



U.S. WOMEN'S MATCH RACING CHAMPIONSHIP

**For the
Allegra Knapp Mertz Trophy
Mrs. C.F. Adams Memorial Trophy
September 10-14, 2008**

Sponsored by Rolex Watch U.S.A. Inc. and Dry Creek Vineyard

NOTICE OF RACE

1 ORGANISING AUTHORITY

The Organizing Authority (OA) is the US SAILING Association. The U.S. Women's Match Racing Championship Committee of US SAILING and Rochester Yacht Club will administer the event.

2 VENUE

The venue will be Rochester Yacht Club 5555 St. Paul Blvd. Rochester, NY 14617. Sailing will take place on Lake Ontario.

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 (a) Race office open from 0900 – 1700 on Wednesday, September 10 to Sunday, Sept. 14, 2008
- (b) Registration from 0900 – 1600 Wednesday, September 10, 2008
- (c) Crew weighing from 0900 – 1600 Wednesday, September 10, 2008. Any requests for an extension shall be granted at the discretion of the Organizing Authority.
- (d) Practice from 1000 – 1600 on Wednesday September 10, 2008. Competitors will be assigned 2 hour sessions on a first come, first served basis.
- (e) First briefing at 1730, September 10, 2008
- (f) First meeting with umpires immediately following the first briefing.
- (g) Opening Ceremony on September 10, 2008 at 1800
- (h) Racing days from September 11 through 14, 2008
- (i) Daily skipper briefings will be at 0900 hrs on racing days.
- (j) Time of the first Attention Signal each day will be 1000 hrs.
- (k) Daily debriefs will be held after the last race of each day.
- (l) No Attention Signal will be flown after 1430 hrs, September 14, 2008.
- (m) A social program will be provided.
- (n) Prize giving on September 14, 2008 at 1530.



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) Regatta dinner for skippers and crews.
- (d) Prize giving for the final skippers and crews.

5 SKIPPERS ELIGIBILITY

- (a) Only skippers invited by the OA will be eligible to enter this event. Up to 12 skippers may be invited. The criterion for selection is:
 - (1) The current champion, and the host-club/Area skipper.
 - (2) The 5 highest U. S.-ranked skippers (as determined by the May 14, 2008 ISAF Women's Match Race rankings) who have requested invitations.
 - (3) The remaining skippers will be chosen based on resume.
- (b) The registered skipper shall helm the boat at all times while racing, except in an emergency.
- (c) All competitors shall:
 - (1) Meet the eligibility requirements of ISAF regulation 19.2.
 - (2) Obtain an ISAF sailor ID by registering online at: www.sailing.org/isafsailor
 - (3) Meet the citizenship requirements as stated in the championship conditions.
 - (4) Be members of US SAILING

6 ENTRIES

- 6.1 (a) All request for invitations and entries will be submitted and processed online at <http://www.ussailing.org/championships/adult/women/uswmrc/>
- (b) Non resident aliens may request an invitation.
- (c) To be invited, skippers must request an invitation online no later than midnight Eastern Daylight Time July 1, 2008.
- (d) Once invited, skippers shall enter by accepting the invitation online by July 10th (or the date specified on the letter of invitation, if later):
 - (1) Pay a non-refundable entry bond of \$250 with their invite acceptance. This bond will be applied to the entry fee and shall be paid online via credit card, and
 - (2) Complete online registration and pay all entry and social fees by August 10, 2008.
 - (3) Complete online team registration including names and US SAILING membership numbers by August 27th, 2008.
- (e) 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.
- (f) To be eligible to compete, registered teams shall, by the end of registration period, complete all registration requirements, crew weighing and pay all fees and deposits.
- (g) Entry Fee:
 - (1) A non-refundable entry fee of \$550 shall be paid by August 10, 2008. The initial entry bond will be applied to the entry fee. The additional fee must be paid online via credit card during the registration period specified on the letter of invitation.
 - (2) The entry fee covers: use of boats for practice and competition, insurance for boats, breakfast and lunch for teams for all racing days.



US Women's Match Racing Championship
Notice of Race



6.2 Damage deposit

- (a) A refundable initial damage deposit of \$500 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 the OA decides to make a deduction from the damage deposit, it may require that the deposit be restored to its original amount before the skipper will be permitted to continue in the event.
- (c) If there is no damage, the credit card imprint or check will be returned at the end of the regatta. If there has been damage, any remaining balance on the deposit will be refunded within 45 days after the event.

6.3 Social fee:

A social fee of \$75.00 per team member shall be paid to Rochester Yacht Club and must be paid by August 10, 2008 with the entry fee.

