

2023 eSailing Nations Cup

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Group Stage & Knockout Stage

18 November 2023 – 17 December 2023

The Organizing Authority (OA) is World Sailing in cooperation with Virtual Regatta.

Notation	Meaning
[NP]	In a rule means that a player may not protest another player for breaking that rule. The PRO and/or the PC and/or the OA YES.
[DP]	In a rule means that the penalty for a breach of the rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than DSQ.

The Principal Race Officer (PRO) is a certified race official with overall responsibility for the whole Regatta management.

The Race Official (RO) is a person in charge of opening the races including the start (and eventually abandoning and restarting) on behalf, and with the authorization, of the PRO.

1. Rules

- 1.1 The regattas will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing including Appendix D 4.4, 2, 62, 69, the NoR and its amendments, the SI and its amendments, The Virtual Racing Rules of Sailing (VRRS) (Jan. 22, 2019, edition), any notice, verbal and posted on the World Sailing Discord Official notice Board server and the rules implemented in the game Virtual Regatta Inshore.
- 1.2 A Protest Committee will be appointed to the event and its decisions will be final as per RRS 70.5
- 1.3 In case of conflict between the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions, the Sailing instructions will take precedence. This changes RRS 63.7
- 1.4 The official language is ENGLISH
- 1.5 The official time of the regatta is Central European Time (CET), which is UTC +1.

2. Notice to competitors

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the ONB (Official Notice Board #-notice-board-esnc) located in the official World Sailing Discord server, accessible by the following link: <https://discord.gg/8Ubs3gFv>
- 2.2 The race officers can be contacted via team captains by writing a message in the #2023-captains channel in the World Sailing Discord server.
- 2.3 [NP] Information regarding the arenas that will be used in the event will be shared to all competitors in the World Sailing Discord server.

3. Changes to SI NoR and race format

- 3.1 [NP] Any notices or changes to the schedule, Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions will be posted on the official notice board channel #-notice-board-esnc in the World Sailing Discord server.
- 3.2 Any notice or a change to the schedule will be posted no later than 24 hours before it will take effect. Any change to the NoR, or the Sailing Instructions will be published no later than two hours before it will take effect.
- 3.3 [NP] The OA has the right to change the format of the race at any time at its discretion. There will be no right to request redress from any party concerning such changes, altering RRS 60.1(b) (redress).

4. Registration and Eligibility

- 4.1 To become eligible a team shall register as required by the NoR.
- 4.2 Each team player/member shall have the same MNA nationality.
- 4.2 [NP] A registered team shall change its members only in exceptional circumstances and only with the permission of the race officer. There will be no right to request redress from any party concerning such changes, altering RRS 60.1(b) (redress).
- 4.3 It is up to the team captain of a country to invite their team members into the World Sailing Discord server.
- 4.4 [NP] The team captain shall then request a special 'national role' for that player by sending a message in the #role-request channel.
- 4.5 [NP] [DP] All players participating in the group stage and in the knockout stage shall be present in the Discord server and **shall have their national role at least one hour before the start of their match.**

5. Team Criteria

- 5.1 Each MNA shall present a list of national players – maximum 20.
- 5.2 For the Group and Knockout stage, each MNA shall register a team that meets the following criteria:

5.2.1 Stage 1: Group Stage

- a. **One team captain:** who will communicate with the organisers and race officials before and during an event. The team captain shall be present every time their team participates in an event.
- b. If the captain cannot attend a specific racing day, then a vice-captain shall be announced before the start of that racing day.
- c. The captain or vice-captain may also participate in racing as a player.

