



## U.S. MATCH RACING CHAMPIONSHIP



### US Sailing Match Racing Championship Qualifier

Chicago Spring Invitational Chicago Yacht Club  
Belmont Harbor, Chicago, IL  
Grade 3

June 25-27, 2021  
June 25 – Practice  
June 26-27 – Racing Days

### SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

#### Abbreviations:

PC – Protest Committee	RC – Race Committee
OA – Organising Authority	NA – National Authority
RRS – Racing Rules of Sailing	SI – Sailing Instructions
NOR – Notice of Race	

## 1 RULES

- 1.1 The event will be governed by:
  - a. The “rules” as defined in the RRS, including Appendix C,
  - b. The US Sailing Regulations that govern all US Sailing Championships and Qualifying Events. In particular, Regulations 2.02, 4.02, 10, 13, and 14.04 apply, although other Regulations may be applicable as well. The US Sailing Regulations can be found at: [https://www.ussailing.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Regulations\\_Amended\\_2019-05-13.pdf](https://www.ussailing.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Regulations_Amended_2019-05-13.pdf)
  - c. The Conditions of the United States Match Racing Championship found at the following address: [U.S. Match Racing Championship Conditions](#)
  - d. The US Sailing Championship Conditions found at: [Championship Conditions](#)
  - e. The rules for the Handling Boats (SI Addendum C) will apply, and will also apply to any practice sailing. Class rules will not apply.
- 1.2 Boats may be required to race with on board observers to give information to the umpires, sponsors or media. Observers will be weight-equalised by fixing weights near the stern. Observers will not take part in sailing the boat or communicate with the crew while racing.

### 1.3 CODE OF CONDUCT

All competitors will sign and follow the US Sailing Championship Code of Conduct that can be found at: [Championships Code of Conduct](#). Breaches of this SI are not grounds for protest by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a)

### 1.4 USE OF PERSONAL FLOTATION

- a. Regulation 10.04 A 1: 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 modifies RRS 40 and the preamble to Part 4.
- b. [DP] Competitors will need to bring their own PFD's

1.5. When the umpires proceed under RRS C8.6, they will follow the guidance in SI Addendum E.

1.6 A boat may not request redress under RRS 62.1(a). The protest committee may call a hearing to consider redress under that rule if it believes that there is a significant reason for doing so. This changes RRS 60.1(b) and 62.1(a).

## 2 ENTRIES and ELIGIBILITY

2.1 Only skippers invited by the OA are eligible for the event. The criteria for invitation is set forth in the NOR. The skippers are listed in SI Appendix A.

2.2 To remain eligible the entire crew shall complete registration, pay any entry fee, deposit US \$2000 for damage and complete crew weighing, all between 1000 and 1600 on the Practice Day (June 25) or between 0800 and 0900 on the first day of racing unless extended by the OA. Registration for all present crew members and payment of the deposit is required for use of the boats for the Clinic.

2.3 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 maintain eligibility.

2.4 Each skipper is responsible for the damage or loss to his boat unless the responsibility is otherwise assigned by the umpires or PC.

2.5 After the warning signal for a match, the registered skipper shall not leave the helm, except in an emergency.

- 2.6 When a registered skipper is unable to continue in the event, the OA may authorise an original crew member to substitute.
- 2.7 When a registered crew member is unable to continue in the event, the OA may authorise a substitute, a temporary substitute or other adjustment.

### **3 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS**

- 3.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board located on the race website at [https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/22127#\\_newsroom](https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/22127#_newsroom) It is the responsibility of each competitor to check the Official Notice Board for any amendments or notices.
- 3.2 Signals made ashore will be displayed from a flag staff located at Chicago Yacht Club, Belmont Station.
- 3.3 Skippers shall attend the first briefing, which will be at 0830 at Chicago Yacht Club, Belmont Station on the first day of racing, unless excused by the OA.
- 3.4 The first meeting with the umpires will be after the first briefing at Chicago Yacht Club, Belmont Station.

### **4 AMENDMENTS TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

- 4.1 Amendments to the SI made ashore will be posted at least 30 minutes before the start of any race affected and will be signed by the RC and the PC representatives.
- 4.2 Flag L over the numeral pennant of the most recent amendment will be displayed ashore each day until the boats have departed for the race course.
- 4.3 Amendments made afloat will be signalled by the display of flag 3rd substitute with three sound signals. An umpire may communicate these either verbally or in writing.

