Match Racing 2 (G4) WPNSA, Portland	£105*/ Person (Includes half board accommodation)	Elliott 6M 8 Teams	3/4 crew Max weight 260kgs	Registration: 1830-1900 Friday Briefing: 2000 Friday Umpires Briefing: 0800 Saturday
25/26 March	Winter Match Racing 3 (G4) WPNSA, Portland	£105*/ Person (Includes half board accommodation)	Elliott 6M 8 Teams	3/4 crew Max weight 260kgs	Registration: 1830-1900 Friday Briefing: 2000 Friday Umpires Briefing: 0800 Saturday
21/22/23 April	BUCS Championships* (G3) WPNSA, Portland www.busa.co.uk	£500 per team	Elliott 6M 14 Teams	3 crew Max weight 225kgs	Registration: 1830-1900 Thursday Briefing: 2000 Thursday Umpires Briefing: 0800 Friday
20/21 May	National Match Racing Championships Qualifier 1 (G4) Royal Southern YC www.royal-southern.co.uk	£295	J80s 9 Teams	4/5 Crew Max weight 350kgs	Registration: 0830-0900 Saturday Briefing: 0900 Saturday Umpires Briefing: 0905 Saturday
2/3 September	Youth Championships* (G3) WPNSA, Portland	£110*/ Person (Includes half board accommodation)	Elliott 6M 10 Teams	3/4 crew Max weight 260kgs	Registration: 1830-1900 Friday Briefing: 2000 Friday Umpires Briefing: 0800 Saturday
9/10 September	Women's Championships* (G3) WPNSA, Portland	£110*/ Person (Includes half board accommodation)	Elliott 6M 10 Teams	3/4 crew Max weight 260kgs	Registration: 1830-1900 Friday Briefing: 2000 Friday Umpires Briefing: 0800 Saturday
7/8 October	Ceilidh Cup (G4) RN&CYC, Helensburgh www.mcy.com	£200	Sonars 9 Teams	4/5 Crew Max weight 350kgs	Registration: 0800-0900 Saturday Briefing: 0900 Saturday Umpires Briefing: 0905 Saturday
21/22 October	National Match Racing Championships Qualifier 2 (G4) Royal Thames YC. QMSC, London	£295	J80s 9 Teams	4/5 Crew Max weight 350kgs	Registration: 0830-0900 Saturday Briefing: 0900 Saturday Umpires Briefing: 0905 Saturday
17/18/19 November	RYA National Match Racing Championship Grand Finals (G3) QMSC, London INVITATION ONLY	£150 (for qualifiers) £300 (for all other invites)	J80s 14 Teams	4/5 Crew Max weight 350kgs	Registration: 0830-0900 Friday Briefing: 0900 Friday Umpires Briefing: 0905 Friday
2/3 rd December	Schools Championships (G4) WPNSA, Portland	£110*/ Person (Includes half board accommodation)	Elliott 6M 8 Teams	3/4 crew Max weight 260kgs	Entry deadline: 01/11/17 Registration: 1830-1900 Friday Briefing: 2000 Friday Umpires Briefing: 0800 Saturday

*Restrictions apply see NOR 5 e.g. Youths (under 22 on 31/12/17), BUCS – Separate NOR and entry, Schools regs, Women's – all female

3. Event Grading

World Sailing Grading, as stated in NOR 2, for each event has been applied for.

This grading is subject to review by World Sailing. The events may be re-graded at any time when there is clear reason to do so.

4. Provisional Programme

4.1. Schedule

- a) The Race Office will be open from 0800 on each day of the events.
- b) Registration for each event will be, as per NOR 2.
- c) Crew weighing to be completed by the close of registration for each event, as detailed in NOR 2.
- d) Practice may be available for events sailed in Elliott 6M on the afternoon prior to the first day each event. Contact the OA for availability.
- e) First briefing for each event will be, as per NOR 2.
- f) First briefing with the umpires for each event will be, as per NOR 2 or immediately after completion of the first briefing.

- g) Racing days for each event will be, as per NOR 2.
 - 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 press conference.
- 4.2. Unless excused by the OA attendance at the following is mandatory.
- a) First briefing for skippers.
 - b) Daily briefing for skippers.
 - c) Daily press conference for skippers.
 - d) Prize giving for final skippers and crews.

