

**U.S. MATCH RACING
CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFIER**
The Organizing Authority is US Sailing
June 1-2, 2024
St. Francis Yacht Club, San Francisco, CA
NOTICE OF RACE

The following abbreviations apply to this Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions:

PC:	Protest Committee or International Jury	RC:	Race Committee
NoR:	Notice of Race	SI:	Sailing Instruction
OA:	Organizing Authority	TD:	Technical Delegate
RRS:	Racing Rules of Sailing	[NP]:	A boat may not protest
ONB:	Official Notice Board		

1 RULES

- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*, including Appendix C.
- 1.2 The rules for the handling of boats and the equipment list, detailed as part of the Sailing Instructions, will apply, and will also apply to any practice sailing and sponsor races. Class rules will not apply.
- 1.3 The most current version of the following US Sailing documents apply:
 - (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 Championship Conditions: [Championship Conditions - US Sailing](#)
 - (c) The U.S. Match Racing Championship Conditions: [2024-USMRC-Championship-Conditions.pdf \(ussailing.org\)](#)
 - (d) US Sailing's Championships Code of Conduct: [USSA-Championship-Code-of-Conduct.pdf \(ussailing.org\)](#)
- 1.4 RRS 60.1(a) is changed to read: The notation '[NP]' in a rule of the NoR or SIs means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule.
- 1.5 The US Sailing prescriptions to Rules 63.1 and 63.2 shall not apply.
- 1.6 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 reason to do so.
- 1.7 U.S. Sailing Regulation 10.04 A.1. applies: "For US Sailing Adult qualifying and championship events in keelboats, each competitor shall wear a USCG approved PFD at all times while on the water, except for brief periods while adding or removing clothing." This changes RRS 40, and the preamble to Part 4.
- 1.8 Competitors and support persons shall comply with any reasonable request from an event official. Failure to comply may be misconduct, as defined by RRS 69.1(b).
- 1.9 When a boat in a match fails to *sail the course*, she will be disqualified without a hearing and scored zero points unless both boats in the match have sailed the same course, in which case the boats will be scored as if they had sailed the course. This changes RRS 28, 35, 63.1, 90.3(a), A5, and C10.7
- 1.10 Errors or omissions by the RC will not be grounds for redress by a competitor. In the event of an error or omission, the Match or Chief Umpire may notify the RC of the incident and request postponement or abandonment. This changes RRS 62.1 (a).
- 1.11 A Protest Committee (PC) shall be appointed by the OA.
- 1.12 RRS 63.7 is changed to read: If there is a conflict between the USMRC Conditions and the NoR, the USMRC Conditions will prevail.
- 1.13 The OA reserves the right to amend this NoR. Any amendments to the NoR shall be posted at [the event website](#).

- 2 **SAILING INSTRUCTIONS:** The sailing instructions will be available no later than 0900 on Friday, May 31, 2024 on the ONB at [the event website](#).

3 COMMUNICATION

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the ONB at [the event website](#).
- 3.2 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the StFYC flagpole located on the Race Deck of the main club house.

4 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1 Up to eight (8) skippers will be invited to the 2024 St. Francis Yacht Club Qualifier. Only skippers invited by the Invitation Committee of the U.S. Match Racing Championships Committee (USMRCC) will be eligible to enter this event. Invitations will be issued pursuant to the USMRC Conditions.
- 4.2 Skippers wishing to be invited to one or more of the 2024 USMRC Qualifiers may request an invitation by clicking [Here](#).
Skippers may also go to the USMRC website at the below link and click on the link contained in the 2024 USMRC Qualifier Series Critical Data Sheet.
[2024 U.S. Match Racing Championship - US Sailing](#)
- 4.3 The USMRCC will consider a skipper's experience as demonstrated by World Sailing ranking, match racing results and sailing resume, along with the following additional factors:
 - (a) Skippers who have not attempted to qualify at another event.
 - (b) Skipper preference list.
 - (c) Skipper proximity to event venue (OA may give preference to skippers traveling more than 500 km to assist in event grading).
 - (d) The need to fill available qualifying slots at each event.
- 4.4 The USMRCC will commence issuing invitations to the 2024 USMRC Qualifiers on February 14, 2024 and will continue to issue invitations until each Qualifier is fully subscribed.
- 4.5 Only skippers invited by the OA, and who confirm acceptance of the invitation will be eligible to enter this event. To remain eligible an invited skipper shall confirm acceptance of the invitation in writing in the manner and by the date specified in the letter of invitation. A non-refundable entry bond in the amount of \$250 USD shall accompany the acceptance of the invitation for this to be valid. In addition, the skipper shall complete all other reasonable requests of the OA.
- 4.6 There is no citizenship requirement for this event. All competitors shall be members of US Sailing at the time of registration and during the event, except that international competitors must be members of US Sailing or their MNA (See USMRC Conditions – Section 4 Eligibility).
- 4.7 All competitors shall meet the eligibility requirements of World Sailing regulation 19.4. All competitors shall obtain a World Sailing Sailor ID by registering online at [World Sailing - Categorization](#). Skippers shall inform the OA of their World Sailing Sailor ID at registration.
- 4.8 The entry fee is \$575 USD payable to St. Francis Yacht Club, which includes the \$250 USD entry bond mentioned in NOR 4.5 above.
- 4.9 The skipper shall complete registration, pay any entry fee and arrange for the damage deposit of \$2,000 USD all in the manner and by the date specified in the invitation letter. In addition, the skipper shall ensure that all crew complete crew weighing between Friday May 31, 2024 from 1100 to 1700, and Saturday June 1, 2024 from 0800 to 0830, unless extended by the OA. All payments except the damage deposit shall be made online as set forth in the letter of invitation. The damage deposit shall be paid to the host club at event registration by credit card. Both the entry fee and the damage deposit must be paid before a team can sail in any practice session or the event.
- 4.10 Final competitor list will be noted in SI Addendum A.
- 4.11 When a skipper accepts an invitation and later withdraws within two (2) months of the event or leaves the event before the end without written approval from the OA, a zero score may be applied to their Ranking points for that event by WS. (World Sailing Regulation 27.2.2(d))