### **5 BOATS AND SAILS**

- 5.1 The event will be sailed in the following boats: Tom 28 type boats.
- 5.2 The sail combination to be used in a flight will be signalled from the RC boat with or before the attention signal. The signals shall have the following meanings:

<u>Signal</u>	<u>Sail Combination to be used</u>
No signal	Main, Jib, and Spinnaker

Flag Z

Main, Jib, No spinnaker

- 5.3 Other restrictions or instructions may be given to the boats verbally by an umpire. Flag 3rd substitute is not required.
- 5.4 The OA or RC will decide which boats are to be used for each stage and when they decide a boat should not be used, the skipper assigned that boat will be given the temporary use of another boat.
- 5.5 The OA or RC may permit a substitute boat when it is satisfied that the original boat is damaged and that repairs in the time available are not practical.

## **6 IDENTIFICATION and ASSIGNMENT OF BOATS**

- 6.1 Boats will be identified by bow numbers.
- 6.2 Boats will be allocated by the RC for each stage.

## **7 CREW MEMBERS, NUMBER and WEIGHT**

- 7.1 The total number of crew, including the skipper, shall be 4 or 5.
- 7.2 The total weight of the crew including the skipper, dressed in at least shorts and shirts, shall not exceed 770 lbs for a same gender crew, or 902 lbs. when there is a minimum of one female and one male on the team.
- 7.3 All registered crew shall sail all matches unless permission for change is given under SI 2.6 or 2.7.

## **8 EVENT FORMAT AND STARTING SCHEDULES**

- 8.1 The event format and match pairing lists are detailed in SI Addendums A and B. The matches to be sailed in a flight will be displayed in order of starting on the rotation sheet.
- 8.2 The racing days are scheduled as June 26 and 27. June 25 is a practice day.
- 8.3 The latest time for an attention signal on the last day of racing will be approximately 1700.
- 8.4 The number of matches to be sailed each day will be determined by the RC.

- 8.5 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 favour of later stages.
- 8.6 The intended time of the first attention signal each day is 1000.
- 8.7 Each subsequent flight will be started as soon as practicable after the previous flight.
- 8.8 When a match cannot start at its intended time, the RC may move the other starts forward to eliminate a blank start. Competitors will be so advised by the umpires if the RC does so. Flag 3<sup>rd</sup> substitute is not required.
- 8.9 In a knock-out series between two skippers:
  - (a) They shall alternate assigned ends for each match. Unless designated in the pairing list, the initial assigned ends shall be determined by finish position in Stage One. This changes RRS C4.1
  - (b) When the series has been decided, further matches between these two will not be sailed and subsequent starts moved forward to eliminate blank starts. Competitors will be so advised verbally by an umpire.

**9 RACING AREA**

The racing area will be on Lake Michigan outside the Belmont Harbor.

**10 COURSE**

10.1 (a) **Course Configuration** (not to scale)

Mark W o

Mark L o o

o----- o Start/Finish Line

(b) **Course signals and course to be sailed**

Course signals will be displayed from the RC boat, at or before the warning signal.

<u>Signal</u>	<u>Course</u>
No Signal	Start - W - L - W - Finish
S	Start - W - Finish

(c) **Description of Marks**

The starting/finishing line mark will be a yellow tapered inflatable mark or orange robotic mark.

Mark W will be a Red, Green, or Yellow inflatable mark.

When Mark L is a gate, it will be between two orange robotic marks.

When Mark L is a single mark, it will be an orange robotic mark.

- (d) Routine movement of robotic marks will not be grounds for redress. This includes marks returning to station after having been pushed away by a bot or competitor and collisions with marks that do not cause damage. RRS 31 still applies.
- (e) Any self-correction movement by a robotic mark on the starting line shall not be considered an improper action of the RC and not grounds for redress under 62.1(a). This is added to RRS 27.2

10.2 **Starting/Finishing Line**

- (a) The starting/finishing line will be a straight line between the course side of a starting/finishing mark and a pole displaying an orange flag on the RC boat.
- (b) A buoy may be attached to the RC boat anchor line just below keel depth. Boats shall not pass between this buoy and the RC boat at any time. This buoy is part of the RC boat ground tackle. A boat may not request redress because the anchor line at the buoy is above keel depth. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

10.3 **Mark Roundings**

- (a) Mark W shall be rounded to starboard.
- (b) Mark L may be a gate (see definition *Sail the Course*)
- (c) If Mark L is a single mark, it shall be rounded to starboard
- (d) Modify RRS 33: A gate or finish line mark may be adjusted without signaling a course change and while boats are on the first half of the leg.

10.4 **Abandonment and Shortening**

- (a) RRS 32 is deleted and replaced with: 'After the starting signal, the RC may abandon or shorten any match for any reason, after consulting with the match umpires when practical.'

