



CORINTHIAN YACHT CLUB

2026 U.S. Match Racing Championship Qualifier
for the Prince of Wales Bowl

&

Marblehead Match Race Championship

US Sailing – Organizing Authority
Corinthian Yacht Club– Host Club
1 Nahant Street
Marblehead, MA 01945, USA

Race Days – June 27-28, 2026

Practice Day – June 26, 2026

NOTICE OF RACE

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

PC:	Protest Committee or International Jury	SI:	Sailing Instruction
NoR:	Notice of Race	WS:	World Sailing
OA:	Organizing Authority	[DP]:	Discretionary Penalties
RC:	Race Committee	[NP]	A boat may not protest
RRS:	Racing Rules of Sailing		

The notation '[DP]' in a rule in the NoR means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification. The notation '[NP]' in a rule of the NoR means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule nor request redress based on that rule. This changes RRS 60.1 and 61.1.

1 RULES

- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*, including RRS Appendix C.
- 1.2 The most current version of the below listed US Sailing documents apply and may be found at: <https://www.ussailing.org/competition/championships/2026-u-s-match-racing-championship/>
 - (a) The **U.S. Sailing Regulations** which govern all US Sailing Championships and Qualifying Events. Attention is drawn to regulations 2.02, 2.03, 4.02, 10, 13, and 14.04, although other regulations may be applicable as well.

- (b) **US Sailing’s Championship Overall Conditions** (“Overall Conditions”)
 - (c) **The combined Conditions for the US Women’s Match Racing Championship and U.S. Match Racing Championship** (“USMRC Conditions”)
 - (d) **[NP] US Sailing’s Championships Code of Conduct**
 - (e) **[DP] US Sailing Coaching and Support Boat Policy**
 - (f) **SafeSport Athlete Safety Handbook**
- 1.3 The rules for the handling of boats and the equipment list, detailed as part of the Sailing Instructions, will also apply, and will apply to any practice sailing or races. Class rules will not apply.
 - 1.4 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, 60.5(b), 90.3(a), A5, and C10.7
 - 1.5 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 61.4 (b)(1).
 - 1.6 The US Sailing prescriptions to the preamble to Part 5, Section B, and to RRS 63.1(b) shall not apply.
 - 1.7 A Protest Committee (PC) shall be appointed by the OA or the host club.
 - 1.8 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 clear reason to do so.
 - 1.9 The OA reserves the right to amend this NOR. Any amendments to the NOR shall be posted at <https://www.corinthianyc.org/web/pages/regattas>

2 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The sailing instructions will be available no later than 1200 on Thursday, June 25, 2026. Sailing instructions will be provided via email to invited skippers, posted at <https://www.corinthianyc.org/web/pages/regattas> and on the official notice board outside the Burgee Bar of the Corinthian Yacht Club.

COMMUNICATION

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be provided via email to invited skippers, posted at <https://www.corinthianyc.org/web/pages/regattas> and on the official notice board outside the Burgee Bar of the Corinthian Yacht Club.
- 2.2 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the Corinthian Yacht Club flagpole.

3 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 3.1 Up to eight (8) skippers will be invited to the 2026 Corinthian Yacht Club USMRC Qualifier.
- 3.2 Only skippers invited by the Invitation Committee for the USMRC and who confirm acceptance of the invitation will be eligible to enter this event. Invitations will be issued pursuant to the USMRC Conditions.
- 3.3 Skippers wishing to be invited to one or more of the **2026 USMRC Qualifiers** may request an invitation by using the following link: [USMRC 2026 Qualifier Series Request for Invitation](#). If this link fails you may go to the USMRC webpage and click on the link contained in the **2026 USMRC Qualifier Series Critical Data Sheet** which may be found at the USMRC webpage at <https://www.ussailing.org/competition/championships/2026-u-s-match-racing-championship/>. The USMRCC Invitation Committee 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’s preference list.
 - (c) Skipper’s 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.
- 3.4 The Invitation Committee will commence issuing invitations to the 2026 USMRC Qualifiers as requests are received, and will continue to issue invitations until each Qualifier is fully subscribed.
- 3.5 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. Payment of the entry fee in the amount of \$550 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.
- 3.6 The skipper shall:
- (a) complete registration and pay any entry fee in the manner and by the date specified in the invitation letter.
 - (b) ensure that the damage deposit is paid before any practice session or the event. Damage deposits will be payable by providing a credit card at registration and authorizing a hold in the amount of \$1,000.
 - (c) ensure that all crew complete crew weighing between 1400 and 1800 on Friday, June 26, 2026, or between 0800 and 0900 on Saturday, June 27, 2026 unless extended by the OA.
 - (d) ensure that all crew complete all other crew requirements.
 - (e) inform the host of their World Sailing Sailor ID at registration.
- 3.7 All competitors (skippers and crew) shall:
- (a) 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 (See Section B7 – Eligibility of the Overall Conditions, and Section B2 - Eligibility and Selection of Teams of the USMRC Conditions)
 - (b) have Competition Eligibility as detailed in the World Sailing Eligibility Code.
 - (c) obtain a World Sailing Sailor ID by registering online at [World Sailing - Categorization](#)
 - (d) citizenship or club/association membership is not required for this event.
- 3.8 The entry fee is \$550 USD payable to Corinthian Yacht Club.
- 3.9 Final competitor list will be noted in SI Addendum A.
- 3.10 When a skipper accepts an invitation and later withdraws within two months (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 Policy H1 5.3).
- 3.11 Entry fees are non-refundable. In the event that a skipper withdraws after accepting their invitation, their entry fee will be donated to My Brothers Table in their name.

