



FOR THE PRINCE OF WALES BOWL

AREA GROUP GHJL QUALIFIERS AND SEMIFINAL

NOTICE OF RACE

February 2, 2011

1. RULES

- 1.1. The events will be governed by the current *rules* as defined in the 2009 - 2012 Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), RRS Appendix C, and the 2011 USMRC Conditions for this regatta.
- 1.2. Conflicts between the Conditions for this regatta and this Notice of Race (NOR) will be resolved in favor of the NOR. If there is a conflict between the NOR and the Sailing Instructions (SIs), it will be resolved in favor of the SIs. This changes RRS 63.7.
- 1.3. All competitors in this event shall wear outside of all clothing, while on the water, other than for brief periods while changing clothes, a competitor supplied USCG approved PFD. Clothes worn for additional warmth must be worn inside of PFD. This changes RRS 40.
- 1.4. The US SAILING Prescriptions to Rule 60, 63.2 and 63.4 do not apply for events organized under this Notice of Race.

2. ORGANIZING AUTHORITY

The Organizing Authority (OA) is US SAILING.

3. ADVERTISING

As boats and equipment will be supplied by the Organising Authority, ISAF regulation 20.4 applies. Each boat will be required to display advertising as supplied by the OA. Boats shall not be permitted to protest for breaches of any rules with regards to advertising. This changes RRS 60.1.

4. DATES & VENUES

The race venues and host clubs for these Qualifier regattas will be:

Qualifier #1	April 2 – 3, 2011	San Francisco Bay	St. Francis Yacht Club (StFYC)
Qualifier #2	May 7 – 8, 2011	San Diego Bay	Southwestern Yacht Club (SWYC)
Qualifier #3	July 9 – 10, 2011	San Francisco Bay	San Francisco Yacht Club (SFYC)

The Area GHJL Semifinals will be held:

August 20 – 21, 2011 Newport Beach Newport Harbor Yacht Club (NHYC)

5. EVENT GRADING

These events will be ISAF Grade 4 events. This grading is subject to review by the ISAF Match Race Advisory Board. The event may be re-graded when there is clear reason to do so.

6. SELECTION OF ENTRIES

- 6.1. The competition is between yacht clubs and not between specifically designated persons. A maximum of 8 entries will be selected for each qualifier event. A total of 32 spaces are available for the Qualifier series. Clubs represented must be from US SAILING Area G, H, J, or L; selected skippers must be a member of that club.

- 6.2. Each member of the crew must be a member of US SAILING and of a club that is a US SAILING member. Eligible crew do not have to be members of the club represented by the eligible skipper. The yacht club represented is the Skipper's Club.
- 6.3. Entry into the group Qualifiers for the US Match Racing Championship will be made by the following process:

- a. Competitors shall apply for entry into one or more Qualifier events and pay a non-refundable application fee of \$50 online at the following website (one application fee regardless of number of desired events; application fee will be credited toward entry fees):

http://championships.ussailing.org/Adult/USMRC/Area_Semi-Finals_Schedule_NOR.htm

The application period for all Qualifier events opens on February 2, 2011.

- b. The deadline for applications and selected event registrations to each qualifying event are:

Event	Application Deadline	Acceptance Announcement	Registration Deadline
Qualifier #1	March 4, 2011	March 5, 2011	March 12, 2011
Qualifier #2	April 8, 2011	April 9, 2011	April 16, 2011
Qualifier #3	June 10, 2011	June 11, 2011	June 18, 2011
Semifinals	----	July 11, 2011	July 18, 2011

- c. Each application shall specify which events the skipper is applying for and the order of preference if more than one event is chosen. Lack of specifying a preference may prevent acceptance into more than one qualifier event. Priority will be given to placing all applying competitors in an event before allowing multiple entries.
- d. Preference for acceptance will be given to early applicants. It is possible that entries for any Qualifier event may fill prior to the application deadlines.
- e. Each application must include a brief resume of experience or their application may be deemed invalid. The resume will only be used if an event is oversubscribed by applications.
- f. After notification of acceptance to a Qualifier or Semifinal event, each competitor will complete registration online at the http://championships.ussailing.org/Adult/USMRC/Area_Semi-Finals_Schedule_NOR.htm website no later than one week after application acceptance is announced (e.g., March 12, 2011 for Qualifier #1).
- g. The Area GHJL USMRC selection committee may fill any open spots in the Area GHJL Qualifiers or Semifinal events by any means if there are insufficient entries to fill an event, including, but not limited to: resumes submitted with applications, a third or fourth place finish in an Area qualifier; or other high finish in a match racing event. Any Qualifier may be canceled if it fails to receive 6 entries by the application deadline for the event.

7. ALTERNATES AND SUBSTITUTES

After a Qualifier or Semifinal event starts, with the permission of the Race Chair & OA, a designated alternate may replace any member of a team aboard before any race or flight of a given match, but only in the event of an emergency affecting a regular team member. Race starts will not be delayed and replacement crew must weigh within 25 pounds of the replaced crew, but not increase the team total over the team

weight limit. If a team does not bring a designated alternate to the regatta, the Race Chair & OA may allow a substitute alternate at its discretion.