5.2.2 Between eight and ten total players.

- a. Players to include at least one male and one female.
- b. A different group of players within the registered team can be nominated for each match.
- c. For each racing day in the Group stage the captain or the vice-captain, must announce a list up to **ten players who are available for the match.**
- d. **Eight players** from that list shall be selected by the captain or vice-captain to participate in the match, which consist of five races.
- e. The captain or the vice-captain has the option to **substitute one or two of the eight chosen players** with one or two of the remaining two players from the initial list, e.g. player nine and/or player ten.
- f. Any substitution can only be approved by the PRO/RO **if the player being substituted has not participated in any race of that specific match yet.**

5.2.3 Stage 2: Knockout Stage

- a. **One team captain:** who will communicate with the organisers and race officials before and during an event. The team captain shall be present every time their team participates in an event
- b. If the captain cannot attend a specific racing day, then a vice-captain shall be announced before the start of that racing day.
- c. The captain or vice-captain may also participate in racing as a player.

5.2.4 Between 10 and 12 total players.

- a. These players shall include at least one male and one female
- b. A different group of players within the registered team, can be nominated for each match.
- c. For each racing day in the Group stage the captain or the vice-captain, must announce a list up to **12 players who are available for the match.**
- d. **Ten players** from that list shall be selected by the captain or vice-captain to participate in the match, which consist of nine races.
- e. The captain or the vice-captain has the option to **substitute one or two of the ten chosen players** with one or two of the remaining two players from the initial list, for example player number 11 and/or player number 12.
- f. The substitution can only be approved by the PRO/RO **if player being substituted hasn't participated in any race of that match yet.**

- 5.3 Each captain or vice-captain **shall publicly announce team players composing for a match, no later than one hour before the scheduled starting time of that match.** To announce the players each captain or vice-captain will need to fill out and submit a specific form outlining the specific players on their team for each match.

- 5.4 Captains or vice-captains may modify their team up to one hour before the scheduled start of that match.

6. Group Stage Format

- 6.1 The format of the event is a Round Robin series where teams sail against one another according to the posted schedule.
- 6.2 [NP] The format of the event may be changed during the event by the Principal Race Officer in conjunction with World Sailing and Virtual Regatta, in a fair manner after considering the number of entries, the sailable time available and other relevant factors. There will be no right to request redress from any party concerning such changes, altering RRS 60.1(b) (redress).
- 6.3 Participating teams will be divided into groups of four nations. The teams will be seeded randomly, with the top four nations from the previous year (2022) in different groups. The groups announced on the October 30 2023, are as follows:

Group A	France Germany Japan Switzerland
Group B	Italy Poland Sweden Turkey

- 6.4 During the group stage, each group will perform a single round-robin, i.e. each team plays one match against every other team from their group.

- 6.5 A match between two teams will consist of the following five races (in that order):

Format	Boat	Course	Wind strength
2 vs 2 (Mixed)	Star	Upwind Short	20 kts
3 vs 3	Offshore Racer	Upwind Medium	24 kts
4 vs 4	J70	Upwind Medium	21 kts
4 vs 4	ILCA	Upwind Short	23 kts
3 vs 3	F50	Reaching Long	22 kts

- 6.6 [NP] [DP] The order in which teams will schedule their matches will be published alongside the group announcement.
- 6.7 During the **group stage**, a single player cannot race **more than two times per match**. Teams should ensure both a **male and female player race at least two (2) races per match**.
- 6.8 [NP] If the players fail to comply with the SI 6.5, their scores will be RET. When a boat is scored as 'Retired' after finishing, each boat with a worse finishing place shall be moved up one place without a hearing, an amendment to RRS 63.1.
- 6.9 **Mixed boat format** shall include at least one male and one female player.