5 DAMAGE / DAMAGE DEPOSIT

- 5.1 Each skipper is responsible for the damage or loss to their boat unless responsibility is otherwise assigned by the umpires or PC. The damage deposit is the limit of liability of each skipper for each incident. If a deduction for damage is made from the deposit, the skipper will be required to restore the deposit to the original value to continue in the event.
- 5.2 Any remaining damage deposit will be refunded within thirty (30) days after the event.
- 5.3 In the event of a breakdown, the OA may in its discretion substitute another boat for the one with the breakdown.

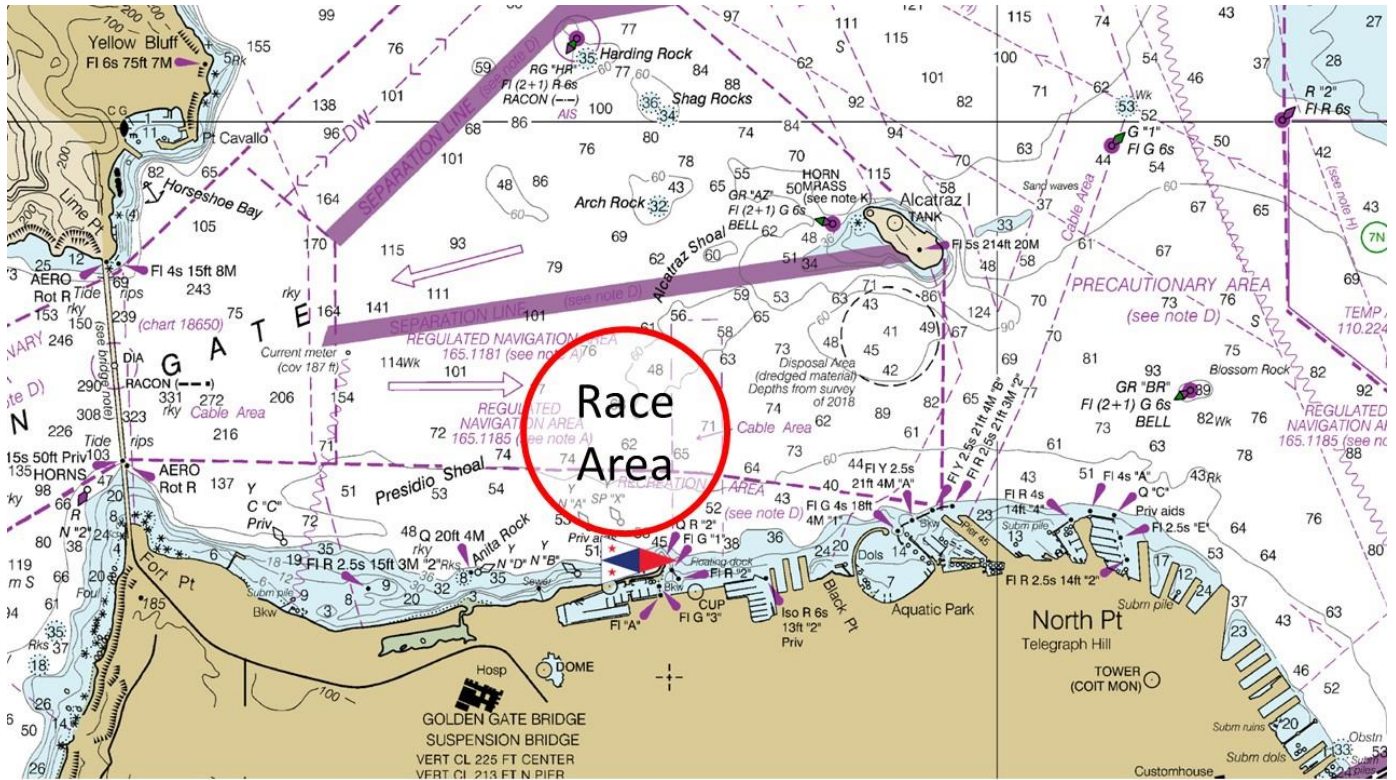
6 CREW (INCLUDING SKIPPER)

