

**NOTICE OF 2015 QUALIFYING SERIES**  
for the 2015 U.S. MATCH RACING CHAMPIONSHIP and the  
2015 U.S. WOMEN'S MATCH RACING CHAMPIONSHIP

**1 ORGANIZING AUTHORITY**

The Organizing Authority (OA) will be US Sailing and the Clubs referred to in Section 2.

**2 VENUES**

(O, W)	April 10-12, 2015	Oakcliff Sailing, Oyster Bay, NY
(W)	April 17-19, 2015	Long Beach Yacht Club, Long Beach, CA
(O, W)	May 22-24, 2015	St. Francis Yacht Club, San Francisco, CA
(O, W)	May 29-31, 2015	Chicago Match Race Center, Chicago, IL
(O, W)	June 12-14, 2015	San Diego Yacht Club, San Diego, CA
(O, W)	June 19-21, 2015	Annapolis Yacht Club, Annapolis, MD
(O)	June 26-28, 2015	Bayview Yacht Club, Detroit, MI
(O)	September 4-6, 2015	St. Francis Yacht Club, San Francisco, CA

legend:

(O) - Qualifier for the 2015 U.S. Open Match Racing Championship

(W) - Qualifier for the 2015 U.S. Women's Match Racing Championship

**3 EVENT GRADING**

The events have applied for ISAF Grade 3. This grading is subject to review by the ISAF. The event may be re-graded when there is clear reason to do so.

**4 PROVISIONAL PROGRAM**

**4.1 Qualifier Schedule – Racing Days**

(O, W)	Oakcliff Sailing (April 11-12, 2015)
(W)	Long Beach Yacht Club Mayor's Cup (April 17-19, 2015)
(O, W)	St. Francis Yacht Club (May 23-24, 2015)
(O, W)	Chicago Match Race Center (May 30-31, 2015)
(O, W)	San Diego Yacht Club (June 13-14, 2015)
(O, W)	Annapolis Yacht Club (June 20-21, 2015)
(O)	Bayview Yacht Club (June 27-28, 2015)
(O)	St. Francis Yacht Club (September 5-6, 2015)

4.2 Registration, weigh-in and any scheduled practice time will be detailed in the event Notice of Race.

4.3 Oakcliff Sailing will offer a match racing clinic with the qualifying event on April 10, 2015.

## **5 SKIPPERS ELIGIBILITY**

- 5.1 Only skippers invited by the Invitation Committee for the U.S. Match Racing Championships Committee (USMRCC) will be eligible to enter these Qualifying events. Skippers may request invitations to one or more of the Qualifying events. The application period for all Qualifying events opens on February 1, 2015.

The USMRCC Invitation Committee will consider a skipper's experience as demonstrated by ISAF 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 travelling more than 500 km to assist event grading)
  - (d) Need to fill available qualifying slots at each event
  - (e) Gender
- 5.2 Request invites to individual qualifying events online at:
- (a) [www.regattanetwork.com/event/9616](http://www.regattanetwork.com/event/9616)
  - (b) Skippers may indicate event preferences and will be required to pay a one-time, non-refundable application fee of \$50 regardless of the number of requested events.
- 5.3 The registered skipper shall helm the boat at all times while racing, except in an emergency.
- 5.4 All competitors shall meet the eligibility requirements of ISAF regulation 19.2.
- 5.5 All competitors shall obtain an ISAF Sailor ID by registering online at [www.sailing.org/isafsailor](http://www.sailing.org/isafsailor). Skippers shall inform the OA of their ISAF Sailor ID at registration.
- 5.6 All competitors shall be members of:
- (a) US SAILING, both at the time of requesting an invitation, and during the events. International competitors must be members of their MNA.
  - (b) a sailing organization that is also a US Sailing Member. Eligible crews do not have to be members of the organization represented by the eligible skipper; the organization represented is the organization of which the skipper is a member.
- 5.7 To be eligible to qualify for the U.S. Women's Match Racing Championship, the skipper must be a female. For all qualifying events except the Long Beach YC Mayor's Cup, the gender of the crew members of the team at the Qualifier does not matter. For the Long Beach YC Mayor's Cup: the skipper must be a female and the crew may include a maximum of 3 males.

