



NOTICE OF RACE FOR THE BRITISH UNIVERSITIES & COLLEGES SPORT / BRITISH UNIVERSITIES SAILING ASSOCIATION TEAM RACING CHAMPIONSHIP 2016

Area Qualifiers

- Scottish Qualifiers
 - League 1 – 14/15 November 2015 - Bardowie
 - League 2 – 30/31 January 2016 - Royal Tay
 - League 3 – 6/7 February 2016 - Loch OreEmily Robertson: emilyjrobertson@outlook.com
- Northern Qualifier – 6/7 February 2016 - Derwent Water Sailing Club
James Cunnison: james.cunnison@durham.ac.uk
- Midland Qualifier – 6/7 February 2016 - Grafham Water Sailing Club
Amy Yeoman: AXY138@student.bham.ac.uk
- South Central Qualifier – 6/7 February 2016 - Spinnaker Sailing Club
Ella Stoggall: ellastog@hotmail.co.uk
- Western Qualifier - 6/7 February 2016 - 6/7 February 2016 – *venue to be confirmed*
Neil Marshall: neilrogermarshall@hotmail.co.uk

Qualifier Reserve Date: 20/21 February 2016

Playoffs: 5/6 March 2016 – *venue to be confirmed*

**Championship Finals hosted by the University of Cambridge at Grafham Water Sailing Club
Tuesday 29th to Thursday 31st March 2016**

Chairman of the Finals Organising Committee: Tom Maxwell
Email: tm501@cam.ac.uk

1 ORGANISING AUTHORITY

The Organising Authority is the British Universities Sailing Association (BUSA). The Qualifiers, Playoffs and Championship Finals will be hosted by the above-named clubs and venues.

2 RULES

- 2.1 The event will be governed by the ISAF *Racing Rules of Sailing 2013 – 2016* and the rules and bye-laws of the host clubs and venues. The BUCS General Regulations will also apply with respect to NOR 5.1.
- 2.2 Races will be umpired.
- 2.3 The right of appeal will be denied under rule 70.5(a).
- 2.4 The sailing instructions will be available on the BUSA website and at registration. These will change some rules in the Racing Rules of Sailing.
- 2.5 Teams should note that the Organising Authority implements the RYA Racing Charter and that they will be required to undertake to sail in compliance with the Charter, which can be found at the front of the RYA rule book (Racing Rules of Sailing) and at www.rya.org.uk/racing/charter

3 RISK STATEMENT

- 3.1 A boat and team are entirely responsible for their own safety, whether afloat or ashore, and nothing, whether in the Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions or anywhere else, reduces this responsibility.
- 3.2 Competitors' attention is particularly drawn to rule 4 of *'The Racing Rules of Sailing'*:

"The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone".
- 3.3 Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore involves an element of risk. By taking part in the Championship, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:
 - 3.3.1 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 Championship;
 - 3.3.2 they are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;

- 3.3.3 they accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;
- 3.3.4 they are fit to participate in the Championship and, before racing in any boats supplied to them, they will satisfy themselves that such boats are in good order and equipped to race in the Championship;
- 3.3.5 the provision of a race management team, patrol boats, umpires and any other officials and volunteers does not relieve them of their responsibilities; and
- 3.3.6 the provision of any patrol boat or other official boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances.

3.4 Teams and competitors shall comply with Appendix 2 of this NOR.

4 ENTRIES

4.1 Entries for the Qualifiers must be received by 23.59hrs on Thursday 3 December 2015 (Thursday 5 November 2015 for Scottish teams) and are not valid unless all the entry requirements are met. Any late entry may be processed at the sole discretion of the Organising Authority, and there is no obligation to accept a late entry.

4.2 If a late entry is accepted, the Organising Authority may apply the Late Entry Fee which will be invoiced as part of collection of entry fees by BUCS.

4.3 Entries must be made via the BUCScore online system (accessed via a university's student or athletic union). Individual competitors must be registered with BUCScore in order to enter via the system. Teams should contact Nick Burley (BUCS Event Coordinator - Nick.Burley@bucs.org.uk) in the event of any problems using the system.