8. ENTRY FEES, DAMAGE DEPOSITS, BOAT INSURANCE

- 8.1. Each team shall be considered entered only on completion of registration, and the payment of all fees and deposits.
- 8.2. Entry Fee: A non-refundable entry fee of \$350 (\$300 plus original \$50 application fee for first event) shall be paid by credit card only at http://championships.ussailing.org/Adult/USMRC/Area_Semi-Finals_Schedule_NOR.htm by 1700 no later than one week after the acceptance announcement date for each Qualifier or Semifinal event (e.g., March 12, 2011 for Qualifier #1). If a skipper enters more than one qualifier, the entry fees for the second and subsequent events will be discounted by \$50 each (\$300 each).
- 8.3. Entry fees for each Qualifier entered are nonrefundable. If unforeseen circumstances force a competitor to withdraw after entry fees have been paid, the fees may be refunded only if the berth for that event is later filled.
- 8.4. Damage deposit:
 - a. An initial damage deposit of \$1000 shall be paid at registration at the event venue. This deposit is the maximum payable as a result of any one incident.
 - b. In the event that a deduction from the damage deposit is made by the host club, it may require the deposit be restored to its original amount before the team will be permitted to continue in the event.
 - c. If damages occur, the costs will be paid from the deposit of the team causing the damage when fault has been determined. Damages not attributable to a single team(s) will be deducted equally from all entry damage deposits.
 - d. All remaining damage deposits will be refunded within 30 days following the event with a detailed accounting of expended funds to each team not receiving back the full damage deposit.

9. PROVISIONAL PROGRAM (all times are Pacific Daylight Time)

9.1. Racing Schedule:

	Qualifier #1	Qualifier #2	Qualifier #4	Semifinals
Host Club	StFYC	SWYC	SFYC	NHYC
Practice Date & Time	April 1, 1300	May 6, 1300	July 8, 1400	August 19, 1400
Onsite Registration	April 2, 0830-0930	May 7, 0830-0930	July 9, 0830-0930	August 20, 0830-0930
1 st Day Skipper Briefing	0930	0930	0930	0930
1 st Day First Warning	1100	1130	1130	1100
2 nd Day Skipper Briefing	0930	0930	0930	0930
2 nd Day First Warning	1030	1100	1030	1030

9.2. Unless excused by the OA, skipper attendance at all briefings is mandatory.

10. BOATS AND SAILS

- 10.1. The events will be sailed in J/22 keelboats.
- 10.2. A mainsail, jib, and spinnaker will be provided for each boat.

- 10.3. Boats assignments will be determined by the host race committee. Every effort will be made to have equitable boat assignments. The process by which boat assignments are determined shall not be grounds for redress. This changes Rule 62.1.
- 10.4. Boats are supplied by the host club and other local owners. It is of the utmost importance that they be treated with care at all times, as the future of these events depends upon being able to borrow boats again.

11. EQUIPMENT SUPPLIED

Each boat shall be supplied with a Code Flag "Y", a red Protest/Breakdown flag, and a Yellow and a Blue identification flag.

12. BOAT EQUALIZATION

All boats will receive equal tuning. Tape will be placed on the turnbuckles of all standing rigging, and shall not be removed during the event.

13. CREW (INCLUDING SKIPPER)

The number of crew including the skipper shall be 3 or 4, with a maximum combined crew weight of 275 kg (606.4 lbs) when wearing at least shorts and a shirt. A crew list shall be named at event registration and all registered crew shall sail all races unless permission is granted for an alternate as outlined in Section 7 herein.

14. EVENT FORMAT

The intended format for this regatta, conditions permitting, is the following.

- 14.1. A double round robin.
- 14.2. The boats selected for any stage of the event are at the sole discretion of the Race Committee.
- 14.3. The OA may change the format, terminate, or eliminate any round when conditions do not permit the completion of the intended format.

15. GROUP GHJL SERIES SCORING

15.1. Finishing positions in each Qualifier will receive the following Group GHJL Series points:

Finishing Position	Series Points
1 st	100
2 nd	85
3 rd	65
4 th	40
5 th	30
6 th	20
7 th	15
8 th	10
DNC	0

- 15.2. The Group GHJL Qualifiers Series Score will be the sum of the two highest finishing places from individual Qualifier events. RRS Appendix A does not apply for the series scoring.
- 15.3. The series points totals will be used to determine ranking positions for the Group GHJL Semifinal event for teams not otherwise qualified automatically.
- 15.4. Teams finishing 1st or 2nd in any Qualifier event automatically qualify for the Group GHJL Semifinal event regardless of series score.

- 15.5. In the event of a tie on points in the Group GHJL Series, the team with the greater number of third, or fourth place scores, etc., will be the higher ranked team.

16. COURSES

Course will be double windward/leeward with course marks rounded to starboard, finishing downwind, unless conditions dictate a shorter course. Courses will be diagrammed in the Sailing Instructions.

17. PRIZES

The top two finishing teams from each Qualifier event will be awarded an invitation to the Group GHJL Semifinals to be held at NHYC on August 20 - 21, 2011. The highest ranked teams in the Group GHJL Qualifier Series not otherwise qualified for the Semifinals will be awarded invitations to the GHJL Semifinals to fill the berths not automatically filled.

The top two finishing teams from the Group GHJL Semifinals will be awarded invitations to the 2011 United States Match Racing Championship at Balboa Yacht Club (BYC), in Corona Del Mar, California on October 12 – 16, 2011.

18. COACH BOATS

- 17.1. Coach boats shall conspicuously display team identification. The skipper's club burgee is acceptable.
- 17.2. Any interference by a coach boat with the racing or event organization may result in a penalty applied by the Protest Committee to the appropriate skipper or team. Penalties are at the discretion of the Protest Committee. This changes Rule 64.1.

19. DISCLAIMER

All those taking part in the event do so at their own risk. The OA, its sponsors, their agents, employees, representatives, trustees, members, race committee, and officials accept no responsibility for any loss, damage, injury or inconvenience incurred, howsoever caused.

INFORMATION AND RACE CONTACTS

US SAILING Area G USMRC Rep
Bruce Stone

bruce@brucestone.com

US SAILING Area J USMRC Rep
Glenn Oliver

gaoliver@cox.net