7 RULES

7.1

- (a) The event will be governed by the rules as defined in the 2005-2008 RRS, including Appendix C and the USWMRC condition available online at: <http://www.ussailing.org/championships/adult/women/uswmrc/>. The US SAILING Regulations shall apply.
- (b) The rules for the handling of boats will apply, and will also apply to any practice sailing. Class rules will not apply.
- (c) Conflicts between the conditions for this regatta and this Notice of Race will be resolved in favor of the NOR. If there is a conflict between the NOR and the Sailing Instructions, it will be resolved in favor of the Sailing Instructions. This changes RRS 63.7
- (d) USCG approved PFDs shall be worn at all times by competitors while on the water, other than brief periods while adding or removing clothing. The "Y" flag will not be flown. All competitors must supply their own PFDs. This modifies RRS 40.1
- (e) The first sentence of C11.1 is changed to read as follows: "A round robin series means a group of competitors who are all scheduled to sail against each other one or more times."
- (f) US SAILING Regulation 10.03 Prohibited Substances.
 - (1) 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 809) the possession of which is unlawful under 21 U.S. Code 841.
 - (2) For Junior and Youth events or for junior or youth competitors in any US SAILING championship, no participant or 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, or alcoholic beverages (distilled spirits, wine and beer, each as defined in chapter 51 of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code and intended for beverage use).
 - (3) 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 in 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

- (a) The event will be sailed in Sonar type boats provided by Rochester Yacht Club.
- (b) Ten boats will be provided.
- (c) The following sails will be provided for each boat: Mainsail, Jib, Spinnaker
- (d) Boats will be assigned as decided by the Race Committee and the OA.

9 CREW (INCLUDING SKIPPER)

- (a) The number of crew (including the skipper) shall be four (4) all of whom shall be women. All registered crew shall sail all races.
- (b) The maximum total crew weight, determined prior to racing, shall be 275 kg (605 lbs), when wearing at least shorts and shirts.
- (c) When a registered skipper is unable to continue in the event, the OA may authorize an original crew member to substitute.
- (d) When a registered crew member is unable to continue in the event, OA may authorize a substitute, a temporary substitute or other adjustment.

10 EVENT FORMAT

- (a) The intended format for this regatta is:
 - Stage 1 – A single round robin of all teams.
The top four (4) teams based on the highest scores in Stage 1 will advance to Stage 2.
 - Stage 2 – Semi Finals: A Knock Out Series
The first to score two (2) points will move to the finals. The first place finisher will pick their opponent from among the other semi boats advancing from Stage 1. The two remaining teams will race each other.
 - Stage 3a – Finals: a knock out series.
The first to score three (3) points. The winner of Match 1 vs. the winner of Match 2 from Stage 2.
 - Stage 3b – Petits-finals: a knock out series.
The first to score two (2) points. The loser of Match 1 vs. the loser of Match 2 from Stage 2.
- (b) The OA may change the format at its discretion.

11 COURSE

- (a) The course will be windward/leeward/windward/leeward with starboard roundings, finishing downwind.
- (b) The intended course area will be located on Lake Ontario close to the entrance to the Genesee River or as declared by the Principal Race Officer and the OA.

12 ADVERTISING

- (a) As the Organizing Authority will supply boats and equipment, regulation 20.3.2 applies. Each boat may be required to display advertising as supplied by the OA.
- (b) Boats shall not be permitted the right to protest for an alleged breach of any rule regarding advertising (amends RRS 60.1).



13 PRIZES

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. US SAILING medals will be awarded to the skippers and crews placing first through third. The winning team (or top finishing team comprising of all US citizens) will be selected as the US representative to the Nations Cup Regional finals. Only a US citizen or resident alien may be declared US National champion.

14 MEDIA, IMAGES AND SOUND

The OA may require competitors to be available for interviews. The OA shall have the right to use any images and sound recorded during the event free of any charge.

15 COACH BOATS

Coach boats are not permitted. Spectator boats will be available for coaches

16 HOUSING AND TRANSPORTATION

Housing will be provided for competitors only, upon request submitted with their acceptance of invitation by the due date. A list of area accommodations will be available for those wishing to make their own arrangements.

Rochester YC will not be able to provide transportation; therefore it is highly recommended that all competitors make transportation arrangements.

17 DISCLAIMER

All those taking part in the event do so at their own risk. The OA, its associates and appointees accept no responsibility for any loss, damage, injury or inconvenience incurred, howsoever caused.

18 INVITATIONS

Entries will only be accepted from invited skippers. If you wish to be invited, please register your request for an invitation as soon as possible through US SAILING:
www.ussailing.org/championships/adult/women/uswmrc.

19 FURTHER INFORMATION

CONTACTS:

U.S. Women's Match Racing Championship Chair: Jeff Borland,
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Regatta Co-Chairs: Cory Sertl, corysertl@rochester.rr.com
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