- 6.1 The number of crew (including the skipper) shall be three (3), four (4), or five (5). All registered crew shall sail all races.
- 6.2 After the warning signal for a match, the registered skipper shall not leave the helm, except in an emergency or when excused by the OA.
- 6.3 When a registered skipper is unable to continue in the event the OA may authorize an original crew member to substitute.
- 6.4 When a registered crew is unable to continue in the event, the OA may authorize a substitute, a temporary substitute or other adjustment. Per the U.S. Sailing Championship Conditions 4.B.3, the substituted sailor shall meet all eligibility requirements and shall be very close in weight to the substituted sailor.
- 6.5 The total weight of the crew, including the skipper, dressed in at least shorts and shirts, shall not exceed 350 kg, determined at the time of registration. No further weigh-in shall be required, except upon crew substitution.

7 EVENT FORMAT

- 7.1 The OA intends to provide eight (8) J/22 type boats for racing in the event. Each boat will have the following sails: Mainsail and Jib. In addition, a Spinnaker will be provided to each skipper at on-site registration which the team will use for the entire event.
- 7.2 Boats will be allocated as decided by the OA or the RC. The intention of the OA and RC will be to allocate boats by draw, and then rotate daily. The RC may also require boats to be exchanged at any time.
- 7.3 The sails to be used will be allocated by the OA or RC. 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).
- 7.4 While all reasonable steps are taken to equalize the boats, variations will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.
- 7.5 The number of matches to be sailed each day will be determined by the RC with the intention of the RC to start each subsequent flight as soon as practicable after the previous flight.
- 7.6 The course will be windward/leeward with optional offset legs in the event of cross course current, resulting in either port or starboard roundings and finishing downwind.
- 7.7 A leeward gate may be used.

7.8 The intended racing area is the City Front in front of the St. Francis Yacht Club.



7.9 Skippers will be seeded into a round robin. The event will consist of the following stages: First Stage – Double Round Robin - All skippers will sail a double round robin.

7.10 The RC may change the format, 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.

8 PROVISIONAL PROGRAM

8.1 Schedule

- (a) Registration Friday May 31, 2024 from 1100 to 1700, and Saturday June 1, 2024 from 0800 to 0830.
- (b) Crew weighing Friday May 31, 2024 from 1100 to 1700, and Saturday June 1, 2024 from 0800 to 0830.
- (c) Boats available for practice Friday May 31, 2024 from 1100 to 1830. Teams shall notify the StFYC Race Coordinator of their intent to practice by emailing racing@stfyc.com
- (d) First Briefing on Saturday June 1, 2024 at 0845.
- (e) First meeting with umpires immediately following First Briefing.
- (f) Debrief with umpires after racing each day.
- (g) Racing days from Saturday June 1, 2024 through Sunday June 2, 2024.
- (h) Sunday briefing at 0900.
- (i) Time of the first attention signal each day will be 1023 or as announced at daily briefings.
- (j) The latest time for an attention signal on the last day of racing will be 1700 on Sunday June 2, 2024.
- (k) Prize Giving will be held approximately 30 minutes after the last boat docks on Sunday June 2, 2024.

8.2 Unless excused by the OA, attendance at the following is mandatory:

- (a) Saturday initial briefing for skippers.
- (b) Sunday briefing for skippers.
- (c) Prize giving for the top three skippers and crews.

9 [NP] ADVERTISING

9.1 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.

9.2 The OA intends to supply the following equipment: Boats and Sails. Advertising as supplied by the OA is to be displayed on this equipment.

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

9.4 Boats shall not be permitted the right to protest for infringements of any rules regarding advertising. This changes **RRS 60.1**.

10 **[NP] SUPPORT PERSONS:** This event is designated as a US Sailing Grade 3 Event for coaching purposes. See the [Coaching and Support Boat Policy - US Sailing](#) There will be no private/team coaching or US Sailing-supplied coaches during the regatta.

11 **[NP] MEDIA, IMAGES and SOUND:** The OA has the right to use any images and sound recorded during the event free of any charge.

12 **RISK STATEMENT:** RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia, or other causes.

13 PRIZES

13.2 The top placing eligible skipper (per U.S. Match Racing Championship Conditions) not already qualified will earn a qualification spot to the 2024 U.S. Match Racing Championship at St. Francis Yacht Club, San Francisco, CA, on October 5-7, 2024. Should the qualifying skipper decline his/her spot to the USMRC, the USMRCC Invitation Committee will fill the spot via invitation per the USMRC Conditions.

13.3 The top three teams will receive take home prizes.

14 FURTHER INFORMATION

Event Chairman	Bruce Stone	bruce@brucestone.com	(917) 822-4060
Race Director	Felix Weidling	racedirector@stfyc.com	(415) 820-3710
PRO	Wendy Corzine	wendycorzine@gmail.com	(562) 305-8222
Chief Umpire	Glenn Oliver	gaoliver@cox.net	(805) 896-8842
Race Coordinator	Caleigh Thompson	racing@stfyc.com	(415) 655-7756
OA Representative	Grant Baldwin	grant@calguitars.com	(650) 494-7648