4 DAMAGE / DAMAGE DEPOSIT

- 4.1 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. In the event that a deduction is made from the deposit, the skipper will be required to restore the deposit to the original value to continue in the event.
- 4.2 The OA will refund any remaining damage deposit within thirty (30) days after the event.

5 CREW (INCLUDING SKIPPER)

- 5.1 The number of crew (including the skipper) shall be four (4) or three (3). A team of all female sailors may be comprised five (5) crew (including the skipper). All registered crew shall sail all races.
- 5.2 The total weight of the crew, including the skipper, dressed in at least shorts and shirts, shall not exceed 772 lbs., determined at the time of registration. No further weigh-in shall be required, except upon crew substitution.
- 5.3 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 or the RC.

- 5.4 When a registered skipper is unable to continue in the event the OA or the RC may authorize an original crew member to substitute.
- 5.5 When a registered crew is unable to continue in the event, the OA or the RC may authorize a substitute, a temporary substitute or other adjustment. Per Overall Conditions B.11.2(c) the substituted sailor shall meet all eligibility requirements and shall be very close in weight to the substituted sailor.

6 EVENT FORMAT

- 6.1 The OA intends to provide eight (8) Sonar type boats plus a spare for racing in the event.
- 6.2 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.
- 6.3 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 in a knock-out stage.
- 6.4 The sails to be used will be allocated by the 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 61.4(b).
- 6.5 While all reasonable steps are taken to equalize the boats variations will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.4(b).
- 6.6 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.
- 6.7 The course will be windward/leewards with starboard roundings, finishing downwind. A leeward gate may be used.
- 6.8 The intended racing area is in Massachusetts Bay and/or Salem Sound, in the vicinity of Archers Rock and/or the Brimbles.
- 6.9 Skippers will be seeded into a round robin based on World Sailing rankings 30 days prior to the event.
- 6.10 The event may consist of the following stages based on anticipated weather conditions
 - (a) Single or multiple round robins
 - (b) Quarter, semi and final round knockout matches
- 6.11 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.

7 PROVISIONAL PROGRAM

7.1 Schedule

Friday, June 26, 2026

1400 to 1800	Registration and Crew weighing
1400 to 1800	Boats available for practice

Saturday, June 27, 2026

0800 to 0900	Registration and Crew weighing
0900	First Briefing and meeting with Umpires
1030	First Attention Signal or as announced at the Briefing
* After racing	Umpire debrief
1800	Dinner Soiree for competitors, umpires and volunteers

Sunday, June 28, 2026

0900	Daily Briefing and meeting with Umpires
1030	First Attention Signal or as announced at the Briefing

1600	Approximate latest time for an Attention Signal
* After racing	Umpire debrief
After debrief	Prize Giving
* Approximately 30 minutes after last boat docks	

Each team's entry fee includes coffee each morning, a bag lunch each day, the Saturday evening dinner soiree and refreshments at the prizegiving for each crewmember.

7.2 [DP] Unless excused by the OA, attendance at the following is mandatory:

- (a) First briefing for skippers
- (b) Daily briefing for skippers
- (c) Prize giving for the top three skippers and crews.

8 [NP] ADVERTISING

[NP] Boats shall display advertising chosen and supplied by the OA or host club. See *World Sailing advertising Code*.

9 [NP] CODE OF CONDUCT

- 9.1 Competitors and Support Persons shall comply with any reasonable request from any official, including attendance at official functions and co-operation with event sponsors, and shall behave so as to not bring the event into disrepute.
- 9.2 Competitors and support persons shall handle any equipment or place any advertising provided by the organizing authority with care, seamanship, in accordance with any instructions for its use and without interfering with its functionality.

10 [NP] SUPPORT PERSONS

This event is designated as a US Sailing Grade 3 Event for coaching purposes. See the US Sailing's Coaching and Support Boat Policy at <https://www.ussailing.org/competition/resources/coaching-and-support-boat-policy/>. There will be no private/team coaching nor 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 DATA PROTECTION:

Any personal information given will be kept secure. The OA and Host will not sell or rent your personally identifiable information.

13 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.**

14 PRIZES

- 14.1 The top placing eligible skipper (per USMRC Conditions) not already qualified will earn a qualification spot to the 2026 U.S. Match Racing Championship at San Diego Yacht Club, in San Diego, CA, with race days on October 16-18, 2026. Should the qualifying skipper decline their spot to the 2026 USMRC, the USMRC Invitation Committee will fill the spot via invitation per the USMRC Conditions.

- 14.2 The top placing skipper shall be named the Marblehead Match Racing Champion and receive a suitable prize.
- 14.3 The top three teams will receive suitable prizes.
- 14.4 The OA may reduce a prize in the case of misconduct or refusal to comply with any reasonable request, including attendance at official functions.

15 FURTHER INFORMATION

Event Chair & PRO:	Joe Fava	joseph.c.fava@gmail.com
Chief Umpire:	Rick Myers	rickmyers544@yahoo.com

Release Date: February 8, 2026