## **6 ENTRIES**

- 6.1 Entering
- (a) Skippers may apply for invite to these events beginning February 1, 2015. The USMRCC Invitation Committee will begin issuing invitations to the events March 1, 2015, and will continue to issue invites until each event is fully subscribed.
  - (b) Skippers will be given two (2) weeks to accept letters of invite to secure their spot at each event.
  - (c) The skipper shall be entered in an event upon completion of registration, crew weighing and the payment of all event fees and deposits.

## 6.2 Entry Fee

- (a) Non-refundable entry fees shall be paid by the date specified in the invite letter.
- (b) Entry fees and damage deposits for the Qualifying events are:

Venue	Entry Fee	Damage Deposit
(O,W) Oakcliff Sailing	\$450	\$2,500
(W) Long Beach Yacht Club	\$600	\$2,500
(O,W) St. Francis Yacht Club (May)	\$300	\$1,500
(O,W) Chicago Match Race Center	See event NoR	\$2,500
(O,W) San Diego Yacht Club	\$300	\$1,000
(O,W) Annapolis Yacht Club	See event NoR	See event NoR
(O) Bayview Yacht Club	\$300	\$1,000
(O) St. Francis Yacht Club (Sept)	\$300	\$1,500

## 6.3 Withdrawal

When a skipper accepts an invitation and later withdraws within two 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 the ISAF. (ISAF Regulation 27.2)

## 6.4 Damage deposit

- (a) An initial damage deposit shall be paid at registration of each respective event, unless extended by the OA. This deposit is the maximum payable by the skipper as a result of any one incident.
- (b) If a deduction from the damage deposit is decided by the OA, it may require that the deposit be restored to its original amount before the skipper will be permitted to continue in the event.
- (c) Any remaining deposit after the event will be refunded within 30 days after the event.

## 7 RULES

7.1 (a) US Sailing's Championship Conditions will apply to all the events in the series. <http://www.ussailing.org/racing/championships>.

- (b) The events will be governed by the rules as defined in the RRS, including Appendix C and the 2015 U.S. Match Racing Championship Conditions and the 2015 U.S. Women's Match Racing Championship Conditions. The Conditions can be found at:

For the USMRC: <http://www.ussailing.org/racing/championships/adult/matchracing/>

For the

USWMRC: <http://www.ussailing.org/racing/championships/adult/womensmatchracing/>

- (c) The rules for the handling of boats will apply, and will also apply to any practice sailing and sponsor races. Class rules will not apply.
- (d) Any US Sailing prescriptions that will not apply will be specified in the event Notice of Race.

## 7.2 Major Alterations to the RRS

- (a) Add to RRS 41: (e) help to recover from the water and return on board a crew member, provided the return on board is at the approximate location of the recovery.
- (b) RRS C8.6 and C6.3 will be changed in the sailing instructions.
- (c) RRS 31 will be changed in the sailing instructions.

7.3 The OA may place an observer on each boat to provide information to the umpires.

**Note** that ISAF has approved a change to Appendix C from January 1, 2015, as follows: Delete current rule C2.9 and replace with: C2.9 Rule 22.3 is deleted.

## 8 BOATS AND SAILS

8.1 Events will be sailed in the following type boats (and number of boats provided):

Venue	Boat Type	Number of Boats
(O,W) Oakcliff Sailing	Match 40	10
(W) Long Beach YC Mayor's Cup	Catalina 37	8
(O,W) St. Francis Yacht Club (May)	J22	8
(O,W) Chicago Match Race Center	Tom 28	8
(O,W) San Diego Yacht Club	J22	8
(O,W) Annapolis Yacht Club	J22	TBD
(O) Bayview Yacht Club	Ultimate 20	8
(O) St. Francis Yacht Club (Sept)	J22	8