5. Skippers Eligibility

- 5.1. The number of skippers to be invited to each event is detailed in NOR 2. Only skippers accepted by the OA will be eligible to enter the appropriate event.
- 5.2. 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.
- 5.3. For an entry to be valid the entry form must be completed correctly and must be submitted to the OA with all the required paperwork.
- a) The entry fee and a separate damage deposit of £500 shall accompany the entry form, for this to be valid.
 - b) 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 from the OA, it is possible for a zero score to be applied to your Ranking points for that event by World Sailing.
 - c) All competitors shall meet the eligibility requirements of World Sailing Regulation 19.2.
 - d) Skippers shall obtain an World Sailing Sailor ID by registering online at www.sailing.org/isafsailor. Skippers shall inform the OA of their World Sailing ID no later than registration.
- 5.4. All crew and skippers for the Youth Championships shall be aged over 15 but under 22 years old, by 31st December 2017.
- 5.5. Requirements for the Schools Championships:
- The entry fee will be £110 per sailor.
 - All sailors must be at least 14 years old at the event and in full time secondary education (i.e. in full time education up to and including A levels).
 - The OA intends to accept entries in the following order (Entry deadline 1st November 2017):
 - a) In the first instance, one team per school/association. A Team comprises of sailors from the same school or association (where the associations core membership is school aged sailors).
 - b) If more than 8 teams from 8 school/association. enter, then entries will be allocated based on the skippers World Sailing Match Racing Open Ranking in October 2017.
 - c) If there are less than 8 ranked Skippers, then priority will be given to the remaining skippers who have attended the following event:
 - i. RYA Youth Match Racing Championships 2017
 - d) Other teams may be accepted, including second teams, if space, if they have completed the entry requirements and on a first come first served basis.
 - Competitors must have an adult to be responsible for them. Non competitor adults will be charged £100 per person and space is limited and will be on a share basis.
 - 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.
- 5.6. Skippers Eligibility for the RYA National Match Racing Championship **Grand Finals**
- a) Only skippers invited by the OA are eligible for the Championship Grand Finals. Up to fourteen (14) 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 31st March 2017.
 - b) A skipper qualifies for the Finals from:-
 - Is placed first GBR Team in a qualifier that has taken place before the Finals (as listed in NOR 2),
 - by the ISAF Ranking list (July 2017)
 - the defending champion
 - 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 2017 qualifiers will receive a discounted entry fee of £150. Finalists invited from the ISAF rankings, past winners and wildcards will be required to pay an entry fee of £300.
 - e) 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 2nd October 2017.

6. Entries

- 6.1. Entering: 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. Any sailor under the age of 18 years old shall complete a parent/guardian declaration form with the entry form.
- 6.2. Entry Fee: A non-returnable **entry fee as detailed in NOR 2** shall be paid with the entry acceptance and prior to registration for each event.
- 6.3. Withdrawal: When a skipper accepted an invitation and later withdraws within two months of the event or leaves before the end without written approval from the OA, a zero score may be applied to their Ranking points for that event by World Sailing (World Sailing Regulation 27.2).
- 6.4. Damage Deposit
 - a) An initial damage deposit of £500 shall be paid at registration, unless extended by the OA. This deposit is the maximum payable by the skipper as a result of any one incident.
 - b) If a deduction from the damage deposit is decided by the OA, it 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 10 days after the event.
 - d) Un-cashed deposit cheques will be returned on request; otherwise they will be destroyed within 10 days after the event.

7. Rules

- 7.1.
 - a) The events will be governed by the rules as defined in the RRS, including Appendix C.
 - b) The 'Rules for the Handling of Boats' will apply, and will also apply to any practice sailing.
 - c) The RYA prescriptions and RYA Racing Charter 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).
- 7.2. **Major Alterations to the RRS:**
 - a) Add to RRS 41: (e) help to recover from the water and return on board a crew member, provided the return on board is at the approximate location of the recovery.
 - b) Add to RRS 41: (f) information provided by the designated RYA Coach or umpires.
 - c) RRS C8.6 and C6.3 will be changed in the sailing instructions.

8. Boats and Sails

- 8.1. The events will be sailed in the boats stated in NOR 2.
- 8.2. 4 to 6 boats will be provided.
- 8.3. The following sails will be provided for each boat:- Mainsail, 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 and total weight of crew (including skipper) is stated in NOR 2 for each event, dressed in at least shorts and shirts, shall not exceed the maximum weight limit, determined at the time of registration or such time as required by the RC. All registered crew shall sail all races.
- 9.2. Crew weight may be checked during the event. At any re-weighing the total weight limit is increased by 10kgs. Any crew weighing in excess of this increased limit shall not be penalised, but they shall reduce their weight to the increased limit before racing again.
- 9.3. When a registered skipper is unable to continue in the event, the OA may authorise an original crew member to be their substitute.
- 9.4. When a registered crew member is unable to continue in the event, the OA may authorise a substitute, a temporary substitute or other adjustment.

10. Event Format

- 10.1. Skippers will be seeded into a round robin or divided into groups based on the World Sailing ranking list 30 days before the appropriate event.
- 10.2. Each event will likely consist of the following stages:-
 - a) Series 1 - Single Round Robin
 - b) Series 2 - Semi-Finals
 - c) Series 3 – Finals
- 10.3. The RC may change the format, terminate or eliminate any stage or the event when, in its opinion, it is impractical to attempt to hold the remainder of the matches under the existing conditions or the remaining time scheduled. Early stages may be terminated in favour of later stages.

11. Course

- 11.1. The course will be windward/leeward with starboard roundings, finishing downwind.
- 11.2. The intended course area will be published in the relevant event's Sailing Instructions.

12. Advertising

- 12.1. As boats and equipment will be supplied by the OA, World Sailing Regulation 20.4. applies. Each boat will be required to display advertising as supplied by the OA.
- 12.2. Competitors may be permitted to display advertising ashore at the venue, but this is subject to individual negotiation with the OA.
- 12.3. Boats shall not be permitted the right to protest for breaches of any rules regarding advertising (amends RRS 60.1).

13. Prizes

- 13.1. Prizes will be awarded at the Championships Grand Final. Prizes may also be awarded at the BUCS, Youth, Women's and NSSA events.
- 13.2. The OA 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

- 14.1. If required by the OA:
 - a) The OA may require television personnel and equipment (or dummies) to be carried on board while racing and may require competitors to be available for interviews.
- 14.2. The OA have the right to use any images and sound recorded during the event free of any charge.

15. Coach Boats

- 15.1. Coach boats shall conspicuously display identification of the team being coached.
- 15.2. The OA will not provide berths for coach boats.
- 15.3. 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.
- g) It is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks specific to this venue or this event drawn to their attention in any rules and information produced for the venue or event and to attend any safety briefing held for the event.