



BUCS / BUSA National Match Racing Championships 2014



28th – 30th March 2014 @ Portland House, Weymouth

Preliminary Notice of Race

1. The Organising Authority

The Organising Authority will be the British Universities Sailing Association (in association with the British Universities & Colleges Sport) and in conjunction with the relevant sailing club.

1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in the *Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)*.

1.2 The prescriptions of the Royal Yachting Association shall apply.

1.3 The Rules and Regulations of the British Universities & Colleges Sport shall apply.

1.4 The byelaws of WPNSA and Portland Harbour shall apply.

2. Event Grading

ISAF Grade 3 status has been applied for the event.

This grading is subject to review by the ISAF Match Race Advisory Board. The events may be re-graded when there is clear reason to do so.

3. Provisional Programme

- 3.1**
- a) Registration from 1930 on the Thursday before the event in Portland House.
 - b) Crew weighing to be completed by 0830 on Friday of the event.
 - c) Practice may be available on the day prior to the first day the event. Contact the Organising Authority for availability.
 - d) First briefing will be at 2030 on the Thursday before the event.
 - e) There will be daily briefings on Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 0830.
 - f) First briefing with umpires will be immediately on completion of the Friday briefing.
 - g) Racing days will be Friday, Saturday and Sunday for the event.
 - h) The time of the first race on the first day will be 1000 and for the subsequent days 0930.
 - i) Prize giving on completion of the racing in the dinghy park.
- 3.2** Unless excused by the O.A. attendance at the following is mandatory.
- a) First briefing for skippers.
 - b) Prize giving for final skippers and crews.

4. Skippers Eligibility

- a) A maximum of 16 skippers will be invited to each event. Only skippers invited by the O.A. will be eligible to enter the appropriate event.
- b) The O.A. intends to invite one team per Member University to enter on a first come first served basis. Second teams may be invited, if space, after the deadline for entry has passed, if they have completed the entry requirements and on a first come first served basis.
- c) To remain eligible, a skipper shall confirm acceptance of invitation in writing or e-mail. Reservations will not be accepted under any circumstances.
- d) All crews shall be from the same institution in accordance with the British Universities and Colleges Sports rules and regulations. (University registration cards will be required when the crew weigh-in; NUS cards will not be adequate.)
- e) All competitors shall meet with the eligibility requirements of ISAF Regulation 19.2.

- f) All skippers shall obtain an ISAF Sailor ID by registering online <http://www.sailing.org/sailors/index.php>. Skippers shall inform the O.A. of their ISAF Sailor ID before registration.

5. Entries

- 5.1 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 or cheque.
- 5.2 Entry Fee. A non-returnable entry fee of £420 to the 'RYA' for the event. The closing dates for entries will be at 23.59 on the 31st January 2014. (Includes 3 nights' accommodation and food)
- 5.3 Damage Deposit.
- 5.3.1 An initial damage deposit of £500 payable to the RYA, shall be paid upon entry. This deposit is the maximum payable by the skipper as a result of any one incident.
- 5.3.2 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.
- 5.3.3 Any remaining deposit after the event will be refunded within the 14 days after the event.

6. Rules

- a) The event 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 WPNSA and Portland Harbour shall apply. **(Note: A personal flotation device must be worn whilst afloat.)**

7. Boats and Sails

- a) The event will be sailed in Elliot 6M.
- 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.
- e) Upper wind strength limitations may determine whether the fleet can race.

8. Crew (including skipper)

- a) Teams shall consist of between 3 and 4 sailors (including the skipper).
- b) All registered crew shall sail all races.
- c) The maximum total crew weight for the event determined prior to racing shall be 250kg 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 Jury/O.A. may authorise an original crew member to substitute.
- f) When a registered crew member is unable to continue in the event, the Jury/O.A. may authorise a temporary substitute or other adjustment.
- g) The skipper and at least one crew member must remain the same between the qualifying event and the Finals.

9. Event Format

- a) Skippers will be seeded based on the most recently published ISAF ranking list 14 days before the appropriate event.
- b) The 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.

10. 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.

11. Prizes

- a) BUCS Points will be awarded.
- c) Prizes may be awarded to the top 3 teams.
- d) The winner and runner up may be invited to the RYA National Match Racing Championship Finals in November 2014.
- e) 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.

12. 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.

13. 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 Jury /Protest Committee to the appropriate skipper or team.

14. Risk Statement

14.1 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.

14.2 Competitors' attention is particularly drawn to rule 4: *"The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone"*.

14.3 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:

- 14.3.1** 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;
- 14.3.2** they are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;
- 14.3.3** they accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;
- 14.3.4** 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;
- 14.3.5** the provision of a race management team, patrol boats, umpires and any other officials and volunteers does not relieve them of their responsibilities; and
- 14.3.6** 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.

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