



**Royal Thames Yacht Club  
Open Match Race Trophy  
Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2012  
Queen Mary Reservoir  
Staines, Middlesex, ENGLAND  
TW15 1UA**

**Preliminary Notice of Race**

**1. The Organising Authority**

The Organising Authority will be the Royal Thames Yacht Club..

**2. Event Grading**

ISAF Grade 4 status has been applied for.

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) The Race Office will be open from 08.00 on each day of the event.
  - b) Registration from 08.00 on the first day of each event.
  - c) Crew weighing to be completed by 09.00 on the first day of each event.
  - d) First briefing will be at 09.00 on the first day of each event.
  - e) First briefing with umpires will be immediately on completion of the first briefing.
  - f) Racing days will be Saturday and Sunday.
  - g) The time of the first Attention Signal on the first day will be 10.00 and for the subsequent day(s) 09.30.
  - h) Prize giving on completion of the Sunday sailing..

**4 Skippers Eligibility**

- a) A maximum of 10 skippers will be invited. Only skippers invited by the O.A. will be eligible to race.
- b) To remain eligible, a skipper shall confirm acceptance of invitation in writing or e-mail. Reservations will not be accepted under any circumstances.
- c) All competitors shall meet with the eligibility requirements of ISAF Regulation 19.2.
- d) All skippers shall obtain an ISAF Sailor ID by registering online [www.sailing.org/sailor](http://www.sailing.org/sailor). Skippers shall inform the O.A. of their ISAF Sailor ID before registration.

## 5 Entries

- 5.1 The entry fee of £250 is payable on submission of the Application for Entry Form. Communication between the OA and participants will be conducted primarily by email. Each participant must provide the OA with a working email address.
- 5.2 In the case of the event being oversubscribed the OA will confirm the acceptance of an entry, OR inform the Applicant that they have been placed on the Waiting List OR inform the Applicant that the event is over-subscribed and return the entry fee. In the case of an Applicant placed on the Waiting List who cannot later be accommodated, the OA will return the entry fee. In the case of an Applicant to whom the OA confirms entry and who subsequently withdraws, the entry fee will not be returned.
- 5.3 Damage Deposit
- An initial damage deposit of £500 shall be paid upon entry. This deposit is the maximum payable by the skipper as a result of any one incident.
  - 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.
  - Any remaining deposit after the event will be refunded within the 14 days after the event.

## 5 Rules

- 6.1
- The event will be governed by the current rules as defined in the RRS, and include Match Racing Appendix C.
  - The 'Rules for the Handling of Boats' will apply, and will also apply to any practice sailing. Class rules shall not apply.
  - The RYA prescriptions shall apply.
  - The bye-laws of Queen Mary Sailing Club shall apply. **(Note: A personal flotation device must be worn when afloat.)**

## 6 Boats and Sails

- The event will be sailed in J/80-type boats using symmetrical spinnakers.
- 6 boats will be provided.
- The following sails will be provided for each boat:- mainsail, jib and symmetrical spinnaker.
- Boats will be allocated by draw either daily or for each round as decided by the Race Committee.
- Upper wind strength limitations may determine whether the fleet can race.

## 9. Crew (including skipper)

- Teams shall consist of between 4 and 5 sailors (including the skipper).
- All registered crew shall sail all races.
- The maximum total crew weight for the event determined prior to racing shall be 350kg when wearing at least shorts and shirt.
- The registered skipper shall helm the boat at all times while racing, except in an emergency.
- When a registered skipper is unable to continue in the event, the Jury/O.A. may authorise an original crew member to substitute.
- When a registered crew member is unable to continue in the event, the Jury/O.A. may authorise a temporary substitute or other adjustment.

## 10. Event Format

- Skippers will be seeded based on the most recently published ISAF ranking list 14 days before the appropriate event.
- The event will consist of the following stages:-  
Series 1 - Single Round Robin  
Series 2 - Semi-Finals  
Series 3 - Finals
- The O.A. may change the format, terminate or eliminate any round when conditions do not permit the completion of the intended format.

**11. 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.

**12. Prizes**

- a) The winner skipper will be awarded the Royal Thames Open Match Race Trophy and a keeper prize.
- c) Prizes may be awarded to the runner-up and third placed skippers.
- d) The winner may be invited to the RYA National Match Racing Championship Finals which it is intended will be held at the same venue and in the same boats in November 2012..
- e) The O.A. may reduce or withhold a prize in the case of misconduct or refusal to comply with any reasonable request, including attendance at official functions.

**13. Media, Images and Sound**

The O.A. shall have the right to use any images and sound recorded during the event free of any charge.

**14. Coach Boats**

Coach boats will not be permitted.

**15. Disclaimer**

**Identification and Acknowledgement of Risk**

Skippers and crew should be fully aware and conscious of the actual and potential risks involved in active watersports, including drowning, hypothermia and other physical injuries including head injuries. Skippers and crew should be aware of particular risks of match racing where yachts are manoeuvred in close proximity and that the actions of other competitors, the actions or inactions of the organisers, including drivers of escort craft, can also endanger their safety.

The safety of the yacht and her crew and her entire management are the sole responsibility of the skipper and he/she should satisfy him/herself that the yacht and crew are adequate to face the conditions that may arise in the course of the Event.

**Date of Issue: 30<sup>th</sup> November 2011**

**Notice of Race: Version 1**