- (b) Within a flight, when a visual signal is displayed over a numeral pennant, the signal applies to that match only.
- (c) Match umpires may verbally inform the competitors in their match of an abandonment at the request of the RC without a visual or sound signal being made by the RC. This changes Race Signals and rule 32.

10.5 The RC may make radio transmissions to competitors to announce pairings, signals or other communications. A failure to make these transmissions consistently or a failure of a competitor to hear them is not cause for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

## **11 BREAKDOWN and TIME FOR REPAIRS**

11.1 Before the attention signal of a flight or within two minutes of finishing or within five minutes of changing into a new boat, whichever is later, a boat may display flag L to signal breakdown or damage to the boat, her sails or injury to her crew and request a delay to the next start. She shall proceed as soon as possible to a position just to leeward of the RC boat and remain there, unless otherwise directed.

11.2 The time allowed for repairs will be at the discretion of the RC.

11.3 After the attention signal of a flight, a match will not be postponed or abandoned due to breakdown unless the breakdown signal was displayed as required by SI 11.1.

11.4 Except when RRS 62.1(b) applies, failure to effect repairs in the time allowed, or breakdowns after the attention signal shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.

## **12 STARTING PROCEDURE**

12.1 The preparatory signal will be either a Papa flag or a "C" flag with a color flag and multiple sound signals. If a Papa flag is displayed, Mark W will be a Yellow buoy. If a "C" flag is displayed with a color flag and multiple sound signals, Mark W will be a buoy that is the same color as the color flag displayed with the "C" flag. This changes C3.1.

## **13 CHANGE OF POSITION OF THE WINDWARD MARK**

13.1 Changes to the course will be made by signalling a change of course to a new Mark W.

13.2 Change of Course Signals (amends RRS 33 and Race Signals)

- (a) Flag C and a colored flag or board means: 'The windward mark has been changed. Sail to a mark the same color as the flag or board.'
- (b) When a change of course after starting only affects some matches, these may be designated by the appropriate numeral pennant.

### **13.3 Signalling vessel**

When a change of course is signalled after the first leg, it will be displayed from a boat in the vicinity of mark L, which may be the RC Signal boat that is one end of the starting/finishing line.

### **14 TIME LIMIT**

A boat that does not finish within 5 minutes after her opponent has completed the course and finished will be scored DNF. This changes RRS 35 and A5.

### **15 COACH BOATS (US SAILING GRADE 3 EVENT RE COACHING)**

Coaching at this event will not be permitted.

### **16 MEDIA, IMAGES and SOUND**

16.1 If required by the OA:

- (a) Television personnel and equipment (or dummies) supplied by the OA shall be carried on board while racing.
- (b) Competitors shall wear microphones supplied by the OA during racing and be available for interviews when advised by the OA or RC.
- (c) Registered skippers shall wear communications equipment supplied by the OA that will allow commentators to communicate with them whilst racing.

16.2 Competitors shall not interfere with the normal working of the OA supplied media equipment.

16.3 The OA have the right to use any images and sound recorded during the event free of any charge.

### **17 PRIZES**

17.1 The top finisher not already qualified will receive an invitation to the 2021 U.S. Match Racing Championship October 1-3, 2021, hosted by Long Beach Yacht Club.

17.2 The top placing LMSRF eligible skipper will be named the 2021 Lake Michigan Match Racing Champion.



## **18 CODE OF CONDUCT**

- 18.1 Competitors shall comply with any reasonable request from any official, including attendance at official functions, co-operation with event sponsors and shall not behave so as to bring the event into disrepute.
- 18.2 Competitors shall handle the boats and equipment with proper care and seamanship and in accordance with SI Addendum C and D.
- 18.3 The following actions by skippers and/or crew while racing may be considered a breach of sportsmanship under RRS C8.3(c) and may result in an umpire initiated penalty under RRS C5.2 or C5.3:
- Excessive attempts to verbally coerce, coach or influence umpire decisions;
  - Repetitive or on-going objection to an umpire decision (verbal or otherwise);
  - Abuse of umpires before or after a decision (See also MR Call M4).
- 18.4 Breaches of this SI may also be referred to the PC. Any penalty will be at the discretion of the PC/IJ and may include exclusion from further participation in the event, the withdrawal of any prize money or the withholding of deposits.
- 18.5 Gross breaches of this SI may be referred to the PC by the OA for action under RRS 69.

## **19 DISCLAIMER**

All those taking any part in the event do so at their own risk. The OA, its associates and appointees accept no responsibility for any loss, damage, injury. Sickness, disease or inconvenience incurred, howsoever caused. See RRS 3, Decision to Race.

