NOTICE OF RACE

2020 U.S. Match Racing Championship
for the Prince of Wales Bowl

Rochester Yacht Club
Rochester, New York
September 25-27, 2020
Registration and Practice September 24, 2020

1 ORGANIZING AUTHORITY The Organizing Authority (OA) is US Sailing

2 HOST is the Rochester Yacht Club.

3 VENUE The venue is Lake Ontario at the mouth of the Genesee River.

4 EVENT GRADING The event has applied for World Sailing (WS) Grade 3. This grading is subject to review by World Sailing. The event may be re-graded when there is a clear reason to do so.

5 SCHEDULE (PROVISIONAL)
5.1 Schedule
(a) Registration open Thursday, September 24, 2020 from 1000 to 1800 and Friday, September 25, 2020 from 800 to 830.
(b) Crew weigh-in is available Thursday, September 24 from 1000 to 1800 and Friday, September 25 from 800 to 830.
(c) Practice Thursday, September 24 from 1000 to 1800.
(d) First skippers’ briefing shall be Friday, September 24 at 0845.
(e) First meeting with the umpires will be immediately following the first skippers’ briefing.
(f) Saturday and Sunday briefings will be at 0900.
(g) Racing days are September 25, 26 and 27.
(h) Time of first attention signal each day will be 1000.
(i) The latest time for an attention signal on the last day of racing will be 1500 on Sunday, September 27.
(j) Daily debriefs will be after racing each day.
(k) The Prize Giving will be held immediately following racing on Sunday.

5.2 Unless excused by the OA, attendance at the following is mandatory:
(a) Initial briefing for skippers
(b) Daily briefing for skippers

6 SKIPPER ELIGIBILITY
6.1 Up to ten (10) skippers will be invited.
6.2 To remain eligible, a skipper shall confirm acceptance of the invitation by registering on-line and paying the non-refundable entry bond of $500 USD through the link provided in the invitation by the date specified. The balance of the entry fee shall be paid by September 11, 2020.
6.3 All competitors shall meet the eligibility requirements of World Sailing regulation 19.2.
6.4 All competitors shall obtain a World Sailing Sailor ID by registering online. Skippers shall inform the OA of their World Sailing
Sailor ID at registration.

6.5 All competitors shall be members of US SAILING at the time of registration and during the event. International competitors must be members of US Sailing or their MNA.

7 ENTRIES

7.1 Only skippers invited by the OA will be eligible to enter this event. Invitations will be issued pursuant to the USMRC Conditions. A maximum of ten (10) skippers will be invited to this event. Automatic Invitations will be issued to:

(a) The 2019 U.S. Match Racing Champion.
(b) The highest placing eligible skipper (per the current US Sailing Match Racing Championship Conditions) at each of the below listed qualifiers, who is not already qualified for the USMRC will receive an invitation. If the highest placing eligible skipper not already qualified does not accept their invitation the Invitation Committee will fill the spot.
   - Qualifier at St. Petersburg Yacht Club for USMRC
   - Qualifier at Oakcliff Sailing for USMRC
   - Qualifier at St. Francis Yacht Club for USMRC
   - Qualifier at Chicago Yacht Club for USMRC
   - Qualifier at San Diego Yacht Club for USMRC
   - Qualifier at Bayview Yacht Club for USMRC
   - Qualifier at Boston Yacht Club for USMRC
   - Qualifier at Long Beach Yacht Club for USMRC
(c) The highest placing eligible skipper (per the current US Sailing Match Racing Championship Conditions) at the US Sailing Women’s Match Racing Championship not already qualified will receive an invitation to the 2020 USMRC. If the highest placing eligible skipper not already qualified does not accept her invitation, the invitation committee will fill the spot.
(d) Invitations to the qualifiers will be issued in accordance with the Notices of Races for the series and the current USMRC Conditions. Each skipper shall be entered on completion of registration, crew weighing and the payment of all fees and deposits. All payments except the damage deposit shall be made through Regatta Toolbox. The damage deposit shall be paid to the host club at event registration.

7.2 Entry Fee
The entry fee is $950 and will be paid as per section 6.2.

7.3 Withdrawal
When a skipper accepts an invitation and later withdraws within two months of the event or leaves the event before the end 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)

7.4 Damage Deposit
(a) An initial damage deposit of $1,500 USD shall be paid at registration, prior to any practice sailing, unless extended by the OA. This deposit is the maximum payable by the skipper for 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 thirty (30) days after the event.

8 RULES

8.1 The event will be governed by the rules as defined by The Racing Rules of Sailing, including Appendix C and following documents:
   (a) The US Sailing Regulations which govern all US Sailing Championships and Qualifying Events. Attention is drawn to regulations 2.02, 4.02, 10, 13, and 14.04, although other regulations may be applicable as well.
   (b) US Sailing’s current Championship Conditions and Championships Code of Conduct.
   (c) The current U.S. Match Racing Championship Conditions.

8.2 Class rules will not apply.
8.3 US Sailing prescriptions 63.2 and 63.4 are deleted.
8.4 The rules for the handling of boats will apply and will also apply to any clinics, practice sailing and sponsor races.
8.5 Major Alterations to the RRS
   (a) Each competitor shall wear a USCG approved PFD while on the water, except for brief periods while adding or
removing clothing. This changes RRS 40 and the preamble to Part 4.