4.4 Teams are strongly advised to register as many reserves as possible on BUCScore. No competitor can compete at any stage of the Championship if they are not registered on BUCScore.

4.5 When entering the Qualifiers on BUCScore all teams will be charged a non-refundable £60 registration fee.

4.6 The Host Clubs have set the following Qualifier Entry Fees:

Scotland	£360 (for all 3 Leagues)
Northern	£190

Midland	£200
South Central	£165
Western	£180

- 4.7 The Late Entry Fee is £100 per team.
- 4.8 No damage deposit is payable on entry. Appendix 2 of the NoR applies and creates a binding contract between the team, their Member Club and the Organising Authority. If a team fails to comply with Appendix 2 or any direction issued to them by the Organising Authority, they may be disqualified without a hearing from the Championships. This changes rule 63.1.
- 4.9 No more than three (3) teams from the same Member Club may enter a Qualifier.
- 4.10 Notwithstanding NOR 11, no more than twenty (20) teams may enter each Qualifier. In the event that more teams enter than places available, places will be allocated in the following order:
- 4.10.1 each Member Club will be allocated an entry before another Member Club is given a second entry;
 - 4.10.2 each Member Club will be allocated a second entry before another Member Club is given a third entry; and
 - 4.10.3 in all other respects, entries will then be allocated based on the date and time of receipt.
- 4.11 If a team withdraws from the Qualifiers after 17.00hrs on Tuesday 19 January 2016, the Qualifier Entry Fee will not be refunded.
- 4.12 A team eligible to race in the Playoffs shall submit their entry on BUCScore no later than 23.59hrs on Thursday 18 February 2016. If these are not received in time, the Organising Authority may proceed to invite the next eligible team from the relevant Area. If a team withdraws after this date, the Playoff Entry Fee will not be refunded.
- 4.13 A team eligible to race in the Championship Finals shall submit their entry on BUCScore no later than 23.59hrs on Thursday 17 March 2016. If a team withdraws after this date, the Finals Entry Fee will not be refunded. The Organising Authority may extend this deadline
- 4.14 If any team, qualified or invited, has not entered the Finals correctly by 23.59hrs on Thursday 17 March 2016 (or if places have not been taken up), the Organising

Authority may re-allocate places for the Championship Finals. A boat or team may not request redress from the actions or omissions of the Organising Authority under this rule (this changes rule 60).

4.15 Entries are only accepted from BUSA Member Clubs in good standing with BUSA (i.e. clubs which are not in arrears and which have paid their 2015/2016 subscription as determined by the BUSA Honorary Treasurer).

4.16 The Playoff Entry Fee and Finals Entry Fee will be announced at a later date when the host Member Clubs have agreed the fees with BUSA.

5 ELIGIBILITY & QUALIFICATION

5.1 To be eligible each competitor must meet the BUCS General Regulations (Reg 6 Eligibility)
<http://www.bucs.org.uk/page.asp?section=17288§ionTitle=REG+6+Individual+Eligibility+and+Team+Selection>:

5.2 A maximum of twenty-eight (28) teams will be invited to the Championship Finals.

5.3 Qualification to enter the Championship Finals will be via the Qualifiers and/or Playoffs, and based on a team's position in the qualification procedure as at 17.00hrs on Friday 11 March 2016. The qualification procedure is set out in Appendix 1.

5.4 The top ranked Irish university team (determined at the sole discretion of the Organising Authority), or a team of university sailors nominated by it, will be invited to the Finals. This team may proceed to the knockouts, but is not eligible to win the event.

5.5 In the event the Irish team declines their invitation, an additional qualification place may be allocated to the Playoffs.

5.6 In the event that a Qualifier cannot be completed on either the scheduled date or the reserve weekend, the Organising Authority will make alternative arrangements for qualification of teams to the Playoffs and/or Championship Finals.

6 TEAMS

6.1 Teams shall comprise of six (6) competitors from the same university with two (2) competitors per boat. Teams must include at least one female sailor.