8.2 The following sails will be provided for each boat at each event: Mainsail, Genoa/Jib, Spinnaker.

## 9 CREW (INCLUDING SKIPPER)

9.1 The number of crew (including the skipper) and total weight, dressed in at least shorts and shirts, determined at the time of registration at each event shall be:

Venue	Crew Number	Crew Weight
(O,W) Oakcliff Sailing	5 or 6	437.5 kg
(W) Long Beach YC Mayor's Cup	Maximum of 8*	601 kg
(O,W) St. Francis Yacht Club (May)	4	350 kg
(O,W) Chicago Match Race Center	4 or 5	350 kg
(O,W) San Diego Yacht Club	3 or 4	262.5 kg
(O,W) Annapolis Yacht Club	3 or 4	262.5 kg
(O) Bayview Yacht Club	3 or 4	262.5 kg
(O) St. Francis Yacht Club (Sept)	4	350 kg

*\*Female Skipper with maximum 3 male crew members*

9.3 When a registered skipper is unable to continue in the event the OA may authorize an original crew member to substitute.

9.4 When a registered crew member is unable to continue in the event the OA may authorize a substitute, a temporary substitute or other adjustment.

## 10 EVENT FORMAT & COURSE

Event format and course information can be found in the event notice of race (NoR) posted on the US Sailing website at:

U.S. Match Racing Championship:

<http://www.ussailing.org/racing/championships/adult/matchracing/>

U.S. Women's Match Racing Championship:

<http://www.ussailing.org/racing/championships/adult/womensmatchracing/>

## 11 PRIZES

- 11.1 For those events indicated with an (O), the top placing eligible skipper (per US Sailing Match Racing Championship Conditions) not already qualified will earn a qualification spot to the 2015 U.S. Sailing Match Racing Championship hosted by Oakcliff Sailing October 10-12, 2015.

For those events indicated with a (W), the top placing eligible female skipper (per US Sailing Women's Match Racing Championship Conditions) not already qualified will earn a qualification spot to the 2015 U.S. Women's Match Racing Championship hosted by Newport Harbor Yacht Club August 14-16, 2015.

- 11.2 Should the qualifying skipper decline their spot to the Championship, the spot will be filled via invitation.

## 12 DISCLAIMER

All those taking any part in an event do so at their own risk. The OA's, their associates and their appointees accept no responsibility for any loss, damage, injury or inconvenience incurred, howsoever caused.

## 13 US SAILING REGULATIONS

US Sailing Regulations 2.02, 4.02, 10, 13, and 14.04 govern at all US Sailing Championships and Qualifying Events. The regulations can be found at:

<http://www.ussailing.org/wp-content/uploads/DARoot/Bylaws/US%20Sailing%20Regs.pdf>

## 14 EVENT CONTACTS

Oakcliff Sailing:	Bill Simon	<a href="mailto:Bsimon@OakcliffSailing.org">Bsimon@OakcliffSailing.org</a> 516-662-4926
Long Beach YC Mayor's Cup:	Camille Daniels	<a href="mailto:camilledaniels@verizon.net">camilledaniels@verizon.net</a> 213-400-5593
St. Francis (May/Sept):	Bruce Stone	<a href="mailto:bruce@brucestone.com">bruce@brucestone.com</a> 917-822-4060
Chicago Match Race Center:	Maggie Shea	<a href="mailto:Maggie@chicagomatchrace.com">Maggie@chicagomatchrace.com</a> 847-833-8573
San Diego Yacht Club:	Summer Greene	<a href="mailto:summer@1011i.com">summer@1011i.com</a> 619-788-9518
Annapolis Yacht Club:	Linda Ambrose	<a href="mailto:lambrose@annapolisyc.com">lambrose@annapolisyc.com</a> 410-263-9147
Bayview Yacht Club:	Gary Shoemaker	<a href="mailto:drshoe@clairpointe.com">drshoe@clairpointe.com</a> 313-418-2205