**Dated: June 23, 2021**

**SI V.2**

## SI ADDENDUM A - LIST OF ELIGIBLE SKIPPERS and PAIRING LIST:

Skipper Name	World Sailing Sailor ID	World Sailing Ranking*
Peter Holz	USAPH81	40
Steven Lowery	USASL11	121
Bridget Groble	USABG86	130
Ruairi Finnegan	IRLRF14	211
Will Holz	USAWH53	242
Will Stocke	USAWS73	N/A

\*Open rankings from 10.APR.21.

Pairing lists will be distributed at the competitor meeting.

## SI ADDENDUM B - EVENT FORMAT and SCHEDULE OF RACES (THIS CHANGES THE NOR)

### EVENT FORMAT

#### Stage 1 – Single Round Robin

- (a) All skippers are scheduled to sail against all other skippers once

#### Stage 2 – Semi-Finals

- (a) The four highest placing skippers from the round robin will be paired highest placing skipper from Stage 1 v lowest placing skipper from Stage 1, etc. in accordance with a table to be distributed by the RC.
- (b) The first skippers to score at least three (3) points will proceed to Stage 4
- (c) The other skippers will move to Stage 3

#### Stage 3 – Petite-Final Knockout Series

- (a) The skippers qualifying for this stage will be paired in accordance with a table to be distributed by the RC.
- (b) The first skipper to score at least two (2) points will place third in the regatta. The other skipper will place fourth.

#### Stage 4 – Final Series

- (a) The skippers qualifying for this stage will be paired in accordance with a table to be distributed by the RC.
- (b) The first skipper to score at least three (3) points will be the winner. The other skipper will place second.

#### Stage 5 – Consolation Sail-off

- (a) Skippers placing 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> in Stage 1 will be paired in accordance with a table to be distributed by the RC.
- (b) The first skipper to score at least two (2) points will place fifth in the regatta. The other skipper will be place sixth.

## **SI ADDENDUM C - HANDLING BOATS**

### **1 GENERAL**

While all reasonable steps are taken to equalise the boats variations will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.

### **2 PROHIBITED ITEMS and ACTIONS**

Except in an emergency or in order to prevent damage or injury, or when directed by an umpire otherwise, the following are prohibited:

- 2.1 Launching, storing, or handling the spinnaker from anywhere aft of the mast. (Spinnaker must be launched from the bow area)
- 2.2 Any additions, omissions or alterations to the equipment supplied.
- 2.3 The use of any equipment for a purpose other than that intended or specifically permitted.
- 2.4 The replacement of any equipment without the sanction of the RC.
- 2.5 Sailing the boat in a manner that it is reasonable to predict that significant further damage would result.
- 2.6 Moving equipment from its normal stowage position except when being used.
- 2.7 Boarding a boat without prior permission.
- 2.8 Taking a boat from its berth or mooring without having paid the required damage deposit or having permission from the RC, or, on race days, while 'AP' is displayed ashore.
- 2.9 Hauling out a boat or cleaning surfaces below the waterline.
- 2.10 Marking directly on the hull or deck with permanent ink, or using any tape that leaves a residue/ use of duct tape.
- 2.11 Using a flattener as a reef .
- 2.12 Omitting any headsail car or turning block before sheeting onto a winch.
- 2.13 Adjusting or altering the tension of standing rigging, excluding the backstay.
- 2.14 Using a winch to adjust the mainsheet, backstay or vang.
- 2.15 Using the spinnaker pole to wing out the foresail.
- 2.16 Attaching lines to the fabric of spinnakers.
- 2.17 Perforating sails, even to attach tell tales.
- 2.18 Radio transmission (including mobile telephones), except to report damage or in response to a request from the RC.

- 2.19 Using a reef line as an outhaul.
- 2.20 Marking directly on the hull or deck with permanent ink.
- 2.21 The use of electronic equipment, unless permitted by SI C3.1.
- 2.22 Untaping the tiller extension

### **3 PERMITTED ITEMS AND ACTIONS**

The following are permitted:

- 3.1 The use of non-working control lines is permitted for hiking out. This changes RRS 49.1 and therefore MR Call L3. Example, the spinnaker sheet twing line may be used for hiking
- 3.2 Taking on board the following equipment:
  - (a) electrical tape excluding black
  - (b) line (elastic or otherwise of 4 mm diameter or less)
  - (c) marking pens
  - (d) tell tale material
  - (e) watch, timers and hand held compass
  - (f) velcro tape
  - (g) spare flags
  - (l) small personal video devices such as GoPro are permitted as long as any postings to websites or social medial reverences and links to Chicago Yacht Club
- 3.2 Using the items in 3.1 to:
  - (a) prevent fouling of lines, sails and sheets
  - (b) attach tell tales
  - (c) prevent sails being damaged or falling overboard
  - (d) mark control settings on working sheets forward of any rope clutches.
  - (e) make minor repairs and permitted adjustments
  - (f) make signals as per Appendix C6
  - (g) make notes
  - (h) personal safety
  - (i) changing the number of mainsheet or jib sheet purchases.