7 Schedule of matches

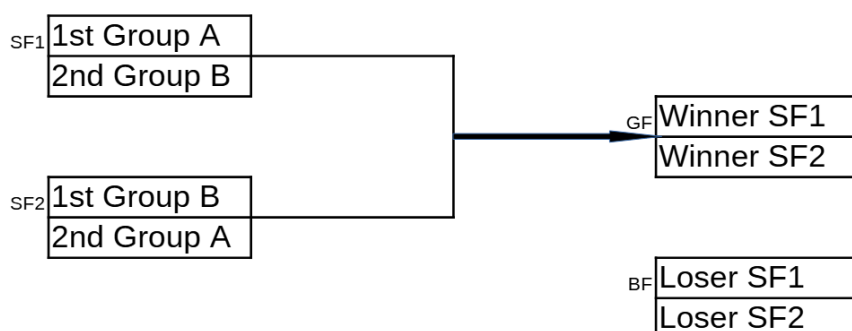
- 7.1 For each match, teams will be given a time frame in which they have to agree on a date with their opponent.
- 7.2 Time slots will depend on the availability of the race officers. The available timeslots will be published in the World Sailing Discord server in the #time-slots channel.
- 7.3 [NP] [DP] In case of a conflict of schedule between two teams, the latest available slot in their given timeframe will be chosen. An extension of the timeframe can be requested, after approval by the race officer.

8 Scoring

- 8.1 See NoR 8 and SI 6.9

9 Qualifications for the Knockout Stage & Format

- 9.1 Teams must complete a full round-robin to qualify for the knockout stage.
- 9.2 After the group stage, the top two teams from each group will advance to the knockout stage.
- 9.3 Teams will be seeded as follows:



- 9.4 A match between two teams will consist of the following nine races (in that order):

Format	Boat	Course	Wind strength
2 vs 2 (Mixed)	Star	Upwind Short	20 kts
3 vs 3	Offshore Racer	Upwind Medium	24 kts
4 vs 4	J70	Upwind Medium	21 kts
3 vs 3	F50	Reaching Long	22 kts
5 vs 5	Nacra 17	Upwind Long	22 kts

4 vs 4	ILCA	Upwind Short	23 kts
3 vs 3	J70	Upwind Medium	21 kts
2 vs 2	F50	Reaching Long	22 kts
5 vs 5	49er	Upwind Long	21 kts

9.5 During the **knockout stage**, a single player cannot race for **more than four times per match**. Teams should ensure both **a male and female player race at least two (2) races per match**.

9.6 [NP] If the players fail to follow the SI 9.4 their scores will be RET. When a boat is scored as 'Retired' after finishing, each boat with a worse finishing place shall be moved up one place without a hearing, amending RRS 63.1. There will be no right to request redress from any party concerning such changes, altering RRS 60.1(b) (redress).

9.7 **Mixed boat format** shall include at least 1 male and 1 female player.

10. Schedule of matches

Stage 2.1 – Knockout Stage (Semi Finals)	9 – 10 December
Stage 2.2 – Knockout Stage (Bronze Final)	16 December
Stage 2.3 – Knockout Stage (Grand Final)	17 December

11. Scoring

11.1 See NoR 8 and SI 9.6

11.2 If a team is not present at the scheduled and agreed time to race, that team will lose the match and the final score will be 5-0 in the group stage and 9-0 for the knockout stage, an amendment to RRS 63.1. There will be no right to request redress from any party concerning such changes, an amendment to RRS 60.1(b) (redress).

12 Penalties Redress Protests

12.1 [NP] The protest time limit is 1 minute after the finish of the race.

12.2 Protests regarding fair play and sportsmanship will be discussed as soon as possible after the event finishes.

12.3 No protests regarding the in-game rules will be accepted.

12.4 [NP] If a player gets disconnected between the beginning of the starting procedure (-1 minute and 15 seconds) and the display of preparatory signal (-1 minute to starting signal) the race shall be abandoned and restarted as soon as possible. Players will be asked to leave the arena and wait for instructions to join again.

12.5 [NP] Disconnections after the display of the preparatory signal (-1 minute to starting signal) will result in a DNF, an amendment to RRS 63.1. There will be no right to request redress from any party concerning such changes, altering RRS 60.1(b) (redress).

12.6 [NP] Any disconnection found to be voluntary will result in an investigation by the OA and the PRO.