6.2 In the event a Member Club enters more than one (1) team, each team shall be designated by a colour. Teams will not be called by numbers.

- 6.3 On entry to a Qualifier, a team must designate its team captain and provide contact details. They must also list all team members and any reserves (see NOR 4.4). This should all be done via the BUCScore online system no later than 23.59hrs on Thursday 3 December 2015. After this date, the team change restrictions set out below will apply.

Team change restrictions: Scottish Qualifiers

- 6.4 Before or during the Scottish Leagues until they are concluded, a team may change one (1) helmsman or two (2) crew members for good reason and only with the agreement of the Organising Authority. Requests shall be set out in writing and be made to the Organising Authority as soon as reasonably possible. Only reserves registered through BUCScore may be used for this purpose.
- 6.5 After the conclusion of the Scottish Qualifiers, competitors may only be substituted if the substitute competitor is not from a team that is still competing.

Team change restrictions: Northern, Midlands, Western and South Central Qualifiers

- 6.6 Competitors may only be substituted if the substitute competitor is not from a team that is still competing. Any substitutions must be notified to the Organising Authority in order to be valid and must be registered on BUCScore.
- 6.7 The Organising Authority may permit any other change in exceptional circumstances only. Teams must assume that the Organising Authority will not permit exceptional changes. A boat may not request redress from the actions or omissions of the Organising Authority under this rule (this changes rule 60).
- 6.8 Except with the agreement of Organising Authority, substitutions shall be made no later than 17.00hrs on the Friday falling two (2) weeks before the relevant event. The penalty for a breach of this rule is either:
- 6.8.1 in the sole discretion of the Organising Authority, a fine of £40 without a hearing on the Member Club that entered the team (payable to BUSA which will donate it to a nominated charity of the Finals Organising Committee); or
 - 6.8.2 at the discretion of the Protest Committee (on a protest by the Organising Authority under NOR 6.10).

This changes rule 63.1.

- 6.9 It is the responsibility of the team captain to declare to the Race Committee at registration any difference between names of the team members racing and the

team entered with the Organising Authority. Failure to do so will be regarded as Gross Misconduct.

6.10 The Organising Authority may protest breaches of team change and substitution restrictions within seven (7) days of the relevant information coming to its attention. This changes rules 60, 61 and 62. The penalty shall be at the discretion of the Protest Committee.

6.11 The team captain is the sole point of contact for his or her team, and BUSA will communicate with all entered teams by email to the declared team captain. Changes in team captain must be notified promptly to the Organising Authority by email.

6.12 The team captain is responsible for the conduct and behaviour of his or her team.

7 PROGRAMME

7.1 The Qualifiers, Playoffs and Championship Finals will be held on the dates and venues listed on the first page of this Notice of Race.

7.2 For all events, a briefing will be held at 09.15hrs and the first race at 10.00hrs, unless otherwise notified by the Race Committee.

8 ADVERTISING

8.1 In accordance with the ISAF Advertising Code, all advertising on supplied equipment will be made available to the Organising Authority.

8.2 Competitors will be requested to wear bibs.

9 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Sailing Instructions will be available at registration and will be posted on the BUSA website.

10 PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICES

Rule 40 is changed to apply to all times whilst competitors are afloat. All competitors shall also wear wet suits or dry suits, unless indicated by the Race Committee on each racing day. The penalty for a breach of this rule is at the discretion of the Protest Committee.

11 PROVISION OF BOATS

- 11.1 Wherever possible boats will be supplied; however, if boats should be needed the Organising Authority will inform the relevant team captain and may require that team to bring equipment to the venue (unless a valid reason is supplied to, and accepted by, the Organising Authority).
- 11.2 A failure to comply with this rule may lead to the cancellation or rejection of the relevant team's entry.
- 11.3 If not enough flights can be provided, the Organising Authority may reduce the number of teams competing and/or alter the format and/or qualification structure.
- 11.4 Boats shall be sailed as supplied. The penalty for a breach of this rule is at the discretion of the Protest Committee.