### **4 MANDATORY ITEMS AND ACTIONS**

The following are mandatory.

- 4.1 All competitors shall report any damage to the Bosun. This can be done verbally or via radio but shall be done after finishing and before starting the next race or before changing boats. Skippers shall verbally confirm damage or lack thereof with the umpire when rotating out of the boats, otherwise they will be assumed responsible for damage later discovered.
- 4.2 At the end of each sailing day:
  - (a) rolling mainsail and jib, and bagging and placement of the sails as directed
  - (b) leaving the boat in the same state of cleanliness as when first boarded that day
  - (c) securing helm
  - (d) securing the boat to its dock as directed
  - (e) releasing backstay tension
  - (f) return spinnaker to Sailing center
  - (g) Y flags shall be returned to the OA after the conclusion of racing n Sunday.
- 4.3 At the end of the day for a particular boat, cleaning the boat (cabin and decks), removing all trash and removing all tape and marks. Emptying the bucket of trash when ashore. Trash, including tape, left onboard may result in a cleaning fee of \$100.00.
- 4.4 Any request to alter, in any way, the equipment on a boat shall be in writing and worded to permit a yes/no answer.
- 4.5 Complying with any regulations, including speed restrictions and navigation marks, while leaving or returning to the berth or mooring.
- 4.6 A breach of items 4.2 and 4.3 will be considered as damage and the cost of rectification will be deducted from the damage deposit.

## **SI ADDENDUM D - EQUIPMENT LIST**

The following non-fixed items, to the extent provided by the OA, are to be carried on board at all times in their designated place while sailing. Any loss shall be reported on the daily damage report.

### **Sails and Sailing Equipment:**

- Mainsail and set of battens
- Headsail
- Spinnaker
- One winch handle
- One spinnaker pole
- One continuous spinnaker sheet
- One continuous headsail sheet
- One VHF radio (supplied by OA)
- One continuous jib sheet
- Tiller extension
- Genoa cars
- Two sail ties

### **TACKLE**

- Life jackets for each crew member (supplied by competitors)
- Bucket
- Sponge
- Tow line

### **FLAGS**

- Yellow and Blue backstay flags
- One handheld Y Flag
- Lima / Distress Flag
- Red sidestay flag

**SI ADDENDUM E –**

**Match Racing Penalties for Damage resulting from contact between boats**

Appendix C6.6 and C8.6 permits the umpires or protest committee to decide the penalty when a boat breaks RRS 14. This document explains how damage will be assessed and gives general guidance on the appropriate penalty. When the protest committee has good reasons to do so, it may apply a different penalty.

Damage will be divided into 3 levels as shown in the following table:

<b>Level</b>	<b>Extent</b>	<b>Effect</b>
Level A - Minor Damage	Does not significantly affect the value, general appearance or normal operation of the boat.	Boat may race without repair although some minor surface work may be required after the event. Repairs should not normally require more than 1 hour of work.
Level B - Damage	Affects the value and/or general appearance of the boat	The damage does not affect the normal operation of the boat in that race but may need some (temporary) work before racing again. Requires more than 1 hour of work but should not normally require more than 3 hours of work.
Level C - Major Damage	The normal operation of the boat is compromised and its structural integrity may be impaired.	The boat will need some repair work before racing again. Requires more than 3 hours of work.

**Point Penalties - to be applied without a hearing (this amends RRS C8.6);**

<b>Level</b>	<b>Round Robin</b>	<b>Knock Out</b>
<b>A</b>	None	None
<b>B</b>	Half point	Three quarters of a point
<b>C</b>	One point	One point

When both boats break RRS 14, they should both receive a points penalty. If a competitor requests a hearing when a points penalty is imposed, the protest committee may decide (in the hearing) to give a greater penalty.

### **Deductions from Damage Deposits**

The assessment of damage level is only for the purpose of points penalties, and is not linked to any deductions from the competitor's damage deposits.

Any points penalty will be based on the assessment of damage level made on the water. Subsequent assessments of the damage level after closer inspection, whether the level turns out to be higher or lower, will have no effect on the points penalty given on the water.