(b) RRS 41, C3.1, C5.5, C6.3, C6.6, C7.4, C8.6, C10.2, 28.1, 35, 60.1(b), 62.1(a), 63.1 and A5 will be changed in the sailing instructions for this event.

9 **BOATS AND SAILS**

9.1 The event will be sailed in Sonar type boats.

9.2 Up to eight (8) boats will be provided.

9.3 The following sails will be provided for each boat: Mainsail, Jib, and Spinnaker.

9.4 Boats will be allocated by draw and rotated daily. Boats may also be assigned during any stage by the OA or RC.

9.5 The OA or RC may require rotation of sails for any reason. Rotation of sails by the OA or RC shall NOT be grounds for redress by a competitor. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

10 **CREW (INCLUDING SKIPPER)**

10.1 The number of crew (including the skipper) shall be three or four (3 or 4). All registered crew shall sail all races.

10.2 The total weight of the crew, including the skipper, dressed in at least shorts and shirts, shall not exceed 262.5 kg, determined at the time of registration or such time as required by the RC.

10.3 Crew weight shall be checked at registration, and no further weigh-in shall be required, except for substitute crew.

10.4 When a registered skipper is unable to continue in the event, the US Sailing OA may authorize an original crew member to substitute.

10.5 When a registered crew member is unable to continue in the event, the US Sailing OA may authorize a substitute, a temporary substitute or other adjustment.

11 **EVENT FORMAT**

11.1 The event format will consist of Round Robin(s), Knock-out Series and Finals racing. The format will be specified in the sailing instructions.

11.2 The RC may change the format, or terminate any stage or the event when, in its opinion, it is impractical to attempt to hold the remainder of matches under the existing conditions or in the remaining time scheduled. Early stages may be terminated in favor of later stages.

12 **COURSE**

12.1 The course will be windward/leeward with starboard roundings, downwind gates and finishing downwind.

12.2 The intended course area will be Lake Ontario outside the pier.

13 **ADVERTISING**

13.1 As boats and equipment will be supplied by the Organizing Authority, World Sailing regulation 20.4 applies. Each boat will be required to display advertising as supplied by the OA.

13.2 Competitors may be permitted to display advertising ashore at the venue, but this is subject to individual negotiation with the OA.

13.3 Boats shall not be permitted the right to protest for breaches of any rules regarding advertising (amends RRS 60.1).

14 **PRIZES**

14.1 Only a team that is 100% U.S. citizens or resident aliens throughout the Championship Finals may be declared the U.S. National Champion. U.S. citizen and resident alien status will be determined as described in 12.5 of the current USMRC Conditions.

14.2 The Prince of Wales Bowl, a perpetual trophy, will be awarded to the winner of the Championship Finals. The perpetual will be kept on display at US Sailing, while the winner will receive a framed photograph of the Prince of Wales Bowl, with a similar framed photograph to go to the winner's club or association.

14.3 The winner of the Prince of Wales Bowl will be offered a qualifier spot for the 2021 USMRC. Should the qualifying skipper decline his or her spot to the USMRC, or already be invited, the spot will be filled by the USMRC's Invitation Committee process per the USMRC Conditions.

15 **MEDIA, IMAGES and SOUND**

By participating in this event, competitors automatically grant to the organizing authority and the event sponsors the unconditional, perpetual right and authority to publish and broadcast anywhere in the world, for any purpose and in any media, the names, images, and biographical information relating to the crew and photographs, video footage, and audio recordings taken of the boat and its crew prior to, during, and after the race without compensation.
16 **COACH BOATS**
This event is designated as a US Sailing Grade 3 Event for coaching purposes. See the **US Sailing’s Coaching and Support Boat Policy**. There will be no private/team coaching nor US Sailing-supplied coaches during the regatta.

17 **DISCLAIMER**
Sailing is an activity that has an inherent risk of damage and injury. Competitors in this race participate entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race. The race organizers (OA, race committee, PC, host club, sponsors, or any other organization or official) will not be responsible for damage to any boat or other property or the injury to any competitor, including death, sustained because of participation in this event. By participating in this regatta, each competitor agrees to release the race organizers from all liability associated with such competitor’s participation in this event to the fullest extent permitted by law.

18 **DISCIPLINE**
PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES (US Sailing Regulation 10.03)
A. For adult US Sailing championship events, no competitor shall use or possess, either on or off the water, marijuana or any other substance if possession is illegal under state or federal law.
B. For Junior and Youth events or for junior or youth competitors in any US Sailing championship, no participant or competitor shall use or possess, either on or off the water:
   1. marijuana or any other substance if possession is illegal under state or federal law; or
   2. any alcoholic beverages.
C. An alleged breach of one of these regulations shall not be grounds for a protest. This changes RRS 60.1(a), 60.2(a), and 60.3(a). However, when the protest committee believes that a competitor may have breached one of these regulations, it shall follow the process described in the Championships Code of Conduct. If a competitor is found to have breached one of the elements within the Code of Conduct, they shall be excluded from the remaining races of the series and, where practicable, removed from the regatta venue and sent home.

**FURTHER INFORMATION**

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