12 PROVISION OF HELPERS

- 12.1 BUSA events depend on volunteers to run smoothly. and the Member Clubs hosting the events should not be penalised by not being able to race because they have agreed to host racing for their area. Therefore, the Organising Authority may require teams to bring one non-racing volunteer to each event.
- 12.2 If requested by the Organising Authority, a team shall bring one additional person to assist in the organisation of racing, who must be prepared to go afloat. The Organising Authority will inform the team captain at least one week beforehand of this requirement. The penalty for a breach of this rule is at the discretion of the Protest Committee.

13 PRIZES

- 13.1 Qualifier Prizes - invitation to the Finals or Playoffs.
- 13.2 Championship Finals - An eligible team that wins the Championship Finals will be the BUCS/BUSA Team Racing Champions for 2016 and will be awarded the Sir Michael Thompson Trophy. The top 3 teams will receive BUCS medals. BUCS points will be awarded at the discretion of BUCS for the top 8 teams who are representing BUSA Member Clubs. Other prizes may be awarded.

APPENDIX 1

Qualification will be based on a team's position as at 17.00hrs on Friday 11 March 2016 unless the Organising Authority extends this time limit.

Subject to NOR 5.5, the following teams may qualify:

Qualifier	Qualify for Finals Places	Qualify for Playoffs places
Scottish Leagues	1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd and 4 th placed	5 th , 6 th and 7 th placed
Northern	1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd and 4 th placed	5 th , 6 th and 7 th placed
Midlands	1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd and 4 th placed	5 th , 6 th and 7 th placed
South Central	1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd and 4 th placed	5 th , 6 th and 7 th placed
Western	1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd and 4 th placed	5 th , 6 th and 7 th placed
Playoffs	1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd , 4 th , 5 th , 6 th and 7 th placed	

The Organising Authority may amend these allocations when the number of teams who attended each Qualifier is confirmed. Any change will be notified prior to the first day of racing of the Qualifiers.

Team captains will be e-mailed to confirm their place at the Playoffs and/or Finals.

If teams subsequently withdraw from a Qualifier, then the Organising Authority may revise the allocated places.

If a team declines their invitation to the Playoffs or Finals, the Organising Authority will proceed to invite the next ranked team from the Playoffs or appropriate Qualifiers respectively.

APPENDIX 2

BUSA does not require teams to lodge damage deposits prior to racing. This is because of the increasing refusal of universities to issue cheques.

The following system will therefore apply. By entering the Championships, teams and Member Clubs expressly agree to follow and comply with this system without delay or dispute.

- 1 Each team is liable for up to £250 of damage costs per racing incident.
- 2 Any decision on liability or the quantum of any damage is solely for the Organising Authority to determine. The decision of the Organising Authority is final and teams and competitors agree to accept it without dispute.
- 3 In the event that a team is assessed liable for damage costs, and these are not paid at the event, BUSA will issue a damage notice and send it to the team captain. At the same time, BUCS will issue an invoice for the same amount to the Member Club's institution. Invoices must be paid (without set off or deduction) within 14 days unless an extension is agreed with the Organising Authority.
- 4 In the event of damage occurring, the Race Committee may require a payment from the team at the event to be made towards the damage costs. Teams shall make any such payment when required to do so.
- 5 Failure to comply with a damage notice within 14 days (or any extension period) is a breach of this Appendix 2 and the Organising Authority may:
 - a. disqualify the team in question without a hearing;
 - b. disqualify any other teams from that relevant Member Club without a hearing;
 - c. re-allocate any qualification places immediately to other teams.
- 6 The Organising Authority may amend or cancel a damage notice at any time and may reinstate a team disqualified.
- 7 Teams must also be aware that if a damage notice is not complied with, the Member Club in question will not be in good standing with BUSA and will have its membership rights (including the right to compete at BUSA events) suspended.

The BUSA Committee wishes to make clear that any failure to comply with the damage system will be regarded extremely seriously by the Committee. This system is used to help Member Clubs with cash-flow and the increasing difficulty of obtaining deposits from their unions.

If the trust involved in this system is abused, the Committee will take the necessary action to exclude the offending Club from future participation until all debts are paid.