

**Match Racing Ireland**  
National Championship  
Challenge Rules

## **SECTION 1      The Rules**

*The titles of Match Racing Ireland National Champion, Female Champion and Youth Champion shall pass to the winning team of a match conducted in compliance with the following rules and regulations:*

- 1 :    *The ISAF Racing Rules of Sailing including Appendix C*
- 2 :    The Match Racing Ireland National Championship Challenge Rules
- 3 :    The Match Racing Ireland National Championship Notice of Race
- 4 :    The Match Racing Ireland National Championship Sailing Instructions
- 5 :    The Notice of Challenge

### **CR1.1 Spirit of the Rules**

From acknowledgement of the Notice of Challenge as the next valid challenge the parties to the match shall conduct them selves in accordance with the recognized principles of sportsmanship and fair play at all times. Should this be found not to be the case, acknowledgement of the Notice of Challenge as the next valid challenge shall be deemed to be void and/or the relevant title shall become forfeit.

### **CR1.2 Conflict Between the Rules**

A conflict between individual rules in the documents named in section 1 shall be decided in favor of the lower numbered document.

### **CR1.3 Content of the Notice of Challenge**

The Notice of Challenge shall comply with the Match Racing Ireland Notice of Challenge template. The Notice of Challenge shall not add to, remove, replace, change or amend any of the rules.

## **SECTION 2      Title to be Decided**

*A match may be for one or more title. A title shall only be awarded when all the sailors in the match are ordinarily resident on the island of Ireland.*

### **CR2.1 National Champion**

Where the Defending Team represents the National Champion the title of National Champion shall pass to the winner of the match.

### **CR2.2 Female Champion**

Where the Defending Team represents the Female Champion and all the sailors in the match are female the title of Female Champion shall pass to the winner of the match.

### **CR2.3 Youth Champion**

Where the Defending Team represents the Youth Champion and all the sailors in the match are under 25 on the days of the match the title of Youth Champion shall pass to the winner of the match.

## **SECTION 3 Parties to the Match**

*The match shall take place between the Defending Team and the Challenging Team. The match shall be organized and run by the Organizing Authority. The racing shall be run by the Principle Race Officer. The Chief Umpire shall umpire the racing and chair any hearings required by The Rules.*

### **CR3.1 Defending Team**

The crew of the Defending Team shall include of a minimum number of sailors from the match in which the current holder won the title challenged for as follows:

- 1 : The skipper or, if there isn't a crew that includes the skipper,
- 2 : 2 sailors

If there is no holder a team shall be appointed by Match Racing Ireland to act as the Defending Team.

### **CR3.2 Challenging Team**

The crew of the Challenging Team shall include the person who submitted the Notice of Challenge acknowledged by Match Racing Ireland as the next valid challenge.

### **CR3.3 Organizing Authority**

The Organizing Authority shall be an ISA affiliated category 1 club appointed by the Challenging Team.

### **CR3.4 Principle Race Officer**

The Principle Race Officer shall be appointed by the Organizing Authority and shall be an:

- 1 : ISAF International Race Officer
- 2 : ISA National Race Office or
- 3 : A party agreed to by the Defending Team and Challenging Team

The Principle Race Officer shall run a fair match in accordance with the rules and shall be allowed to conduct them selves in an independent manner at all times. The Principle Race Officer shall have soul approval over the members of the race management team.

### **CR3.5 Chief Umpire**

The Chief Umpire shall be appointed by the Organizing Authority and shall be an:

- 1 : ISAF International Umpire
- 2 : ISA National Umpire or
- 3 : A party agreed to by the Defending Team and Challenging Team

The Chief Umpire shall be responsible resolving any infringement of the rules and shall be allowed to conduct them selves in an independent manner at all times. The Chief Umpire shall have soul approval over the members of the umpire team.

## **SECTION 4      The Match**

### **CR4.1 Date**

The date of the match shall be the Sunday falling 90 to 96 days after the date Match Racing Ireland acknowledged the Notice of Challenge as the next valid challenge, except where the Challenging Team and Defending Team agree to an earlier date.

### **CR4.2 Duration**

The racing shall be conducted on a single day or, were the Defending Team does not need travel to the match, 2 evenings.

### **CR4.3 Cost**

Excluding travel, accommodation and food the cost of competing in the match for the Defending Team shall be no more than 225 Euro.

### **CR4.4 Venue**

The match shall be sailed on the waters used by the Organizing Authority for its regular club racing.

## **SECTION 5      The Boats**

*The Challenging Team shall choose and provide the boats to be used together with the equipment to be used to race the boats. The same equipment shall be provided for both boats.*

### **CR5.1 Type of Boats**

The boats used in the match shall have hull, rig and sails of the same design and manufacturer and shall:

- 1 : Comply with the one design measurement rules of an ISA affiliated class,
- 2 : Have current Endorsed IRC ratings that are identical or
- 3 : Be from a managed fleet used regularly for level racing

### **CR5.2 Crew Requirement**

The boats used shall be normally raced by a crew of 2 or more.

## **SECTION 6      Making a Challenge**

### **CR6.1 Lodging a Challenge**

A challenge shall be lodged by posting a valid Notice of Challenge to the “Irish National Match Racing Championships” group page on Facebook from an account recognizable as that of the individual wishing to challenge. The Notice of Challenge shall be in PDF format.

### **CR6.2 Acknowledgement as the Next Valid Challenge**

Match Racing Ireland will acknowledge a challenge as the next valid challenge by replying to the submission on Facebook.

### **CR6.3 A Challenge Becoming Void**

Where a match can not be completed by the Organizing Authority in accordance with these rules acknowledgement of the Notice of Challenge issued by the Challenging Team as the next valid challenge shall become void.

### **CR6.4 Withdrawal of a Challenge**

A challenge may be withdraw at any time prior to the start of the first race of the match.

## **SECTION 7      Forfeiting a Title**

### **CR7.1 Failure to Defend**

When a team that wins a match under these rules subsequently fails to attend a valid match organized by the Organizing Authority of the next valid challenge then they shall forfeit their title.

### **CR7.2 Becoming Ineligible**

When the crew of a team that wins a match under these rules subsequently becomes ineligible for the title they hold then the team shall forfeit that title.

### **CR7.3 Voluntary Forfeit**

The winning team may voluntarily forfeit their title at any time.